



Furzeffield Primary School

Instilling a love of learning



November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another exciting month at Furzeffield with some incredible learning and experiences going on. As always, I must thank the amazing staff who put everything into ensuring that your children are happy, safe and getting the very best educational experience with us every single day.

We are passionate about providing rich experiences and a broad curriculum to your children. It is what we are all about at Furzeffield. This month alone we've seen some amazing owls, had a virtual reality workshop, had some great success at our football tournaments and netball games, visited Henley Fort, Gatton Park and Christmas Journey, watched movies at Oxted Cinema and did video calls to Canada! It's been busy! It is these amazing opportunities that help us to provide a **well-rounded education** to all our pupils. Maths, English and Science are the core of our curriculum, but it's important to balance those subjects with a range of other valuable educational experiences.

Whilst we do everything we can to ensure that we are providing your children with these rich opportunities, we can't provide them to children who are not in school. Of course, if your child is unwell we would not expect them to be in school, but research in this area shows that even just a few days of absence can have a significant negative effect on your child's achievement. That same research also shows that over time, poor attendance in primary school can create gaps in your child's education that could negatively impact their success at secondary school. **A day's learning that has been missed can never be fully regained**, and even just one day missed often means that children will find it much harder to access the next day's learning.

We consider anything above **96%** attendance over the year to be **good attendance**, but even dropping a small amount below this percentage has a real impact. **94%** attendance over the year means that your child will have **missed 11 days** of school. That's about **22 hours of maths and English** lessons that they will have missed. When we break down the numbers, it becomes much easier to understand how quickly children can fall behind the rest of the class and much makes it much clearer why attendance is so important. I would be grateful if families did not to book holidays during term time. Our policy is that these will always be unauthorised. It may be a bit cheaper but it can potentially damage your child's longer-term educational success, both in primary and secondary school. There are 365 days in the year and **190** of those are in school. That leaves **175 days for holidays** and all the other fun things that we do as parents!

On the theme of attendance, please could I also remind parents that the expectation is that pupils are in their seats for the register to be taken at 8:50am each day. School gates close at 8:50am and I would be grateful for your co-operation in ensuring that children are in school on time.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support to the school. When we work together we can provide the very best education for your children.

Mr Govinden

Attendance and punctuality:

Where does your child sit on the attendance ladder?





Stars Of The Week



Congratulations to all of our stars of the week
this month!



Head Teachers Award



Nursery Forest School with Miss Roberts

The Nursery children enjoyed Forest school on a beautiful dry November day.

They had made two Guy Fawkes earlier in the month and had the opportunity to see them burst into multi-coloured flames, using Miss Roberts' magic.

They explored the woods looking for woodland animals hiding in trees and plants.

To finish a lovely morning, they had a hot chocolate around the fire. Wonderful.



GATTON PARK

Last week Year 1 were very lucky to have not 1, but 2 trips to Gatton Park! On the first day we played in their forest school area with a huge amount of exciting activities such as den making, fairy tree decorating, using a saw to cut discs of wood to create necklaces. We also had a drink and a biscuit around the campfire too. Later on in the day we learnt about different types of seeds. The next day we explored the different trees around the park with a treasure hunt and then helped plant a special disease-resistant English Elm. All the children absolutely loved it, especially getting muddy and jumping in the huge puddles! We learnt so much in such a short space of time and we are grateful to Gatton educational trust for having us and teaching us so much.





Everyman Cinema Oxted

Clifford the Big Red Dog



As part of the into Film season Ocean children went to see Clifford the Big Red Dog at Oxted cinema.



Everyone enjoyed the film and could name different emotions at different points in the story.

We made flapjack the day before and took this with us for our snack.

When we got to the cinema the children had a surprise visitor. Mrs Eason came to join us and as a special treat she brought us some chocolate.

Year 2 – Christmas Journey

On Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd November, Year 2 were invited by Spark Fish to Redhill Methodist Church to learn about 'The Christmas Journey'.

First, we learnt a song – 'Where are you going...?'. Then we met 'the Storyteller' who introduced us to the Christian creation story. She asked us to think about what we think God might do if He saw His world being spoiled and she said that we might find out the answer on our Journey.

Next, we visited Mary in Bethlehem as she heard an announcement from the Angel Gabriel, who told her that she would be blessed with God's son. We quickly moved forward in time by 9 months and visited some shepherds who were also visited by the Angel, who told them to go and visit a new king who would be born.

