



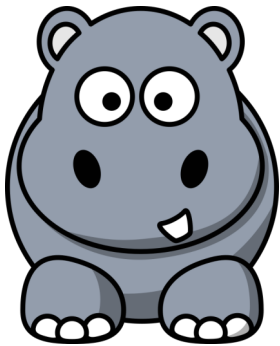
July 2026

FISHBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Only one you

Dear Families,
It doesn't seem quite possible that we are already at the end of the summer term! The last few weeks have been a whirlwind of exciting learning and end of term activities, many of which have taken place in ongoing heatwave conditions!



This week we have been preparing to say goodbye to our wonderful Hippo class who are heading off to their new schools and looking forward to exciting adventures. We always feel proud of our Year 6 children as we wave them off, but our Hippos extra especially so! Hippos class started with us at Fishbourne in the academic year we experienced the first lockdown of the Covid-19 pandemic... during their EYFS and Y1 years, they learned at home in the most extraordinary circumstances. As Hippos have made their way through Fishbourne, they have always amazed us

with their attitude towards learning - they are curious and love to learn; they are engaged and always have a viewpoint to share; they have grit and determination AND a glorious array of gifts and talents which come together to create a unique cohort of children. Hippos leave a legacy behind - both our introduction of the Lighthouse at Fishbourne and CREW have been inspired by them. We worked closely with Hippo class while exploring our new Habits of Character and their contribution was the attribute of 'hope' which is entirely fitting of who they are.

This week, we have also taken time to say a fond farewell to Mrs Tessa Allen, Mrs Liz Gifford, Mrs Vicky Harvey, Mrs Lindsey Robinson and Miss Megan Harris. It's really unusual for us to say goodbye to so many of our team in one go and we know school will feel very different in September as a result. We are so thankful for all they have contributed to making our school a better place to be and wish them well on the next chapter of their lives whether this is starting retirement or beginning new adventures in new schools!



As a staff team, we have a quote from Steve Jobs which we love: **'THERE'S WORK AND THERE'S YOUR LIFE'S WORK. THE KIND OF WORK THAT HAS YOUR FINGER PRINTS ALL OVER IT. THE KIND OF WORK THAT YOU'D NEVER COMPROMISE ON. PEOPLE DON'T COME HERE TO PLAY IT SAFE. THEY COME HERE TO SWIM IN THE DEEP END. THEY WANT THEIR WORK TO ADD UP TO SOMETHING. SOMETHING BIG. SOMETHING THAT COULDN'T HAPPEN ANYWHERE ELSE.'** As I reflect on the year as it comes to a close, I am struck by the way in which our staff and volunteers serve the Fishbourne community. Fishbourne School is a really special place where exciting things happen as a result of the commitment of the team. I am sure you will join with me in thanking our teaching team, support staff, premises staff, and our administrative team who work alongside our army of volunteers to support our little fish and make their world a better place to be. We are also enormously thankful to our Fishbourne Governors and Friends of Fishbourne School who volunteer so much time to enrich learning at our school. The Fishy family really are 'everyday superheroes' who do all they can, every day to support our little fish to flourish.

**EVERYDAY
SUPERHEROES**

**DELIGHT
IN THE
LITTLE
THINGS.**

(JOHN RUSKIN)



@fishbourneprimary

In CREW, we set out to support our little fish to 'delight in the little things' through our daily appreciations... it's been amazing to see how these have changed over time as they have become more tuned into the world around them! Why not continue this during the holidays as a family? Take a moment each day to stop and appreciate... the more you do it, the more you will find to delight in! You can share lots of delights of school life on our Instagram page:

Some reminders for September...

The School Day: 8.40am: Gates open and all children arrive. 8.45am: Bell rings and gates are shut. Registers are taken. 3.15pm: End of the school day for both KS1 and KS2 with younger children collected first.

Parking Permits will be required for use of the Roman Palace Car Park... you have received a letter about this and can buy permits from our school office.

KS2 Pencil Cases for children in Year 4, 5 and 6: One way that we would like to propose making a saving of nearly £1000 is asking for your support to provide your child with a fully-stocked pencil case in preparation for September. This will include: pencils, colouring pencils (no felt tips please), highlighter pens, rubber, pencil sharpener, a 30cm ruler, a glue stick. We will provide your child with a handwriting pen.

School trips: The letters we send you about school trips and swimming request a 'voluntary contribution' towards school trips. An increasing number of families do not make these contributions. As a result, we must supplement the cost of the trip from our school budget. This is not sustainable and puts the school in a difficult position of having to consider cancelling trips and visits which we know have a tremendously positive impact on children's learning. We urge families please to pay for these visits as non-payment will result in us having to cancel these trips moving forward.

