

Infant Site

Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1TG
 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 2
 Email: infantadmin@foxdellprimary.uk

Foxdell Primary School

Growing, Learning and Achieving Together

Junior Site

Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1UP
 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 1
 Email: junioradmin@foxdellprimary.uk



NEWSLETTER : Friday 7th March/ Spring Term: Issue: 4

Head Teacher's Corner



Dear Families,

We've had a fantastic start to this half term with lots of exciting activities taking place. Last week, we celebrated Healthy Living Week. All of the children engaged in a range of activities about the importance of having a healthy lifestyle, including food choices and exercise.

Today, we celebrated World Book Day and we were very lucky to have the children's author, Julia Jarman, join us. Julia delivered assemblies and workshops to different year groups, telling them all about her work. A big thank you to everyone who took part in dressing up as a book character- it was lovely to see such creativity.

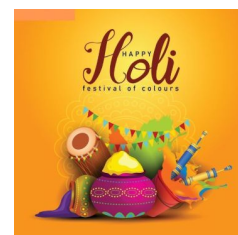
This week, we sent a letter inviting you to order books from our first Foxdell Book Fair. The books are available at up to 70% off the original book price! Orders should be made via SCOPAY and once we have received payment, children will have the opportunity to select the books they would like. Please refer to the letter for examples of the books on offer. **Deadline for payments is Wednesday 12th March 2025.**

This week also marked the start of Ramadan. We would like to wish Ramadan Mubarak to all our families observing this special time.

Next week we will be learning about the festival of Holi. We have invited a special guest to deliver an assembly, where they will talk about Holi and how it is celebrated. To all our families that will be celebrating, we hope you have a happy and colourful Holi!

A reminder that we use X as another way of keeping you informed about events and updates happening at our school. If you aren't already following us, please do so at @foxdellprimary to stay up to date with all the latest news and activities.

Best wishes,
 Mrs R Nisar
 Headteacher



Tuesday 11th March
 Y6 Parents SATS session
 3pm-3:30pm

Wednesday 12th March
 Deadline for Book Fair
 payments

Friday 14th March
 Holi Assembly for children

Friday 21st March
 Great Big School Clean
 Project starts

Friday 28th March
 Deadline for Easter
 Bonnet/ Basket
 Competition

Monday 31st March
 Training Day- School
 closed for children

Tuesday 1st April
 Children return to school

Thursday 3rd March
 Easter Assembly for
 children

Friday 4th April
 Last day of term

Breakfast Club- Junior Site

A reminder to our Key Stage 2 families- If your child attends Breakfast Club, please ensure they are attending regularly. As the weather improves, some children have been choosing to stay and play at the park. Please note that the school is not able to monitor the park and it remains the responsibility of parents to ensure children arrive safely at the Breakfast Club.

Don't forget the
 Reading Cafe at
 the Infant Site-
 every Thursday
 morning in your
 child's class!



MUSIC MARK
 SCHOOL
 2024 - 2025



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The new attendance guidelines came into place from 19th August 2024. More information and FAQs about attendance can be found on our school website: <https://www.foxdellprimary.uk/attendance-1/>

Government guidance can be found here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

We are open for 190 days in a school year which equates to 380 sessions including the morning and afternoon registration.



Our whole school attendance target is 96%

The class with the best attendance each week wins the attendance trophy and receives a best attendance certificate. Children in Reception receive a lucky dip prize if they have 100% attendance for the week. Attendance for the last two weeks:

Class	Attendance WB 24.02.25	Attendance WB 03.03.25	Class	Attendance WB 24.02.25	Attendance WB 03.03.25	Class	Attendance WB 24.02.25	Attendance WB 03.03.25
Wrens	90.2%	92.3%	Badgers	95.2%	95.5%	Ash	99%	95.7%
Swifts	87.5%	92.6%	Hedgehogs	98.2%	96.4%	Ivy	94.6%	95.3%
Robins	97%	95.2%	Chestnuts	92.7%	94.3%	Cedar	91.8%	94.9%
Dragonflies	96.1%	97.9%	Acorns	97.3%	89.6%	Kestrels	90.6%	97.1%
Ladybirds	92.9%	94%	Pinecones	93.5%	96.6%	Kites	96.1%	97.9%
Butterflies	95.3%	92.5%	Beech	96.2%	96.4%	Eagles	92.1%	94.8%
Squirrels	96.2%	100%	Oak	95%	96.8%			



