



Firthmoor Primary School Newsletter

Date: Friday 17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to believe that we are coming to the end of the first half of autumn term. The time has flown by and there is lots to look forward to at the end of this half term. A reminder that newsletters will be emailed to you once a fortnight, uploaded to the school website and put on Facebook in order to ensure that everyone can see it. Please can you keep an eye out for information on all school events.



Harvest Festival – Friday 24th October 2025 9.15am or 2.15pm

Our children (including Nursery) will be celebrating Harvest with a whole school assembly this year. We will put on two performances so that all parents are able to come along. There will be a morning performance at **9.15am** (which includes Nursery) and an afternoon performance at **2.15pm** (no nursery pupils). **We will need parents to reserve a seat** so that we can ensure we have room for everyone. Please contact the school office. Initially, we will be restricting seats to 2 seats per family to ensure fair access (we will review this nearer the time). There will be a raffle at each assembly with the money raised going towards subsidising our Pantomime visits in December so please bring some change along if you can.

We will also be collecting donations on behalf of the local foodbank at Firthmoor Community Centre. We will welcome donations into school of tinned or packeted items from **Monday 20th October**.



Halloween Disco – Thursday 23rd October 2025

We will be having a Halloween disco for pupils and we are selling tickets via parent pay. The money we raise from this event will go towards subsidising our planned trip to the pantomime for pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 in December and to subsidise the cost of a show for our nursery and reception pupils at the Hullabaloo theatre. **Deadline for purchasing tickets is the end of the school day on Tuesday 21st October.**

Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils can attend the disco from 3.30pm - 4.45pm

Pupils in Reception can come to school dressed in their Halloween outfits as they will be taking part in Halloween themed activities throughout the day. Pupils in Year 1 and 2 can either leave school to get changed at home or bring their costumes to get changed in class. We will need to know who is staying in school nearer the time.

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 pupils can attend from 5pm – 6.15pm

Tickets cost £2 per child which includes a drink and a cupcake.

There will also be sweets on sale and the money raised from selling the sweets will also go towards subsidising the pantomime visit.

Our Nursery pupils are invited to come to school in their Halloween outfits for a Halloween themed day on **Thursday 23rd October**.



Road closure

I am sure you will have seen the signs regarding the road closure outside of school on Tuesday 21st October from 9.30am to 3.30pm - please bear this in mind when picking up the children at the end of the day.



Pedestrian training

Children from Years 1,2 and 3 will be taking part in pedestrian training in Autumn Term 2. Letters and consent forms are coming home tonight. Please ensure the consent forms are returned by Friday 24th October.



Pupil Attendance

We need to safeguard all pupils in school so when a pupil is absent, and we have not heard from the pupil's family for 3 days then we will call out to the home to check that the pupil is fit and well. If we are not able to make contact, then we may refer this to the local authority safeguarding team. If you are on holiday, then please let the school know so that it does not become a safeguarding issue.



Year 6 – Applications for Secondary School Places

Please remember that you need to apply for a secondary school place for your child by **31st October 2026**. There is a link to a guide for parents which also contains information about Open Events that you may want to attend: [Darlington BC - Starting secondary education](#)

Applications for Reception Class – September 2026

Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 are eligible to start school in Reception in September 2025. There is a link to a guide for parents below. The closing date for applications is the **15th January 2026**. [Primary School Admissions Guide](#)



Sports Update

Autumn 1 – PE Kit Days

Here are the days that your child will be taking part in PE lessons in Autumn 1.

Y1CB – Monday and Tuesday

Y12HI – Monday and Tuesday

Y2TH – Monday and Tuesday

Y3NT – Monday and Friday

Y34SBRH – Tuesday and Thursday

Y4MT – Wednesday and Friday

Y5DM – Tuesday and Thursday

Y56AW – Tuesday and Wednesday

Y6LJ – Monday and **Tuesday (swimming)**

Please note that pupils in Miss Jamieson's class (Y6LJ) will be swimming on Tuesdays throughout the Autumn Term. A letter has been sent about further swimming day details.

If PE days change in Autumn 2, we will inform you nearer the time.

PE Kit

Pupils should wear a plain red t-shirt, plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit and trainers.

No jewellery to be worn on PE days.

Children in Year 2 to Year 6 can come to school dressed in their PE kits on their specified PE days.

Children in Reception and Year 1 will continue to change into their PE kits at school. Please bring kits in a school drawstring bag.

Diary of Events:

(More information on these events in the next newsletter)

Event	Date and Time	Year Group	Parents Invited
Halloween Disco	Thursday 23 rd October	Rec, Y1, Y1/2 Y2 – 3.30pm – 4.45pm Y3, Y3/4, Y4, Y5, Y5/6, Y6 – 5pm – 6.15pm	No
Harvest Festival (Both assemblies are the same so choose one to attend)	Friday 24 th October 9.15am and 2.15pm (Nursery AM only)	Nursery – Year 6	Yes
Early Years Halloween Day – Come dressed up if you like!	Thursday 23 rd October	Nursery and Rec pupils	No
School holidays – Autumn half term	Break up end of school day on Friday 24 th October. Re-open Monday 3 rd November 2025.		

Safeguarding Information for Parents

Please see below some links to useful websites with safeguarding information for parents.

Online Wellbeing - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/>

Facebook - <https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/facebook-checklist.pdf>

Parent Controls - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

National Crime Agency's [CEOP Education Programme](#) provides information for the children's workforce and **parents and carers** on protecting children and young people from online child sexual abuse.

[Childline/IWF Report Remove](#) is a free tool that allows children to report nude or sexual images and/or videos of themselves that they think might have been shared online