

Infant Site

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 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 2
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Foxdell Primary School

Growing, Learning and Achieving Together

Junior Site

Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1UP
 Tel: 01582 733764- Option 1
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NEWSLETTER : Friday 23rd January 2026 - Spring Term: Issue: 1

Head Teacher's Corner



Dear Families,

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026. We hope the new year has started well for you. It has been a positive start to the Spring term, and learning is already in full swing across the school. The children have settled back into routines well, which has had a positive impact on their learning.

This term, we are continuing to learn about children's rights and we have introduced a new Right of the Month. Each month, we will explore a different right and discuss what it looks like in practice and how we can all show respect for that right. Children have also been learning about the power of kindness and the importance of keeping themselves safe, both in and out of school.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our coffee morning on Wednesday with our Family Workers and Inclusion Manager. It was lovely to welcome you into school, and we appreciate the time you took to join us. We hope you found the session useful and informative.

As part of their learning about Hinduism, Year 4 children visited a Hindu Temple this week. They learned about the key features of the mandir, which helped to consolidate their learning. We understand that some parents were concerned about this visit and we would like to remind you that we follow the Luton RE Syllabus for RE. We are committed to teaching children about a range of religions and beliefs with respect and sensitivity. When children learn about different religions or visit places of worship, they do not take part in worship or learn religious scriptures. The purpose of this learning is to inform and educate children about the beliefs and practices of others, helping them to develop understanding, respect, and tolerance.

Finally, we would like to share some staffing news. Mrs Hermans, our Inclusion Manager, has started her maternity leave today, and we wish her all the very best at this special time. We look forward to meeting her new baby in the future. We would also like to congratulate Mrs Karen, who works at our Junior Site, on the arrival of her baby boy over the Christmas holiday.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a positive and successful term ahead.

Best wishes,
 Mrs R Nisar
 Headteacher



28th January
 Year 1 Toy Workshop

3rd February
 Young Voices Concert

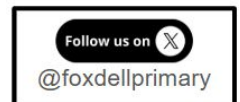
6th February
 Number Day - Number themed dress up

9th February
 Year 4 trip to Whipsnade Zoo

9th - 13th February
 Children's Mental Health Week

16th - 20th February
 Half Term Break

23rd February
 Return to School



Keeping Children Safe Online

In each newsletter, our Computing team shares information on different topics to keep your children safe online using the #WakeUpWednesday resources. This week's #WakeUpWednesday focuses on supporting parents to feel confident navigating the online world with children and young people. It highlights how everyday conversations, clear boundaries, and increased digital awareness can make a real difference to children's online experiences. Please see the online safety section of this newsletter for further information.

Please note, we will now be sending two newsletters each half term. Other updates will be sent via Class Dojo or email.



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

We are pleased to share that our attendance has been improving over the past year, and we're proud to say that our weekly figures have often been in line with or better than the national average. This is a fantastic achievement, and we want to say a big thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping us improve attendance across the school.

Each week, we celebrate good attendance in school, and we'd like to give a special mention to the following classes who have achieved 100% attendance at least once this half term - a brilliant effort!



As we continue to focus on attendance, we are also placing a strong emphasis on punctuality. We firmly believe that every minute counts, and arriving on time helps children start their day calmly and ready to learn.

PUNCTUALITY

Our doors open at 8:45am for a soft start, and ideally, all children should arrive as close to this time as possible. The doors close at 9:00am for registration - arrival after this time is recorded as late. We understand that traffic and parking can be difficult in the mornings, so we encourage families to leave earlier where possible, and consider parking a short distance away and walking.

