

Newsletter

December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy and exciting time for both children and staff as we have enjoyed the Christmas season at Fairfield and Colneis. I have been privileged to see many of the Christmas concerts and I'm sure you'll agree with me that the children took part beautifully.

Many thanks to those who supported the two 'Friends of' Christmas Fairs - both events have raised a significant amount of money which will enable us to provide additional resources for all the children in school.

On that note I would like to thank both committees again for their hard work in fundraising. The Friends of Fairfield have just presented the school with £4000 that we are going to use to enhance the outdoor provision, as well as purchasing additional cooking equipment for our children to access. The Friends of Colneis have recently funded the purchase of 30 new tablets including chargers and headphones that will enable us to really increase the access that children have to this technology. Our huge thanks to the hard work and support of our community in making this possible. Put simply, school budgets are so tight, this level of funding would be very difficult to achieve without such support.

Thank you to those parents who attended the recent parent forums - I have shared the observations and comments that were made during these sessions with Governors and Senior Leaders. We do very much value your feedback and thoughts and together with the parental surveys we complete in the Summer term use the information to drive our school development plans.

We have also been delighted with the way our after school provision has started - working in partnership with the Premier group we have seen a positive uptake in numbers of children taking part in this.

Finally, thank you for your continued support, I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2020.

With best wishes,
Mr Mark Girling, Headteacher

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Pupil Premium Awards 2016 Local Winner

Primary schools with
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School closure information

For further information on school closures due to severe weather or any other unforeseen difficulty please tune into the local radio stations or log on to the following websites –

Heart FM on 97.1 or 96.4 FM, Town FM on 102 FM, Radio Suffolk 95.5, 95.9, 103.9 or 104.6 FM, www.bbc.co.uk/suffolk, www.heart.co.uk, <http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/>

Please also check the school website for up-to-date information www.fairfieldinfant.co.uk and/or www.colneisjunior.co.uk.



Dates:

Wednesday 18 December Fairfield Christmas parties (non-uniform)

Thursday 19 December Last day of term

Tuesday 7 January 2020 Return to school

Friday 24 January 2020 SEND coffee morning at Colneis (invitation to follow)

Pupils' Success

Showing compassion to the needs of another child -
Gold Behaviour Award

Elsie-Mae Orr

Showing courage when writing her instructions -
Gold Behaviour Award

Elsie Burns

Having a fantastic learning attitude and being a great role model at every opportunity -
Gold Behaviour Award

Charlotte Currey

A fantastic model of a habitat for a Polar Bear completed at home -
Gold Behaviour Award

Amelie Speirs

Always setting a good example by listening and doing her best at every opportunity

Eliza Finch

Showing respect for the tasks set in homework all term

Jack Norris,
Logan Ver-Haest,
Eva-Grace Edwards,
Olivia Gosling, James Davies

A fantastic attitude towards his learning

Jasper
Harrington-Rutterford

Being a superstar independent writer

Willow Clements

Showing perseverance and doing her best

Sienna Arnold

Always being respectful and showing courage on a regular basis

Edward Bridges

Always being respectful and showing compassion to his peers

Freddie O'Connor

Always doing his best

Albie Branch

Showing compassion by being kind and helpful to others at all times

Chloe Wyard

Showing respect and using kind hands

Mason Docking

Brilliant reading, blending with digraphs

Edwards Bridges

Fantastic writing and science work

Finley Price

Showing compassion to the needs of her friends

Alice Thrower

Working hard and showing determination at in his work

Oliver Mazur

Brilliant blending

Erin Norman

Fantastic phonics

Ezra Latham

Showing courage in taking on a new role in our Christmas performance

Liliana Malapeau

Showing acceptance and courage in the Christmas rehearsals

Robin Coyle-Gilchrist

Showing compassion to help his carpet buddy

Noah Race

Excellent division work

Ethan Nind,
Riley Graves

Amazing work solving division problems

Kaiden Bloomfield

Super maths work solving division problems

Lexie-Marie Cox

Cont'd..

