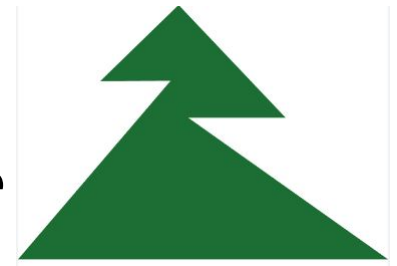


*Become the best that you can
be: for learning, for life, for future
success.*



Firside Junior School Newsletter

Friday 9 January 2026

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WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

A message from the Leadership Team

Welcome back to a brand new term! We hope that you all had a peaceful and enjoyable break with your loved ones. It has been lovely catching up with the children this week and hearing all about their holiday adventures. We want to say a huge well done to all of our pupils for the way they have settled back into school life. We know that coming back after the magic of Christmas can be really tough for children (and adults too!), but they have been absolutely fantastic. Their resilience and positive energy have made the start of the year a joy for us all.

It was wonderful to experience the snow earlier this week. Seeing the children's excitement was a real highlight, and we are so glad we could get outside and enjoy it together. We would like to extend a big thank you to those parents who sent children in with wellies and warm outdoor gear, which allowed them to make the most of the winter weather safely. While the snow was beautiful, it did mean we had to rearrange some of our entry and exit routines to keep everyone safe on the school site. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during those adjustments; your support helps us ensure that the beginning and end of the school day run smoothly even in tricky conditions.

On a related note, please do take a moment to read the information regarding school closures included in this newsletter. Closing the school is always a last resort, but we want to make sure every family is prepared just in case. If we ever have to close for any reason, we will communicate this to you as soon as possible via our usual school channels and through the Norfolk County Council website.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who uses our Breakfast Club and After School Club. We appreciate your patience while we worked on getting a new doorbell organised. We are pleased to say this is now in place, so we can resume our usual arrangements. Please use the doorbell on the lower quad door for all drop-offs and collections for Breakfast Club and After School Club moving forward.

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

Mon 12 Jan 4L start swimming

Wed 14 Jan Parents' Evening bookings go live at 6pm

Wed 21 Jan Parents' Evening bookings close at 9am

w/c 26 Jan Parents' Evening meetings this week

Fri 6 Feb NSPCC Numbers day (more info coming soon)

Fri 13 Feb Last day of term

Mon 23 Feb First day of term

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PE / Games lessons

PE timetable week commencing 12th January

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

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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.

Breakfast Club / After School Club doorbell

We have now got our new doorbell sorted for the lower quad door therefore we are able to go back to our normal arrangements for drop off and collection for Breakfast Club and After School Club. **This will start from this afternoon (9th January).**

Breakfast Club

Please drive round to the playground to drop off your child. A member of staff will come down at 7:45am to let children in. After this time, please ring the doorbell for access to Breakfast Club.

After School Club

This will continue to be held in 4T. From Monday, it will move to 3B.

Please drive round to the playground to collect your child and ring the doorbell on the lower quad door. Staff will then bring your child out to you and you can sign them out there.

Thank you for your patience whilst we sorted the new doorbell.

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Bikes and scooter

Of course, we always want to encourage riding to school, however, we have had a few near misses over the last few days with children almost being hit by children and parents on scooters and bikes on the school grounds. All scooters and bikes should be dismounted once you enter the school site. This applies to children and parents. Thank you.



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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 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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