



Farnworth CE Primary School

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Autumn term



**Wednesday 4
September - Friday
20 December**

Half term

Monday 28 October –

Friday 1 November

Spring term



Monday 6 January –

Friday 3 April

Half term

**Monday 17 February
– Friday 21 February**

Summer term



**Monday 20 April –
Wednesday 22 July**

Half term

**Monday 25 May –
Friday 5 June**

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. I hope you all had a restful half term holiday and enjoyed the autumnal weather.

Foundation Stage Welcome Service

Thank you so much to all the family and friends who came to support our youngest children (classes RD and RP) at this Thursday's Foundation Stage Welcome Service. It was so lovely for the children to be given such a warm welcome from all at St Luke's Church. In return, the children treated us all to some lovely singing and a wonderful insight into their Reception experience so far – which was a joy to see. Equally joyful was the way the children were guided and celebrated by their Year 6 buddies. It was a really heart-warming way to spend a morning and I would like to reiterate my thanks to the whole Foundation Stage team and the Year 6 teachers for enabling the children to shine!

Important change to forthcoming event

As you are aware, there will be a General Election held on Thursday 12 December. Traditionally the school is used as a polling station and this will also be the case for this election. As a result, the second of the two Foundation Stage Performances will need to be rescheduled and will now take place on **Wednesday 11 December at 5.30 pm**. May I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but clearly this is owing to circumstances beyond our control.

Lest We Forget...

On Thursday, we were treated to a beautifully delivered act of worship based on Remembrance Day by the Ethos Group, led by Mrs Plüger. The children planned, scripted and delivered everything themselves, and put special thought into how to reach our younger children, adding well-chosen video clips. It truly was an emotional and thought provoking worship that engaged every age and we were left with a sense of thankfulness and appreciation for all that we have been gifted by those who gave their lives in the name of peace. Thank you to Mrs Plüger and the children for helping us to reflect on such an important and humbling event and for doing so in such a thoughtful and sensitive manner. We certainly will remember, with love and thankfulness in our hearts.

Lest we forget



Also helping us to remember are the poignant words of three of our Year 6 children – Heather, Lily-Ella and Macy – who have this week collaborated on a poem entitled 'The War to end all Wars'. I was so impressed with their work that I have attached it to the foot of this newsletter. I hope you will enjoy reading it as much as I did. Well done girls!

Class led collective worships

Over the next few weeks, we will be starting to deliver some of our class collective worships. Please make a note of the date of your child's class worship and we hope to see you there.

Thursday 21 November 4L International Day of Tolerance

Thursday 28 November 6C Advent

Thursday 5 December 6F Hanukkah

Each worship will start at 9.00 am and refreshments will be served afterwards.

It's hard to believe that we are only in our first week back after the half term holiday as already the children have been out and about representing us in two sporting events. The enjoyment the children gain from such experiences is really evident in the feedback that they give (see their reports below) and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Woolland and Mrs Parr for supporting the children so wholeheartedly at these events.

New Age Kurling

On Monday Farnworth took part in the Halton New Age Kurling tournament held in Runcorn. It was an afternoon event where a number of other schools also had the opportunity to take part.

During the afternoon we played about 6 Kurling games, competing with other schools. We had a lovely afternoon, accompanied by Mrs Parr and came 3rd in the overall competition. We felt that everyone showed great team spirit and learnt new skills in how to kurl.

Report by Evie Gallagher and Aimee Newton

New Age Kurling Team: Joe Burns, Harry Duffy, Evie Gallagher and Aimee Newton

Sportshall Athletics

Firstly, we would like to thank all the staff and parents that took part in this amazing event. After Mrs Woolland announced what activities we would be taking part in we headed over to the coach and don't worry we didn't forget our manners. It was an exciting but nervous drive for all of us. When we arrived at Kingsway Leisure Centre we hopped off the coach and thanked our bus driver, then we headed to the entrance. As usual Kingsway gave us a very warm welcome.

