

Website

Thank you to everyone who contacted me with help and advice. The website continues to be problematic however, we are in the process of negotiating a new website provider. In the meantime we have asked our current provider to reverse the unsuccessful upgrade, this should happen next week!

Cost of Living

We know everyone is feeling the pinch this winter and we want to support those families in our school community who are impacted the most. If you're struggling with your finances, please do get in touch to let us know, as there may be things we can suggest which will help. We want to do everything we can to help you and your child through this difficult winter. I have attached at the end of this Newsletter a very useful fact-sheet for further support.

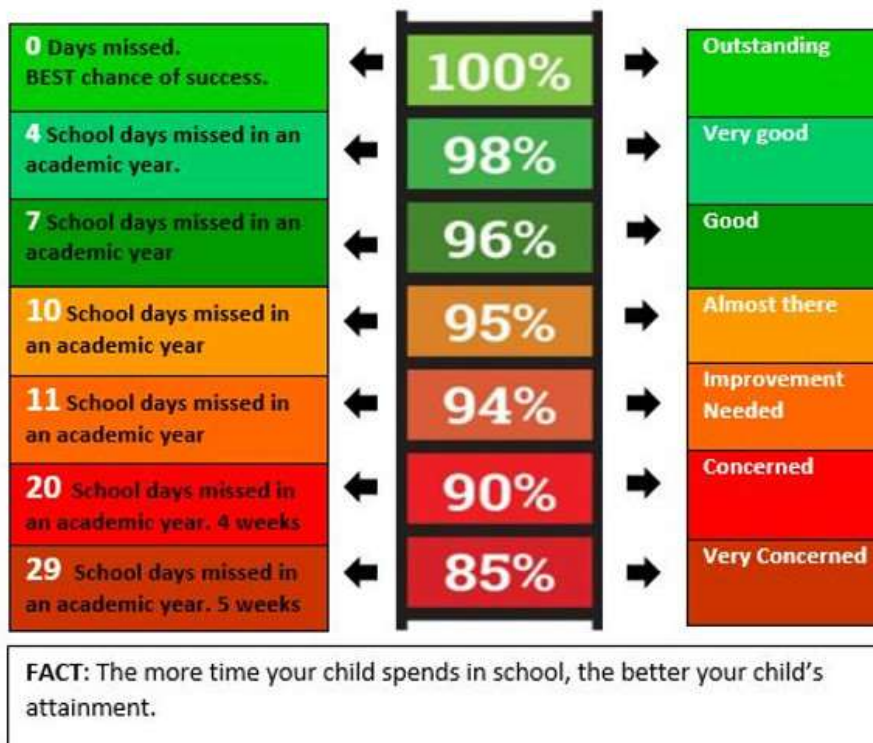


Why Does Attendance Matter?

Recently I was asked why regular attendance matters as the children in our school are so young. I thought I would share some factual information with you. The major factor is of course that it is the law but also think about the consequences of a child missing school:

- *Good habits.* It builds in young children the idea that getting up and going to a setting is simply what you do.
- *Regular attendance* gives your child the very best chance of success.
- *Regular attendance* gives your child the best opportunity to get their individual needs identified without delay and early support put in place.
- Children learn in many different ways through play with others and through being in the company of adults who actively support their learning and development.
- Children who attend school regularly develop a feel for the rhythm of the week and gain a sense of security from regular elements, even when the actual pattern or focus of their learning varies.
- *Secure relationships.* Young children find it easier to build and sustain a range of social relationships when they regularly attend their school setting.

- Our teachers carefully plan every session for each child in their care and want to take every opportunity to help them thrive. Experiences gained in one session are often developed further in the next session, whether or not these are consecutive days.
- For some families, particularly at times of stress, the child's regular attendance allows parents to get other things done and helps them enjoy spending time with the child when he or she is at home.
- Self-esteem. Children who are rarely off are more likely to feel good about themselves. This is because they know what goes on and what to expect, feel more confident with the adults and the other children and have more opportunities to be valued and praised for their own special contribution.
- Children can frequently experience a sense of having to try a little bit harder just to understand what is going on and what other children and adults are talking about or doing.
- Catching up with learning is a poor substitute for being there when the learning is taking place.
- Underachievement is often linked to lower attendance. For some older children this is linked to a steadily deteriorating trend in attendance which is traceable right back to their Early Years setting.



Christmas Play

Fetcham Village Infant School is proud to announce its production of Baarmy Bethlehem on Monday 12th December and Tuesday 13th December. On both days there will be morning and afternoon performances. Squirrels and Rabbits will only take part in two performances each. The rest of the school will be in all four performances. Reception parents please take careful note of which performance your child's class will be in.