We sang the song we had learnt at the beginning as we made our way to a stable! In the stable, the animals were discussing how busy it had been with all the visitors and the new baby and how bright it was with the star overhead.

After that, we went to the palace of the three wise men and discovered what gifts they were offering Baby Jesus = gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Then, we returned to 'the Storyteller' who showed how Jesus had been sent to mend the world after it had been spoiled and this is why we remember Him each Christmas.

Finally, we went into the hall to make colourful rotating story wheels to take home with us!





Year 2 at Forest School



In early November, Year 2 had their first Forest School experiences of the year. At our first session, Miss Roberts told us that she had found something very intriguing in the hedgerow so we went to have a look.



We had to be very stealthy so as not to disturb whatever was there! We discovered small bird and animal bones littered around, and a huge nest containing 3 blue, frosty eggs. We discussed what we thought might have eaten the animals and left the eggs. Many of us were convinced it was a Frost Dragon!



Later on, after some tree climbing and exploring, we used a blue sweetened dough to make dragon tails. We wrapped the dough around a stripped stick and cooked it over the fire. Yummy!



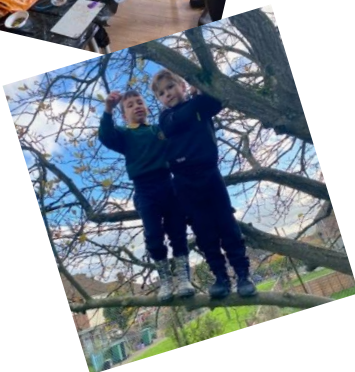
We started our second session very excited because earlier that day, Miss Roberts had sent us a photo of some baby dragons that seemed to have hatched from the blue, frosty eggs in the hedgerow.

Unfortunately, by the time we got there, the dragons had disappeared. Some say we might have scared them away!

Miss Roberts then showed us how to make miniature dragons out of clay and other natural materials such as feathers, seeds, corn kernels and wood chips. We then had a go at making our own. Some of us also made stained-glass style dragon eggs.



We were also able to have lots of free play and den building, and finished the day with a lovely cup of hot chocolate by the fire, delicious!



Year 3/4 VR experience



On the 24th of November, Belize, Canada, Singapore and India classes were able to take part in a virtual reality experience to enhance our geography topics. Year 3 went on an adventure to the Amazon, journeying through all 4 layers and meeting a few animals along the way. Year 4 travelled over volcanoes and looked down the crater!

I like the fact that we could see 360° around the inside of the volcano.

I liked seeing inside the cinder cone!

I loved seeing the river of lava.

Seeing the sloth was amazing, he was so fluffy and close!

The tarantula was amazing but he came a bit close!

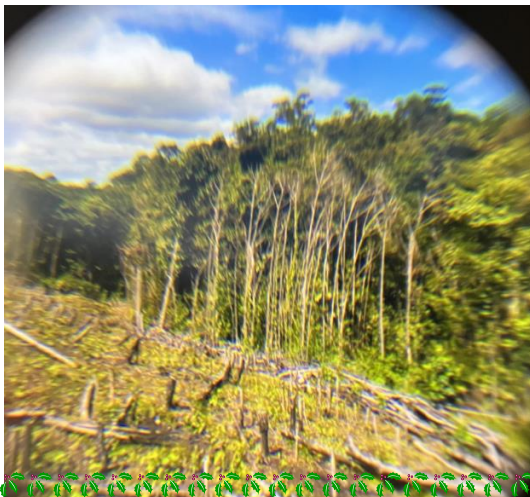
I was a bit nervous at first but it was incredible!

