



The Federation of
Fairfield and Colneis



Dear Parent/Carer,



Welcome to the final newsletter of the term. As always, please do take the time to have a look through all the wonderful opportunities and activities our children have been able to take part in over the last half term. Looking back at these demonstrates what a rich and broad curriculum we have. A huge thank you to all the staff across both our schools for their work in making these happen.

It is the time of year where we say farewell to some of our current staff members. Leaving her teaching post at Fairfield will be Miss Anderson who is preparing to embark on some exciting global travels. We will still see Miss Anderson around at Fairfield as she will be covering some classes before she starts her travelling! We will also be saying a temporary farewell and good luck to Mrs Smith, one of our Year 1 teachers, who will be starting her maternity leave in September. We will look forward to bringing you the news of her new arrival when we can! We also say a sad farewell to Mrs Bowen, one of our amazing teaching assistants who is ready to enjoy new challenges outside of the school.

At Colneis we will be saying a sad farewell to Mrs Game who is leaving us at the end of this term. We will also be saying a farewell to Mrs Castle, although Mrs Castle will be back with us covering classes for one day a week. Across both our schools we will be saying farewell to Mrs D'Arcy who is excited to take on her first teaching position at a school in Ipswich. A huge thank you to all our leavers for their hard work, support and commitment to our schools.

I am also delighted to be able to share with you some news from 'The Friends of Fairfield and Colneis'. Through the hard-work and dedication of the committee, £5160.30 has been donated to our schools to help enhance the work that we can do. You will see a breakdown of where these donations have gone on Page 10 of this newsletter. A huge thank you to the team for all their support in arranging and organising the various events to make this possible. We have some exciting plans for how any future fundraising can be used that we will look forward to sharing with you in the Autumn term.

Finally, thank you for your continued support over the academic year. Good luck to all our children moving onto their new schools - I know they are ready for the exciting new challenges ahead of them. We will look forward to welcoming children back on Wednesday 6th September. Have a great summer.

Best wishes and kind regards

Mr Mark Girling

Headteacher

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 2023

News from Nursery

Moving Up!

It is a bittersweet time in Nursery as we support the children with their transition into Reception whilst celebrating a wonderful year together.

The children continue to thrive and show us that they are well-prepared for their next adventure. We couldn't be prouder of this group of children who have grown so much in such a short time. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know them and being part of their journey.

Good Luck to all of our Nursery stars!



Stay and Play Afternoon

What a fabulous afternoon spent celebrating the end of our 30 Days Wild project.

We were blessed with the most glorious weather which added to the atmosphere. Parents and carers joined us for a picnic before the children joined their teams to explore the activities. It was lovely to see the children being confident and challenging themselves. Thank you to everyone for making it such a success!



News from Reception

Award winning artwork

We worked on a collaborative art project to support our Science work on taking care of our beaches and oceans. The children gathered plastic to use for the recycled art project and even helped to use the staple gun! We have received an email notifying us that we are a regional winner; what a lovely reward for all the children's hard work.



Felixstowe in Flower

The children have enjoyed growing flowers and vegetables in the garden. They have been excitedly tending to the plants, watering and weeding. The foods are now starting to appear which has caused great excitement! We used our growbags to create a caterpillar using shoe planters for his feet. Children helped to create his head and this will be entered for the schools project (Felixstowe Town Council).



News from Year 1

Topics this half term: Farms, Three Little Pigs, Plants

Jimmy's Farm

This half term we enjoyed a trip to Jimmy's Farm to explore the features of a farm and identify the different animals you might see on a farm.



Geography /DT

This term the children created their own design of a farm and created a key to identify the features in their map. They then used their map to create a diorama model of their farms.



Life cycles

This term we have been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and of a plant. The children created work to show their understanding of both life cycles.

News from Year 2

Gymnastics at Pipers Vale

All of the children in Year Two had the best time at Piper's Vale Gymnastics Centre. They learned new skills and practiced some skills which they have already learned in school. They practiced shapes such as pike, tuck jump, straddle and bridge. They used a range of equipment including the balance beams, bars, trampolines and the foam pit. I think their favourite part of the morning was racing the teachers and seeing the coaches somersault over a row of teachers! We had a blast.



Fantastic Fossil Findings

This half term the children have loved learning about Mary Anning, her life and her contributions to paleontology. They enjoyed finding out about her life through the book *Stone Girl Bone Girl* and watching the BBC dramatization. As the children were so fascinated by her findings and how fossils are formed, we thought we would give them the chance to be real life fossil hunters for themselves. They were so excited to find their fossils and write their own set of instructions for trainee paleontologists.

Un voyage à Paris!

The children loved heading through airport security, watching the flight safety video and boarding their flight to Paris. It was a very hot day in Paris so they visited a French Café for some refreshments and tried out some local cuisine including brie, croissants and madeleines. Then the children visited a French school for a lesson with Madame Ransom. Finally they popped to the Eiffel Tower to learn some historical facts before heading to Disneyland Paris just in time to ride on Thunder Mountain and watch the princess parade. They had a fantastic time!