In order to avoid overcrowding in the school hall we have listed below when we would like parents to attend. **Please can parents only attend 1 performance.**

Monday 12 December 2022 9.30 am	Monday 12 December 2022 1.30 pm
Parents of children in the following classes may attend:	Parents of children in the following classes may attend:
Rabbits Hedgehogs Otters	Squirrels Foxes Badgers

Tuesday 13 December 2022 9.30 am	Tuesday 13 December 2022 1.30 pm
Parents of children in the following classes may attend:	Parents of children in the following classes may attend:
Squirrels Foxes Badgers	Rabbits Hedgehogs Otters

Upcoming Events Open School

You are invited to spend time in school on Friday 25th November. Please come into the hall at 9.00 am where the PTA will be serving tea and coffee. The children will join us at 9.30 am for Wake and Shake, please join in. After Wake and Shake, the children will return to class to continue their learning and you may join them to see their class in action. If you have children in more than one class, please feel free to divide your time between classes. The school gates will be locked at 9.00 am so if you are arriving after that time come into school via the office. Do not feel you have to stay for the whole session. The visit ends at 10.30 am and you will be asked to leave the school via the office. We look forward to seeing you.



A message from The Fetcham PTA

We are in full swing organising The Annual Fetcham Village Infant and Pre-school Christmas fair on Saturday 26th November 11am-3pm. The day is always a very popular one with the children, family and friends. There will be Games, Christmas Market, Food, Raffle, Bar, and of course Santa will be making his appearance. If you know anyone who would like a stall at our Christmas Market, please get in touch. Please remember to send in any raffle ticket money you have collected to the school office (cash only please).

We need your help to make it a success - please sign up for an hour slot to help run an activity. volunteersignup.org/TBYKB



[FVIS Christmas Fair 11am-3pm](https://volunteersignup.org/TBYKB)

Volunteer signup sheet

volunteersignup.org

We look forward to seeing everyone there and getting into the Christmas spirit. We will soon be having a Christmas jumper/t-shirt sale at school so if you have any lying around at home (baby, child or adult), please donate them to us at the school office.

Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook for updates and reminders about our events:

Facebook: [Fetcham PTA | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/fetchampta)

Instagram: [@fetcham_pta](https://www.instagram.com/fetcham_pta)

Thank you for your continued support
Fetcham PTA



Reminders (I apologise for repeating myself again)

Could I ask you please to **not** let your children on the play equipment before school. I know that this is difficult but it has caused some upset with children wanting to be early so that they have time to play and children not wanting to get off until they have finished playing. If we remind them not to do it and you

remind them that we have said this it may be possible to avoid upsets which can have a negative effect on the whole day.

At the risk of sounding like a complete nag could I please ask you not to allow children to walk on the wall between the play equipment and the building. We do not allow it during the day as it is quite high and could lead to serious injury.

Jewellery

Please remember that jewellery must not be worn in school with the exception of pierced earrings, which must be removed at home on PE/Sports/Dance days. This is not peculiar to our school; you will find this message in most school newsletters and websites.

If your child wears a hair band, please make sure it is small, plain and inconspicuous (no cats ears, bunny ears or any other characters please).

Toys

Children are not to bring toys and other personal items into school including Push Poppers. Much learning time is lost and there is often upset as we sort out ownership issues, look for lost items and try to repair breakages.

Keeping everyone safe

Please may I remind you not to let your children ride cycles or scooters on the school site.

Nuts

Please remember that we are a "nut and sesame free" school, therefore **no** nut/sesame or containing nut/sesame products are to be brought to school.



Dates for this term

Thursday 3 November 2022	Foxes class parents evening 3.30 pm to 6.00 pm
Monday 7 November 2022	Surrey Fire Crew visiting Reception children
Monday 14 November 2022	Surrey Fire Crew visiting Reception children
Thursday 17 November 2022	Nasal Flu Immunisation
w/c 21 November 2022	After school clubs finish Please note Tennis & Cooking Club finish on 28 November.
Tuesday 22 November 2022	Squirrels Class Assembly - 9.15 am Further details to follow
Wednesday 23 November 2022	Rabbits Class Assembly - 9.15 am Further details to follow
Friday 25 November 2022	Open School - 9.00 am to 10.30 am
Saturday 26 November 2022	11.00 am to 3.00 pm - Christmas Fair
Wednesday 30 November 2022	School Nurse - Dental & Hand Hygiene workshop - Reception children
Thursday 8 December 2022	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch Further details to follow
Monday 12 December 2022	9.30 am - Christmas Play - Rabbits, Year 1 and Year 2 1.30 pm - Christmas Play - Squirrels, Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 13 December	9.30 am - Christmas Play - Squirrels, Year 1 and Year 2 1.30 pm - Christmas Play - Rabbits, Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesday 14 December 2022	Christmas party - further details to follow
Thursday 15 December 2022	Pizza Night (Pizza Making Kits) - Fetcham PTA
Friday 16 December 2022	Last day of term - school finishes at 1.30 pm
Tuesday 3 January 2023	In Service Closure Day
Wednesday 4 January 2023	Children return to school