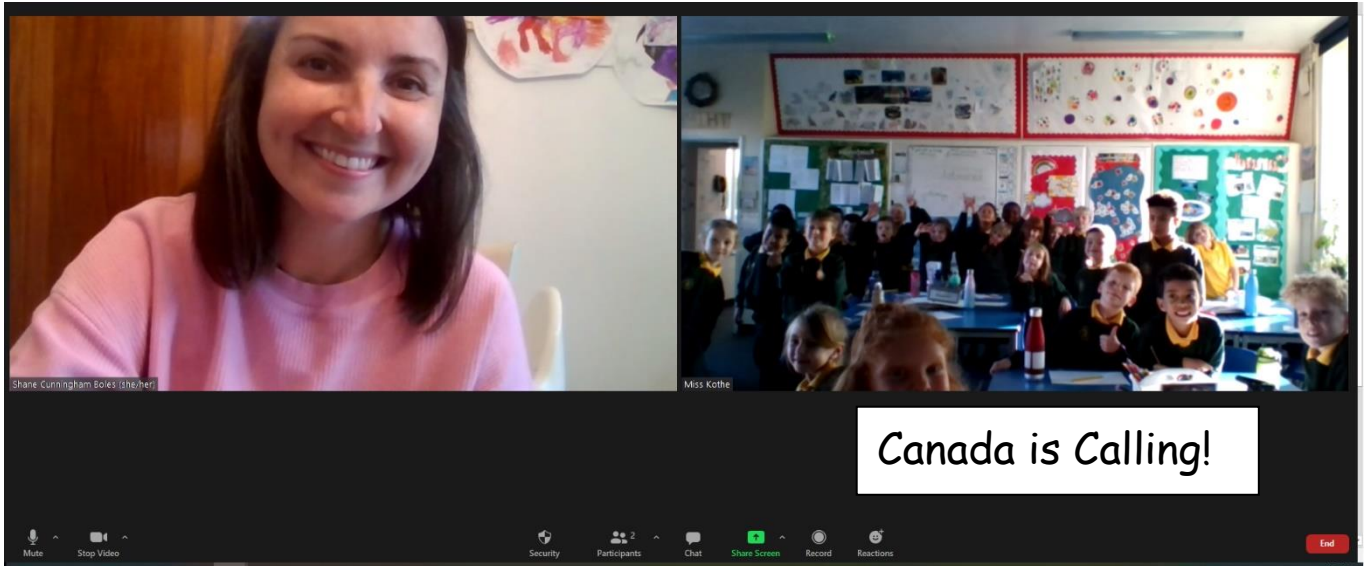
John knew so many fun facts and he loved that we knew lots about Rainforests.

It was shocking to see the chopped down trees where they had been chopped down for palm oil!

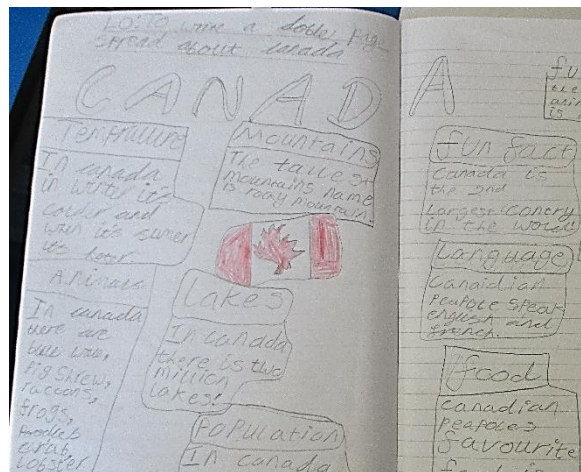
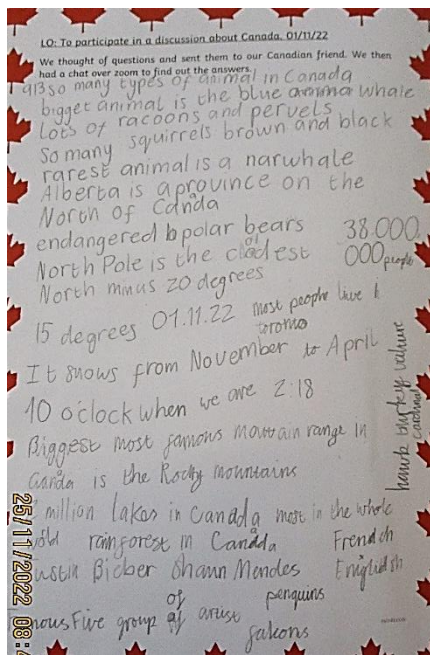
It was amazing travelling on a real helicopter through the VR goggles!

At the end, John asked where we wanted to go and he showed us under the ocean too!