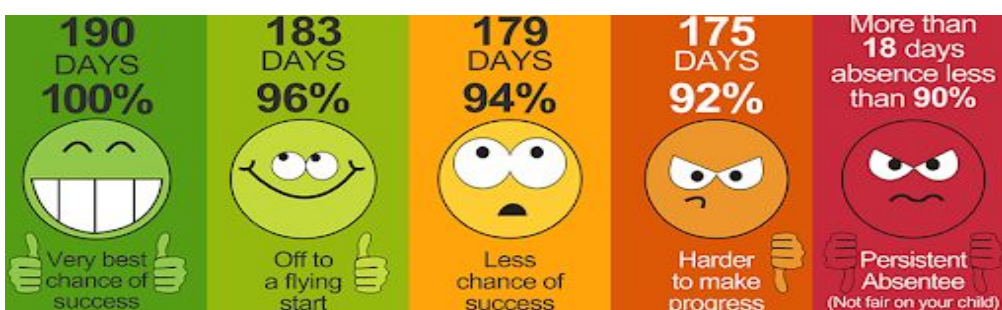
The same expectations apply at the end of the day. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure children are collected on time. Please note that school finishes at 3:15pm for some classes and 3:30pm for others.

We will continue to monitor punctuality and will contact families where lateness is a recurring issue. Thank you again for working with us to make sure your child gets the best possible start to their day and their learning.

The new attendance guidelines came into place from 19th August 2024. More information and FAQs about attendance can be found on our school website: <https://www.foxdellprimary.uk/attendance-1/>

Government guidance can be found here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



We are open for 190 days in a school year which equates to 380 sessions including the morning and afternoon registration.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The class with the best attendance each week wins the attendance trophy and receives a best attendance certificate. Children in Reception receive a lucky dip prize if they have 100% attendance for the week.

Our whole school attendance target is 96%

Attendance Week Ending

Class	09.01.26	16.01.26	23.01.26	Class	09.01.26	16.01.26	23.01.26
Wrens	88.6%	87.9%	91.7%	Pinecones	95.8%	99.6%	95.4%
Swifts	92.2%	90.7%	93.8%	Beech	96.5%	98%	96.8%
Robins	91.1%	97.6%	92.4%	Oak	91.3%	94.2%	98.1%
Dragonflies	91.3%	92.6%	90.9%	Ash	93.8%	94.2%	96.7%
Ladybirds	85.2%	93.2%	91.4%	Ivy	91.1%	97.5%	98.3%
Butterflies	99%	95.4%	92.1%	Cedar	89.6%	90%	91.3%
Squirrels	90.6%	96.1%	96.1%	Spruce	94.8%	95.8%	97.5%
Badgers	89.7%	92.5%	96.8%	Kestrels	98.8%	97%	96.5%
Hedgehogs	99.1%	99.6%	97%	Kites	94.1%	94.2%	90%
Chestnuts	86.5%	90%	91.7%	Eagles	84.2%	87.4%	87.4%
Acorns	93%	98%	96.8%				

Our Class H.E.R.O's for the last 3 weeks are:



Infant Site: Hedgehogs

Junior Site: Kestrels, Pinecones & Ivy

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A huge congratulations to our shining stars for the weeks ending 09.01.26,

16.01.26 & 23.01.26

Robins	Wrens	Swifts	Dragonflies	Ladybirds	Butterflies	Badgers	Squirrels
Chizitere Ruqayah Alicja	Abbas Ayyan Inaaya	Nawera Ayan U Yusra	Mara Stefania Hermione	Arpit Alaya Jazmin	Abdur Rahem Abdulrahman Tegnoor	Ashal Sofia Jasjot	Zaram Ahmed Uthmaan
Hedgehogs	Chestnuts	Acorns	Pinecones	BeechH	Oak	Ash	Ivy
Ifza Anabia Zoha Denis	Za'im Aryan Ibraheem	Adnan Faiyaz Abdullah Zia	Ehan Eshal Sarim	Hillary Amelia Aiyala	Nabil Huzaiifa Samera	Rosa Musa Tahmina	Halimah Maira Dawid
Spruce	Cedar	Kestrels	Kites	Eagles	 "Be a star in someone's sky every day!"		
Umaima Maya Irha	Aarisha Rushda Aminah	Harmanpreet Rafay Rayyan	Ismael Azaan Ibrahim K	Inaaya Abdul Hiba			

Dojo Winners of the Week!



