



Fulfen Newsletter

Leading the way to a brighter future

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Issue: 32
April 2024



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Foreword

There's a lovely spring feeling around the school at the moment. The school grounds can be used to their full extent over the summer term now that the weather has finally decided to brighten up.

Children have been using the forest and the field and the school garden is looking lovely – thanks to our amazing gardening club!

Inside the building, our Year 6 children are busily preparing for their SATs tests (w/c 13th May) and are looking forward to their celebration day at the end of the week, followed by their trip to Paris! Final information regarding the trip and our revision support can be found on the [Year 6 class page](#) of our website. The DfE have also produced a parent guide on the SATs [here](#).

I'd like to personally welcome Miss Sturch, our new deputy head, who is a great addition to our Fulfen family.



There's lots to look forward to over the summer term – make sure you read on so you don't miss out!



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

Stars of the week!

Orlaith Doherty, Maisie-Jane Ward, Chizaram Eke Nduka, Elizabeth Lodge, River Street, Raiven Meszaros, Lucy Young, Millie Delamont, Sophia Davis, Daisy Walters, Annabella Stilgoe, Eva Field, Archie Collier, Mia Maskell, Evie-Mae Mullan, Harley Jones, Charlotte Burley, Freddie Hems-Fish, Sebastian Lodge, Megan Smith, Maya Cockayne, Oliver Ward, Rex Smale, Chester Castello, Bodhi Dingle, Emily Heming, Orla Dalloway, Oliver McGeown,

Chloe Collis, Phoebe Bourne, Bodhi King, Henry Roberts, Jesse Appleton, Penelope Harrington, Ginny Keogh, Leo Ritchie, Niall Jones, Alfie Benton, Poppy Gould, Hettie Goldsmith, Leo Goodall, Arthur Derry, Charles Robinson, Sky Webster, Lilly Wright, Teddie Williams, Charlie Adams-Clarke, Evie Hunt, Elliot Gibson-Collins, Mason Capewell, Emilia Wright, Jayden O'Mara, All of 4B, Freya Phillips, Isabelle Jones, Jake Hathaway-Osborne, Zack Jagielski, Will Kershaw, Jessica Barratt, Harrison Delamont,

Tess Hollins, Jessica Fisher, Florence Allcutt, Orla Jones, Jemima Budge and Gethin Smith, Rosie Witcomb, Sophia Edwards, Jaycob Chawner, Lola Jennings, Louis Game, Cameron Jenkins, Isla Davis, Evie Dixon, George Cope, Toby Rock, Baylee-Mae Berry, Grace McGeown, Brandon Hickman, Joel Hunt, Lucas Allen, Max Mudhir, Sophia O'Mara, Emily Mansell, Evan Kainth, Willow Hems-Fish, Emillie Fry, Evie Hackett, Isla-Mai Edwards, Veronica Cooper, Freddie Phillips, Darcie Bird

Love of Learning...

- dream big, have a thirst for learning and achieve your ambitions...

Encouraging...

- to be supportive of yourself and others and value everyone's ideas...

Adaptable...

- being versatile, creative and being prepared to take risks...

Determination...

- being resilient when the going gets tough...

Are you following us on Facebook yet?

Our Facebook page is brimming with photos and news of what's going on in school each day. If you haven't already, please take the time to follow our [page](#) so you can see what we're getting up to and catch a glimpse of your child in action! You can also share this with other members of the family so they can follow our successes.

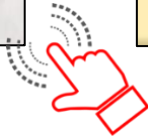
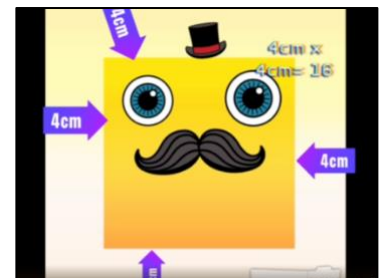
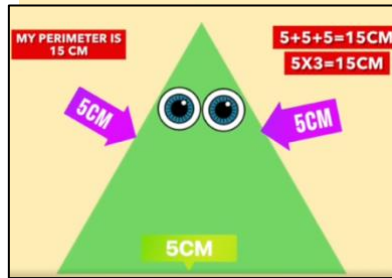
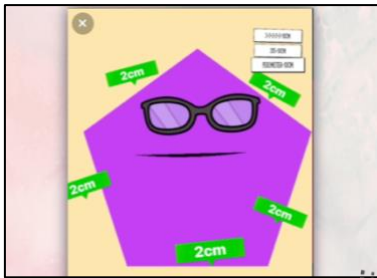
You can also see our latest Facebook feed at the bottom of the home page of our website and, if you want more information about our exciting Enrichment opportunities, look at our [Enrichment page](#) in the parents' section of our website.