News from Year 3

I cannot believe that we have reached the end of the school year already. We are so pleased with the children's transition from Year 2 to Year 3. The Open Evening was a great opportunity to see how much progress they have made across the year and we hope you enjoyed looking through their work. This half term, we have continued our Rainforest topic. In English, we have taken part in debates about deforestation and written persuasive letters. The children have also been developing their inference skills. In Maths, we have learnt about fractions, time and shape. We hope you enjoy seeing aspects of our wider curriculum below and have a great summer!

Outdoor learning



Year 3 have been completing a number of activities in the wildlife area. They have prepared the soil and planted wildflower seeds which are flourishing. They have explored how seeds disperse and have searched the school grounds for different types of flowers and wild grass and observed the seeds that are visible.



Dance East Workshop



The children in Year 3 have been really lucky to take part in a dance workshop. They worked with dance teachers to produce a dance based on the sea and used lots of different shapes and movements to create a routine. We were very impressed with the final results!



Fabulous Artwork

This term, the children have been creating 3D masks. They have based their designs on rainforest animals. They created a hardened oval shape using gum tape and used paint and materials to embellish them.



Careers Fair

We had a great time speaking to visitors from a range of professions. The children asked questions about their jobs and took part in lots of activities. Thank you to Mrs Wyard for arranging the day!



News from Year 4

Outdoor Learning

In our outdoor learning this half term we took a walk across the road to the nearby fields and observed the crops being grown. We also focussed on the changing landscape between rural and urban. We have used the sketches drawn to influence our art lessons.



Dictionaries from the Rotary Club

At the end of May, Year 4 were fortunate to be presented with a dictionary from the Rotary Club. The children gratefully received them and have been using them both at home and school—developing their vocabulary knowledge and word finding skills.

We would like to send our thanks to the Rotary Club for their generous donation.

Colneis Careers Fair

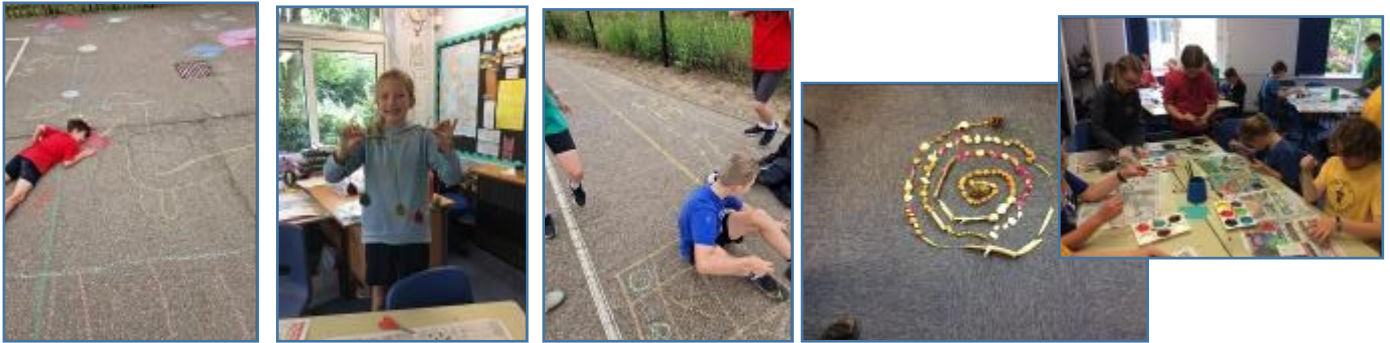
On Friday 30th June we were fortunate to have our first Careers Fair at Colneis. Year 4 were able to experience a variety of careers and see what is involved with different jobs. We finished the morning with a visit from Will, Stuart and a tractor. They explained to the children the importance of protecting and supporting British farming. The children enjoyed seeing how big the tractors' wheels were and spent time matching seeds to crops. Year 4 would like to thank all those involved in this day.



News from Year 5

Happiness Festival

With a focus on celebrating the natural world and being creative, the Year 5 children participated in the inaugural Happiness Festival. As part of this, they had an opportunity to create artwork from natural objects, design interactive chalk art, and to work as a team to produce doodle art.



Careers Fair

The children were very fortunate to welcome a range of guest speakers to introduce them to potential future employment opportunities. The interactive workshop sessions provided information and guidance, and allowed the children to explore the world of work.



Year 5 and Year 2 Buddy Programme

The transition for our Year 2 children from Fairfield to Colneis is supported by our Buddy Programme, in which each Year 2 child is paired up with a Year 5 child to provide peer support once the children arrive in Year 3 in September. The programme ensures that a friendly and familiar face is available to the new Year 3 children, particularly at break time and lunch time. Our Year 2s and Year 5s have met up twice this term to begin the process of building friendships.