In Service Closure Days

Tuesday 4 January

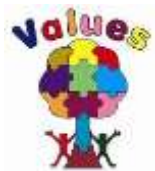
Friday 10 February 2023

Monday 17 April 2023

Kind regards.

C Shuman

Mrs Christine Shuman
Head teacher



Our values based education empowers individuals to be the best that they can be.

Cost-of-living support

Find out what help and support is available to you and your family as the cost-of-living crisis continues to bite.

Get in touch with us to let us know if you're struggling with your finances

We know everyone is feeling the pinch this winter and we want to support those families in our school community who are impacted the most. If you're struggling with your finances, please do get in touch to let us know, as there may be things we can suggest which will help. We want to do everything we can to help you and your child through this difficult winter.

Contact your local Citizen's Advice Bureau or Family Hub

Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB)

You don't have to be a UK citizen to get support from your local CAB, you just need to be a resident of the local area. The CAB can help you with:

- > Getting benefits or other financial support organised
- > Accessing support for essential costs (food, bills, rent)

Visit the [Citizens Advice](#)'s website or contact your local branch to book an appointment.

<http://www.citizensadvicemolevalley.org.uk/>

leatherhead@camv.org.uk

Advice line 0808 278 7930

Check you're paying the right amount of tax

Make sure you're on the right tax code. If you aren't you might be due a refund. Use the [Money Saving Expert's](#) free tax code calculator to find out.

Claim any benefits you're entitled to

Use 1 of these benefits calculators to determine whether there are any benefits you could be claiming:

- > [Turn2us](#)
- > [Policy in Practice](#)
- > [Support for migrant families](#) – use this calculator if you are a migrant family, or if you have no recourse to public funds

You may be able to get benefits paid early if you're already feeling the squeeze - this is known as 'a short-term benefit advance' - you will need to contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) office that's dealing with your claim.

Check you've received all the government's cost of living payments

The government's [cost of living payment](#) is available for those receiving certain benefits or tax credits. You don't need to apply for these – if you're eligible the money should go straight into your account.

If you think you're due a payment, but haven't received one – [report a missing payment](#) to the government here.

Be aware of scams! If you receive any emails, texts or phone calls asking you to fill in an application form or asking for your bank details to receive a cost of living payment, **do not talk to them or send a reply**. Get more information on [cost of living scams](#) on the Money Saving Expert's website

Find out what help you can get with your energy bills

Take a look at these resources from [Simple Energy Advice](#), the [British Gas Energy Trust](#) and the [Money Saving Expert](#) website.

Let us know if your child is entitled to free school meals (FSM)

If your child is eligible for free school meals (FSM) you need to get them registered. This will allow them to get a free meal at school, and we'll get extra funding to support your child's learning.

See what other support you can get from your local authority

Local authorities have lots of different schemes that you might be eligible for, including:

- > The [holiday activities and food programme](#) – access to food and activities over the school holidays
 - > [Help with transport to school](#)
 - > [Help with the cost of uniform](#)
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Get free or low-cost food

If you're worried about not having enough food to feed your family, you're not alone. There are a number of places offering support.

- > If you have a child under 4, and meet the eligibility criteria, you may be entitled to [healthy start food vouchers](#)
- > Find a local foodbank with these websites: [Bankuet](#), [The Independent Food Aid Network](#), the [Trussell Trust](#), or your local [community fridge](#)

- Use food waste apps and websites like [Olio](#) (for free food and household items from your local community), [Too Good To Go](#) (for low cost food from local restaurants), or [Low Price Foods](#) (food that has passed its best before date, but is still safe to consume)
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Further information

- Contact [StepChange](#), if you're struggling with debt
- Contact [Shelter](#) if you're having issues related to housing
- Get free household goods on [Freecycle](#)
- Contact the [Salvation Army](#) for emergency assistance
- See if you're eligible for [grants from Turn2us](#)
- Single parents can get support from [Gingerbread](#)