

# Featherstone Primary School Newsletter



16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to all the children, families and staff. I hope that 2026 brings you all good luck, health and happiness. We've had a busy 2 weeks to start the New Year with a bang! Thank you to all our families for your understanding regarding snow closures. A special thank you to Mr Farid for keeping school up to date on the condition of the school and surrounding area during the terrible weather! Thank you!

## Year 4 Gurdwara visits



Our Year 4 children have visited Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha, a large Gurdwara in Handsworth. The children visited to enhance their learning in Religious Education about Sikhism. The children were wonderfully respectful and we are very proud of them. We have a few visits to rearrange due to the



snow, but rest assured the rest of the year group will still be able to visit.

## Bikeability

Over the coming weeks, all our Key Stage 2 classes will be given the chance to work on their cycling skills with Bikeability. A huge thank you to the our wonderful instructors from Aspire, who are helping our children make fabulous progress. It was fantastic to see the children make such rapid improvements in a small amount of time. Years 3 and 4 were first to have a go! Watch this space for Years 5 and 6!



## PE kits

Whilst we are talking about sport and exercise....

It is very important that all children have their PE kits in school for all lessons. Being in the correct PE Kit means that children can easily and safely join in with physical activity. Please make sure that you send your child in with:

<b>Top:</b>	Plain White T-Shirt or a Plain white polo-top
<b>Shorts</b>	Navy blue/black shorts (Girls may wear blue or black leggings instead of shorts if required for religious reasons)
<b>Outdoor</b>	Black Joggers
<b>Footwear</b>	Black pumps (KS1) / Trainers (KS2)



### Value Awards 'Value of the Month – Self Discipline

Well done to the winners of our values certificates so far this month! Self-Discipline is a difficult skill to master and something we know a lot of our adults around school are working on with our New Years Resolutions!



### Attendance

As a school, we have received an increased amount of requests for leave in term time this academic year. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that school cannot authorise holidays/time away during term time, apart from in very difficult circumstances.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

If you are planning to take your children away during term time, please complete a Leave Request form (found outside the school office) as soon as possible. If school believe that you have taken a holiday without submitting a request, you may be asked to provide evidence that shows that you and your child were not away.

Birmingham council have already issued **8 fines to Featherstone families** since September.

### 2026 – Year of reading

2026 is the National Year of Reading. To celebrate, we will be launching a reading themed activity or focus each month. Keep an eye on your emails and newsletters to find out more. January's theme is 'New Year, New books' and we have something very exciting up our sleeves!



### World Book Day – Advanced notice!



Miss Lacey and Miss Nicholls, our English leaders, are pleased to announce the return of World Book Day dress up opportunities! World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

Our theme is 'Cosy Characters'. Children may come to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters, or they can choose to come in cosy, comfortable clothes and bring in a book ready to snuggle up and read!

We will be holding the usual competitions and fun activities to coincide with our celebrations.

2026	
Date	Event
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	School reopens 8.45am
13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half term – School closes 3.25pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	School re-opens – Back to school
5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day – Cosy characters
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Holiday T day – School Closed for pupils
13 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens – Back to school
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Polling Day – School closed for pupils
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Half term – School closes 3.25pm
1 <sup>st</sup> June	School re-opens – Back to school
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Transition Day
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents Evening 3.45-4.45pm
17 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term – School closes 3.25pm