Our Class H.E.R.O's for Week ending 28.02.25 and 07.03.25 are:

Infant Site: Hedgehogs & Squirrels

Junior Site: Ash & Kites

STARS OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to our STARS for the week ending 28.02.25 and 07.03.25

Robins	Wrens	Swifts	Dragonflies	Ladybirds	Butterflies	Badgers	Squirrels
			Muzna Dawud Haris Delia	Hashim Zoha Aliza Eilshan	Ifza Ayah Anna Abiha	Abid Sirat Khadija Hamza	Yusuf Aiza Kosi Somkene
Hedgehogs	Chestnuts	Acorns	Pinecones	Beech	Oak	Ash	Ivy
Faiyaz Yildiz Saad Abdullah	Daniella Hussain Tanaysha Miraj	Ismail Kaavya Eliza Maya	Hassan Zion Rayyan Umaiza	Khadija Aadam	Ibrahim Aiza	Shayan Rukayah	Farhan Harmanpreet Leelu Taj-Roha
		Cedar	Kestrels	Kites	Eagles		
		Anaya Arhum Hannah Muhammad	Ibraheem Aayan Enaya Aleena	Zayn Muhammed Gavinjot Zara	Farmeen Sara Daniel Isaac		



We will also be learning about these values:

Happiness
Love
Cooperation



Having a positive mindset, or positive mental attitude, means that you are optimistic about the world around you, and you expect that good things will happen to you. You can practise positivity by:

- using kind words
- volunteering and helping others
- setting small goals
- focusing on your strengths rather than weaknesses
- showing gratitude for everything that we have
- accepting our mistakes and learning from them
- celebrating small successes

Around our School

Healthy Living Week

Our school embraced Healthy Living Week with exciting activities that got everyone moving this week! We organised a KS2 Skipping Challenge, where children practiced various skipping techniques including the helicopter, two-foot jump, backward skip, crossover, face-to-face, and alternate foot jump. The children enthusiastically took on the challenge, skipping for two minutes and developing their stamina, coordination, and rhythm. Their determination and energy were fantastic to see!



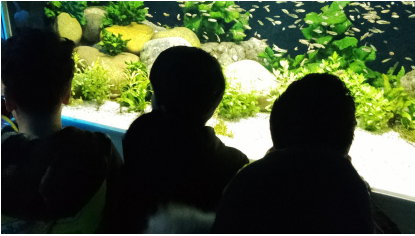
On Wednesday, 26th February, KS2 took fitness and fun to the next level with an inflatable obstacle course! This two-section party-themed assault course gave the children a thrilling challenge. They squeezed through obstacles, dodged through the biff & bash area, and conquered a giant slide to finish in style. Along the way they developed agility, balance, coordination, problem-solving skills, and resilience—all while having an absolute blast!

Healthy Living Week was a brilliant success, and it was wonderful to see the children so engaged in staying active.



Around our School

Year 3 at Whipsnade Zoo



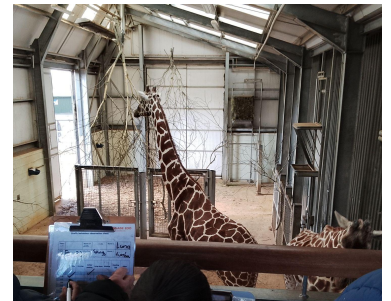
Year 3 had a wonderful day at the Zoo. We were incredibly lucky with the weather and only ended up with muddy feet!



We walked around the whole of the park and saw countless animals. What can you spot in our pictures?



We enjoyed a giraffe workshop where we were set a challenge to evaluate the different behaviours of giraffes. We had to observe them closely and record what they were doing every 30 seconds. It was our job to identify which behaviours were the rarest and which were most common. We



noticed that the rarest was 'laying down' and we learnt that this was because it would make them vulnerable to predators in the wild. The most common behaviour was eating!



It was truly the best day ever and I will never forget it!
Diary Entry from Y3 Pupil in English lessons following the trip.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who joined us; the trip would not have been possible without you.

It was the best trip to Whipsnade that we've been on! We had a lovely time.
Parent Volunteer

Around our School

WORLD BOOK DAY

We have enjoyed a fabulous week celebrating World Book Day. Children were thrilled to meet Julia Jarman and find out how authors bring their stories to life.