Congratulations to our top dojo earners!

Your positive attitude, teamwork, and respect have truly stood out

Robins	Wrens	Swifts	Dragonflies	Ladybirds	Butterflies	Badgers	Squirrels
Vincent Adriel Aliya	Zahra Mikael Mehran	Dawood Ibrahim Syeda	Hazifa Dwyane Anastasia	Evelyn Evelyna Ali	Abdur Rahem Lucas Fatima	Ali Maram Musa	Zaram Anna Malaika
Hedgehogs	Chestnuts	Acorns	Pinecones	Beech	Oak	Ash	Ivy
Ayah Ibrahim S Erion	Husayn Hajira Aiza N.	Aameera Umar Aameera A.	Aizah Rashad Ahmed	Eshaan Samar Hamza	Rida Safa Anaya	Areen Shekinah Khadijah	Hana Abubakar Abubakar
Spruce	Cedar	Kestrels	Kites	Eagles			
Umaima Kashan Maya	Jessica Roberto Jessica	Zaroon Izzan Aminah	Musa Rebecca Leelu	Aliya Rosy Arhum			



Our VALUE for Spring 1 is:

RELATIONSHIPS

This half term we are learning about the VALUE of RELATIONSHIPS.

Relationships are about how we treat each other:

- Being kind
- Being a good friend
- Working together
- Helping others

Good relationships help us feel happy, safe, and ready to learn.



AIM HIGHER WORKSHOP

At the Aim Higher Workshop, pupils had the exciting opportunity to meet Seth Burkett, a well-known author famous for his football books. During the session, the children took part in a creative writing activity about a hamster going wild, which sparked lots of imagination and laughter. They received helpful feedback to improve their writing and were also given the chance to explore their creativity further by becoming illustrators. It was an inspiring and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

“It was fun and funny when we created our own jokes!”



“It was really good way to help us in English”

NSPCC Number Day 2026



We're excited to let you know that our school will be celebrating **Number Day** on **Friday 6th February 2026**.

What is Number Day?

Number Day is a chance for students to explore maths in creative, hands-on ways through games, problem-solving activities, and classroom challenges. It's all about showing children that maths can be **fun, practical, and confidence-building**.

To help mark the occasion, we invite all children to dress up in a number-themed outfit: Dress for Digits. This could be something simple, such as:

- A football kit with numbers
- Clothing with numbers or patterns
- Or something more creative inspired by numbers like becoming a human calculator, dice or domino

There is no pressure to buy anything new — creativity and simplicity are encouraged.

We kindly ask for a £1 donation per child to support the NSPCC in their work to protect children today and prevent abuse tomorrow. You may pay via Scopay or bring in cash.

You can find out more about the NSPCC's work at nspcc.org.uk

To find out more about keeping children safe online, visit

nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

Around our School

STUDYBUGS

Dear Families,

We're pleased to announce that Foxdell is introducing a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence due to illness, called Studybugs.

If you haven't already, please get the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child's ill and unable to attend school.

[Get the app or register now \(https://studybugs.com/about/parents\)](https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

Thank you,
Foxdell Primary School

Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs

1. It's integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for.
2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.
3. You'll be helping the NHS and other public health organisations improve children's health.

<https://studybugs.com/about/schools>



Download the
Studybugs app
for reporting your
child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs 

Around our School

Year R

Reception have loved observing the recent winter weather. The children enjoyed exploring the changes between water and ice in class. During our continuous provision, they used different methods such as salt, warm water and the heat from their hands to melt ice.

In Literacy, we have enjoyed learning the story 'The Gruffalo's Child.' As well as learning to sequence and retell the story, the children also moulded playdough to create their own woodland creatures.