Pupils' Success Cont'd...

Accurate counting using marshmallows in the hot chocolate	Lucy Richardson, Dea Gjoka	Accurate counting, adding 3 marshmallows to the hot chocolate	Oliver Warby
Much improved handwriting	Everly Wishart	Showing her phonics knowledge and Makaton to write about the mystery present	Ella Smith
Using her 'chopping hands' to spell and write about the mystery present	Lola-Rose Harrison	Using her phonics knowledge to write about the mystery present	Callie Rose-Adkins
Showing courage and amazing singing in our Christmas performance	Nala Carter	Showing courage by stepping into multiple roles when needed for the Christmas performance	Lola-Rose Harrison
Showing courage and determination in the Christmas performance	Jude Palmer De Abreu	Showing courage and perseverance in the Christmas performance	Ava Spencer
Being courageous and determined to put her hand up and have a go	Alexia Barbu	Being courageous and determined to answer questions in class	Erica Barabas
Consistently showing respect and compassion	James Davies	Being a kind friend and always helping others in class	Maddie Midgley
Being a fantastic friend to others and always showing respect	Maraya Georgieva	Counting accurately in the stamp challenge	Keith Spink, Aaliyah-May Ward

Fairfield Christmas Tree at the Christmas Tree Festival

Fairfield were pleased to be included again in this year's Christmas Tree Festival held at the Salvation Army. The children enjoyed creating decorations for the tree which we are delighted to announce came runner-up in the peoples vote.

We received £30.22 from tree donations which will go towards the school.

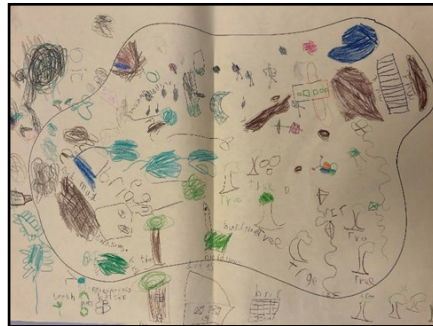
Special thanks go to Mrs Barker, Mrs Simmons and Mrs Ransom and the team for arranging it.



Year One's Trip to the Grove

The children in Year One have been learning about their 5 senses in science and have been sharing books with rhyming words, predictable phrases and onomatopoeia in our guided reading sessions.

We read Michael Rosen's 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' which inspired the children to write their own versions using things they saw, smelled, heard and felt on our trip to The Grove.



The School Calendar & Tea Towels

The Fairfield school calendars and tea towels are now available from the school office at a cost of £5 each (subject to availability).

Jackanory sessions



We have recently introduced Jackanory sessions which have been well received by the children. Just before the end of each lunchtime, any child who wishes to listen to a story has the opportunity to come to the library for story time. The teachers take it in turns to read a different story each day.

Premier Arts—Showdown

Many congratulations to Class 1H and Class 2F who recently took part in the first Premier Arts Showdown performance at Seckford Theatre. Both the children and staff worked incredibly hard prior to the evening, resulting in the children giving a superb performance to an appreciative audience on the night. We were very proud of them all and look forward to more performances from other classes in the future.

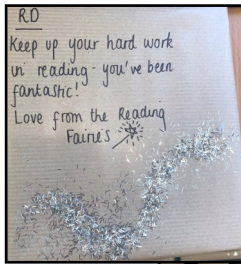


Year 1 Parents' Open Afternoon



The children and grown ups enjoyed an afternoon of Christmas Crafts at the recent Y1 Open Afternoon. Thank you to all who attended.

Fairfield Reading Fairies!



The Fairfield reading fairies (who looked suspiciously like our office ladies Mrs Barrow and Mrs Ozanne) visited each class to encourage the pupils to keep on reading at home. The 'fairies' selected two classes and checked each child's reading diary to see if they had received their 'Reading 4 times a week' sticker since the start of term. Those children who had consistently read enjoyed an afternoon tea party and story time with Mr Girling, whilst all of the classes were also presented with a new story book.

