



NEWSLETTER

Friday 11 September 2026

Message from the Leadership team



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A very warm welcome back to all of our returning families, and a special welcome to those families who are joining the Firside community for the first time this term. It has been wonderful to see everyone back through the doors, and what a fantastic start we have made to the new term! The children have settled in so quickly back into school routines and we are excited about the year ahead. Today we had our first DREAM Award assembly where we celebrate amazing achievements of our pupils. We look forward to these weekly assemblies as it is a fantastic way to hear about all of the wonderful things our pupils have been doing both in and out of the classroom!

Well done to all of the children who took part in the Summer Reading challenge with the Norfolk Library service and the Fonetti Reading challenge – we celebrated the children who took part in the library challenge in assembly today. Miss Briggs is in contact with Fonetti and when we have the children's certificates, we will celebrate those children too. We were overwhelmed that children who took part in the Fonetti challenge, helped us to end up 7th in the whole country. Incredible!

Of course, we are extremely excited that this will be our last year in this school building and the end of this academic year will see us transition onto the new site for September 2027 (all being well!) As you may have seen, if you have looked through the gates, the new build is progressing well with the groundworks, and we are hopeful that we will start to see more exciting changes over the coming weeks and months. Over the summer break, Mrs Robinson, alongside other members of The Wensum Trust, was able to visit the factory where the school is being built and she even got to walk around parts of the new building!

We know that starting a new school year can bring lots of questions, and we want all of our families to feel confident about who to talk to if you have a concern or would like some support. Our aim is always to listen, work together and find the best way forward for your child. In most cases, your child's class teacher will be the best person to speak to first, as they know your child and their day-to-day experiences in school so well. Please never hesitate to get in touch. We value working in partnership with our families, and open, positive communication helps us to make sure every child feels happy, safe and able to thrive at Firside.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year together and to getting to know our new families, as well as continuing to strengthen the relationships we have with our returning families.

Diary dates

Mon 14 Sept Y4 Whitlingham trip

Tues 22 Sept Individual school photos

Wed 23 Sept Flu clinic (info coming soon)

Thurs 22 Oct Last day of term

Mon 2 Nov First day of term

Communication

There are a number of ways in which we will be communicating what is going on in school:

- regular emails from the office
- fortnightly newsletters emailed out
- our Facebook page
- weekly reminder of key dates emailed out each week

Ice bucket challenge update

Last term, we were raising money for our Friends of Firside with an ice bucket challenge, however it was postponed due to the hosepipe ban. Once this is lifted, we will rearrange for a new date as we know that lots of children are excited to see who will get to soak members of SLT!



No nuts in snacks / lunches

A reminder that due to allergies, we do not allow nuts in school. Allergies can be very serious so we appreciate your support with this.



Please label all clothing!

With 300 children with the same uniform, **please** make sure you are naming all items of clothing, particularly those items which are often removed: jumpers, ties, PE fleeces and coats. If they are named, they are more likely to come back to their owners!

Individual school photos

As you will see on our diary dates, we have our visiting photographer coming into school on Tuesday 22 September for children's individual photos. Please make sure that your child is in their full school uniform on that day. If you do not wish for your child to have their photo taken on this day, please contact the school office before the day.



Collection from clubs

A reminder that all collections from clubs (including our own After School Club) is via the school office.

There should be no driving onto the school playground.