Fairmead School Newsletter July 2026

Important Dates

July 2026	
Wednesday 22	Last day of term
September 2026	
Thursday 3	INSET Day
Friday 4	INSET Day
Monday 7	Young people return to school
October 2026	
Friday 23	INSET Day
Monday 26	Half term week
November 2026	
Monday 2	Young people return to school

WANTED Pre-loved Uniform

Has your young person grown out of their school clothes?

We are looking for uniform donations. This can include jumpers, polo shirts and fleeces, skirts and trousers.

Please make sure all donations are in good condition for the next person (no holes or stains).

Are you looking to buy some pre-loved uniform?

Sharon White (PFSA) has a stock of washed and ready to go items at minimal costs 😊

School Information

SCHOOL START / FINISH TIMES

8.55am/3.15pm

PARENT/CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

At Fairmead we believe it's important to work in partnership with parents/carers to support their young person's learning; create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for all; and model appropriate behaviour for our young people at all times. To help us do this we have our Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

ALLERGY FRIENDLY SCHOOL

We are proud to be an allergy-friendly school and are committed to creating a safe environment for all young people, especially those with serious food allergies. To support this, we ask families and staff to follow these important guidelines – no nuts or nut products. We also ask that raw and cooked egg is not brought into school in any form. For further information on food containing these ingredients please read the information on our website

Please also remember that we are unable to allow young people to bring in birthday cakes or sweets to share with class friends to celebrate their birthdays, we will obviously recognise young peoples' birthdays in school and celebrate with them.

MEDICATION

For safety reasons, medication must only be administered in accordance with school procedures and must not be mixed with food or drinks from home.

Increases in prices for school meals

Unfortunately, our catering provider has increased the cost of supplying school meals from September. Despite our efforts to absorb these additional costs, we have reached a point where we need to increase our meal prices to help cover the rise.

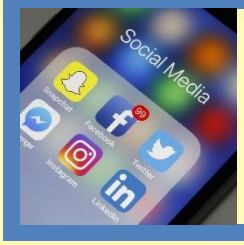
Primary/KS2 - £2.90 per meal

Secondary/KS3 - £3.00 per meal

You can book a hot school meal by going onto the 'My Child at School app'. All meals will need to be booked 10 days in advance. We have a no refund policy on paid school meals due to ordering a week in advance with an offsite caterer. You can book ahead if needed or cancel any pre-booked meals outside of the 10-day period.

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Online Safety



Many of the young people at Fairmead enjoy spending time online using apps, games and social media. We encourage families to regularly check privacy and security settings on devices and accounts to help keep young people safe. Please remind your young person to speak to a trusted adult if they are worried online and remember that Childline is available for additional support. At Fairmead, we have a staff team who meet regularly to support digital safety. Please contact us if you have any concerns or require support with any aspect of staying safe online.

Goodbye and Good Luck

We say a fond goodbye and thank you to the following staff who are leaving us at the end of this academic year, and wish them all the very best for the future:
Adrian Simmons, Chris Pinney, Jemma Quincey, Amie A, Rachael Hynes, Georgia Lilley and Teresa Bowden.
We also send our best wishes to Fiona Esgate and Stephanie Stockey as they begin their maternity leave.

Free School Meals



With the current cost of living crisis, we want to help and make sure you know what support you can receive. Your young person might be eligible for free school meals.
Even is your young person does not claim the free school meal, the school still receives extra money to support their education if you apply. From September 2026, there will be two groups who can get free school meals:
Targeted group: this is for families on Universal Credit who earn less than £7,400 a year or receive other benefits. These families may get extra help, such as access to free holiday activities.
Expanded group: this is for families on Universal Credit who earn more than £7,400. These families will get free scho meals only.
From 1 September 2026, all young people whose parents/carers receives Universal Credit can get free school meals.
If your young person already receives free school meals, you do not need to do anything.
You can check if your family is eligible and apply throughout August through Somerset Council. For more information and to apply online click here.