Author Visit: Julia Jarman



Our special visitor Julia Jarman wowed us with lots of stories and tales about her writing process and how she has been inspired over the years. We were all eager to find out about Julia's work during her assemblies and story-telling sessions.



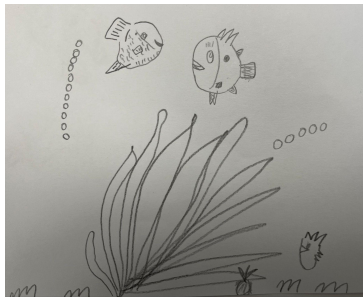
Parents and children also had the opportunity to meet Julia Jarman at our 'Meet and Greet' event, where they had a chance to meet the amazing author up close. Thanks for visiting our school Julia!



Around our School



Take a look at all the different ways we have celebrated reading across the school!



Draw Along with Axel Scheffler and Julia Donaldson

Where's Wally? Hunt



Dressing Up



Around our School

Year R

We have been excited about looking after our bodies! As part of Healthy Living Week we learnt a dance routine and performed it. We also explored which food are best for our bodies and made our own stew full of different vegetables.

We have also been learning about where vegetables come from. We planted some beans and are waiting to see what happens.



Year 1

Year 1 had an amazing time at the zoo. We went to Whipsnade Zoo to learn more about animals which is our current topic in Science.

Part of our trip to the zoo included a workshop called 'Fur, feathers and scales'. The children developed their knowledge and are able to identify different types of animals.

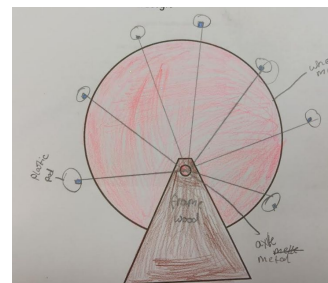
We were incredibly lucky and got to see many animals on our trip.



Year 2

In music children have been showing some great rhythm and note reading skills. They were able to explain musical vocabulary and play claves following the notes.

In DT they designed a ferris wheel, discussed the materials we might use and, next week, will be putting their skills into practice.



Around our School

Year 3

This half term we are working towards to writing our own diary entries about our trip to Whipsnade Zoo.

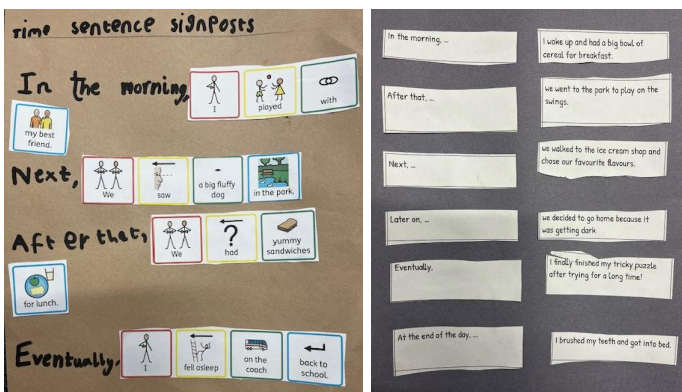
In order to do this, we need to use 'signposting' language to order our diary entry such as:

In the morning

Later on

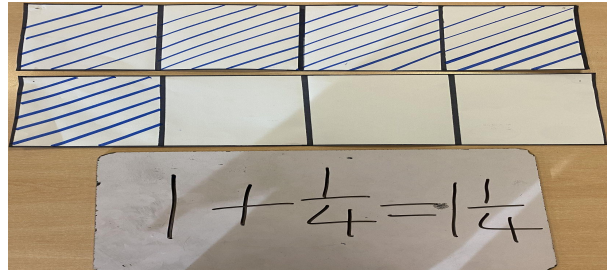
After that

We trialled using the signposting this week in our English lessons. Why not ask your child to use some of this signposting language when telling you all about their day?



Year 4

In maths, we have started the fraction unit. We looked at fractions greater than 1. The children have used pictorial representations such as bar models and number lines, to support them in counting in fractions. The children also explored partitioning mixed numbers in different ways as well as comparing mixed numbers.