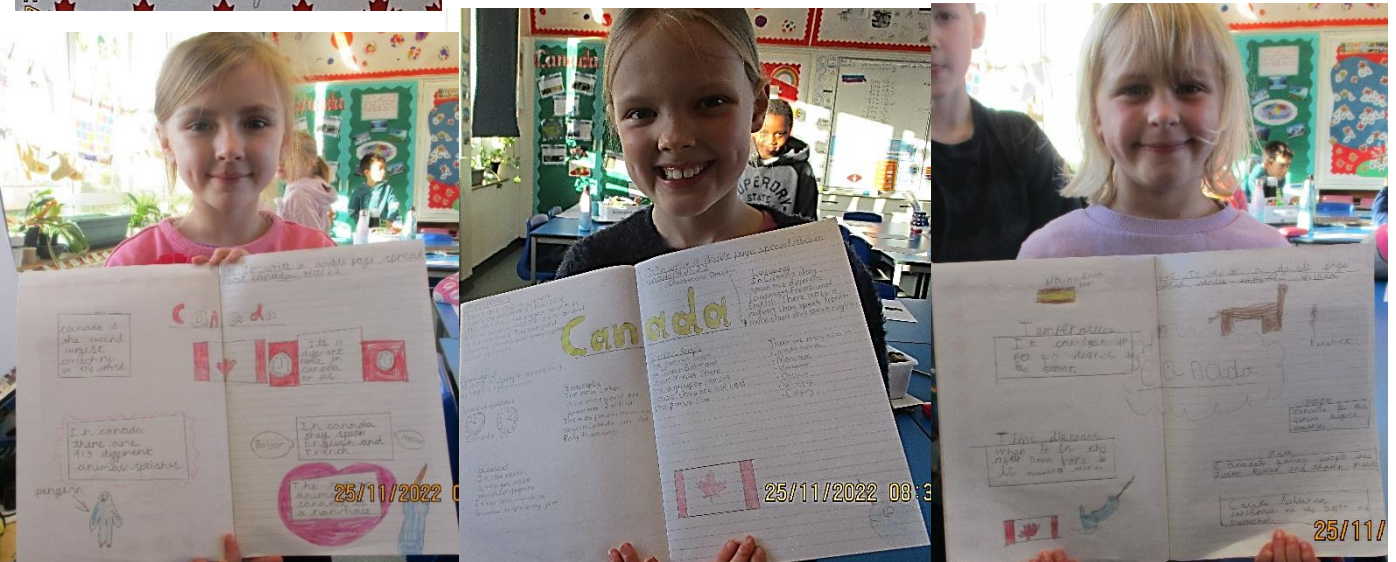




On Tuesday 1st November, Canada class met Mrs Cunningham Boles, a professor at Humber University in Toronto. Just before half term, we worked to come up with all the questions we could think of to ask about Canada including wildlife, schools, hobbies and food! We had a wonderful chat over zoom. Mrs Cunningham Boles was very impressed with the children's thoughtful questions and at how polite and patient they were with asking even more questions at the end!



The children then worked on putting all their knowledge about Canada into a 'double page spread' to share what they have learned in geography this term.



Feet First!



On the 31st of October and the 1st of November, year 3 took part in Surrey County Council's *Feet First* walking training. This course was provided free of charge to pupils and was kindly paid for from the sport's premium money allocated to Furzefield. The training course involves teaching road safety skills to better enable children to safely walk to and from school with their parents and carers and prepare them for independent travel.

This training covers the following learning topics:

- The Green Cross Code
- Road signs and pedestrian crossings
- Recognising safer and unsafe places to cross
- How to cross between parked cars
- The benefits of active travel



We will be continuing this project by completing activities in school, and parents have access to activities here:

<https://www.furzefield.surrey.sch.uk/about-us/healthy-lifestyles/>

This is available to all and would particularly support all children in KS2 who are walking independently or who will be in the future.

Walking to school is not only a great way to encourage pupils to do regular exercise and meet the recommended daily amount of physical activity of 30 minutes of exercise per day (gov.uk). It is also a great way to prevent pollution around the school gates and protect the planet from carbon emissions.



STOP

LOOK

LISTEN

THINK

News from Australia Class

On Monday 21st November Australia Class were invited to spend the morning at Merstham Park School. We were given a tour of the school, learnt about 3D CAD CAN, visited the canteen and enjoyed a free snack and then enjoyed some time on the computers using a FREE website to create 3D models.