Once we had made our way in to the sports hall we found a place to sit altogether on benches. We were given maroon coloured bibs to represent our team. Before long, it was time for our first event, the competition was about to begin. Students from High school offered to help out by demonstrating every event before it started, except for the field events: long jump, vertical jump, triple jump, chest push, speed bounce and javelin. First came the obstacle race, we also used the obstacle course as our warm up. Then, we sat back down on the benches once again. Now we were going to find out what heat we were in. We were in heat two, the girls obstacle race, before every event Mrs Woolland was by our side. We had to step quickly through the high-steppers then we ran

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This half term we are valuing JOY

onto the speed bounce board and did ten speed bounces after that we ran and jumped over two hurdles. After the hurdles we bounced off a turn board and ran straight back down to bounce off another turn board then passed the baton to the next person and they repeated that until the last person - the last person had no one to pass the baton to. Then the boy's obstacle race was next. After that, we had all of our relays and field events then it was time for javelin, we came first in some of our javelin throws. Before long, the results were in, we crossed our fingers and hoped for the best it was between us and another school we were so nervous but thankfully we won. We were going through to the Merseyside finals!

By Samantha Birch and Heather Hill

Sportshall Athletics Team: Samantha Birch, Charlie Brady, Lucy Burke, Charlie Cook, Harry Douthwaite, Evan Dykstra, Luca Esposito, Lily-Ella Ford, Gracie Goodwin, Heather Hill, Kiera Holland, Bailey Hughes, Olivia Hyland, Isabelle Johnson, Adam Keith, Harry Lea, Eleanor Marsden, Elizabeth Marsh, Poppy Mellor, Alfie Patton, Zach Phillips, Thomas Riley, Isaac Taylor, Freya White and Taylor Williams.

Dogs at the school gates

As a school we are grateful to parents for not bringing their dogs onto the playground as per school policy. Unfortunately this has created another issue as there are a number of dogs that are tethered to the school gates and some children are frightened to walk past them. Therefore please may I ask that you refrain from tying your dogs to the gates. Thank you for your cooperation.



5 Ways to Wellbeing: Why does mental health matter?

The health of our minds determines how we feel. Children and young people's minds are developing at a rapid rate as they grow and change. These natural developmental stages affect their behaviour and emotions, and the way they experience the world. In children and young people good

mental health means they can:

- Have good relationships with friends and family
- Learn and play appropriately for their age and understanding
- Develop a sense of right and wrong
- Learn from their experiences and have confidence to try things out
- Cope with psychological distress when things are difficult
- Have a sense of their own identity and self-worth

Our School Council are working in conjunction with the Halton Health Improvement Team in order to raise awareness around mental health and wellbeing for all members of our community. The New Economics Foundation developed the Five Ways to Wellbeing, a set of public health messages designed to improve mental well-being. Their evidence suggested that adopting these actions in a positive and systematic way will lead to 7.5 years increased life expectancy. The Five Ways messages reflect that well-being is determined socially and collectively as being a useful tool to engage partners and the public in taking action to improve mental well-being.

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The 5 messages are Connect with Friends and Family, Be Active, Take notice, Try and Learning Different Things and Give Something Back.

The Five Ways to Wellbeing has been produced using evidence that targets youth through to old age. The health improvement team decided that in consultation with local children & young people they would design a promotional resource that they could relate to and be based upon the 5 messages above. The School Council have been thinking about how to promote each of the 5 areas, having a focus of one per half term. This half term's focus will be Connecting with Friends and Family. Each week on the newsletters, the children will be offering suggestions to the kind of things that you could do to promote and support this strand. We would love to hear about your adventures and a Twitter account for inclusion has been created. Please Tweet your support for our 5 ways to wellbeing campaign to @InclusionFarnw1

PTA and EasyFundraising

On behalf of the PTA, thank you so much for all your generous donations in support of the Christmas Market. We really have been overwhelmed by your generosity – and also the generosity of the children who have clearly sacrificed many of their much loved cuddlies!

Just a reminder that you can support the PTA as you do your Christmas shopping.

If you want a demo in how to shop via Easyfundraising please drop us a message and we can arrange that. Literally every donation will help. Thank you 😊

This week the 3 classes with the highest attendance are:



RP, 6C, 6F all 100%!!



