

Friday 12th September 2025

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Dear parents, carers and families,

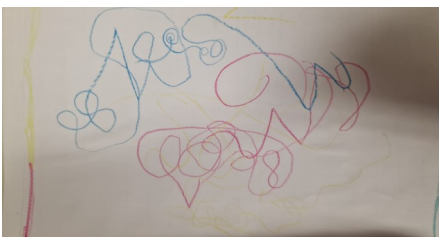
It has been lovely meeting many of you since the start of term; thank you to those who have introduced themselves and made me feel welcome. The children have also been very welcoming and they are a credit to you all.

Please note that there may be times when the front **office** is unmanned - we are prioritising supporting as many children as we can! We will be monitoring incoming office emails and checking the answer phone, so please do leave us a message and we will get back to you. Kind regards, Julie Burton

Weekly highlights



Ash Class - Self Portraits



Beech class - drawing the music



Elm - Self Portraits



Oak - Self Portraits

Attendance

The year has started positively with great attendance.

Please remember to let us know in the office if your child is going to be absent.

Absences during term time, apart from illnesses, can rarely be authorised:

Acceptable reasons for absence from school:

- Illness and contagious diseases
- 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea
- Medical appointments that could not be arranged during the school holidays or after school hours.

Unacceptable reasons:

- Not returning your child to school after a dental or medical appointment.
- Overslept
- Birthday
- Car has broken down
- Holiday

**MOMENTS
MATTER.
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

If your child needs a medical appointment please try and make it during one of the 175 non-school days. If that is not possible then make the appointment before or after school. Please show a copy of your appointment card or letter to the office.

Dates for your diary

Date	Activity	Class
September		
Monday 15 th	'Flu vaccinations	Whole school
Wednesday 17 th	9:10-9:30 Meet the teacher	Beech Class
Thursday 18 th	9:10-9:30 Meet the teacher	Elm Class
October		
Thursday 2nd	Individual Photos	Wholes school
Tuesday 14 th	Harvest Festival	Whole school

New dates are in italics. Unless it is unavoidable, we will not change the dates for key events such as Sports Day, Inset days, the Award ceremony etc. Dates for curriculum events, Maths Day, Book Week, etc. and those not directly involving parents may be subject to change but give you a flavour of what we are up to this year at school.

Please contact us via the office if you have any questions about your child's learning or their well-being at Fordcombe Primary School.



Fordcombe

Church of England Primary School

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Is my child too ill for school?



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [health protection and managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#).

These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day. Let us know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

What to do about other conditions

High temperature

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

Feeling anxious or worried

It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping.

Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk about any worries they may have such as friendship problems, school work or sensory problems. You can also work with us to find ways to help them.

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Ear infection

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a [sore throat](#). But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with [diarrhoea or vomiting](#) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).