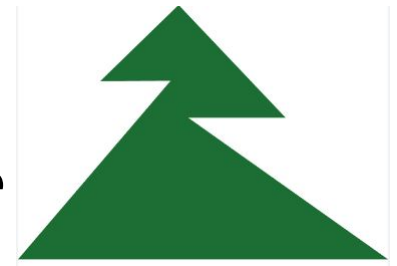


*Become the best that you can  
be: for learning, for life, for future  
success.*



# **Firside Junior School Newsletter**

Friday 5 December 2025



part of...



WENSUM TRUST

# A message from the Leadership Team

There has been so much packed into this half term already, and with just 2 weeks to go until the end of term, there is lots more to squeeze in before we break up for Christmas.

Rehearsals are well under way for the Year 3 and 4 Christmas plays. Parents of Year 3 and 4 should have now received an email about how to book your seat at one of the performances. Year 3 and 4 will each perform three times (one dress rehearsal to children in Year 2 and two performances each to parents and family members).

A huge thank you to FOF who organised the discos last week for the children - as always, they were very well attended and lots of fun! We really appreciate all the support from parents who were able to help run the disco.

We had another well-attended Hot Chocolate Wednesday this week, with the new toppings being a real hit! Next Wednesday, we are combining Hot Chocolate Wednesdays with our 'Christmas songs around the tree' event. Our DREAM chorus choir will be performing some Christmas songs and carols and leading us all in a sing-a-long. We hope to see lots of you there.

Next week we also have our annual Christmas dinner days. Please read the information in this newsletter carefully regarding lunches on these days.

*Mrs Robinson (Executive Head Teacher)*

*Mr O'Malley (Head of School)*

*Mrs Seagrave (Assistant Head of School)*

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# Dates for your diary

**Sun 7 Dec** HHS carol concert (Y3&4 pupils who have signed up)

**Tues 9 Dec** Rock Steady Christmas concert 9:15am

**Wed 10 Dec** Y5/6 Christmas lunch day

Christmas songs around the tree *and* Hot chocolate Wednesday after school in Lower Quad

**Thurs 11 Dec** Y3/4 Christmas lunch day

**Mon 15 Dec** Y3/4 Dress rehearsals

**Tues 16 Dec** Y3 Christmas performance 9:30am

Y4 Christmas performance 1:30pm

**Wed 17 Dec** Y4 Christmas performance 9:30am

Y3 Christmas performance 1:30pm

**Thurs 18 Dec** Choir performance at Redlands (selected choir pupils)

**Fri 19 Dec** Last day of term

Free non-uniform day - Xmas jumpers optional

**Tues 6 Jan** First day of new term

**FOF hot chocolate on Wednesdays after school**

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# Performances

We look forward to welcoming Year 3 and 4 parents, carers and families to our Christmas performances at the end of this term. This year we are excited to be holding two performances for each of the Year 3 and 4 shows. This is not only to provide the opportunity for our pupils to perform to an audience more than once, but also to offer more opportunities for families to attend their children's performances. The children will also be performing their dress rehearsal to Year 2 children from either Arden Grove or Heather Avenue.

## Year 3 Performances will be held:

**Tuesday 16th December 9:30am**

**Wednesday 17th December 1:30pm**

## Year 4 Performances will be held:

**Tuesday 16th December 1:30pm**

**Wednesday 17th December 9:30pm**

***An email has been sent to Year 3 and 4 parents for you to choose which performance you would like to attend. As your 'ticket' to the performance, we ask that you bring a bag of sugar (any brand, any size) for our collection for the Buckingham Sugar Appeal who donate all the sugar to homeless shelters at Christmas.***



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# Christmas dinners

Don't forget to order your child a Christmas dinner. These must be pre-booked via Scopay and **cannot** be ordered on the day.

*Year 5 and 6 will have their Christmas dinner on*

*Wednesday 10th December - (Y3/4 home packed lunches)*

*Year 3 and 4 will have their Christmas dinner on*

*Thursday 11th December (Y5/6 home packed lunches)*



We will **not** have any other hot options on either day. Children must have a packed lunch if they are not having the hot meal on their Christmas dinner day and on the other quad's Christmas dinner day. If your child is entitled to free school meals we can order them a school packed lunch.

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# Hot chocolate Wednesdays



Friends of Firside  
**HOT CHOCOLATE  
WEDNESDAY**

Every Wednesday!  
From 3:15 at the lower quad  
cookery room!

**£1 Hot Chocolate**

**£1.50 Special Hot Chocolate**  
with marshmallows and  
cream

**Cash only!**



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# Plans for unexpected closures

We wanted to share a little about how we would keep learning going for all our pupils in the unlikely event that school has to close unexpectedly. Please know that closing the school is always a very last resort. We understand how important it is for your children to be in school learning with their friends and teachers, and we will only ever make the decision to close if it is absolutely necessary for the safety of everyone—perhaps due to very severe weather, or an unforeseen emergency.

**How will we continue learning?** If the school does need to close, we will move to remote learning so that the children can continue their education from home.

- **Google Classroom:** This will be the main place where your child's teacher will set work, activities, and tasks for the day.
- **Educational Websites:** We will also use the great educational websites your children already use in school. These include:
  - **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS):** Perfect for practicing those crucial multiplication facts!
  - **Atom Learning:** Specifically used for our **Years 4, 5, and 6** pupils to support their learning in English and Maths.
  - **Accelerated reading:** Used for quizzing on reading books

**A small request to help us prepare** To make sure there is a smooth transition if we ever need to use our remote learning plan, we would be grateful if you could check one thing for us:

- **Log-in Details:** Please take a moment to locate and **keep a copy** of your child's log-in details for Google Classroom and any other key sites (like TTRS or Atom Learning). These are often stuck into reading records or sent home at the start of the year. Having them ready at home will save a lot of time and worry.