(www.tinkercad.com) Try it for yourself! It's great fun.



'We went for a tour and visited lots of places like the library, the canteen, and the DT room. We learnt about 3D printing. We had a competition to design a snowman and Sakinah and I tried to design the best snowman and we won a prize, a Merstham Park 3D keyring for our efforts. While we were working pupils from MPS looked through and window and said, hello to us, it was funny.' **Zainab**

'The food was delicious.' **Maria**



'We learnt loads of really cool stuff about 3D printing and teacher taught us about CAD, which means computer aided design and computer aided manufacturing.' **Seb**

'The teachers were so nice; the food was delicious, and the computers were so fun to use.' **Aida**

'I enjoyed using CAD on Tinkercad and I designed a keyring and snowman.' **Hugo**



I really enjoyed going to Merstham Park School for DT. DT stands for Design and Technology. The ST teacher, Mr Martin, taught us some interesting things about DT. My favourite thing as the food from the canteen. I had a delicious cheese



Mayor visits Furzefield Primary School

On the 1st November, we were lucky enough to welcome the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Cllr Frank Kelly, to Furzefield! He came with his first officer to receive a cheque from our Fundraising in July. The fundraising will continue! He came in full mayoral regalia and a child from every class got to dress up as well. He told us about his job and answered questions from lots of children.



Children and staff raised money with a tea and cake sale and also made donations at the summer fete.

The Mayor talked about his role in the community and gave an inspiring speech to children at the school. They had the opportunity to ask him questions about being Mayor and were able to try on the mayoral robes. The event was a huge success with one child saying "he has an amazing suit" and another saying "he has a good sense of humour".

The money raised will be donated to SASH - a local charity proving support to the patients and staff at East Surrey Hospital and services from the Surrey and Sussex NHS Trust.



Globetrotter November update



Harvesting the last squash!

Ideas to save the world and have fun!

Pressing leaves and flowers

Sowing green manure

Planting bulbs



Eco News

White Christmas? Unlikely! Green Christmas? Easy!

Our eco - committee are working towards Furzefield becoming a Green Flag eco-school! We have completed our environmental review and already have a lot of positives in place! Our next step is to create an action plan! Part of being an Eco School is to be mindful of our choices at school and in the wider community. With that in mind, we challenge Merstham to have a green(er) Christmas.

Here are some ideas to help save the planet and save some money:

1. Christmas Tree - source a sustainable tree and dispose of it well or choose an artificial tree that will last you a long time.
2. Choose gift wrap wisely - does it pass the scrunch test? Could you reuse a gift bag? Could you use brown paper tape instead of plastic tape? Avoid glitter.
3. Buy local where possible - more money in the community and less travel miles for the gifts.
4. Give experiences not just stuff-a family day out or a movie night.
5. Meal plan carefully to avoid food waste - the freezer is your friend.

GO PLASTIC-FREE
WITH YOUR CRACKERS



UPCYCLE YOUR CARDS
INTO GIFT TAGS



Sewing Club



This half term's Sewing Club members have used the machines to sew straight stitch and zig zag stitches. They cut fabric from pattern pieces, applied their initial and joined pieces on the flat and in the round, before adding embellishments. Some of our members had never used a sewing machine before and so have achieved all of this in just 5 weeks! They should be so proud of what they have achieved.

Next half term Year Five will have the opportunity to learn to use the sewing machines over our next 5 week block. Year Four will get their turn after Easter. We can't wait to get more children sewing!





Our vision for maths at Furzefield is for it to be:
Purposeful so that children understand the place of mathematics in everyday life and the world of work.
Personalised to enable all children to reach their full potential.

Practical and exciting to engage pupils in a love for mathematics, through a range of experiences.

Maths Challenge!

A chocolate birthday cake is baked in a square tray that measures 30cm x 30cm.

It is cut into same-sized rectangular slices.

What MIGHT be the length and width of each slice? (Yum yum!)

Give 3 possible answers





14TH - 16TH NOVEMBER
7:30AM GMT TO 7:30PM GMT DAILY

Results!

Thank you to everyone who encouraged their children to take part in this event. Across England 704,979 pupils took part, from 28,908 classes!

Out of the 3980 schools (Primary and Secondary) that took part FPS came 1486th

· Out of the 3680 Primary schools that took part we came 1366th Fantastic results!