Updates to our RSHE Curriculum:

From September 2026, all schools are legally required to update their RSHE curriculum. We have already done this and look forward to sharing more with you about this in September but for now, here is some information about the changes to expect:

Many changes to the RSHE curriculum revolve around what it's like to grow up as a child in 2026 and the new challenges and influences young people face as a result. While some of the topics are more sensitive, the guidance recommends taking a positive approach to learning: "Schools should focus on building positive attitudes and skills, promoting healthy norms about relationships, including sexual relationships where relevant, and about health, including mental health." For primary pupils, the updated guidance places a stronger focus on online safety and wellbeing, the use of accurate terminology for body parts (including genitalia), and the introduction of personal safety around water, roads, and railways. There's also greater emphasis on helping children understand change and loss, including bereavement, and on developing communication skills, assertiveness, and the confidence to express personal needs and boundaries.

We will hold a meeting in the autumn term for families to find out more about what this will mean for learning at Fishbourne next academic year.

Last week we welcomed the West Sussex School Library Service in to talk to the children about this years Summer Reading Challenge - it's completely free of charge to take part in and the team look forward to welcoming you to Chichester Library to take part...

From babies to children in their early years and all the way through to early teens, reading brings profound and wide-ranging benefits that can have a lifelong positive impact on children's lives.



A really warm welcome to our Fishbourne family go to...



Mrs Claire White who will be teaching in Year 3 for a day and a half a week, and teaching French and RE during PPA time:

Likes: Time with my family, books, journeys (by train, bike, on foot etc...!), freshly brewed coffee, running, taking photos (especially trying to capture fleeting moments), eating outdoors on sunny days and Radio 4!

Dislikes: Queue jumpers, drivers who don't indicate and mizzle!

Why is Fishbourne Primary a special place?

Fishbourne is a special place because it's a shoal where everyone belongs - valued, supported and celebrated for who they are.

Who inspires you?

I'm inspired by people who face challenges but keep going with courage and determination.

Mrs Lauren Bradshaw who will be teaching in EYFS for two days each week:

Likes: Getting messy and muddy in all weathers, going to music festivals and gigs, forest walks with my family and sausage dog and supporting the local arts.

Dislikes: People not looking after Mother Nature and dropping a toasted marshmallow on the floor!

Why is Fishbourne a special place?

Fishbourne is a happy family community where children are seen and appreciated for who they are.

Someone who has inspired you...

I joined Camp America as a Swim Coach when I was 19 and taught a young teenage girl to overcome her fear of water and to swim. She inspired me to become a teacher



Miss Amy Furlong will be teaching Year 4 in September:

Likes: Warm summer evenings, the smell of rain, laughing with loved ones, travelling to new places and meeting new people, living by the sea, cuddles with my dogs.

Dislikes: Inconsiderate people, running late, traffic jams, waking up to an alarm, doing the big food shop.

Why is Fishbourne Primary a special place? Because fostering a genuine love for learning is at the heart of what we do.

Someone who has inspired me... My year 4 teacher Miss Hazel. I wanted to be just like her when I grew up.

We look forward to welcoming these new members of our Fishbourne staff CREW together with our new EYFS class who will be voting on their new class name which we will look forward to sharing with you in September!

We wish you all a very happy summer holiday and encourage you to spend time delighting in the small things with your family! We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday September 3rd.

Kind Regards,

Naomi and team



Dates for the autumn term:

1st and 2nd September—INSET—school closed to children

3rd September—First Day back at school



Meet the Teacher meetings are a really important opportunity for you to meet your child's new class teacher and hear about the plans for the term ahead. At these meetings, we talk about how we can work in partnership together to do the very best we can for your child!

Fri 4th 230pm Meet the Teacher Y5

Mon 7th 230pm Meet the Teacher Y4

Tue 8th 230pm Meet the Teacher Y6

Wed 9th 230pm Meet the Teacher Y2 and Y1

Thu 10th 230pm Meet the Teacher Y3

10/11th September Y5 to CYE

14-18th September Y6 to Fairthorne

Wed 21st and Thu 22nd October - Learning Review meetings

Thu 8th October - Y1 phonics meeting for parents at 230pm

Wed 14th October - 6 Weeks in meeting for EYFS parents at 200pm

INSET Days for 2026-2027

Tue 1st and Wed 2nd September

Mon 4th January

Fri 5th February

Mon 22nd February

Fri 28th May

For families with children starting school in September 2027, we are holding a series of Open Sessions which can be booked through the school office:

Friday 25th September 2026 at 10.30am

Thursday 1st October 2026 at 10.30am

Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 1.30pm

Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 9.15am

At Fishbourne CE Primary, we nurture our children to be...