Alternative classes will be selected over the course of the year, so please continue to read with your child at home.





Dates:

Wednesday 18 December, pm Y5 Christmas party

Thursday 19 December, pm Y6 Christmas party

Thursday 19 December Last day of term

Tuesday 7 January 2020 Return to school

Friday 24 January 2020 SEND coffee morning at Colneis (invitation to follow)

Pupils' Success

An excellent, positive attitude everyday - Gold Behaviour Award	Ella Coleman	Looking out for others and trying to cheer them up - Gold Behaviour Award	Thomas Varley
A super science lesson on rock types	Milena Cuirko, Kai Gooch	Consistently setting a good example of behaviour to others - Gold Behaviour Award	Sienna Wilson
Super learning behaviour and kindness to others - Gold Behaviour Award	Isabella Watters	Showing resilience and perseverance with his writing	Toby Symonds
Showing independence when writing a story	Mya Phillips	Super maths work	Isla Phillips
Consistent excellent learning behaviour and always doing her best - Gold Behaviour Award	Lily Webb, Poppy Prior, Adelina Asenova, Emily Nice, Isabella Scott	Excellent debating skills	Harley Todd
Amazing problem solving skills	Jakub Kepka	A fantastic Sea Monster story	Oliver Horne, Emma Hartfield
Fantastic resilience with column addition/subtraction	Mimi Kane	A fantastic effort in maths	Callum Graham
Amazing independent addition in maths	Bethany Welham	Displaying super learning behaviours - Gold Behaviour Award	Matthew Haskell
Consistently super behaviour and being a great role model - Gold Behaviour Award	Annabel Pilcher	Showing respect to all children and staff consistently since the start of term	Noah Jones
A great attitude to learning and always trying his best - Gold Behaviour Award	Ishan Swallow	Writing an excellent leaflet at home	Milena Cuirko
Including a range of literary devices in his Rumpelstiltskin story and for punctuating speech accurately	Archie Coleman	Great use of vocabulary and a range of literary devices in your re-telling of Rumpelstiltskin	Charlotte Cheesman
Excellent printing work in art	Ella Douglas	Writing a brilliant myth	Kayla Meehan, Emily Chambers
Using a great imagination in myth writing	Max Tooke	Super understanding of column methods of addition and subtraction	Mikhail Hussain

Pupils' Success Cont'd...

A super science fact file	Ava Topping, Ave-Maria Clarke, Esmee Bass, Isabella Watters	Always demonstrating school values, especially honesty, respect and compassion - Gold Behaviour Award	Mia Whitehouse Giles
Always demonstrating school values, especially honesty, respect and compassion - Gold Behaviour Award	Myla Campbell, Sashi Swallow	Huge improvement in handwriting and presentation	JJ Belton
A fantastic retelling of Theseus and the Minotaur	Charlotte Rood, Elliot Martin	An excellent descriptive paragraph in French	Kayleigh Garnham-Young, Roger Roig-Meyn
A dramatic and tension- filled Greek myth	Niamh Henderson	Wonderful explanations in guided reading	Lily-Rose Tonks
Super story writing	Alice Graves, Thomas White	An exciting and bloodcurdling Greek myth	Odon Sagi
Showing confidence and resilience in maths	Braydon Jackson	Challenging herself in maths lessons	Ella Crumlish
Excellent problem solving in maths	Henry Bloomfield	Being a fantastic classroom helper	Millie Conway
Using their own time to help organise the classroom	Thomas Pilcher, Charlie Gosling, Noel Masters	Excellent listening in PE lessons	Benjamin Whitcombe
Excellent improvement in handwriting	Ronnie McCarthy	Consistent good behaviour and hard work	Leo Corscadden, Lara Hicks
Great behaviour towards others	Charlie Richer	Super learning behaviours	Evie Baldwin
Always setting an excellent example for behaviour	Emily Chambers, Devon Finch	Wonderful, descriptive writing	Ashton Van Tankeren
Working so hard at the maths café	Milena Cuirko, Ava Topping	Creating a fantastic presentation for assembly	Ethan Cole

Colneis Representatives at Felixstowe Youth Forum

On Wednesday 6th November, three Year 6 School Council representatives, Jake, Chris and Lara-May, attended their first Youth Forum at Felixstowe Town Hall. Colneis had been chosen to chair this first meeting and Jake did a sterling job in his role of Chairman, supported very ably by Chris and Lara-May.