Here are our top 5 classes and their total correct answers

| Place out off 28908 classes | Maths Group | Score |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| 5140 | Mr Wigley | 9458 |
| 8180 | Miss Patel | 5334 |
| 9133 | Mrs Williams | 4526 |
| 9959 | Miss Walker | 3951 |
| 11982 | Miss Kothe | 2804 |

Individual results: out of 168 FPS pupils who took part, these are our top 5 individual scores

| Position | Name | Score | Maths Group |
|----------|-------------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | Lisa- Marie | 2962 | Y6 Mr Wigley |
| 2 | Ethan | 2349 | Y5 Miss Patel |
| 3 | Owen | 1531 | Y6 Mr Wigley |
| 4 | Ronnie | 818 | Y6 Mr Wigley |
| 5 | Kumba | 806 | Y6 Miss Walker |

Remember, Maths is everywhere!

Miss Hutchings



A huge thank you to everyone who took part in Children in Need day on Friday 18th November. It was brilliant seeing you all dressed up in your spots, pyjamas and Pudsey accessories.

We raised over £400!

Thank you!





Christmas Show Dates

Nursery and Shining Stars

Wednesday 14th December
10.45am and 2.30pm

Reception Show

Thursday 8th December
9.30am and 2pm

KS1

Wednesday 7th December
9.15am and 2pm

KS2

Friday 9th December
9.15am and 2.15pm





LAST EVER

REIGATE PRIORY AC HOLLY RUN

Sunday 11th December 2022

Cross Country for Everyone!

- An annual series of eight cross country races designed for all age groups for both club runners and fun runners
- Medals for all competitors and prizes for winners
- Starts and finishes in Reigate's attractive Priory Park



SCAN ME

BELL STREET
-BARRERS-
EST. 1998

| | | | |
|--------|-------|------------------------------|---------|
| Race 1 | 10:30 | Under 11 Girls | 1 mile |
| Race 2 | 10:50 | Under 11 Boys | 1 mile |
| Race 3 | 11:10 | Under 13 Girls | 2 miles |
| Race 4 | 11:30 | Under 13 Boys | 2 miles |
| Race 5 | 11:50 | U15 Girls & U17 Women | 3 miles |
| Race 6 | 12:15 | U15 Boys & U17 Men | 3 miles |
| Race 7 | 12:40 | U20 / Sen / Vet(Women & Men) | 4 miles |
| Race 8 | 12:40 | U20 / Sen / Vet(Women & Men) | 6 miles |

£12
£10 UKA
£6 U20



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ORRFC GIRLS NEED YOU

***Established in 1927
Old Reigatian RFC boasts
outstanding facilities and 6
pitches in the heart of Reigate***



The Club

- Picturesque club comprising 30 acres of land & floodlit pitches
- Girl's section established in 2013 with 125 girl members makes us one of the biggest sections nationwide
- Glorious clubhouse with large bar

The Teams

- u12's from 8 years
- u14's
- u16's
- u18's
- Women's
- Mixed Touch

The Reasons

- Training from 18:30 every Weds
- Training / Fixtures every Sunday
- 11 Girls specific Level 2 RFU coaches
- Current National & Surrey Champions at the old u15 age group
- Ealing Trailfinders & Harlequins pathway clubs



Contact us
info@oldreigatianrfc.com

oldreigatianrfc.com

PARKING

To ensure the safety of pedestrians and other road users, please ensure that you park considerately when dropping off or picking up your children from school.

Do not park on the zig zag lines outside the school, and please respect our neighbours by not blocking their driveways.

Thank you



Attendance and Punctuality

Thank you for all your support in helping us to improve the overall attendance at Furzefield Primary School.



As we all know, attendance is so important for your child to achieve their full potential at school.

It is important that you inform us as soon as possible if your child is absent from school for any reason. You can do this by phone, note to the teacher/ office or by email (enquiries@furzefield.surrey.sch.uk).



If you need to book a medical appointment for your child, please try to make it out of school hours. Please make as much effort to enable them to spend some of the day in school.

We monitor children's attendance and lateness on a regular basis, with the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) and we cannot authorise absences during term time for reasons such as holidays (please see our Attendance Policy for further details).

Penalty Notices

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of each parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school and requires the recipient to pay a fixed amount.

