



Junior School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1



Friday 24th October 2025

Welcome to Foxhills Junior School's end of Autumn Term 1 Newsletter.

Here is a round-up of some of the wonderful things your children have been up to during the first half term of the year, as well as some important notices and dates for your diary.

Year 3 Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the year and have settled into life at Foxhills Junior School with enthusiasm and confidence. The children have been busy establishing new routines and adapting to the expectations of Junior School life, and they've done so brilliantly. It's been wonderful to see their growing independence, teamwork, and curiosity as they've embraced new learning experiences and responsibilities.

In reading, the children have enjoyed exploring *Hansel and Gretel* by Michael Morpurgo. They have been developing their comprehension skills by making inferences about characters and events, as well as finding synonyms to deepen their understanding of vocabulary. The children have also been working

on reading aloud with fluency and expression.

In writing, the children have produced some fantastic diary entries and are now working on writing their own narratives based on twisted fairy tales. They have enjoyed exploring how to add creative twists to familiar stories and developing their ideas through planning and drafting.

In maths, the children have been focusing on place value, developing their understanding of the value of each digit in three-digit numbers. They have used this knowledge to compare, order, and represent numbers in different ways.

In science, the children have been learning all about skeletons, muscles and healthy eating, discovering how our bodies move and why we need to take care of them.

In geography, we've been learning about the countries and counties within the United Kingdom, using maps and atlases to locate key features. In computing, the children have explored how to stay safe online and learned about computer networks in school.

In art, the children have explored the work of Henri Matisse and Edgar Degas, using line and shape to show movement and emotion.

They practised sketching and drawing stick figures before creating a final figure drawing, reflecting on how the artists' techniques inspired their work.

In music, the children have started learning to play the recorder. They have been practising reading musical notes, controlling their breath, and playing simple tunes. The children have shown great focus and perseverance throughout their lessons.

In PE, Year 3 have been developing their teamwork and navigation skills through orienteering challenges. They have been learning how to read maps, follow routes, and work collaboratively to solve problems. The children have also been exploring different ways of moving, improving their agility and coordination, and demonstrating perseverance and sportsmanship throughout their activities.

In Spanish, they have been practising greetings and short conversations, while also discovering where Spanish-speaking countries are found around the world.

It has been a busy and exciting first term, and we are so proud of how well Year 3 have settled in. We can't wait to see what they achieve next term!

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Year 4 It has been such a pleasure welcoming the children back after the summer break. They have settled brilliantly into the routines and expectations of Year 4 and have shown enthusiasm, curiosity, and kindness in everything they do. We are so proud of how well they've supported each other and embraced new challenges this half term.

In maths, the children have been deepening their understanding of number and place value. They've explored number patterns, found 1,000 more or less than a given number, and developed their understanding of negative numbers. They've used their place value knowledge to compare, order, and round four-digit numbers, and have applied these skills to solve real-life problems. We've also been really impressed with their perseverance as they've practised formal written methods for addition — their confidence has grown so much!

In reading, the children have been developing confidence with reading longer texts through our *Beowulf*-inspired unit. The children have loved diving into this epic story, discussing how authors use language to build tension and atmosphere. They've also practised identifying key details and exploring how specific words help the reader imagine the scene. Alongside this, in our non-fiction reading, they've

worked on finding main ideas, using dictionaries independently, and reading with increasing fluency and understanding.

In writing, the children have written story extracts inspired by *Beowulf*. They've worked hard to use direct speech accurately to bring their characters to life and have shown real creativity in their writing. It's been lovely to see how much pride they take in editing and improving their work — their enthusiasm really shines through.

Science has been particularly exciting this term! Year 4 have been learning about the human digestive system and the different types of teeth. The children especially enjoyed investigating the effects that different drinks can have on our teeth — a fascinating and sometimes surprising experiment!

In geography, the children have been locating countries across Europe using maps, atlases, and digital tools, while in history, the children have explored the invasion of the Scots and how early migrations helped shape Britain.

Year 4 are continuing their art learning journey by exploring still life and mixed media, inspired by the work of Paul Cézanne and Nicole Dyer.