In PE., we have continued exploring the space around us safely, using our bodies to make different shapes. What shapes can you make with your body?



Year 1

In English, children have been learning a new text called 'Superworm' and are becoming really confident at orally retelling the story. They have been writing simple sentences using the conjunction 'and'.

In maths, they have been working on numbers to 20. They have focussed on ordering, finding missing numbers and solving simple problems.

In history, we looked at toys from the past and children had a chance to explore some old toys.



Year 2

What a brilliant start to the new term Year 2 have had.

The children were surprised by a very unexpected visitor last week – the Big Bad Wolf from Little Red Riding Hood! His visit created a fantastic buzz and set the scene perfectly for our new Talk for Writing warning story.

We've also had a wonderful start to our music lessons with our new music teacher, Miss McLeish. The children have really enjoyed getting to know her and have thrown themselves into singing, rhythm games and exploring musical patterns. It's been lovely to see their confidence grow already.



Around our School

Year 3

This half-term, Year 3 are continuing to develop their understanding of multiplication and division in maths. They are exploring range of strategies to support reasoning and problem solving.

In history, Year 3 have begun their new topic Romans. They are showing great curiosity about Roman life and achievements.

The children created impressive volcano models at home and linked this to their English learning by writing clear instructional texts to accompany their projects. The teachers were extremely impressed by the creativity and pride shown in the work. Well done everyone! We would like to thank parents and carers for the time, support and encouragement provided at home for this project.



Year 4

Year 4 have launched their new English unit in an exciting and imaginative way. The children discovered a mysterious bag that had been left behind and decided to investigate what was inside. They found a compass, a diary and a pair of sunglasses. After reading the diary, the class worked out that the items had been left behind during an adventure. What a fantastic and creative way to begin our writing unit!

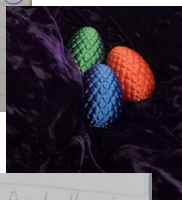
In art, the children had great fun creating sculptures from soap to help them understand form and texture. They used a range of tools to carve and manipulate the soap into different shapes. Once their basic form was created, the children added patterns and details, bringing their sculptures to life.



Year 5

To start our new term, the children found monster footprints on the floor which led us to a nest where three eggs had been left. This introduced the children to the writing focus this term which is to write a defeating the monster story. As part of our preparation for writing, the children have written some fantastic short burst writes. Have a read of the samples below.

He reached ~~at~~ the edge of the mountain ^{where} he saw the clouds race across the sky. He was ~~an~~ amazingly shocked. Trees fought against the wind, the heard the wind howl like an owl. naked trees stood still ^{like statues} as he felt the shivers ^{on} of the wind.



centuries ago, in the mist of a forest, there lived a boy named Martin. He lived in a ~~the~~ tiny shack which was old and dirty. Martin was abandoned when he was 9. He always hunted and scavenged for food just to keep himself alive. One evening while trying to look for food, he could hear the howl of a wolf in the distance. Behind his shack a wolf pack lurked around it in the ominous fog. Martin could not see the wolf pack behind the shack. He was really terrified so he kept killing deers just for ^{food} and went inside to cook it.



In maths, the children have worked with concrete resources to help them understand concepts involving the written division method and shape.

Year 6

The children have started the new term positively and are focused and ready to learn.

In art, the children have developed their understanding of the drawing technique chiaroscuro, exploring how light and dark work together to create form and impact. They applied this knowledge to create form in their own tonal drawings.



In PSHE, we are learning about dreams and goals, and the children have been reflecting by writing about their hopes and dreams for the world.



In science, the children have carried out an investigation exploring how light changes direction, observing and recording their findings through hands-on experiments.