The amount payable on issue of a Penalty Notice is £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid within 28 days. If the Penalty Notice is not paid within 28 days, the Local Authority must prosecute the parent/carer for failing to ensure regular school attendance under Section 444 Education Act 1996. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.

Prosecution

You could get a fine of up to £2,500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court also gives you a Parenting Order.



It is also very important that children have a good routine of settling into school every morning, so do try to ensure they arrive at school on time.

Please remember that the school opens at **8.40am** to allow for the children to settle in. Registration begins at 8.50am when the children should be in their classrooms and ready for learning. A late mark is recorded on the register after this time.

Therefore, please aim to be at school at 8.40 and not 8.50am so that the children are not missed off the class register. If they are late, they **must** come and report to the office.

The office opening times are 8am to 4pm. Our email address is enquiries@furzefield.surrey.sch.uk however this is monitored term time only during the hours of 8.30am to 4pm

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2022/23

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---|
| Nov | 29 th | Yr1, Yr3, Yr5 – Breck Foundation Workshop |
| | 29 th | Rocksteady Concert for Parents – 9.00-10.00am |
| Dec | 1 st | FOF – Winter Fete – 4.00-6.00pm |
| | 2 nd | Ocean – Parent Visits – 10.15-11.00am |
| | 5 th | Yr3 – Wilder Schools |
| | 5 th | 5FS – Visit to MPS for DT Event – 9.00am-12.00pm |
| | 7 th | KS1 – Christmas Show – 9.15am and 2.00pm |
| | 8 th | Reception Christmas Show – 9.30am and 2.00pm |
| | 9 th | KS2 Christmas Show – 9.15-10.15am and 2.15-3.15pm |
| | 14 th | Nursery and Shining Stars Christmas Show – 10.45am |
| | 15 th | Robin Hood Pantomime – 9.00-11.00am |
| | 16 th | Christmas Jumper Day |
| | 16 th | Christmas Lunch |
| | 16 th | Christmas Raffle |
| Jan | 9 th | Yr3 – Magic Lantern |
| | 10 th | Yr4 – Magic Lantern |
| | 11 th | Yr6 – Magic Lantern |
| | 12 th | Yr5 – Magic Lantern |
| | 13 th | Yr2 – Magic Lantern |
| | 17 th | YrR – Magic Lantern |
| | 17 th | O2 Performance – 10.30am-10.30pm |
| | 18 th | Nursery – Magic Lantern |
| | 26 th | EY & KS1 – Drama Workshops – 9.00am-2.00pm (Narnia) |
| | 27 th | Yr6 – Junior Citizen |
| | 30 th | Maths Week |
| Feb | 3 rd | Yr5 – Juniper Hall – 9.00am-3.00pm |
| | 3 rd | NSPCC Number Day |
| | 23rd | KS2 – Theatre Trip 4.00-11.00pm - TBC |
| | 27 th – 3 Mar | World Book Week |

REMEMBER YOU CAN ACCESS OUR PARENT CALENDAR TO CHECK WHAT'S ON ANYTIME ON THE WEBSITE HERE: [HTTPS://WWW.FURZEFIELD.SURREY.SCH.UK/NEWS/CALENDAR/](https://www.furzefield.surrey.sch.uk/news/calendar/)

2022/23 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2022

- ***INSET Thursday 1st September***
- ***INSET Friday 2nd September***
- Children return to school Monday 5th September
- Half Term Monday 24th - Friday 28th October
- Children return to school Monday 31st October
- **Nursery and Pre-School children's term ends Thursday 15th December**
- Children's term ends Friday 16th December (1.30pm collection)
- Christmas Holidays Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January 2023

Spring Term 2023

- ***INSET Tuesday 3rd January***
- Children return to school Wednesday 4th January
- Half Term Monday 13th - Friday 17th February
- Children return to school Monday 20th February
- **Nursery and Pre-School children's term ends Thursday 30th March**
- Children's term ends Friday 31st March (1.30pm collection)
- Easter Holidays Monday 3rd - Friday 14th April

Summer Term 2023

- Children return to school Monday 17 April
- Half Term Monday 29 May - Friday 2 June
- ***INSET Monday 5th June***
- Children return to school Tuesday 6th June
- **Nursery and Pre-School children's term ends Wednesday 19th July**
- Children's term ends Thursday 20 July (1.30pm collection)
- ***INSET Friday 21st July***