

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Fittleworth C E Village School

Spring Term 1 2026

Newsletter

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS,

After what has felt like a very long and very rainy start to the spring term, we are pleased to have finally reached half term. Despite the weather, pupils have continued to enjoy a wide range of opportunities both in and out of school.

ATTENDANCE

As you know, good attendance is vital to your child's learning. Our current school attendance is **94.7%**, the lowest it has been in over 20 years.

After analysing the reasons for absence, and taking into account seasonal illnesses, we are particularly concerned that **18.5% of absence** this year is due to term-time holidays. This equates to nearly **1 in 5 pupils** missing school for holidays and missing important learning as a result.

We appreciate your support in ensuring children attend school regularly and consistently

KEY STAGE 2 TRIP TO CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE

Selected pupils from Key Stage 2 were invited to attend the Children's Concert at the Chichester Festival Theatre. The orchestra captivated the children with musical storytelling, magical Disney moments, and classical pieces that encouraged active participation. Our pupils were truly in awe of the musicians and the talent on display.

WEBSITE UPDATES

You may have noticed that our school website looks a little different this week. Our previous provider moved to a new system and, during the transfer, some information did not migrate correctly. We have been working hard to resolve these issues and hope everything will be fully updated as soon as possible.

Teachers were temporarily unable to upload their weekly blogs, but this should now be fixed. Thank you for your patience.

NETBALL SUCCESS

Our school netball team represented us brilliantly at the Dorset House tournament. After finishing top of their group, they continued to play with determination and skill, ultimately securing an impressive **2nd place overall** out of eight teams. A fantastic achievement—well done to everyone involved!

YEAR 3 AND 4 CROSS COUNTRY RUN

We were delighted to be invited to Great Ballard School in Chichester for a Year 3/4 cross country event. This was the first time we have taken part in cross country with our younger pupils, but they showed incredible positivity and resilience.

The weather was dreadful, the terrain was slippery, and the course wound up hills, down hills, and through woodland—yet our runners rose to the challenge superbly.

Highlights include:

- **1st and 2nd place** in the Year 4 race – *Well done Rudy and Bruce!*
- **4th place** in the Year 3 race – *Well done Fin!*
- **2nd Year 4 girl across the line** – *Well done Mia, who placed 10th overall!*

Their determination, sportsmanship, and encouragement of one another were wonderful to see. We are very proud of them all.



SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENT AGREEMENTS

We believe that celebrating and showcasing the wonderful things happening in our school is important, and social media offers us a valuable platform to do this. We also recognise that some parents prefer not to have their child's photograph shared online.

To continue using these platforms appropriately, we updated the **Parent Acceptable Use Agreement**. Thank you to all families who have already returned their forms.

Please ensure all signed paperwork — including consent for off-site activities — is returned **after half term**.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP REMINDERS

We appreciate that travelling to school has become more challenging recently due to flooding and road closures. It is therefore even more important to leave additional time for your journey so that you can park safely and responsibly.

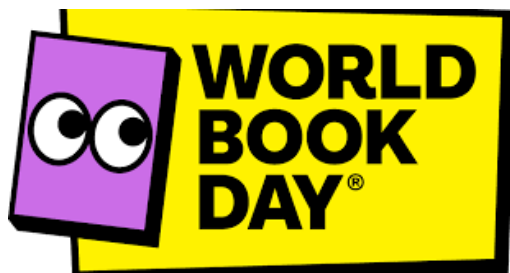
A few reminders:

- Please **do not** park on double yellow lines or close to junctions.
- Please **turn off engines** while waiting, as families with young children and babies are walking past these fumes unnecessarily.

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day will take place on **Thursday 5th March**. This year we would like to make our day focused on Roald Dahl characters as many of the classes have been focusing on this author in class this term. Should your child not want to pick a character from a Roald Dahl book they can come as a character of their choice. Please note that this must be a character from a book not a just a film, we would encourage no super heroes! We would also like your child to bring the book that their character is from to school that day. Over half term, you may wish to spend some time planning your child's costume. We look forward to seeing everyone's creativity on the day.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday 24th February- Year 1 and 4 Forest school begins

Wednesday 25th February- 1st Chichester corporate Challenge

Monday 2nd March- KS2 Netball at Petworth

Thursday 5th March- World Book Day

Wednesday 11th March- 2nd Chichester corporate Challenge

Friday 13th March- MRC Dance Festival pm

Tuesday 17th March- Year 5/6 Football at Petworth

Thursday 19th March- Year 3/4 Fitness games at Great Ballard

Monday 23rd March- KS 2 Girls Football at Petworth

Tuesday 24th March- KS2 theatre trip BFG

Wednesday 25th March- Year 1/2 Celebration of learning and 3rd and final Chichester Corporate challenge

Thursday 26th March- Easter Service TBC am / Easter Egg hunt pm

Friday 27th March- INSET DAY

Please do contact the office if you have any queries or concerns. We are always happy to help.

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Thank you for your continued support and have a wonder half term!

Kind Regards

Mrs Burnett