Parent Governor Vacancy

This vacancy is open to existing and new parents/carers joining the school in September

Are you looking for a new challenge – how about volunteering as a Governors at Fairmead School

The purpose of governance is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance.
This vital role does involve a time commitment through attendance at meetings, normally held once a term in the early evening. At these meetings, you and the other members of the governance board will offer critical advice and scrutiny of the decisions and policies of the school.
The role also involves visits into the school during the day to understand the context of the educational setting.
You do not need any experience or qualifications for this role and your personal experiences, whatever they are, will allow you to add value to our board.
However, occupational experience of Human Resources, Legal Services and Finance for example is a bonus and will help to ensure our board has a balance of expertise.
If you feel you have the experience or the skills or know someone who would be suitable, please get in touch with Fairmead School to find out more.
Email: office@fairmeadschool.com Website: www.fairmeadschool.com



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NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Rabbit Class

Rabbit Class have had a wonderful term full of exciting shared experiences, exploration and a bit of sweat! We have loved getting stuck into sensory activities, from exploring different fruits and vegetables using all of our senses to rescuing animals trapped inside icy "icebergs". Stories and songs have been a big part of our learning, with Hole in the bottom of the sea and Tricky words becoming firm favourites. The young people enjoyed immersing in our class story through singing, small world play and lots of creative (and wonderfully messy!) artwork. We are so proud of everything Rabbits have achieved and wish all of our families a happy and safe summer break!



Squirrel Class

This term, Squirrel Class has had a wonderful time exploring the story *Farmyard Hullabaloo*.

We brought the story to life by using a green screen to make it look as though we were visiting a real farm!

We also explored animal habitats by creating our own artwork, thinking carefully about where different animals live.



One of the highlights of the term was our visit to the animal park. We met lots of different animals and had a fantastic time learning about them. A particularly memorable moment was meeting a very friendly goose who came over to say hello – it certainly made us all smile!

To finish our topic, we have been creating our own Animal Park book. The young people have enjoyed using everything they have learned this term to type their own page for the class book, showcasing their knowledge of animals.



Otter Class

What a wonderful term we've had in Otter Class! In English the young people have thoroughly enjoyed reading the story 'Tiddler' by Julia Donadlson and changing the main character to a range of under the sea creatures. We had jellyfish, sharks and sea lions! They have continued to impress us with their counting skills in Maths and learning all about 3D shapes. A brilliant way to end the school year. Well done Otter Class, we hope you have a lovely summer break and wish you all the best for the new school year!

Fox Class

We have had a wonderfully busy, active, and sensory-filled summer term in Fox class, and everyone has coped brilliantly with the hot weather.

In Life Skills, we have loved exploring our topic of Hobbies and Interests through crafts, cooking, cooperative games, and lots of active fun. We have continued to develop our independence and community skills, enjoying trips to new places, including the park and Montacute House, where the fishpond was a particular favourite.

In English, we explored the funny story *Tuesday* by David Wiesner, following the adventures of some mischievous frogs! We retold the story using sensory resources, practised action words, built sentences using Colourful Semantics, and used communication boards to talk about the story. In phonics, we continued working hard on our Unit 2 and 3 sounds, we continue to love playing *Sound Splat!*

In Maths, we continued to develop our understanding of patterns, sorting, counting, money, and recognising groups of objects without counting them individually.

We hope everyone has a fantastic summer break, and we look forward to seeing all our young people enjoy their new classes in September.



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Class 1



Class 1 have thoroughly enjoyed their weekly hockey sessions at Mudford Recreation Ground this half term and have made fantastic progress, becoming increasingly confident and skilled players. They have worked hard to develop their passing, shooting and dribbling techniques through a range of fun and engaging drills, demonstrating excellent teamwork and determination throughout.

The class have also enjoyed their cooking enrichment sessions, where they have developed practical skills while working collaboratively with their classmates. In addition, Class 1 had a wonderful time bowling alongside their peers from Classes 2, 3 and 4, enjoying the opportunity to socialise, encourage one another and celebrate each other's successes.

Class 2



Class 2 have been developing their communication skills while exploring the importance of using adjectives in their writing. Through a fun describing game, the young people practised listening carefully and giving clear, detailed descriptions of pictures.

This half term Class 2 have been reflective about their own personal interests and what they have enjoyed most about learning through the life skills curriculum. We have spent time reminiscing about our trips throughout the year and created pieces of art to share with primary young people who are moving up next year! We've had such an exciting year and look forward to continuing the fun next year.



Class 3

It has a been a fun filled term as we have navigated our hobbies and interests unit. Our English texts have taken us mudlarking in and out of school as well as preparing to showcase our talents in a talent show. We have been on a wide range of trips with other classes to promote our social and communication skills. We have also enjoyed using the Lego spikes and learning about capacity in maths. This has been particularly refreshing during the hot weather!