In computing, the children have explored how computer networks

and the internet work, and have learned about making responsible choices when using online content. In PE, they've shown fantastic perseverance, working on their growth mindset and developing teamwork through orienteering. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow each week.

In PSHE, Year 4 explored what makes a positive and healthy relationship. The children have been thoughtful and honest during discussions about friendship, respect, and how to deal with tricky situations calmly and kindly.

In RE, the children have been learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita, thinking about the message of good overcoming evil and how this can relate to our own lives. In Spanish, the children have had great fun learning how to talk about food and feelings, and in music, they've focused on mastering the notes **B, A, and G** on the recorder — ready to move on to **C and D** next half term.

It's been such a busy and exciting start to the year, and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved so far. They've made a fantastic start to Year 4, and we're really looking forward to all the learning and adventures that Autumn 2 will bring!

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Year 5

What a fantastic start to the year it has been for Year 5! The children have settled brilliantly into the routines and expectations of Upper Key Stage 2, showing growing independence, enthusiasm, and a real love for learning.

In **writing**, Year 5's adventures have taken them on a swashbuckling journey through *Treasure Island*! The children thoroughly enjoyed writing their own thrilling narratives inspired by this classic tale — filled with daring pirates, hidden maps, and a few unexpected twists along the way! In **reading**, they have continued to explore *Treasure Island*, delving into both fiction and

non-fiction texts about pirates, and even analysing the poetic features of a Lewis Carroll poem inspired by the sea.

Their **science** lessons have been packed with exciting experiments! From investigating the best materials for insulation to exploring different methods of separating solutions, Year 5 have shown brilliant curiosity and scientific thinking throughout.

In **geography**, the children have been busy exploring the wonders of **South America** — discovering how the continent's varied landscapes and climates influence its people, wildlife, and major cities.

In **art**, they have been developing their drawing skills through the study of **cityscapes**, experimenting with perspective and pencil techniques to bring depth and detail to their work.

Meanwhile, in **music**, Year 5 have been learning all about scales and developing their ability to play and evaluate music on the recorders — with growing confidence and a great sense of rhythm!

Overall, it has been a busy, creative, and inspiring half term. We are so proud of how well Year 5 have settled into their new year group and how they are beginning to meet the high expectations of Upper Key Stage 2 with maturity, teamwork, and a wonderful sense of adventure!

We look forward to seeing what next half term brings.

Year 6

We have had a fantastic start to Year 6, and it has been wonderful to see how much the children have already achieved this autumn term. They have shown great enthusiasm for their learning and have begun to develop the independence and resilience that will help them succeed throughout the rest of the year.

In writing, the children used Philip Pullman's *Clockwork* as their inspiration. They produced engaging recounts, carefully considering how to change formality through different techniques. They then wrote their own suspenseful narratives set in the world of *Clockwork*, using imaginative ideas and thoughtful language choices to build tension and atmosphere.

In reading, the children worked hard to develop their fluency and comprehension skills. They enjoyed exploring *Clockwork* alongside a range of other texts, thinking deeply about the characters, themes and language used. It has been lovely to see them discussing their ideas and responding

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thoughtfully to what they have read.

In maths, the children made excellent progress with place value, addition and subtraction. Their confidence and accuracy in these areas meant that we were able to move onto multiplication and division earlier than planned. It is clear that regular practice has paid off for many children, but we would like to remind everyone how important it is to keep practising times tables at home, whether through TT Rockstars or other fun activities, as these continue to underpin all areas of maths learning.

In science, the children enjoyed learning about the classification of living things. They developed their understanding of the Linnaean system and became confident in using classification keys to sort and identify animals and plants. Their curiosity and questioning skills really shone through in this unit.

In history, we explored the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt. The children analysed tomb paintings and used them to ask thoughtful questions about daily life, culture and beliefs during that time. They showed great interest and curiosity, thinking like true historians.

In geography, the children carried out a location study of North

America. They learned about its countries, capital cities and key landmarks, and showed a good understanding of how the continent's geography influences its culture and way of life.

