



Fawbert & Barnard's Primary School

Newsletter 26 || 28.03.2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a truly wonderful week at school, full of exciting learning opportunities, joyful moments, and a few welcome rays of sunshine!

A huge thank you to our amazing Friends of the School for organizing the "Ladies in Your Life" gift sale. It was a great success and brought lots of smiles as children chose thoughtful gifts for the special women in their lives.

This week, Year 4 had a fantastic trip to Hertford Zoo, where they got up close with a range of rainforest animals. The visit perfectly supported their classroom learning on rainforest ecosystems and gave them an exciting, hands-on look at the species they've been studying. Also, Year 5 enjoyed a visit to the Imperial War Museum as part of their World War II topic. The children were deeply engaged with the exhibits and asked insightful questions—some of their reflections and artwork are proudly featured in this week's Class Corner, so be sure to take a look!

A quick reminder that our lost property basket is overflowing with unnamed coats, cardigans, and jumpers. If your child is missing any items, please check the basket before the end of term.

We're also very much looking forward to our annual Easter Bonnet Parade next week. The children have been working hard on their bonnet designs, and we can't wait to see the creativity and colour they bring to the event—it's always a joyful way to end the term.

Finally, please remember that next week is the final week of the Spring term, and school will close early at 1:30pm on Friday for the Easter break.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards,
Sophia Ovonen
Headteacher



Achievements



Please see below for some of the achievements that were celebrated this week.

AWARD	WINNER
Timestables Rockstar Cup	Year 3
Numbots Cup	Reception
Timestables Rockstar champion	Thenaya
Numbots champion	Jack
Year 5 TTRS	William
STARS OF THE WEEK	
Reception	Milly
Year 1	Sofia
Year 2	Dua
Year 3	Joshua
Year 4	Whole class
Year 5	Sophie
Year 6	Edie

Congratulations!

Year 5 Class Corner

It's been a busy and exciting time in Year 5! As part of our World War II topic, we visited the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. The trip was an interactive and enjoyable experience, helping us to better understand the impact of the war and bringing our learning to life. As our focus was based around the impact on Britain through the war we learnt about the Battle of Britain and it was invaluable to be able to see, learn and even touch some of the historic planes.

We dressed in WW2 era garb and I think you would agree, the class looks amazing!



Last week, we also took to the stage at the Celebrate Harlow event at the Playhouse in Harlow. We performed an original song that we wrote ourselves, complete with a fantastic dance routine - a proud moment for everyone involved!



In the classroom, we've been exploring life cycles in science, learning how living things grow and change. In English, we've been reading Anne Frank's diary and using it as inspiration to write our own diary entries. We've also been developing our artistic skills by learning how to draw faces with accurate proportions, and in Music, we've enjoyed learning to play the ukulele.

Well done, Year 5 - keep up the amazing work!

Dates for your diary

Spring Term 2025	
3 rd February	Parents Consultations
7 th February	Open Book Afternoon
10 th February	Parents Consultations
14 th February	Valentine Disco
17 - 21 February	Half term holidays
27 th February	School Photos
3 rd - 7 th March	World Book Week
7 th March	Osborne Book Fair
6 th March	World Book Day
18 th March	Year 6 Trip
20 th March	Celebrate Harlow
21 st March	Easter Craft Sale
24 th March	Year 5 Trip
25 th March	Ladies in your life Sale
27 th March	Year 4 School Trip
31 st March	Rocksteady Concert
31 st March - 4 th April	STEAM Week
3 rd April	Easter Bonnet Parade
4 th April	Last day of term School finishes at 1.30pm
7 th - 18 th April - Holidays	

Please note that holidays requests during term time will not be authorised.

Keeping Our Children Safe: Encouraging Open Communication at Home

At Fawbert and Barnard's Primary School, we know that one of the most powerful ways to keep children safe is by ensuring they feel heard, valued, and able to talk openly with the adults they trust.

As part of our commitment to working in partnership with parents and carers, this week we're focusing on how to create a safe and supportive space at home—one where your child feels confident to share their thoughts, worries, and experiences.

Top Tips for Encouraging Open Communication

1. Be Present and Listen

Set aside a few minutes each day to really connect—whether it's during dinner, the school run, or bedtime. Let your child speak without interrupting or rushing to fix things.

2. Avoid Overreaction

If your child shares something worrying or surprising, try to stay calm. Overreacting may stop them from opening up in the future.

3. Ask Open-Ended Questions

Instead of "Did you have a good day?", try "What was the best part of your day?"

4. Model Healthy Conversations

Talk about your day too—both the highs and the lows. This helps children learn that it's okay to express emotions and talk about problems.

5. Name Feelings

Help your child understand and name their feelings:

- "It sounds like you were frustrated."
- "I can see you're feeling sad."

This builds emotional awareness and trust.

What Should You Do if You're Concerned?

If your child says something that worries you—even if it seems minor—please don't ignore it:

- ✓ Gently ask follow-up questions and listen carefully.
- ✓ Write down what they said, in their own words if possible.
- ✓ Speak to our school safeguarding team or contact Essex Children's Social Care.

Remember: A child who feels safe at home is far more likely to speak up if something isn't right. Let's work together to build a culture of openness, trust, and support.

Coming Next Week: Online Safety - What Every Parent Should Know

**Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility**