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Perimeter in Year 4

Our Year 4 pupils have been consolidating their understanding of perimeter of regular 2D shapes. Click to watch these videos by Tilly, Thea and William:



Easter Egg Bonanza!

All the children who took part in our Easter Egg Hunt before the holidays had a fabulous time searching for clues and collecting their chocolate. Harry in Year 1 was the very happy winner of the Easter Egg stack that he guessed the height of! We hope he didn't eat all those eggs in one go!

Here are a few more pics from the afternoon:



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Welcome to Miss Sturch!

You may have already spotted a new member of staff as she welcomes families on the gate in the morning? Well, this is our new deputy head, Miss Sturch. Although she's only been with us for two weeks, it's like she's always been here: she fits the Fulfen culture perfectly.



She has settled in really well: getting to know the children, taking assemblies and working alongside Miss Davies and the staff to make Fulfen the best it possibly can be! If you want to find out a little more about her, you can take a look on our website [here](#).

Augmented Reality Experiences

Our year 5 pupils have started experimenting with augmented reality (where you can super-impose a computer-generated image on a user's view of the real world). In their first lesson, they've created augmented reality name badges:

My augmented reality name badge:



Explain what augmented reality is:

Augmented reality is a object that looks like its there through the ipad or phone but its not there in real life.

My augmented reality name badge:



Explain what augmented reality is:

You can see it on the device and it looks like it's there but it's actually not it is just on the device.

My augmented reality name badge:



Explain what augmented reality is:

It is something where it shows it in the room like it is really in the room, but it's not in the room. It's on your phone .

My augmented reality name badge:



Explain what augmented reality is:

When you make something digitaly and make it in to reality.



Celebrations - what we've been up to

Garden News

Spring has sprung in our school garden and we have started gardening club once again. The children have been busy planting potatoes using wooden spoons as labels. Here are a few photos to show how wonderful our garden looks, showing that all our hard work certainly pays off:



Our new poly-tunnel is being erected. Don't forget that you can still donate towards our garden improvements on ParentPay – we need raised beds and soil next!

A huge thank you to all the families who have already donated – you ARE making a difference!



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Useful Information & what's coming up

School Uniform Change for PE Kits from September

From September, we will be introducing our new PE T-shirts. Out with the white ones, which can quickly look grubby and in with our lovely new blue design, which we're sure you'll agree is much smarter and will be more durable.



All items with our school logo can be purchased at

[A&J Designs in Norton Canes](#)

or

[Uniform Plus in Burntwood](#)



Our full uniform information and policy can be found on our website [here](#).

School Photographs on Tuesday 30th April

Please send children into school looking smart in full school uniform ready for their class photographs and Year 6 individual photographs.



School Trip and Residential Reminder

It was with great regret that we were forced to cancel one of our school trips at the beginning of April. Despite our plea in our last Newsletter, there were too many parents who didn't pay a contribution towards the trip. The school is just not in a place financially where we can subsidise trips to this extent.

Trips are so important to broaden pupils' education, we really hope that this does not become a regular occurrence.



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

Useful Information & what's coming up

Addressing Attendance – help your child succeed in school.

For most pupils, the best place to be during term-time is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers. This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. The importance of this is reflected in this update:

*From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days**. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012.*

*In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of **£160**.*

*Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered. If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to **£2,500**.*

Money raised via fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.

It's important to build the habit of good attendance early.

Did you know:

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.



Useful Information & what's coming up

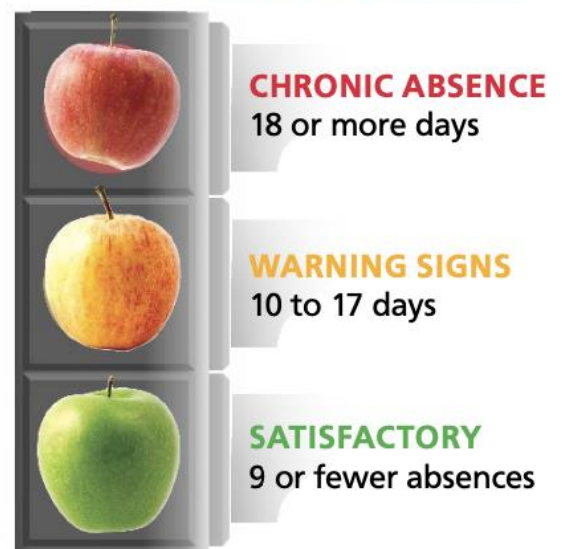
What can you do to achieve good attendance?