We are learning about States of Matter in science. The children have learned about properties of solid, liquid and gas. They also carried out an investigation to find out if gas have weight.



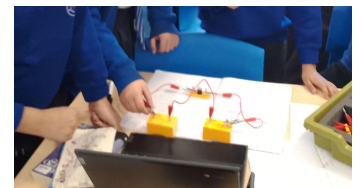
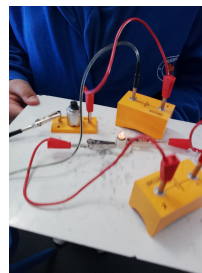
Year 5

In English, we have been practising and performing our text maps in preparation for writing persuasive letters.

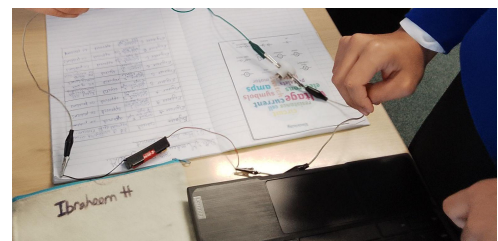


During our music lessons, we have composed our own songs about spring and winter which we have played on the ukulele.

Year 6



We have been testing circuits to see if they will or won't light up the bulb. The class had to compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs.



REMINDER: Year 6 SATs Parent Workshop at 3.00pm on Tuesday 11th March 2025.

Around our School



Foxdell Unplugged Day 2025

On Thursday 6th March, the whole school took a day off line! This was a scary idea for many of the children and staff as we realised how much we rely on our computers and technology in general - even the register is online!

Being unplugged offers an excellent opportunity for people around the world to "disconnect from their devices and put digital wellbeing into action." This event is, in particular, a great way for children to shift their mindset from digital distraction into mindful connection. We are hoping that children and staff will consider using the day as a jumping off point to explore healthy digital habits as we know a lot of children and staff spend hours online playing games and watching TV every evening.

We wrote a song in our music lesson (see below). We had to follow the pattern of syllables that Ms Payne showed us and we had to make it rhyme - we had a load of fun!
Saffiyah and Taj-Roha, Y5

I felt good not using the board yesterday - my eyes didn't hurt and sometimes they do normally. It costs lots in electrics so I felt happy we could help that.
Y3 children

Year 5's Song:

Winter snow was falling,
Drifting to the ground.
Children were playing,
Snowballs all around.

Winter snow was falling,
Drifting to the ground.
Children cheer and
giggle,
Playing all around.

Springtime sun is shining,
Blooming flowers grow.
Sprouting, looming,
Floating down low.

Springtime sun is here,
Buds start to appear.
Warming, growing, shining,
Summer's nearly here.

As an Eco School, we appreciate the energy and power saved by a single day away from technology in the school. We are proud to help make the world a better place every day!





ONLINE SAFETY CORNER



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **WHATSAPP**



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original ... and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.02.2024

Easter Competition

FOXDELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Easter Bonnet/ Basket Competition

We are inviting you to design and make an Easter Bonnet or an Easter Basket.

We want you to be as creative as possible so please be eco-friendly and use recycled materials such as bottles, egg boxes, cardboard and paper.

To enter the competition, the completed bonnets/ baskets must be in school by Friday 28th March 2025.

Staff will judge the bonnets/ baskets and a winner for each class will be announced by Friday 4th April 2025.

Photos of the winning entries will be available to view on our website for everyone to admire.

Good luck everyone and most importantly, have fun!

SEND/ Health and Wellbeing

Almost 1 in 4*
people in the UK
identify as being
disabled



We want to achieve fairness for disabled people in
sport & physical activity across Bedfordshire.

Take part in our online survey today to have your voice heard!

Scan the code to access our survey.

Please complete by 9th March 2025



**DWP Family resources survey 22-23*

SEND/ Health and Wellbeing



Education Health and Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) virtual sessions

Virtual information sessions for parents and carers

Have you recently submitted or are you considering making a request for an EHCNA?

Don't miss out, join us online to find out about:

- the EHCNA process
- what to expect
- what happens next
- how to contact the Special Educational Needs Assessment Team (SENDAT)

You will also be able to meet our friendly and supportive team and ask any questions you may have.

- These sessions are held once every half term
- Our next session is on Friday 21st of March 2025 at 10.00-11.15am

[Email SEND team for a meeting link](#)