In art, the children continued to use *Clockwork* as inspiration, studying the work of illustrators Chris Riddell and Arthur Rackham. They developed their sketching skills beautifully, learning how tone, chiaroscuro and tonal contrast can create depth and atmosphere. The results were stunning, and the children should be proud of their progress.

In computing, the children learned about how the internet works, how information is shared online and how remote working can be used effectively. They showed maturity in discussions about online safety, learning how to spot misinformation and disinformation, and exploring how our perceptions of others can differ online.

In music, the children have been revisiting playing the recorder. They have worked hard to improve their technique and confidence when reading and performing simple melodies. This work will continue up to Christmas as they build their fluency and prepare some pieces to share later in the term.

In RE, the children explored the concept of the divine. They learned about Christian beliefs regarding Jesus, thought about why this concept is important to Christians and reflected on what it means in their own lives and the lives of others. Their thoughtful responses showed real depth of understanding.

In Spanish, the children began to identify some of Spain's human features and developed their knowledge of the country's geography and culture. They showed enthusiasm and growing confidence in using new vocabulary.

Finally, in PSHE, the children learned how to identify and demonstrate different types of behaviour. They have become more aware of how to work together effectively, be assertive when needed and make positive choices in a range of situations.

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have started Year 6. They have shown great focus, effort and maturity in their learning, and we look forward to seeing them continue to build on this success as the year progresses. Thank you, as always, for your continued support at home.

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School Attendance

So far the school has achieved 94.7% attendance. Ideally, we would like this figure to be above 97.5% in order that our children can all make the best possible progress. Thank you for all your support.

Dates for your Diary
27th October – 31st October – Half Term
Monday 3rd November – Open Day 2 – Juniors am – Please book online
Tuesday 4th November – Nursing Team - Year 6 Heights and Weights – Information to follow
Friday 7th November – FOF Foxy Fireworks – Information to follow
11/11-17/11 – Scholastics Book Fair – Information has been sent home.
Friday 14th November – Children in Need – Accessories with uniform – Information to follow
Thursday 20th November – Hallett Family Photo - Booking Essential
Friday 28th November – Dress down day, Hamper donations for the Winter Fayre
Monday 1st December - Open Day 3 – Juniors pm- Please book online

Dates for your Diary
01.12-5.10 – FOF Christmas Gift Shop
Thursday 4th December – Year 6 Natural History Museum
Thursday 11th December – Rocksteady Concert – Invites to be sent
Friday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12th December – Winter Fayre – Information to follow
Tuesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner
Thursday 18th December – Year 4-6 Christmas Party Day – Non-school uniform
Friday 19th December - Year 3 Christmas Party Day – Non-school uniform
Friday 19th December – End of Term – 3.10pm finish
22nd December 2025- 2nd January 2026 - Christmas Holiday
Monday 5th January 2026 – New term starts

<https://www.foxhills-jun.hants.sch.uk/diary/grid/2023/01/>

PE Days

Year	Day	
Year 3	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4	Monday	Wednesday
Year 5	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 6	Monday	Friday

Please note we have had a change with Year 5 and Year 6

Inset Days for the Academic Year 2025-2026

Spring Term
Friday 13th March 2026
Summer Term
Friday 26th June 2026



Infant and Junior Open Days (Year R and Year 3 Admissions)

Open Day 2 - Monday 3rd November 2025
9.30am Juniors & 1.30pm Infants

Open Day 3 - Monday 1st December 2025

9.30am Infants & 1.30pm Juniors

To book:
Infants - <https://forms.office.com/e/hpdaaK5M6c>
Juniors - <https://forms.office.com/e/S6GdjYJK5P>

FOF Bookshop

Remaining dates for the year group visits are as follows:

Year 6	Year 5	Year 4	Year 3
11 th Novem ber	18 th Novem ber	25 th Novem ber	2 nd Decem ber

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Friends of Foxhills' Swap Shop

- Friday 24th October 2025
- Friday 19th December 2025
- Friday 9th January 2026
- Friday 27th February 2026
- Friday 27th March 2026
- Friday 17th April 2026
- Friday 22nd May 2026
- Friday 5th June 2026
- Friday 17th July 2026

Drop

Kids outgrown their school uniform ALREADY???
Dreading the back to school shop?
The FOF swap and shop has got you covered!

