

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



Firside Junior School Newsletter

Friday 13 March 2026

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WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

A message from the Leadership Team

Thank you to everyone who support our recent Scholastic book fair. We were totally overwhelmed by the volume of sales. We sold an incredible £1200 in books and therefore, our school now has an amazing £680 to spend on books for our school library. Miss Briggs (English coordinator) and our Year 6 librarians will be looking at how to spend the money over the coming weeks. The librarians have already shared some of their ideas about what types of books seem to be the most popular with the children in our school.

We will try to give some regular updates on our new school when we can. At the moment, there is not a huge amount to report as a lot of the work has been pre-work that must be completed before work starts. This has included the site entrance and an archaeological survey on the site. The children's pictures on the fencing are looking great, and really help to brighten up the playground.

We have included key dates, as always, on this newsletter. One to note is that the first day back for children after the Easter holidays is Tuesday 14th April.

We have been shared some dates for free online sessions if you have concerns about your child's anxiety, big emotions, sleep and masking. More information can be found in this newsletter which we hope is of help if you have concerns around these topics.

Have a lovely weekend.

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

Fri 20 Mar Crazy hair / non uniform day for Red Nose day - 50p cash on day please

w/c 23 Mar No crossing patrol - school staff will support as much as possible with this

Mon 23 Mar Year 5 dress rehearsals

Tues 24 Mar Year 5 dress rehearsals

Wed 25 Mar Y5 pantomime performed to parents - ticket information has been emailed out to parents

Fri 27 Mar Last day of term

Mr Adams will be running to school as part of his marathon training today - children can wear non-uniform (50p cash) to support his fundraising. See information in this newsletter

Tues 14 Apr First day of term for pupils

Wed 15 Apr Y3/4 movie night after school for Mr A's fundraising

Wed 22 Apr Y5/6 movie night after school for Mr A's fundraising

Thurs 23 Apr Cake sale for Mr A's fundraising

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Comic relief

On Friday 20 March, we will be fundraising for Comic Relief. We will be having a non-uniform day (red optional) and crazy hair day (again, optional). To take part, please send in a 50p cash donation for the charity. Thank you



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Mr A's Marathon fundraising

Our very own Mr Adams is running the London Marathon and his chosen charity is our Friends of Firside.

If you would like to contribute to his fundraising efforts, he has a [Go fund me](#) page.

We are also going to be doing some extra activities to support his fundraising:

Monday 16 March - Friday 24 April - there will be a Guess how many sweets in the jar - 50p per entry. Winner will win the jar of sweets. See Mr Adams to take part.

Friday 27th March - Mr A will be running approximately 10 miles from his home all the way to school (he will be getting up very early that day!) To support him, on this day, we welcome children to wear non-uniform for a donation of 50p cash. They might even want to wear active wear and run to school themselves (as long as it is safe to do so!)

After Easter holidays:

Wednesday 15 April - Mr A will be running a movie night for Y3/4 - more information to follow

Wednesday 22 April - Mr A will be running a movie night for Y5/6 - more information to follow

Thursday 23 April - we will be having a cake sale after school. All donations of cakes welcome on the day. Please remember no nuts in cakes / biscuits.



Mental Health Support Team

Firside Junior is continuing to work alongside the Norfolk Mental Health in Schools Team to support our pupils and families. Please see below for a range of upcoming webinar sessions that you may be interested in.

Upcoming Webinars for Parents and Carers

We run a series of **free online webinars** designed to help parents and carers better understand and support their child's emotional wellbeing. These sessions are relaxed, informative, and open to all families in our partner schools.

Our upcoming topics include:

- **Understanding anxiety**
- **Helping your child manage big emotions**
- **Support with sleep**

Please find below the dates and times of the upcoming webinars:

- Friday 17th April at 10:00am- **Child Anxiety**
- Wednesday 22nd April at 6:30pm- **Managing big emotions**
- Friday 1st May at 10:00am- **Sleep**
- Wednesday 6th May at 6:30pm- **Child Anxiety**
- Friday 15th May at 10:00am- **Managing big emotions**
- Wednesday 20th May at 6:30pm- **Sleep**

There is no need to prebook,
simply click on the link to join the
webinars:

[https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhs
t-webinars](https://nhs.vc/norfolk-waveney-mhs-t-webinars)

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Masking - online session for parents

Our colleagues at the Norfolk Schools and Communities team will be running an online session for parents with neurodiverse children on the subject of 'masking'. For full details please see the attached flyer.



Masking Workshop

Join us for this **free online session**, where we will be discussing "masking". Many of our children will "mask" at school or in other social situations, in an attempt to appear more "neurotypical" to others. However, this often results in some undesired after effects, such as burnout and anxiety, or the sudden release of pent up energy once back home where it is "safe" to do so.



17th March 2026

10:00am - 11:00am

zoom

No need to book.

Just join us on the day via Zoom using the following details:


Meeting ID: 966 4447 9930

Passcode: 400275

For more information you can contact us Monday to Friday 9-5pm on:

 01603 972589

 NorfolkandWaveney@family-action.org.uk

 Family Action Norfolk & Waveney
Autism/ADHD Support Service.

www.family-action.org.uk

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Parking

We would like to remind everyone of the importance of parking responsibly in our community when dropping off and collecting children. Please ensure that you:

- * **Park considerately and safely** - keeping our school community and local residents in mind.
- * **Avoid blocking pavements** - as this forces pedestrians (especially children) step into the road.
- * **Refrain from parking on grass verges** - can cause damage and inconvenience for local residents.
- * **Take extra care near junctions and driveways** - ensure visibility and safe access for all road users.
- * **Follow all traffic regulations** - help us maintain a safe and respectful environment around the school.

Your cooperation helps keep our community safe and strengthens our relationship with local residents.

Thank you for your continued support.

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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.

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.

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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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