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-urgent related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?

Further information, including our attendance policy can be found on the school website under the Parent tab.

<https://www.fulfen.staffs.sch.uk/page/attendance/22734>



Useful Information & what's coming up

Walk for Max

There is a sponsored walk for Max and Acorns on the bank holiday Monday 6th May at Chasewater. It would be wonderful to see some of our Fulfen community to join in to help raise money for a special day out for Max.



PROUD SUPPORTERS OF
acorns
Your local children's hospice



Join us for a sponsored walk around Chasewater Country Park
6th May 2024

Meet at Burntwood Rugby Club from 1.45pm to start walking at 2pm
Family fun event at the Rugby Club afterwards

The lap round Chasewater is 5K and is pushchair friendly.
Everyone welcome

<https://gofund.me/3fc75e45>



Click on the image to
donate to the [gofund.me](https://gofund.me/3fc75e45)
page

iPads in School

Just as we're starting to think about starting the process of organising iPads for our current Year 2 children for when they move into Year 3, it seems a good time to remind you of a few things to do with iPads that go home:



- iPads are used regularly during the day and should be brought to school each morning fully charged. If they are repeatedly brought into school not charged, then we will be forced to keep them in school to ensure they are charged and ready to be used in class.
- Please remind your child to take care of their iPad – broken screens are expensive to replace. If iPads are looked after properly, they do have a really long lifespan!

The use of an iPad in school has a really positive impact on learning – but everyone needs to work together to ensure that we get the most out of them.



Love of Learning... Encouraging... Adaptable... Determination...

Useful Information & what's coming up

Parent Survey

The Staffordshire Early Education and Childcare Sufficiency Data Officer is running a parent survey aimed at the parents of Early Years children and those expecting a baby.

If you fall into this category, can you please take the time to fill in this [questionnaire](#) about your experiences of childcare and your needs for the future.



Scan me!

Online Safety Update – Parents need to be aware of the data

The Internet Watch Foundation has just released their annual report in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. It doesn't paint a good picture at all:



- In 2023, there were 275,652 confirmed reports of Child Sexual Abuse Material, which was up 8% on 2022.
- An alarming figure for us is that 54% of these reports involved 11–13 year-old children and 41% 7-10 year old children, with 97% of the reports involving girls.
- 92% of these reports were self-generated (often in a child's bedroom or bathroom).
- The increase in self-generated images featuring 7-10 year-olds has increased by 1,816% since 2019.

The full (quite disturbing) report can be found [here](#).

In school we regularly teach children the importance of online safety in both our computing and PSHE/RSE lessons, but it's so important that this is followed up at home and that parents are aware of how children are using their personal devices. It's always important to remember – it *could* happen here.



Useful Information & what's coming up

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 30th April – Class Photographs
Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
w/c Monday 13th May – Y6 SATs Week
Friday 17th May – Y6 Fun Inflatable Day
w/c Monday 20th May – Y6 Trip to Paris
Tuesday 21st May – Year 5 Trip to Fire Station
Friday 24th May – Feel Good Friday (non-uniform)
w/c 27th May HALF TERM – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Monday 3rd June – INSET DAY – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Wed 5th June – Fri 7th – Y5 Residential – Laches Wood
w/c 10th June – STEAM week
Thursday 13th June – Y6 WWII Day
Monday 17th June – Year 4 Base Camp
Tuesday 18th June – Roving Book Company
Wednesday 19th June – Open Evening for Parents
Thursday 20th June – Open Evening for Parents
Wednesday 26th June – Rags to Riches
Wednesday 26th June – Sports Day: Y1-3 (am) & Y4-6 (am)
Thursday 27th June – EYFS Sports Day (am)
Thursday 27th June – Y6 – Alton Towers Trip
Monday 1st July – Year 2 Trip to Botanical Gardens
Wednesday 3rd July – Year 4 Trip to Sculpture Park
Thursday 4th July – Whole School Transition Day
Tuesday 9th July – Y6 Leavers' Production 2pm
Tuesday 9th July – School Discos
Wednesday 10th July – Y3 Trip to Conkers
Wednesday 10th July – Open Garden Afternoon (after school)
Thursday 11th July - Y6 Leavers' Production 7pm
Friday 12th July – Feel Good Friday (non-uniform)
Tuesday 16th July – Reception – Magical Mahem
Friday 19th July – Y6 Leavers' assembly 9:30am
Monday 22nd July – INSET DAY – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
Tuesday 23rd July – SUMMER HOLIDAY