Drop off your unwanted school uniform, swap them for tokens then shop till you drop.

Pop your items in a bag along with an envelope with your child's name and class written clearly.

All items MUST be:

- In good condition (if you wouldn't take it home, don't send it in)
- Clean
- Current (if it doesn't comply with the current federation dress code it won't qualify for a swap token)

For each item donated you will receive a swap token in the envelope you provided.

Come along to the FOF swap and shop and exchange your 'swap tokens' for school uniforms.

Get other items you'd like to donate?

Good quality clothes and shoes can be donated to FOF to be sold at the swap and shop to raise money for the schools.

- Good quality children's clothes
- New / Nearly new children's shoes
- New current uniform / Pre-School uniform / Uniform from other schools
- New / Nearly new adult clothes

Unsold items will be donated to charity.

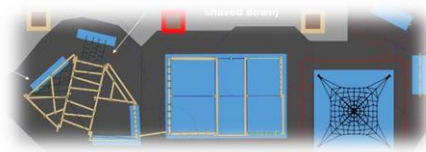
Swap

Get nothing to swap? No problem!
All uniform items, clothes and shoes will be available to purchase.

All money raised goes to FOF to continue the amazing work they do for our schools!

Saving The Planet & Your Pocket!

around' zone. We must insist on this for the safety of our visitors on site.



School Play Equipment – Important

Please can we ask all families not to use the play equipment in the playground when you drop your children off in the mornings. The play equipment needs to be supervised by school staff and we have allocated times during break and lunch when children can use the play equipment.

Driveway safety

A polite reminder that, for the safety of all members of our school community, when entering and leaving the school site...

- **Pedestrians** should walk on the pavements.
- **Scoters** should be dismantled and walked along the pavements.
- **Cyclists** may ride on the driveway, or dismount and walk bikes along the footpath.

For the safety of all, the driveway is for cyclists and drivers only.

Please can you remind your children of these important safety rules, especially if they travel to school alone.

Parking outside the school

Parking outside school continues to be busy. Please could we ask that you are considerate towards our neighbours and other road users when parking.

Road safety

We have been informed of recent near misses on the main road outside of school. Please can we ask that children are supervised at all times when entering and leaving the school site, and that drivers remain extra cautious of pedestrians, cyclists and scooters at these busy times.

Voluntary one-way system

To help with congestion at school pick-up and drop-off we have adopted a voluntary one-way system during these times. Please could we ask you to help by following the one-way system (flowing from the A326 towards Whartons Lane). This will ensure traffic travels in one direction and will hopefully ease congestion for everyone.

Important

Notices



No Drive Zone

08:20-08:45

15:00-15:25

Please could we remind families that the driveway is a 'No turning

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Is my child too ill for school?

Please see the NHS link for further information.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Nut Free School

Please can we remind families that we are a nut-free school as we have children in our community with severe allergies to nuts.

Please ensure that your children do not have any snacks or lunch items containing any type of nut.

PLEASE



**NO PEANUTS
OR
NUT PRODUCTS**



Access to Toilets

Due to safeguarding reasons, we are not able to give adults or children that do not work or study here access to our toilets.



MEDICAL
APPOINTMENT

Medical

Appointments

Please could we ask that, wherever

possible, medical appointments are booked outside school hours. While we understand that this is not always possible, please could we ask that you send into school confirmation of the appointment for your child's file.

If appointments are during a morning session and your child requires a school lunch, please inform the office of your child's lunch order before 9am.

School Uniform



Please ensure your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform:

GIRLS:



- Foxhills sweatshirt or cardigan*
- White or navy polo shirt
- Grey or navy skirt (with or without pleats)
- Grey or navy pinafore (with or without pleats)
- Grey or navy trousers
- Grey, navy or white socks/tights
- In the summer, girls can wear a navy patterned dress.

BOYS:



- Foxhills sweatshirt*
- White or navy polo shirt
- Grey or navy trousers or shorts
- Grey, navy or black socks
- Black school shoes.