The Youth Forum meeting takes place every half term and provides an opportunity for the young people of Felixstowe to come together and have a voice in the plans for the local community.



Paarlauf – Monday 30th September 2019

What an amazing competition! This is always extremely closely contested and there are only ever a few laps in it! Between 5th place and 1st place, there were only 4 laps. We were lucky enough to finish as winners. What an amazing effort by over 40 of our children from Year 3 to Year 6. Well done everyone!



U11 Girls Football – Tuesday 8th October – Whitton Sports Centre

Another super effort. The girls all played with a smile on their face and tried their best. With very little football experience between them, it was great to see such commitment and effort. They had some really tough games but were able to collect 10 points from their 4 games. This wasn't enough to make the semi finals but they should be very proud. It's always a pleasure to take such lovely children and give them opportunities like this—opportunities that we wouldn't have without our wonderful School Games Team!



U11 Boys Football – Thursday 17th October – Whitton Sports Centre

Having been rained off the week before, the boys represented the school really well. They played with great sportsmanship. This is what I always look for above any performance related outcome and they didn't disappoint. There were a couple of tricky games but we finished our group with 15 points, enough for joint second. Unfortunately, this wasn't enough to progress through to the semi finals but they should be very proud of their efforts.



U11 Tag Rugby – Monday 4th November 2019 – Ransomes Sports Pavilion, Ipswich

A mixture of experience and newbies, this was a great opportunity to develop their rugby skills and experience. They embodied the School Games motto playing with great sportsmanship and representing the school beautifully. The experienced players supported the others nicely and used their knowledge to help the team. They finished the development tournament with 1 win, a draw and a few losses. Well done everyone!



U11 Football – Tuesday 5th November – Ipswich High School

Another lovely event that we are lucky enough to be invited to. Ipswich High School regularly reach out to 'local' primary schools to offer competitions that closely follow the School Games competition calendar. This was a mixed football tournament and we were able to take an A and a B team to the event. They both played in different leagues, finishing 3rd and 4th respectively. This was enough to get them into the playoff leagues. The A Team managed to win their 3rd place league, leaving with certificates and medals! The B Team played fantastically, getting to the final but losing on a penalty shootout. Heart wrenching! Well done to all of the children involved. They really impressed me throughout the entire tournament.



U11 Tag Rugby - Wednesday 13th November - Trimley St Martin

Another one of our local festivals. In Felixstowe, we try to replicate the School Games calendar with our offer to the children. This involves some competitions and some festivals. The tag rugby is a festival, aimed at including children that have played little to no rugby before. These children effectively formed a C Team for the school and were amazing. Again, representing the school wonderfully and they demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship. They all played with a smile on their faces and left having had a very good introduction to rugby!



U11 Futsal - Thursday 14th November - Inspire Suffolk

Well done girls! With very little experience of Futsal, a mixture of Year 5 and 6 girls thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon. Continuing a common trend, they went to participate and for enjoyment and this competition delivered that superbly. For many of them, 'What is Futsal?' was a regular question but I feel that sums up our children. They are willing to have a go at anything and I believe this demonstrates great confidence and makes me very proud of the opportunities that we can provide. Well done everyone!



Enrichment activities

With our partnership with Premier, enrichment has been rotating between Fairfield and Colneis on a Thursday morning. This has been incredibly successful and the children have all had a go at curling this term. This will continue in the same format into the spring term.

Year 3 Maths Café

What a wonderful response we had to our maths café afternoon. These sessions have always been very successful and Year 3 did us proud. A big thank you to all who attended, you helped us to make the afternoon a success and we hope that you have found some of the resources useful.



