

Fairmead School Newsletter October 2024

Important Dates

October 2024	
Thursday 24	Last day of term
Friday 25	INSET Day
November 2024	
Monday 4	Pupils return to school
December 2024	
Friday 20	Last day of term

Calling all parents/carers in Somerset

Do you have primary school aged children in Somerset? Did you know that the local authority has a duty to make sure there are enough childcare places in your area? They would like to hear your experiences and needs for wraparound and holiday childcare, ranging from those who use it daily, to those who do not use it at all. Please complete their very short survey by midday on 1st November: [Click here to complete the survey](#)

Goodbye and thank you



We say "goodbye and enjoy your well-deserved retirement" to Steve Coles who leaves us this half-term. Steve has been working at Fairmead for nearly thirty years and his knowledge of SEN (especially Autism) is immense. He has seen many students and their families through their time at Fairmead and can't walk through Yeovil

town without someone stopping him and saying "Remember me Mr Coles!" Enjoy the rest Steve 😊

We also say goodbye and good luck to Mrs Axe who leaves us to join Yeovil College.

Connor's Dream

Connor attended Fairmead School from 2009 to 2017. Connor has won numerous awards for his sporting achievements (cricket) and is now taking on his dream of running the London Marathon. In 2025 he will take on the challenge, running 26.2 miles for The Lord's Taverners.



Scan the QR code to read more about Connor's story.

Talking The Walk



Yeovil Art Space and Love Yeovil Teams are keen to hear the views and ideas of local residents and families as part of the public consultation of the area known as Glovers Walk. They hope to work with local schools, teachers and

young people with their grant funded project 'Our Town'.



School Attendance

We promote good attendance for the students in our school and need your continued help and support to ensure your child reaches their full potential. Attendance at school is a legal requirement and a crucial aspect in preparing your child for the future. We are very proud of our excellent attendance record being above the national average.

Parents/carers Information:

- Parents/carers can now download the BromCom App to check on their child's attendance.
- We understand how important it is to give students time to settle in before learning, our school gates open at **8:40am**
- If your child becomes unwell while at school, the senior staff team will assess them and you will be contacted.
- Any absence from school, should only be when the child is too unwell to attend. In this case, please call the School Office on 01935 421295 from **8am** to inform the school EACH morning of absence. If daily contact is not made, the absence will be recorded as **unauthorised**.
- Medical appointments should be made outside of school hours wherever possible and evidence provided. Please note: wherever possible, students should be in school both before and after the medical appointment.
- Warning: A parent/carer who requests to take their child out of school during term time, could receive a Penalty Notice or a Penalty Fine (further information available on the school's website).

If you have any other questions regarding attendance, and would like to speak, please feel free to contact Mrs Smith, our Attendance Office to discuss this further.

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NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Next Step Careers Event:



On Tuesday the 24th of September we welcomed to the school a range of Employers, Colleges and Providers to come and talk to the students about their options for the future. The students engaged brilliantly with the day with 93 students from across the school taking part. We were supported by:

- Yeovil College
- Strode College
- Department of Work and Pensions (Job Centre)
- Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance
- Somerset Works
- NHS Foundation Trust
- Sheldrake Training
- Able2achieve
- Platform Railway Education

The exhibitors were really complimentary about the students who had a great opportunity to begin planning their futures beyond Fairmead.



AIP Welding Experience



On Wednesday the 2nd of October Kim Hunt from AIP Welding visited the school to talk to the students about working in welding and how they could go about this. As part of the visit students had the opportunity to have a go at virtual welding using virtual reality headsets and welding torches to try out welding for

themselves. The experience gave students a very realistic experience with students getting a hands-on experience try find out if welding could be a career route for them in the future. A massive thank you to Kim for sharing his skills and expertise and to all the students who took part with real enthusiasm.



3A and 3I

As part of our humanities learning, we visited the Tank Museum. We had an exciting day learning all about World War 1. The trip began with a trench experience followed by time exploring lots of WW1 tanks and equipment.



3I

In English, 3I have been focusing on the story 'The truth about my unbelievable summer'. Alongside our story writing of an adapted version, we have been learning about some of the different



countries he has visited in the story. This has included lots of yummy food tasting!



Squirrel class

We've had a great start to the school year, all the children have settled really well to their new routine. This half term, we've had a wonderful time exploring



the classic tale of *The Three Little Pigs*. The use of multi-sensory story props and communication boards has helped to fully immerse the children in the story. The tale was

brought to life by the children through imaginative play and role-playing activities. Whether they were huffing and puffing like the Big Bad Wolf or building their very own "houses" like the pigs, their enthusiasm was



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contagious! Our learning culminated in a fantastic activity, where the children worked together to create a story map of *The Three Little Pigs*, showcasing their understanding and creativity.

Robin class

It has been a fantastic term in Robins class; we have enjoyed welcoming and getting to know our new students and are really pleased to say they come in full of happiness and enthusiasm every day. This term, we have been basing our learning and play around a book called 'I Like it When....' and we have focused on finding out about our children's favourite things to do. We have a whole range of individual interests in Robin class but many things in common which includes music, stories, dancing, numbers, sensory experiences and playing chase. However, the main thing our children have in common is they LOVE to pose for a photo! So, we were able to make our very own 'I Like it When...' book full of our photos and of course they LOVE to see themselves in a book on the big screen!



Otter class

The 'Otters' have been listening to the story of *The Three Little Pigs*. They have all made piggy noses, a big bad wolf mask and huff and puff fire paintings. The children love their weekly Forest School afternoon and have enjoyed exploring the site with their new classmates. They have settled well into their new class and are working well with their peers.



4R

4R have had a busy start to the new academic year. In English we have been retelling the story of *Harry Potter*, using colourful semantics to help us. This has involved wand-making, every flavour jellybean tasting, a sorting hat ceremony, potion making and playing quidditch! We have had so much fun! In RE, we have been learning about Harvest and food banks. We were very lucky to have a trip to the Lord's Larder to find out about our local food bank. In careers, we had the opportunity to visit an internal event which told us



all about our options when we leave Fairmead school. We have also been focusing on mental health and wore yellow to promote mental health day.

3F

3F have participated in weekly visits to Yeovil library this half term. We have been learning to look at and read books independently and with our peers. Some students have also been talking to the librarians to help them find a book or to borrow a book using their library card. Some of us have even been learning to use the machines in the library to borrow and return books!