PE KIT:



- House coloured T-shirt*
- Black or navy shorts / trousers
- Plain trainers
- School logo hoodie or plain zip jacket/hoodie*

We would like to remind you that children must not wear nail polish, jewellery or smart watches for school, and sports shorts, on non-PE days, are not permitted. On normal school days, footwear must be school shoes; on PE days, plain, dark trainers must be worn.

It is really important that all children adhere to our uniform policy and we thank you for your support.

Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name so we can reunite lost items with their owners.

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Community Policing



Please follow the link below for the next beat report.

<https://www.foxhills-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Community+Policing&pid=109>

Holiday Activities

We have been informed of some fun activities that will take place during the school holidays. Please follow this link for more information;



<https://www.foxhills-jun.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Half+Term+Clubs+and+Activities&pid=108>

New Forest Child Care

October
Half term Holiday Club
Monday 27th to Friday 31st October 2025

Autumn
Autumn Vegetable Printing
Autumn Hunt Outside

Little Monsters
Balloon Monsters
Rice Crispie Monsters

Halloween
Haunted House with Spiders, Bats, Ghosts
Halloween Dress-Up-Day
Apple Bobbing Competitions
Pumpkin Carving
Halloween Cooking

A week of fun, themed activities for 4-12 years. Plus outdoor sports & games

new FOREST
CHILD CARE CIC

Abbotswood School
For more information please call: 07917 752772 or book online at: www.newforestchildcare.co.uk

Email: info@newforestchildcare.co.uk



Big Mouth Theatre

Big Mouth Theatre are offering x2 Free Taster Sessions at their Saturday locations!
At Big Mouth, your child will discover a ton of performance techniques every Saturday while co-creating their own production, using their ideas for characters, costume, lighting & set!

For their taster sessions, they'll receive:

- **2 FREE 2-HOUR** taster sessions full of fun!
- Structured sessions packed full of games and activities designed to encourage their creative confidence.
- An introduction to the world of theatre and an opportunity to make new friends.
- Non-competitive, inclusive environment!

To see what Big Mouth Theatre is all about, just click below & book 2 free sessions at a location near you!

<https://www.bigmouththeatre.com/try-for-free>

Home Start

Home-Start Hampshire in the New Forest needs your help. They are a local charity that supports families with children up to the age of 11 in your community. Their volunteers offer friendly, practical support to parents who may be finding things tough — helping to make a real difference in their lives. They are currently in urgent need of volunteers who can spare just a few hours a week to visit a local family.

To find out more about what we do, please visit our website: www.home-starthampshire.org.uk.

HOME START
Hampshire
In the New Forest

Volunteers needed

Come and join our Home-Start Hampshire family!

Home-Start Hampshire in the New Forest is a local community of volunteers and expert support, helping families with young children through overwhelming or challenging times. We're currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help our mission in supporting families across the New Forest.

Family Support Volunteers
Help make an amazing difference directly with families by providing home-visiting support for 2-3 hours each week. *There for families when they need us most.*

Community Team Volunteers
Be part of our fundraising or events teams, help us to raise awareness, or support us through micro-volunteering - there's something for everyone.

Contact us today for more information and an application form
Email: info@hants.org.uk Phone: 0330 024 2055

www.home-starthampshire.org.uk Charity number: 1144661

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Highcliffe Castle

Wizards & Witches
October Half Term

Grab your broomsticks for a spectacular half-term at Highcliffe Castle! The Castle cauldron is bubbling with activities to keep the little ones busy during the school holidays.

Children's Activity Trail
The Castle team have hid their waltzes hat collection! Can you help us find them all and solve the questions along the way?

Indoor Activities
Popping Candy, Fairy Dust, or Smelly Socks? Create your own ingredient to add to our Castle's magic potion.

Spooky Crafts - Tue 28 & Thu 30 Oct
Cast some spells to craft your very own Witch or Wizard to fly back home with you.
Crafts are available between 10am and 3pm.

50% FAMILIES DAY
Wednesday 29 October
Enjoy 50% off family admission 10am-4pm

The Castle is open Sunday-Thursday 10am-4pm. Indoor activities and crafts are included in normal admission prices.
highcliffecastle.co.uk

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