



# Fairstead Community Nursery and Primary School

## Whole School Newsletter

17/11/2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for attending your children's parents meeting, we held them slightly earlier this year so that we have a better chance of working together to support your child's progress. We are completing their Autumn Term assessments this week and once they have been marked, you will receive a report highlighting their progress this term.

We are now at the time of year where the colder weather and darker nights are drawing in. Please remember that if your child attends an after-school club, they will not be allowed to walk home alone as it is too dark.

Warm regards,

Daniel Farthing

Headteacher

### Farewell and Congratulations

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the departure at the end of the term of our Assistant Head, Mr Graves, who has secured a headship at another school. While we are sad to see Mr Graves leave Fairstead Community Primary and Nursery School, we are incredibly proud of this achievement and excited for the new chapter ahead.

During Mr Graves' time with us, he has made an outstanding contribution to our school community. His dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to our pupils have left a lasting impact. From supporting staff development to championing teaching and learning, Mr Graves has helped shape the positive culture we all value so much.

Good luck, Mr Graves—you will be greatly missed!

In other exciting news, Mrs May is now a mummy! Though this was earlier than expected, both Mrs May and her baby girl are doing fine. We look forward to hearing more details but for now we wish them congratulations.

We appointed a new member of staff, Mrs Smith, who will complete Mrs May's maternity cover. We are hopeful that Mrs Smith will now be able to start on a slightly earlier date to provide continuity for 1M.

Mrs Crome-Russell is also fast approaching her maternity leave. When this begins, Mrs Farthing will take Foxes class and be supported by Mrs Filmer and the rest of the EYFS team.

## Uniform and Jewellery

We would like to remind all families of our school uniform expectations to ensure consistency, safety, and pride in our school community.

If children do not wear the correct school uniform, they will be asked why they are not wearing it. Many children tell me it is PE day but there are still clear expectations for PE- children are **not allowed to wear whatever they want**- they must still have a Fairstead school jumper with their PE top underneath and black jogging bottoms or shorts.

## False Nails

### Why We Do Not Allow False Nails in School

To keep all children safe and ready to learn, please remember that false nails (acrylics, gels, stick-ons or extensions) are **not permitted in school**. This is because:

- **They pose a safety risk** – long or hard nails can accidentally scratch others during play or PE.
- **They can cause injuries** – acrylics and extensions can break easily, which can be painful and leave sharp fragments.
- **They affect learning and independence** – children find it harder to write, use scissors, type, fasten coats or manage toileting.
- **They can harbour bacteria** – making good hygiene more difficult.
- **They conflict with our uniform expectations** – keeping appearance simple helps minimise distractions and supports learning.
- **They are not suitable for PE** – sports safety guidance requires nails to be kept short.

Thank you for supporting us in keeping all children safe and fully able to take part in school life.

## Together We Will Remember

Thank you to Mrs Hoare, who led on creating a beautiful Remembrance art installation to help us reflect and remember. Each year we produce something that supports children's understanding of remembrance and why we hold a 2 minute silence. This year our whole school came together to create a tiled montage which was hung in the hall.

