



Fishwick Primary School

Downing Street, Preston, Lancs. PR1 4RH

Tel: 01772 491402

<https://fishwick.lancs.sch.uk/>

Headteacher: Mrs Vicki Conway

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year everyone, I hope you all had a lovely summer. As always it has been brilliant to see everyone and to say hello to all our new children. They have settled in really well and we know they will all be very happy at Fishwick.

Staffing

The eagle eyed of you will be aware that Mrs Trafford is expecting a baby. She will start her Maternity leave in November. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating her and her family at this exciting time.

Meet the Teacher

Next week there will be an opportunity for you to meet the staff working in your child's class. You are welcome to come into school at the beginning of the day (8.45am-9.10am) to say hello and see your child's classroom.



Friday 5th September – Elephants (Y6)
Monday 8th September - Rhino Class (Y4/5)
Tuesday 9th September – Polar Bears Class (Y3/4)
Wednesday 10th September – Tigers Class (Y2)
Thursday 11th September – Pandas Class (Reception)
Friday 12th September – Gorillas Class (Y1)



This is an informal opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher if you have anything you need to discuss then please let staff know and we can arrange it a different time.

Dinner Money

Due to increased food costs there will be a rise in cost for school meals in September. The Governing Body have agreed to support families by subsidising some of the additional cost but the daily charge will be £2.70 a day which is £13.50 per week.

School Shoes

The children all look smart in their new school uniform. Thank-you. Can I remind all parents that footwear should be black shoes, these should have a sensible heel and if wearing trainers, they should be all black including the sole.

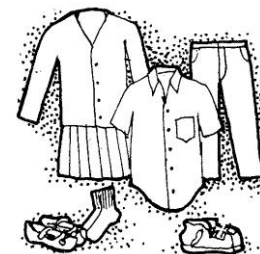
Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

Can I remind parents that mobile phones and smart watches are not permitted in school for safeguarding reasons. Any child with a mobile phone or smart watch must hand it in to their teacher. They will be returned at home time. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Dare to dream...work hard to achieve

Belongings

Please make sure that you have named all your children's belongings to help us reunite lost property with its owner – thanks for your help in this matter.



Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that we do have a free breakfast club, open to all children from Reception to Y6. The club starts at 8am and Mrs Newsham and Mrs Baldwin will welcome the children into school via the entrance at the back of school.

Holidays and Absence During Term Time

A holiday form must be completed for all planned absences other than medical appointments. Absences will not be authorised during term time except in exceptional circumstances. It is very important that all parents and carers understand that children with unauthorised absences totalling more than 10 sessions or 5 days in a 10-week period, including holidays and unexplained absences, are at risk of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) from Lancashire County Council. The rules for this are explained below. Please note these are Government rules and fines are from the Local Authority not school.



A National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absences, including unauthorised leave of absences in Term Time, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new government regulations will come into effect from **19th August 2024**.

What are these changes?

If a pupil has **10 unauthorised sessions**, which is equal to **5 school days**, within a **10 week period**, a penalty notice may be issued.

This will come under 3 categories: First, Second, and Third offence.



First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within **28 days**, reduced to **£80** per parent, per child if paid within **21 days**.

Second Offence

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within **28 days**. No reduced rate will be offered.



Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

If you have any questions around this and how it will affect you, please ring school to speak to Mrs Conway or Miss Walker.

After School Clubs

We will be sending out an afterschool club letters for the clubs starting next week. These do cost school to provide so please ensure that your child is fully committed to completing the course as we may charge for missed sessions.

Primary School Applications

If you have a child due to start Primary School next year applications are now open.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-primary-school/>

We are listed as **Preston Fishwick**. Please be aware a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

Thursday 15 January 2026 - National closing date for primary applications.

Thursday 16 April 2026 - Offers issued to parents

Year 6 – High School Applications

I know the Y6 children have only just moved up but it is time to apply for High School places.

School places are not allocated on a first come, first served basis. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

31 October 2025 – is the national closing date for secondary applications.

2 March 2026 - Offers issued to parents

For more information and to apply please visit

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-secondary-school/>

If you have any problems please let us know and we can support you with your application.

Please note that Moor Park have changed their Admission policy. Parents who are putting Moor Park High School down as either a 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice should book a Fair Banding assessment. Pupils who do not sit an assessment will only have their application considered after those who have sat an assessment. The assessment booking form will be open until 1st October 2025.

<https://moorpark.mp/fb/>

Once again welcome back, I am sure we are going to have a great year. 😊

Many thanks



Vicki Conway
Headteacher