Year 4 Greek week 11th – 14th November

Year 4 enjoyed a week off our normal timetable to do a range of learning activities related to our Ancient Greece history topic. To tell you a little more about it, here are some extracts from the children's Greek week diaries.

Monday

Yesterday I made a Greek pot out of terracotta clay. Next we did maths and we made a Greek pattern out of paper and we measured the perimeter. We did a Greek play called Odysseus and the Cyclops and I am Polyphemus. By Calvin 4C

Today we made a huge Greek pattern and this is how we did it. We got a piece of paper and measured the perimeter, cut it in half and repeated it until we had 4 bits, and swapped two pieces with our partner so we could make a huge pattern. By Ethan 4T



Tuesday

We did some really fun Greek maths to do with perimeters. We looked at shapes and finding the perimeter with a ruler. Secondly we got into groups and decided our roles for Theseus and the minotaur. In the play I'm a child and we do scene 4. This scene is where Theseus leaves Crete with Ariadne and the children. By Oden 4RW

Today we learnt the Greek alphabet. There's only 24 letters in the Greek alphabet and you have to use sounds not the letters. We also wrote our names in Greek after we learnt Greek. By Calum 4T



Wednesday

Today was a good day. Why? Because we were doing the OLYMPICS! We did similar events like sprinting, long jump, an 'armour race' and discus throwing. Each class had 5 teams split into letters of the alphabet. Did you know that the word alphabet comes from the first two letters alpha and beta! By Alice 4C.

I performed and rehearsed Theseus and the minotaur to the class. I won Greek Olympics. I created a team chant for our team and completed all of the events. I learnt Greek colours in bingo. By Leo 4RW



Thursday

We made Tzatziki for our delicious feast in the afternoon and then we made our sweet butter cookies. After lunchtime we got changed into our Ancient Greek costumes and then we went into the hall to perform our plays and have a feast. By Charlotte 4RW

We made amazing Greek food. We made a special dip called Tzatziki. It was made with cucumber and other natural herbs. After playtime we made the most amazing food ever. It was the butter cookies. They were made by adding eggs, flour and most importantly butter. We also dressed up as Greeks and ate our delicious food. By Emily 4T



Colchester Castle

Year 3 visited Colchester Castle on the 12th November to enrich our learning about the Celts and the Romans. This is a trip that we have done for a number of years but it never fails to impress. The children are exposed to some wonderful artefacts in the museum from both the Celt and Roman eras. The dressing up stations around the museum were a particular favourite this year! The building of a Roman Villa and Celtic Roundhouse is a fantastic hands on activity that allows the children to have a better understanding of how they lived. The opportunity to go down into the vaults, into the original foundations of the Roman Temple, is something that the volunteers at the castle deliver brilliantly. The children returned with a lot of knowledge and it has really supported their learning about Boudicca this week.



JOINT SCHOOL INFORMATION

Golden Ticket Winners!

For reading 4 times (or more) a week:

Fairfield Golden Ticket Winners:

Benjamin Warwick—1P, Anya Baker—RSB, Lacie Willis—1P, Matilda Crawford—RA



Colneis Golden Ticket Winners:

Lily Connell—Class 4C, Oscar Wicks—Class 3T, Hallie Miller—Class 5CB, Sorul Sivaraj—Class 3L



Our Representatives at the Schools Remembrance Service

We were very proud of the School Council members from both Fairfield and Colneis who were invited to attend the Schools Remembrance Service. All of the children represented our schools beautifully, including Lara who was asked to read a verse of remembrance during the service.



The Federation of Fairfield and Colneis—Governor News

It's hard to believe that it is almost Christmas! Throughout the term, governors have continued to be in school regularly. We've attended class assemblies, taken part in monitoring activities with senior leaders, come to open afternoons, parents' forums and Christmas concerts. Some governors regularly help in classes. We have also had two meetings of the Governing Body as well as various committee meetings. In recent newsletters we have told you about the work of the various committees and now it is the turn of the Policy Review Committee, chaired by Neil Winton.

