

At Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School, we nurture and invest in our relationships. We identify each individual's potential and work as a team to create a safe environment for everyone to grow and succeed.

Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last few years have been a very strange period of time, I have not been able to come in to school as much as I would have liked but I know from my conversations with staff and the reports I receive from Mr Farthing that the school, as a community, has worked together to support each other.

Whilst staffing and education have certainly been interrupted it is pleasing for me to see that our school continues to improve. Our vision, to invest in relationships, is certainly true. It is fantastic that we are supporting children's reading with an investment of £16,000 in reading books. This has also been accompanied by a great deal of staff training to support the teaching of reading. I believe that reading for pleasure is an entitlement for every child so I wholeheartedly support our schools drive to make this a priority.

I look forward to being able to come in to school more now that we are able to and hope to see many of you during events that will be planned for the summer term.
Best wishes

Vicky Etheridge
Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is nice to see longer days with the sun shining as we move out of the dark winter months. For the time being rates of positive Covid infections have stabilised here, attendance from both staff and children are back to usual levels, let us hope this continues and we can plan for some normality in the summer term.

We fully expect to be running sports days, summer fayres and leavers proms next term and during our Inset day on the 19th April we will discuss and plan for what else we can do to bring our school community back together.

Thank you all for the clothing contributions you made to support the thousands of people that have had to leave their homes to escape the fighting from the Russian invasion of the Ukraine.

The websites below provide advice, information and resources about how to talk to children about the war in Ukraine.

School of Sanctuary
[Speaking with Children about the War in Ukraine](#)

CBBC
[Advice if you're upset by the news](#) and [War in Ukraine: What's happening there?](#)

Childline
[Worries about the world](#)

Be Safe



Be Respectful



Be a Learner



Be Responsible



Staffing Changes

We have welcomed two new members of staff to our school office in recent weeks. Leanne Appleton has joined our friendly office team helping to ensure our school runs smoothly. Sophie Smith has also joined our cleaning team.


After Easter both Miss Fisher and Miss Fusco will be leaving Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School. Miss Fisher began her career here and will be taking the skills she has developed whilst being at Fairstead and apply them in a new role at another school. We wish them both the best of luck and every success for the future.

Mrs Castledine will be joining the Yr5 team and together with Mr Williamson will teach the class for the rest of the school year.

Mrs Garwood, who joined us in January, will be using her many years of experience to join Miss Barrett and the year 3 team and teach the class for the remainder of the year.

Website

The school website continues to be developed. Please check out www.fairsteadprimaryschool.co.uk to see the new pictures and current information to support you and your children in their journey through our school.

We have also recently started a Twitter feed so if you would like to follow us you can find us at:  @SchoolFairstead

Books

Mr Graves has recently invested £16,000 on developing our school library resourcing it with good quality, exciting and engaging books for children to read. I hope that the children have been talking about their book choices and reading with you at home.

We plan to continue to develop a love of reading at school with changes to our curriculum, the way in which we teach reading and promoting reading for pleasure.

Footballs

As from Monday **no footballs** (or any other type of ball) will be allowed to be brought in to school from home. We will provide equipment for children to play with during playtime.



Reporting Your Child's Absence

If your child is absent from school it is your responsibility to let the office know that they are absent and the reasons for that absence either by Parentmail or by phone. If we do not hear from you we will call and send text messages and in many cases I will visit the house if no contact can be made.

Bikes

It is wonderful to see so many children cycling (and scooting) to school, particularly as the weather improves. Please can you make sure that your child walks their bike (or scooter) in to and out of school. This applies to all children from nursery through to year 6 – good habits start early!



I hope you all enjoy the sunny weekend.

Thank you for your continued support

Daniel Farthing
Headteacher

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