Our enrichment session has been trampolining this half term and we have enjoyed bouncing fun on the trampolines! We worked exceptionally hard to make 300 sweet bags to sell at the Westlands football tournament!



Class 5

This term the young people have been sharing their favourite heroes and discussing what makes them special. This linked to our class text, *Heroes: Incredible True Stories About Courageous Animals*. As part of their writing, each young person selected an animal story, adapted an aspect of it, and rewrote it in their own creative way.

The class also couldn't resist joining in with the excitement of the football season, creating and decorating England flags to brighten up our classroom windows—Come on England!

In Humanities, the focus has been on water—where it comes from and the importance of rivers around the world. To spark curiosity, the young people took part in a fun 'hook' activity where they closed their eyes and guessed what had been placed in their hands... something very cold! This engaging activity was a big hit and helped launch their learning with enthusiasm.

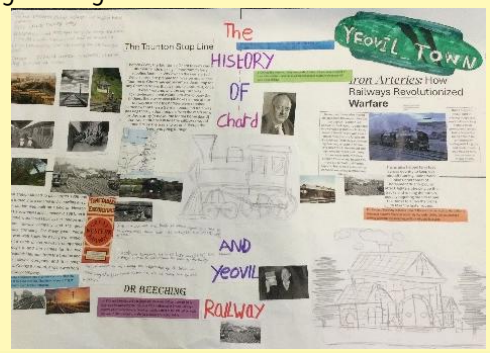


Class 8



Class 8 have been having a really busy time! They have enjoyed their trips out and about; weekly Community walks, working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award and also working hard to help in the school garden.

In humanities we learned a lot about Somerset railway history and Class 8 created an amazing display which will have a special place at Yeovil Junction.



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Magdalen Farm Summer holiday family visits



Carymoor Environmental Trust SEN event



Vaccinations in school



Young Somerset



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Somerset Council

Fairmead School Terms and Holidays 2026/2027 Academic Year

September 2026						
M			7	14	21	28
T		1	8	15	22	29
W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		3	10	17	24	
F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		6	13	20	27	

October 2026						
Mo			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
We			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
Fr		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su		4	11	18	25	

November 2026						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2026						
M			7	14	21	28
Tu	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
Th	3	10	17	24	31	
F	4	11	18	25		
Sa	5	12	19	26		
Su	6	13	20	27		

January 2027						
M			4	11	18	25
Tu			5	12	19	26
W			6	13	20	27
Th			7	14	21	28
F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su		3	10	17	24	31

February 2027						
M			1	8	15	22
Tu			2	9	16	23
W			3	10	17	24
Th			4	11	18	25
F			5	12	19	26
Sa			6	13	20	27
Su			7	14	21	28

March 2027						
M		1	8	15	22	29
Tu		2	9	16	23	30
W		3	10	17	24	31
Th		4	11	18	25	
F		5	12	19	26	
Sa		6	13	20	27	
Su		7	14	21	28	

April 2027						
M			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
W			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	
Su		4	11	18	25	

May 2027						
M		3	10	17	24	31
Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
Th		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29	
Su	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2027						
M			7	14	21	28
Tu		1	8	15	22	29
W		2	9	16	23	30
Th		3	10	17	24	
F		4	11	18	25	
Sa		5	12	19	26	
Su		6	13	20	27	

July 2027						
M			5	12	19	26
Tu			6	13	20	27
W			7	14	21	28
Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su		4	11	18	25	

August 2027						
M		2	9	16	23	30
Tu		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
Sa		7	14	21	28	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	

Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- Inset Days

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 03 September – 23 October 2026 (37 days)
Term 2: 02 November – 18 December 2026 (35 days)
Term 3: 04 January – 12 February 2027 (30 days)
Term 4: 22 February – 25 March 2027 (24 days)
Term 5: 12 April – 28 May 2027 (34 days)
Term 6: 07 June – 23 July 2027 (35 days) **TOTAL = 195**

Bank and public holidays 2026/27

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2026
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	28 December 2026*
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2027
Good Friday	26 March 2027

*Replacement Bank Holiday when Bank Holidays falls on a weekend.
Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates and may differ from ours. Please check with the individual schools for their term dates.