2S 99.33%



2M 99.00%

What a fantastic start to the new half term – well done to all 5 classes.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs J. S Stillings
Headteacher

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Farnworth CE Primary School Parents' Comments Slip

Parents' / Carers' Comments Slip

I wish to make the following comments:

*Signed _____ Date: _____

*Print name: _____ Parent / Carer of: _____

(*Optional)



*Weeks on weeks Months on end,
Sat sorrowfully, my mind unable to mend,
Between the trenches where no-one goes,
Guns are fired as bombs explode,
Men on the ground dripping in blood,
We are seven feet under, deep in mud,
Barbed wire twitches, faces are pale,
Lives in danger, we cannot fail,
Here I go over the top,
Wish me luck hope my life doesn't stop.*

*Armed and ready the Fritz attack,
I'm scared out of my skin, but I can't go back,
"Go, go, go," the officer shrieked,
And suddenly our energy began to peak,
We ran and ran we dodged and jumped,
We were tired but we never slumped,
Shells fell while people screamed,
All I know that it's not a dream,
This battle was extremely tough,
Surely our commitment would be enough.*

Shot in the leg nowhere to run,

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We were so close but the Fritz had won,

Many dead many wounded,

This battle has just been concluded,

Weeks on weeks' months on end,

Wives abandoned their happiness all pretend,

Between the trenches were nobody goes,

Many lives are left untold.

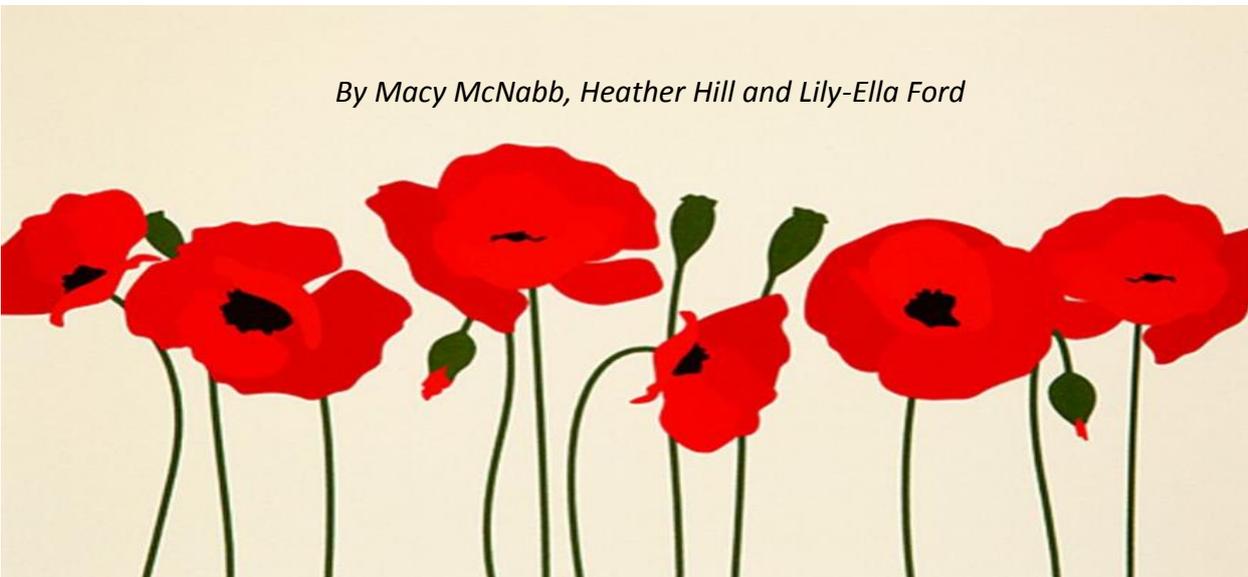
So now on the eleventh day,

Remember the dreadful way,

They fought and died but was it worth,

The many men that left our Earth?

By Macy McNabb, Heather Hill and Lily-Ella Ford





Want to do your bit for the PTA but can't spare the time! Here's the solution – Easy Fundraising <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> All you need to do is select **Farnworth PTA – Widnes** and register your email address. Download the Easy Fundraising App and select which company you are shopping with from the huge list available and each purchase you make will send a donation to us!



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