Around our School

Bath Bomb Workshop at Lush Cosmetics



Ten lucky children from across Key Stage 2 enjoyed an exciting bath bomb-making workshop at Lush Cosmetics. During the session, the children learned how to use special moulds to create their own bath bombs and had great fun choosing their favourite colours and scents. Once made, the bath bombs needed to set in the moulds for 24 hours before being taken out and ready to use. It was a fantastic hands-on experience and a treat enjoyed by all who took part!

I'm counting down the next 24 hours until I can take it out the mould and see it if it's set properly!



That was so much fun - I wish we could go back and do it again!

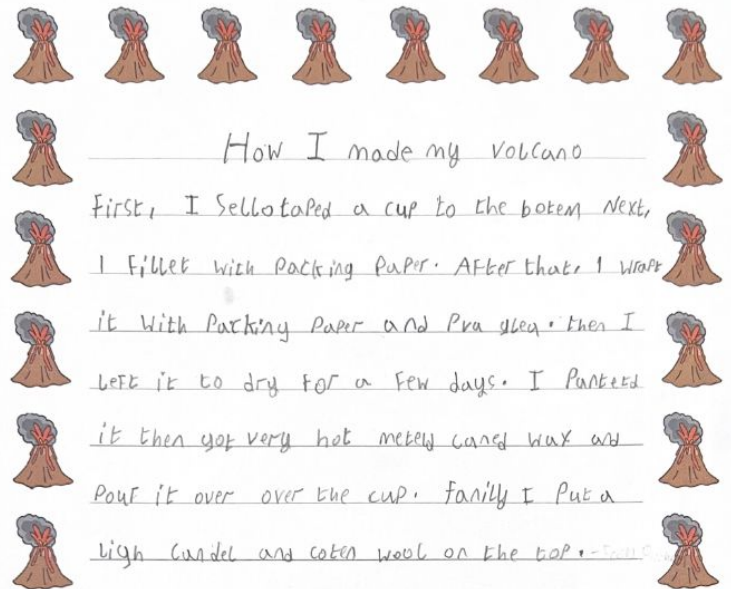


Thank you to Georgie at Lush who helped the session run smoothly.



Spotlight on Student Success

Wow! Take a look below at some of the amazing work that has already been happening this half term...



In Year 3, children were asked to demonstrate their Geographical learning by creating either a poster or a volcano model. This pupil chose to make his own volcano using packing tape and paper. He then melted wax and used a battery-operated candle to show how it would look after an eruption—wow! He also carefully labelled the different parts, using the correct geographical terminology.



ONLINE SAFETY CORNER

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

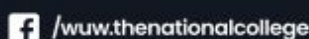
10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website



Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.01.2026

SEND/ Health and Wellbeing

Home > FUN Parent & Carer Well-being Group

FUN Parent & Carer Well-being Group



Want to find something to do while the children are at school, or maybe you are looking to take part in some fun activities or learn a new hobby????

We are excited to announce the launch of our NEW Parent/Carer group to promote Health and Well-being.

Sessions run on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday (term time only) from 10am to 2pm, for parent/carer member's of FUN. Please feel free to attend – no need to pre-book, just drop-in!

Wednesdays (term time only):

** Parents are welcome to bring their pre-school children with them. A small amount of toys/resources will be provided if required. Parents will be responsible for their children at all times.

We welcome you to join us and see if you would benefit from becoming part of this group. Full details will be provided on the day and we will be inviting parents/carers to express their interest if they wish to be involved in leading roles within the group.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

<https://familiesunitednetwork.org.uk/fun-parent-carer-well-being-group/>

Year 4 Trip to the Mandir

Year 4 had an exciting opportunity to visit a Hindu temple, known as a mandir. When we arrived, we were welcomed into the beautiful building and learned about its importance in the Hindu faith. We had the chance to observe worship by listening to a traditional mantra, which helped us understand how Hindus pray and show respect to Hindu deities. The visit helped us deepen our understanding of Hindu beliefs and practices and was a memorable and enjoyable learning experience for everyone.

We would like to thank Luton Hindu Temple and Community Centre for hosting us!

