

Newsletter date: 08/05/26

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**FORDHAM
ALL SAINTS**

PRIMARY SCHOOL

“All things are possible to those who believe”

Dear Families

It hardly seems possible that we have already been back a month, and yet here we are with SATs just around the corner. Our Year 6 pupils have been working incredibly hard and this is always a time when our whole school community pulls together. Staff are running SATs breakfast clubs, timetables have been adapted to accommodate different break-times, and Hawthorn Class will be taught in the main hall for the first part of each day to ensure Year 6 have a calm and quiet learning environment.

We also cannot let this moment pass without mentioning our dear Mrs Martin. She has always been such a big part of SATs at our school, and we know she will be thinking of everyone next week. In true Mrs Martin style, she has already sent in some treats for Mrs Fitzpatrick and the team. Thank you as well for the thoughtful gifts families have sent in for her. These have all been passed on and have and greatly appreciated.

As ever, I am so proud of our school community. Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Carla Dale

Class Photos

IMPORTANT – REGISTER TO VIEW SCHOOL PHOTOS

Exciting news! Carmel Jane Photography will be visiting our School on the 18th of May 2026, to take the Class Group Photos.

All parents are requested to pre-register for instant access to their child's class photo.

Register in 3 easy steps in less than a minute:

1. Head to www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk
2. Enter your unique code : **JRNZXPZK2S**
3. Include your child's full school register name.

Don't miss out - pre-register today!

Term Dates

Summer

Monday 13th April —Friday 17th July

Half-term

25th May—29th May

DIARY DATES

MAY

11th—14th SATS

18th—SEND Coffee Morning

18th—Class Photos

JUNE

3rd—Sycamore Class Parents-Residential Trip Meeting at 3.20pm

17th—Y6 Retreat day @ John Owen Barn

17th—EYFS New Intake Parents' Meeting at 5.30pm

18th—Sports Day (PM)

26th—Reserve Sports Day (PM)

JULY

1st—Zoe Bear's Birthday

2nd—Sycamore Class Performance

5th—8th—Sycamore Class Residential

13th—Whole School Transition Morning

14th—French Day

15th - Y6 Leavers Assembly @ 2pm

16th—Rock Steady Concert at 9.30pm

17th— Last Day of School





Spotlight on Attendance

Why is attending school regularly so important?

Regular attendance is essential because it helps children build strong learning habits and feel a real sense of belonging. When children attend school consistently, they are more likely to flourish both academically and socially, and this has a positive impact on their overall wellbeing.

Since the pandemic, attendance has not returned to previous levels, and persistent absence (below 90%) has risen significantly. This is why there is a national focus on improving attendance so every child can be fully supported.

Local authorities and Ofsted now place greater emphasis on attendance as an important safeguarding and wellbeing indicator, highlighting just how crucial regular school routines are for children.

| If attendance over the school year is: | ...a pupil will miss this many days: | ...and this many lessons: |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 100% | 0 | 0 |
| 95% | 10 | 50 |
| 90% | 19 | 95 |
| 85% | 29 | 145 |
| 80% | 39 | 195 |
| 75% | 49 | 245 |
| 70% | 58 | 290 |

Letters Home

As a school, we regularly share information about attendance through end-of-term reports, newsletters and assemblies. However, there will be times when we also send letters home to update families on current attendance data. Even a few days of absence can build up more than we realise, and these letters are simply part of keeping everyone informed.

We have a duty to promote good attendance and to work closely with families to support it. We know that life can get in the way at times, and we're always here to help. If you're facing any barriers, please speak to your child's teacher so we can support you and your family.

As part of our duty of care, we monitor attendance every week. Our attendance-to-date for each year group is shared below.

| Groups | Attendance |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Whole School Attendance | 96.3% |
| EYFS | 97.6% |
| Year 1 | 96.3% |
| Year 2 | 95.2% |
| Year 3 | 98.5% |
| Year 4 | 97.7% |
| Year 5 | 98.3% |
| Year 6 | 92% |



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Head of School: Carla Dale



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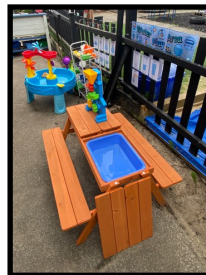
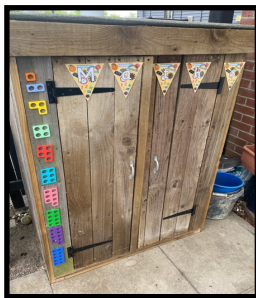
"All things are possible to those who believe"

FUNDRAISING UPDATE: NEW EYFS OUTSIDE LEARNING RESOURCES

Oak Class children are loving their new learning resources - they now have a wonderful Maths outdoors storage shed that Eddie and Harry's Dad has built for us by recycling and repurposing our old shed. Lee is also going to build us a Literacy shed so we can store and self-access our writing and reading resources - thank you so much!

Lee's help has meant that the money raised from the bake sale has been able to purchase 2 water tables so that the children can learn about and explore capacity and sinking or floating in such a fun way. The money also bought other water and sand toys and Maths trays to enhance our learning even more.

Thank you everyone!



Pier to Pier walk in aid of St Helena Hospice

A number of staff will be taking part in the St Helena Hospice Pier to Pier walk on Sunday 17th May.

The 7-mile scenic walk has been going since 2011. It starts from either Clacton or Walton Pier

St Helena Hospice is a charity based in Colchester. The charity helps local people in North East Essex face incurable illness and bereavement, supporting them, their families, friends and carers.

Only 20% of St Helena's income comes from the NHS. That means 80% of the income needed to run St Helena is raised through the local community.

Should you wish to sponsor us, here are the links.

StHelena

<https://sthelenahospice.enthuse.com/pf/susan-coutts>

<https://sthelenahospice.enthuse.com/pf/tacita-styant>

<https://sthelenahospice.enthuse.com/pf/carla-dale>

<https://sthelenahospice.enthuse.com/pf/louise-fitzpatrick>

StHelena

Weekly Attendance

Whole School 98.2%

OAK 90.9% ELM 97.8% HAWTHORN 98.8% SYCAMORE 95.6%