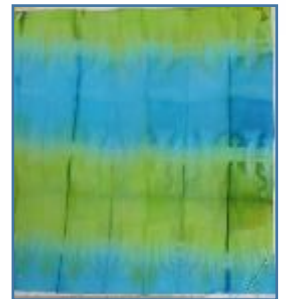


News from Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy term. Pupils have excelled themselves with their outstanding performance of Cinderella and Rockerfella. They have also visited Duxford, Pipers Vale Gymnastics Centre, enjoyed the Festival of Happiness and visited their new high schools.

DT

Children designed a simple stencil template that they cut out. They used the stencil to screen print a design onto fabric. On another piece of fabric, children used a tie-dye technique. Using their sewing skills, children used a needle and thread to sew their 2 pieces of fabric together and then stuffed them to make their cushion.



Cinderella and Rockerfella

Wow! What an amazing performance! All the children should be very proud of the dedication they showed to learning lines and songs, and attending rehearsals during their lunch times and after school.



Duxford Imperial War Museum



Whilst at Duxford we were fortunate enough to see the Hurricane and the Spitfire in action—we even saw a plane perform a vertical loop.

Visit to Pipers Vale Gymnastic Centre

Whilst visiting the centre, the children had the opportunity to use a range of specialist equipment and had a great time - especially jumping into the foam pit.



Extra News

Felixstowe Book Festival

For the Felixstowe Book Festival, children from Year 5 and 6 were able to come to a lunchtime Reading Club that ran through the spring and summer term. We read *The Secret of the Treasure Keepers* by A.M. Howell. The result was that we would meet the author at Felixstowe Library.

As part of the Club, we not only read the book together, we also wrote questions, and discussed how to interview our author. The questions they asked were exemplary and the Librarian and A.M. Howell herself said they were thoughtful questions and the students also asked follow up questions that showed their genuine interest.

As part of the Festival the children were given tickets to some of the events which were well-attended. Ava chose to go to the Big Library Lego Challenge. There were many entrants and Ava won! Congratulations Ava!

Don't forget that there are lots of activities at Felixstowe Library during the summer, including the Summer Reading Challenge 2023. It begins on 15th July and runs until 10th September. You can sign up at Felixstowe Library or at www.suffolklibraries.co.uk or you can take part online at www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

This year, The Reading Agency is partnering with a children's charity—the Youth Sports Trust—for Ready, Set, Read! This is a sports and games themed challenge that aims to keep children's minds and bodies active over the summer break.



The Friends of Fairfield and Colneis - Thank You

A huge thank you to the Friends of Fairfield and Colneis team for their hard-work in co-ordinating events and fundraisers to support our schools.

We also appreciate all the support from you, our school community.



Extra News

Reading Tea Party

At Colneis, the children who read four times a week or more were rewarded for their dedication to reading by being invited to a 'Reading Tea Party' on Monday 10th July. There were 140 children who enjoyed the treat on the field, where Mr. Girling read to them. They had the opportunity to read and share their opinions on the importance of reading regularly and for pleasure. Well done Readers!



Colneis Reading Passport Challenge

Every year at Colneis there is a reading challenge. Each year group are given a list of 25 high quality, aspirational texts to read. Those children who read all 25 books, or in Year 6 the children who read the most books from the list, are taken to Stillwater Books in Felixstowe. They were allowed to choose a book and it was bought as a reward for their dedication to reading.

Well done Readers!

Special congratulations go to Noah who graduated from The Children's University with a Bronze Degree.



Term Dates

Current Academic Year: Term dates for 2022-2023

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Monday 5th September 2022
Half term:	Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2022
End of Autumn term:	Friday 16th December 2022
PD (non school) days:	Thursday 1st September 2022 Friday 2nd September 2022

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Wednesday 4th January 2023
Half term:	Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023
End of Spring term:	Friday 31st March 2023
PD (non school) day:	Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Tuesday 18th April 2023
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 1st May 2023
Coronation of King Charles III:	Monday 8th May 2023
Half term:	Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
End of Summer term:	Friday 21st July 2023
PD (non school) days:	Monday 17th April 2023 Friday 26th May 2023

Next Academic Year: Term dates for 2023-2024

Autumn term:

Start of Autumn term:	Wednesday 6th September 2023
Half term:	Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October 2023
End of Autumn term:	Wednesday 20th December 2023
PD (non school) days:	Monday 4th September 2023 Tuesday 5th September 2023

Spring term:

Start of Spring term:	Thursday 4th January 2024
Half term:	Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024
End of Spring term:	Thursday 28th March 2024
PD (non school) day:	Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Summer term:

Start of Summer term:	Monday 15th April 2024
May Bank Holiday:	Monday 6th May 2024
Half term:	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024
End of Summer term:	Friday 19th July 2024
PD (non school) days:	Friday 12th April 2024 Monday 3rd June 2024