

Fairmead School Newsletter February 2026

Important Dates

February 2026	
Friday 13	Last day of term
Monday 23	Young people return to school
Friday 27	INSET DAY
March 2026	
Wednesday 25	Parents/Carers Evening
April 2026	
Thursday 2	Last day of term
Monday 20	Young people return to school

Change of INSET Day

Please note, the INSET Day set at the beginning of the academic year for Monday 23rd February has changed to **FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY** – all young people are expected to be in school on Monday 23rd February 2026.

World of Work Week

This week has been WOW week at Fairmead for the first time. Visitors to the school have included parents, staff and their family, school governors and ex Fairmead School young people. Visiting a variety of classes across the school they have shared their work journeys with the young people, and they have had the opportunity to ask lots of questions. Topics included creating content for educational games, working as a PT instructor and probably the best job in the world, looking after parrots! It was great to see the engagement from everyone and for those who took part, a BIG THANK YOU!



Magdalen Farm Residential



Some of our secondary young people recently had the exciting opportunity to take part in a residential trip to Magdalen Farm. For many, this was their very first overnight stay away from home with friends. The young people were incredible throughout the trip, showing just how resilient, confident, and independent they can be. They thoroughly enjoyed meeting and caring for the farm animals, including goats, pigs, and cows. Each morning, they collected fresh eggs from the hens—and even witnessed one being laid right in front of them. You can't get much fresher than that!



Online Safety

Online safety is an important part of school life and the curriculum at Fairmead. In both computing and RSHE lessons, we emphasise the importance of young people having a **trusted adult** who they can speak to if something online worries them and we would encourage parents and carers to discuss this with them too. Young people can talk to staff at school, and they can also contact **Childline** for extra support. We have a staff team who meet regularly to support digital safety. Please contact school if you have any concerns.

National Storytelling Week



Last week we celebrated National Storytelling Week by bringing some of our older young people together with our younger young people to explore books, use props, share stories, and enjoy listening to each other read. It was lovely to see the connections being made through stories. Some of our staff also recorded themselves reading stories, which the young people loved listening to during their daily reading time. Class 5 especially enjoyed turning it into a game of "Guess the Reader" – lots of smiles and laughter all round!



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Hedgehog Class

Did anyone notice it's been raining?! Hedgehogs did and were very happy about the resulting puddles! We also



explored shadows and reflection so there was definitely some sun in between the rain and some amazing rainbows inside the classroom. Have a look at Hedgeblog on our website to find more about what we have been doing.



Rabbit Class

This term we have been exploring our class story *We All Go Travelling By*. We have loved this book, especially the catchy song – you may have even heard it being sung at home!

Our learning has focused on different types of transport, and we've explored these in lots of fun, hands-on ways. We've explored bikes, trains and cars, and used small world play to act out journeys with trains and vehicles. We have also enjoyed getting creative by making car tracks using paint, watching the wheels roll and leave colourful marks.

It's been a joyful term full of singing and exploring. We're so proud of how rabbit class have joined in.

Squirrel Class



This term in art, our focus was Japan and painting. We began by learning where Japan is in the world, what it looks like, and exploring its flag. We then looked closely at the many different shades of pink found

in cherry blossom trees, before moving on to Koi fish.

The young people experimented with a range of tools to make different marks in their artwork – including using their fingertips! This helped them to produce a beautiful pond filled with colourful Koi fish.



Otter Class



Otter Class had a fantastic time exploring light and dark in Science, becoming real experts at identifying shiny and non-shiny materials. Their excitement really shone when they used torches to crawl through a dark tunnel! We

also had lots of fun challenging our senses by trying to identify objects while blindfolded.

During our English lessons, Otter Class have really been getting into the story 'Augustus and His Smile' by Catherine Rayner. They have been practising re-telling the story using their sequenced pictures and thinking of a different place Augustus could visit to find his smile. Well done Otter Class, keep up the good work!



Fox Class

The focus for our life skills curriculum is 'Employability' so we have been practicing a range of skills which will help us as we grow up, including becoming confident communicators in a range of situations.

In English, our book 'A superhero like you' has been our inspiration for looking at the jobs we would like to do when we grow up. We have each chosen a job that we are interested in and are creating a class story to celebrate these jobs.

We have continued to go out into the community each week, focusing on exploring the different types of jobs found in familiar locations, such as in shops. Back in school we have been using communication boards to run a small cafe, as a class and shared with Class 2. Our trips to the library have also been very exciting, meeting the librarian and observed some of the jobs that they do each day.

Badger Class



Badger Class have enjoyed reading and immersing themselves in the story 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes'. Badger Class have role played making and flipping pancakes, re-enacted the story using handmade wolf masks, and even wrote their own versions of the story!



Life Skills Classes

We were delighted to welcome a dental nurse to our school! She spoke to our Life Skills classes about the importance of good dental hygiene and how to keep our teeth healthy and strong.

The young people enjoyed listening to a fun story all about teeth, which helped them understand why brushing every day is so important. Groups even had the opportunity to practise their brushing technique and learn the best way to care for their smiles.



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We also discovered which foods help keep our teeth healthy and which ones should be enjoyed as an occasional treat. A big thank you for such an engaging and informative visit — our young people are now brushing experts in the making!



Class 1

The young people in Class 1 have been taking learning beyond the classroom by exploring both their school community and the wider world around them. During recent trips out of Fairmead, they observed a range of professionals at work and gained valuable insight into different careers within our local community.



Back at school, learning continued as young people explored the many roles and responsibilities that help Fairmead run smoothly each day. They began by sharing their own ideas about what adults at Fairmead might do in their roles — with wonderfully imaginative suggestions ranging from using laptops to playing with dinosaurs!

Class 1 particularly enjoyed speaking directly with professionals, asking questions, and discovering what people enjoy most about their jobs. Our future zookeeper was also very keen to share what she knows about animals and pets!

Class 2

Class 2 have been taking on the role of presenter and presenting special mention to the class. They have



thought about body language, tone of voice and making sure they read information correctly. I'm sure there's a career in there for them!



Class 3

This half term has seen the introduction of our life skills employability unit. Our English text has been 'The Boss of Everyone' so we have been learning lots about our parents/carer's jobs as well as jobs within school and the community.



A group of young people were very lucky to visit Westland's Entertainment venue to learn how to do lighting for a mini performance. We have linked some of our community visits to the tuck shop business and

learning about trying to make a profit! We particularly enjoyed storytelling week and visiting Yeovil library to learn about the role of a librarian.

We visited hedgehog class and promoted role play and storytelling activities. Our enrichment changed to cooking because of all the wet weather and we have been practicing a variety of different cooking skills.

Class 4



We had an amazing time gaining hands-on experience in the world of work during a visit to Tesco. From scanning items on the checkout to exploring the behind-the-scenes roles that keep the warehouse running smoothly. They discovering just

how much teamwork goes into preparing online orders and getting them out to customers on time. A huge thank you to Jan, Tesco

Community Champion, who supported our young people throughout the experience. It was a brilliant opportunity that inspired our young people and gave them a real insight into the world of work.

Class 8



Class 8 has had a productive month. In Maths, lessons have had a focus on fractions. In English, the young people have been working on creating advertisements.

During enrichment sessions, some young people have been practising their English skills, while others have been attending swimming sessions at Goldenstones. Others have been focusing on bike riding, learning important road safety skills.

A couple of our Year 11s have taken part in travel training. This has been designed to help them feel more confident and independent when using public transport, an important life skill as they prepare for the future.

