

Curriculum News

Newsletter of Farsley Farfield Primary School

"Ready, Respectful, Kind"

Top 20% of Schools Nationally

The government/OFSTED has recently published analysis of the SATs from last summer. We knew that our children had done well, but this analysis confirms that they did **very well**.

Our Y2s were in the top 20% for the higher levels of attainment in reading and in maths.

Our Y6s were in the top 20% in many measures: progress and higher level attainment in reading; attainment in spelling, punctuation and grammar; and progress and higher level attainment in maths.

We pride ourselves on our wide, rich curriculum, happy children, strong pastoral support and our inclusive culture. This data proves that our higher attaining pupils also perform as well as any.



A new KS2 art curriculum has been introduced this year and the children are enjoying filling their higher quality sketchbooks.

New system for SEND provision

A major task for the autumn term was the implementation of a new system around the administration and planning for children with special educational needs and disability. All our children on the SEND register should now have an Individual Provision Map (IPM) and parents should have access to this electronically at all times. The IPM will identify the child's strengths and needs and detail the provision that is in place to support them. It is reviewed and updated termly and the first review meetings were offered at the end of last term.



Our 1:1 Chromebook roll-out has been extended to Y3 this academic year. All the children in the juniors now have their own computing device to support learning in school and at home. Thank you to parents for their support with this.

The school's overall provision map, detailing what we can offer for a range of SEND needs can be [found here](#).



Training Days

Our training day on Tuesday 3rd January was spent with a leader from Artforms working through the Charanga music scheme of work, particularly focussing on the composition elements of the curriculum and how 1:1 Chromebooks in KS2 can enhance provision. (We are grateful for a new class set of glockenspiels courtesy of the PTA.) We also spent some time on the computing curriculum and the progressive development of IT skills.

Our training days around last October half term were spent on subject leadership, curriculum planning and some preparation for an expected Ofsted inspection later in the school year.

We have one remaining training day for this academic year: Friday 31st March 2023.

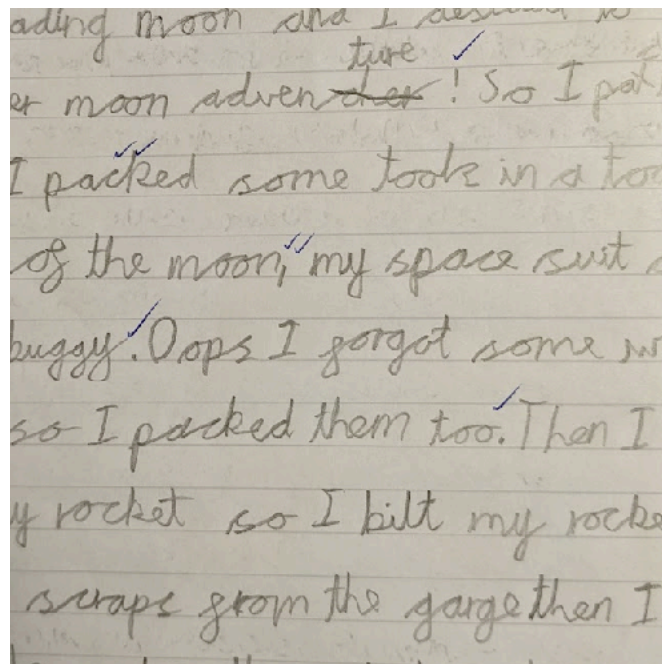
Attendance Matters

Along with other schools, attendance was relatively low last term, especially from November onwards. There were a lot of infections circulating and it was important to take some time off to recover and to limit cross-infection.

We hope and expect attendance to improve again in the new year. If your child really needs to be off, please email attendance@farsleyfarfield.org.uk to inform us.

If your child is supported 1:1 for SEND, it is especially useful to have early notification of any absences to allow for staff redeployment and avoid unnecessary supply costs.

Thank you for your support in getting as many children as possible into school every day.



A sample of Y2 (age 6-7) writing: visitors often comment on the quality of our children's cursive handwriting. The cursive approach is introduced in the Early Years and supports joined script later in Key Stage 1.



A Farfield Christmas

After three years of disruption, we had a full festive Farfield Christmas.

The season started with our first Farfield float at Farsley Lights courtesy of Farmac and a team of staff volunteers led by Mrs Walton. Well done to the school Samba Band that entertained the crowds as we progressed up and down Town Street.

We enjoyed three shows: The Lazy Sheep, The Bossy King and Aladdin. Well done to everyone for their confident and entertaining performances. Videos of the shows are available online and have been viewed hundreds of times.

Santa visited the school and all the children were offered presents. Thanks to the PTA and Stephen for helping get this organised. The PTA also had a present event and a very busy disco night.

We even had a staff panto on the final morning - thankfully, there were no cameras!



It was wonderful to have nativities and a show this Christmas: the first for three years. Y5 put on Aladdin.



Many thanks to Farmac for their provision of a truck for our first Farsley Lights float this year



Our Reception children met Santa at Abbey House Museum and he even visited school too!



Lots of older children made wreaths from willow and evergreen foliage harvested from around the grounds



Spaces in Reception

Our Reception cohort 2022 is our proportionally smallest ever: just 52 out of a possible 60. This is the first time in decades that we aren't full. Across the city, there were only 9100 children for 10,600 places - more than 10% over-capacity (and it is worse in the outer West area). Many schools in the Farsley/Pudsey area now have places available.

Whilst smaller class sizes might be welcome in the short term, excess places are not sustainable financially in the medium term. Whilst the number of school tours that we have done recently might suggest a better forecast for September 2023, we would welcome applications for either this current cohort or the 2023 cohort. The deadline for applications for Reception 2023 is 15th January.

Children do not need to live in the notional catchment area or have our school as their nearest.

Do you know anyone who might like the chance for their child to join the school?

Early Years Healthy Schools Award

Last half term our Nursery and Reception was visited by an assessor from Healthy Schools and we were validated in our Early Years Healthy Schools status with a glowing report.

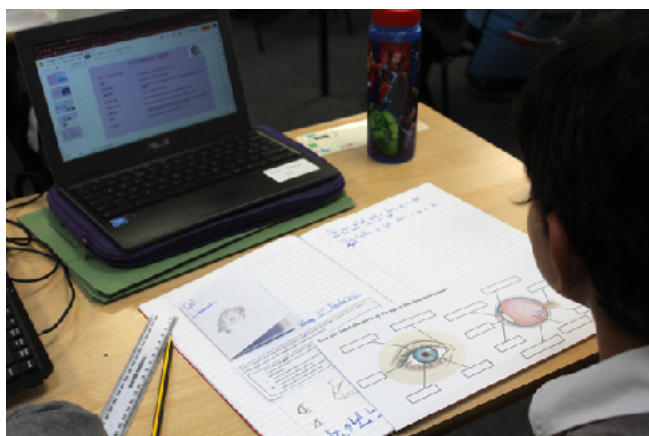
"Leadership in this setting is excellent....Children in nursery and the Reception classes were engaged, settled and confident... The outdoor physical environment is outstanding."



Very busy in Nursery: Mrs Fulton reports that they are a super cohort!



We are running four football teams again this year with lots of games having already taken place.



A KS2 pupil completing some science work with their Chromebook knowledge organiser on hand to support learning

Have parents seen these Knowledge Organisers? Key Stage 2 children should have electronic copies in the Google Drive for most topics in subjects such as science, history and geography.



Y3 Stone Age Day was blessed with sunshine and was an enjoyable time until the last few moments. An unexpected wasp nest made the end of the day a bit too exciting.