**Thank you so much for your support in helping us prepare. We sincerely hope we won't need to use these plans, but it is always best to be ready.**

# Songs around the tree

On Wednesday 10 December, our DREAM chorus choir and Friends of Firside invite you to 'Songs around the tree'.

Our choir will perform Christmas songs and carols and lead us all in some sing-a-longs whilst the Friends of Firside do their usual 'Hot chocolate Wednesdays'.

All families are welcome to come and have a hot chocolate and enjoy listening to the choir sing.

This will be held in the lower quad from 3:20pm.

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WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR

# SONGS AROUND THE TREE

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Inside the **3:20pm-4pm**  
Lower Quad

Friends of Firside  
Hot Chocolate WEDNESDAY

ENJOY A FESTIVE PERFORMANCE BY OUR CHOIR  
AND JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG.  
ALL WELCOME

# Last day of term

On the last day of term we always have a free non-uniform with an **option** to wear Christmas jumpers.

We always have a little competition for anyone who wishes to design their own Christmas jumper, and there will be a small prize for the winner in each year group for the best home-designed jumper.



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# Christmas postal service

Our postal service is now up and running.

If children wish to send Christmas cards to their friends and staff, they need to ensure that they write the name and class of the recipient on the front of the envelope and post them into the postbox in the silent corridor.

Children in Year 6 will then sort and deliver the post each lunchtime.

Firside Junior School  
Christmas Postal Service



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# Christmas doors

The staff have outdone themselves this year, creating wonderful Christmas classroom doors for the children. We have shared them on our Facebook page but in case you missed them...





Leadership office



5W



3MD



6C



6P



School Office



6B

# PE / Games lessons

PE timetable week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> November

	PE	Games	Swimming
<b>Monday</b>	3MD	Year 5	5W
<b>Tuesday</b>	3B, 3L, 6P and 6B		
<b>Wednesday</b>		Year 3, 4 and 6	
<b>Thursday</b>	4T, 4RL		5W
<b>Friday</b>	4L, 5A, 5T, 6C		

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# Name Labels

Named items of clothing are always far more likely to be able to be reunited with their owners. When items are clearly labelled, it makes it so much easier for us to make sure children have all their belongings!

If you buy name labels, please consider using [My Nametags](#) using our school ID: 67290

If you purchase through their website (using our school ID) 24% of your total purchase will go back to the Friends of Firside. This is another way that we can support FOF with their fundraising efforts!

Thank you

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## NO MORE LOST ITEMS!

Our nametags are perfect to label all of your child's possessions. From clothing to shoes, stationery, toys - everything is identified!



4.8/5 ON TRUSTPILOT

 STICKERS STAY ON IN THE WASH!

 NO SEWING REQUIRED

 QUEEN'S AWARD WINNER

 UK MARKET LEADER FOR 20 YEARS



School ID: 67290

## Uniform reminders

Thank you to everyone for looking so smart on their return to school. A reminder that we do expect the children to be wearing their school ties now. Summer dresses and shorts can be worn until October half term.

A reminder that PE kit should include black shorts / jogging bottoms, a **white** logo PE polo top or plain **white** polo shirt (old style logo t-shirts are also allowed) and a black jumper / hooded top or green / black logo fleece. A full uniform and kit list is available [on our website](#).

We know that lots of the girls prefer to wear cycling shorts for PE but please can we ask parents to ensure that cycling shorts cover thighs.

Please be aware that games lessons are usually outside unless particularly wet. We recommend jogging bottoms and fleeces / hoodies on this day. A spare pair of socks is also useful.

As always, with 350 identical, or very similar items of clothing, it is vital that all items of clothing are named clearly.

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## We are nut free

A reminder to all families that we aim to be a nut free school. This is due to severe allergies in some children in our school. Please help us to keep them safe by refraining from including nut products in your child's lunchbox or snack. Nut products might include: whole nuts, nuts in cereal bars, peanut butter and Nutella.

We ask that all parents follow this guidance as food allergies can be very serious. Thank you.



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## **Second-hand uniform shop**

We have a uniform sale permanently in the School Office where we have a range of second-hand and new uniform for sale.

If you need any pieces, please do pop by the office to see what we have. All items are just £1.

We are always looking for donations of second-hand uniform in good condition. Particularly jumpers, cardigans, ties and PE fleeces. All the money raised from our uniform sales go back into buying things for the school.

We do have a few second-hand coats and shoes available too.

Thank you.

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## Contacting teachers

If you need to speak with your child's teacher about anything, please do get in touch. Our first open classroom event is coming up soon where you will be able to find out about how your child has settled in the first few weeks. If you need to speak with your child's teacher before this date then you can leave a message with the the school office or email [office@firside.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@firside.norfolk.sch.uk) and we can pass these on to the relevant teacher. Often teachers will be able to have a quick chat on the playground however please be aware that in the mornings especially, the teachers are busy preparing for lessons.

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## Useful extras...

Make sure you follow us on Facebook. We'll be sharing regular updates about what we get up to in school on there. If your child has full photo consent they might feature on our page! You can find our page by [clicking here](#) - make sure you like and follow us!

The Friends of Facebook (FOF) also have a page where they post about their fundraising efforts. You can find their group by [clicking here](#).

There is also a parent group on Facebook which you might find helpful for asking questions. You can find the group by [clicking here](#).

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