



Firthmoor Primary School Newsletter

Date: Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you for supporting Children in Need last Friday by sending you child in non-uniform or something Pudsey. Please can I remind you that children must have hats, scarves and gloves for going outside in the cold weather.

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.

Childcare from January 2026 for Reception to Year 6

We are hoping to provide after school childcare from January 2026 (from 3.30pm until 6pm) with a view to also providing an earlier childcare breakfast club offer. We are in the process of recruiting a member of staff to this position. If you are interested in school-based childcare then please could you contact the school office to notify them of your requirements so that they can make a note of your details and ensure that you get further updates.

Pantomimes



We have sent letters out this week for the pantomime for both Reception and Nursery and the rest of school. The cost is subsidised by our fund-raising efforts and will be £6 per child. Please contact the school office if you require financial assistance.

Parent Consultations – Week beginning: 24th November 2025

Information has been sent for parents about making an appointment to see your child's teacher about their progress. Please contact the school office if you have not yet managed to make an appointment.

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.



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](#)

School Christmas Lunch – Thursday 11th December

We have extended the deadline for ordering Christmas Lunch to **Monday 24th November**. Even if your son/daughter has a school meal every day you still need to pre-order so the cook knows how much to order. Please ring school or email admin.



Sports Update

Autumn 2 – PE Kit Days

Here are the days that your child will be taking part in PE lessons in **Autumn 2.**

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.

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.



OPAL (outdoor Play and Learning)

We need your help. As you know we are developing our playtimes and would like to add in some new equipment boxes. We would like to introduce a dressing up zone. Do you have any unwanted items that children could dress up in e.g. children's costumes, hats, scarves, dressing up outfits. Please make sure that any donated items are in good, clean condition.

If you do have items that you can donate, please put them in a plastic bag and either bring them to the office or send them to school with your child. Miss True will have a box to collect donated items in.

As part of our OPAL project, we aim to be outside as much as we can for play time and dinner time. Therefore, please can you ensure your child comes to school in a waterproof coat everyday.

Darlington FC

School has a season ticket for the Darlington FC home games, which was donated to us by the football club. This is for ONE adult and ONE child to attend, it is worth noting that children aged 12 and under do get free entry, so the child season card could be used for an older sibling. The tickets MUST be handed into the office on the Monday following the match to ensure that we can give the tickets to other families. If you would like to add your name to the list to use the season ticket, please contact the office 01325244001 or send an email to admin@firthmoor.org.uk

School Photos

Deadline date for returning orders is **Thursday 27th November**. If you are unable to return the order before this date - the company have confirmed that you are able to order direct with themselves. We have a mop up session for anyone who missed photo day – this is Friday 28th November between 10.30 and 11.30am.

Diary of Events:

(More information on these events in the next newsletter)

Event	Date and Time	Year Group	Parents/Carers Invited
Firthmoor's Got Talent	Thurs 27 th Nov 2pm	Selected children from Y1-Y6 plus Miss Trainer's dance club	Yes for parents of performers
Christmas Crafts	Tues 2 nd Dec at 9.15am	Year 5 (Mrs Gibson) and Year 6 (Miss Jamieson)	Yes
Christmas Crafts	Tues 2 nd Dec at 2pm	Year 5/6 (Mrs Walker) Year 3 (Miss Trainer)	Yes
Christmas Crafts	Thurs 4 th Dec at 9.15am	Year 3 /4 (Mrs Blagg and Mrs Howland) Year 4 (Miss True)	Yes
Christmas Crafts	Thurs 4 th Dec at 2pm	Year 1 (Miss Bujara) Year 1 /2 (Mrs Irwin) Year 2 (Miss Heslop)	Yes
Christmas Journey	Friday 5 th Dec	Year 2 Miss Heslop	No
Christmas Performance	Tuesday 9 th Dec at 9.30am and 2.15pm	Year 1 Miss Bujara Year 1 /2 Mrs Irwin Year 2 Miss Heslop Year 3 Miss Trainer	Yes
Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner Day	Thurs 11 th Dec	Whole School	No
Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance and Christmas Craft	Thurs 11 th Dec at 9.30am	Nursery and Reception	Yes
Christmas Pantomime Visit	Fri 12 th Dec PM	Year 1 – Year 6	No

EYFS Pantomime visit (Nursery and Reception)	Thurs 18 th Dec	Nursery and Reception	No
Christmas Performance	Mon 15 th Dec at 9.30am and 2pm	Year 3 /4 Mrs Blagg and Mrs Howland Year 4 Miss True Year 5 Mrs Gibson Year 5/6 Mrs Walker Year 6 Miss Jamieson	Yes
Christmas Party	Tuesday 16 th Dec pm	Year 1 Miss Bujara Year 1 /2 Mrs Irwin Year 2 Miss Heslop	No
Christmas Carols at Age UK	Tuesday 16 th December 1:30pm	School Choir	No
Christmas Party	Wednesday 17 th Dec pm	Nursery and Rec Year 3 Miss Trainer Year 3 /4 Mrs Blagg and Mrs Howland Year 4 Miss True	No
Christmas Party	Thursday 18 th Dec pm	Year 5 Mrs Gibson Year 5 /6 Mrs Walker Year 6 Miss Jamieson	No
Toy Day	Friday 19 th Dec	Year 1 – Year 6	No
School Christingle	Friday 19 th Dec 2:15pm	Y1-Y6	No

Safeguarding Information for Parents

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

Tablets - <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/tablets>

Making A Report - <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/how-to-make-a-report/>

Radicalisation - <https://actearly.uk/>