Celia Davies
Chair of Governors



Mr Neil Winton,
Governor

I'm sure that school policies and procedures aren't at the top of your "must read" list! But we do need to have these kinds of things in place, so that staff, students and parents have a consistent view how we do things at Fairfield and Colneis. Some policies are so important that the government requires us to have nearly 30 of them, by law. In fact, we have over 60 different policies covering everything from Child Protection to Whistleblowing. The shortest is an admirably brief four paragraphs and the longest is close to 40 pages. Some affect how subjects like maths and IT are taught every day. Others, such as the procedure to follow in the event of a major incident like a fire or flood, we hope never to have to use.

Making sure that we keep everything up to date is the job of the Policy Review Committee. We meet every term and have a rolling programme where we look at policies coming up to their review date. We check to see if they are still relevant or need to be updated in the light of changes to legislation, teaching practices or technology. We don't write any policies, but we do read and review them (or sometimes ask other committees to take responsibility for certain policies) and make suggestions for how they can be improved. Sometimes we even manage to retire policies entirely -- although there always seems to be a requirement for new ones faster than we can manage to eliminate them!

If you're interested, you can find some of the most important policies such as those on Child Protection and Behaviour on the schools' web-site. The others (apart from a very few that contain personal information such as contact numbers) are available on request from the school offices.

Art Club Designers

We'd like to thank the Fairfield and Colneis Art Club children who have helped to decorate each school library with their own front cover design of their favourite book.

We think they did an amazing job!



Children in Need Fundraiser

Many thanks to all who contributed towards the Children in Need fundraiser that coincided with Road Safety Week. A total of £355.51 was raised over both schools. As always, many thanks for your generosity.



Fairfield MDSAs wearing a splash of fluorescent

JRSO November Update

Thanks to everyone who added a splash of fluorescent for Children in Need Day and Road Safety Week—we were very grateful! People were very creative and inspiring. On the day, we sold glow bracelets for a low price of only 20p. When we counted up the money we were very surprised to find out that we had raised a massive £58 for Children in Need which is included in the grand total! We also ran a competition to see who could make the brightest Pudsey Bear. Our winners were: Ella, Amelia, Amelia, Devon, Lily-Rose, Sarah, Millie and Vaishnavi. Thank you to everyone who entered.

REMEMBER: BE SAFE BE SEEN!



Current Academic Year

Term dates for 2019-2020

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term: Wednesday 4 September 2019
Half term: Monday 21 October 2019 to Friday 25 October 2019
End of Autumn term: Thursday 19 December 2019
PD (non school) days: Monday 2 September 2019
Tuesday 3 September 2019
Friday 15 November 2019

Spring term:

Start of Spring term: Tuesday 7 January 2020
Half term: Monday 17 February 2020 to Friday 21 February 2020
End of Spring term: Thursday 2 April 2020
PD (non school) day: Monday 6 January 2020

Summer term:

Start of Summer term: Monday 20 April 2020
May Bank Holiday: Friday 8 May 2020
Half term: Monday 25 May 2020 (May Bank Holiday) to Friday 29 May 2020
End of Summer term: Wednesday 22 July 2020
PD (non school) day: Friday 22nd May 2020

Next Academic Year

Term dates for 2020-2021

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term: Thursday 3 September 2020
Half term: Monday 26 October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020
End of Autumn term: Friday 18 December 2020
PD (non school) days: Tuesday 1 September 2020
Wednesday 2 September 2020

Spring term:

Start of Spring term: Tuesday 5 January 2021
Half term: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021
End of Spring term: Friday 26 March 2021
PD (non school) day: Monday 4 January 2021

Summer term:

Start of Summer term: Monday 12 April 2021
Half term: Monday 31 May 2021 (May Bank Holiday) to Friday 4 June 2021
End of Summer term: Friday 16 July 2021
PD (non school) day: Monday 19 July 2021
Tuesday 20 July 2021