



# Newsletter – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

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Dear Parents

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated a prize for the adult tombola today. There are going to be some lucky winners at the Winter Fayre tomorrow!



## **FoTIS Winter Fayre tomorrow – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1pm to 3.30pm**

Come and join us **tomorrow** from 1.00–3.30pm in the school hall, where there will be stalls, games, tombola's, face painting, magic, cakes, bakes and a well-stocked bar. Of course, there will also be a chance to visit Santa!

If you didn't get a chance to purchase your raffle tickets in advance, they will be on sale from the FoTIS table at the fayre.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow!

## **FoTIS volunteers**

FoTIS Volunteers 2025/26  
WhatsApp group



Events like the Winter Fayre are impossible to run without the help of a team of volunteers.

If you are able to help out or share a little of your time it makes such a difference to our school community. Please connect with the FoTIS team on the WhatsApp group via the QR code.

## **Christmas on the Cobbles – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

This includes daytime activities (entertainment, activities, rides, market stalls) held in Aylesbury's Market Square, Kingsbury, The Exchange, and Friars Square shopping centre, followed by an Illuminated Parade around Market Square, the Christmas light switch on and a fireworks display! The event is completely free to enjoy and will be interactive, fun and sparkling.

🌟 12-5pm 🌟

- The Chiltern View Ice Rink stage, hosted by the wonderful DJ Dan Blaze, will feature live music acts and entertainers to bring festive magic to Market Square. Aylesbury Rotary Hundreds will also be in the Square, roasting hot chestnuts bringing the ultimate smell of Christmas to the event too.
- Games, crafts, activities and performances can be found in Friars Square shopping centre, including Captain Christmas by Unbound Theatre and face painting by Zoomania, Lego building, and a visit from festive walkabout acts. There's something to keep everyone entertained - whatever the weather!
- The Exchange will be transformed into a Christmas market with a range of stall offering the perfect opportunity to make a start on your Christmas shopping.
- Kingsbury will be the home of a festive fun fair with free rides for all the family.

✨ 5pm ✨

An epic Illuminated Parade will light up the High Street and Market Square. We'll be joined by Santa in his sleigh, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre pantomime stars, local community and dance groups plus, after the weather sadly forced the cancellation of the parade in 2024, the brand-new Illuminated Parade Spectacle will finally be revealed! Following the parade, the Town Council's Christmas lights will be switched on, and the event will end with a stunning firework display.

### **Absence**

If your child is unwell and is not attending school or nursery, please make sure that you ring the school and leave a message or email the school office before the start of the school day. If we do not hear from you, this becomes a safeguarding concern and our office staff will contact you.

**Reminder** – children need to have a warm, waterproof coat, hat and gloves in school each day please.

### **Lunchboxes – please label them**

We have a collection of un-named lunchboxes in lost property that we want to return to families. If a lunchbox is named on the outside and the inside we can reunite them easily. Writing with a Sharpie pen is usually the easiest way to do this.

### **Applying for a school place for Reception or Year 3**

All families in Nursery and Year 2 must apply for a school place for their child for September 2026 by midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 and the Buckinghamshire portal is now open.

Children in Nursery do not automatically get a place in our Reception class and children in Year 2 do not automatically get a place at Turnfurlong Junior School. Everyone has to apply. Please note that places are not allocated on a 'first come, first served basis' but you do need to make sure that you apply and as it's a busy time of year it's a good idea to get it crossed off the list of jobs to do.

Further information about the process and key dates can be found here:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/school-admissions-guides-policies-and-statistics/guide-to-starting-school-or-moving-up-to-junior-school/>

### **Change of address**

If you move house or have a change of contact details, it is very important that you inform the school office as soon as possible.

Please be aware that the Buckinghamshire school admissions team have informed of us at least four Year 2 children whose proof of address on their application for junior school is not the same as on our school records!

### **Snow and ice – What happens when the school needs to close?**

You might have heard some news reports that parts of the UK may get snow next week. It's not expected to affect Aylesbury but I wanted to make sure that everyone knew what happens when the school needs to close.

Firstly, closing the school is not something that I do unless I have to. The decision to close is made with the Chair of Governors and I also communicate with the Headteacher at Turnfurlong Junior School. We try to take the decision as early as possible to minimise disruption to families. The decision is always made with Health and Safety in mind as follows:

- Is the site safe for pupils, staff and parents? (*Icy playground, steps etc*)
- Are there enough staff available to be able to open school safely? (*Staff may be unable to attend school because their journey to and from work is unsafe or because their child's schools/childcare has closed*)
- Are the weather conditions likely to worsen during the school day? (*Closing during the day is likely to more disruptive and put everyone at greater risk*)

We let parents know that the school is closed through a number of communication channels:

- The Buckinghamshire Council website  
<https://closures.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/check-if-your-school-is-closed/>
- ParentMail
- The school Facebook page

When the school is closed for a day we send learning via ParentMail for children to complete at home. A proper snowy day in Aylesbury doesn't happen very often so our 'snowy day plan' has lots of fun opportunities for children to learn through playing and exploring in the snow! However, if the school is closed for more than one day, we move to online learning through Microsoft Teams from the second day. All parents have had their child's email and password sent to them so please check that you have these to hand in case you need to use them.

### **Names for Christmas cards and the Christmas post box**

Our school Christmas post box will be open from 1<sup>st</sup> December. If your child has cards for friends and staff that they would like to post, please make sure that the name, class or class teacher's name is also written on the front. Class lists, first names only, can be provided on request.

<b>KEY DATES - 2025-26</b>	
<b>November</b>	
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	FoTIS Winter Fayre 1.00-3.30 pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	FoTIS Tuck Shop after school
<b>December</b>	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Christmas production, 9.15 am
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day FoTIS Tuck Shop after school
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Christmas production, 9.15 am
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Christmas production, 9.15 am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas party day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Carols around the tree (afternoon)
<b>January</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Staff training day (children not in school)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am
<b>February</b>	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	FoTIS Sponsored Bounce
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Parent involvement morning
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	FoTIS Non-Uniform Day – donations for bake sale FoTIS Bake Sale after school
<b>March</b>	
<b>w/c 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Discussions 5.30-7.30 pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Discussions 3.30-4.30 pm
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Discussions 3.30-4.30 pm
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Eid party
<b>April</b>	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am
<b>May</b>	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 SATs week 1
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Pyjamarama Day
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 SATs week 2

<b>June</b>	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics check / Year 2 recheck week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting for new parents (starting school in September 2026)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Open Evening
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am – <b>Year 2 parents only</b>
<b>July</b>	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Beach Day
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	FoTIS Summer Social
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Move up day 1
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Move up day 2
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning with our SENDco, Mrs Gerhardt, 9.00 -10.00 am
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day (am)

<b>TERM DATES 2025-26</b>		
	<b>Open on morning of</b>	<b>Close at end of afternoon of</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025
	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
<b>Spring Term</b>	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>Summer Term</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026
<b>Staff Training Days</b>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025 Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025 Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	
<b>Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 (school closed)	

<b>TERM DATES 2026-27</b>		
	<b>Open on morning of</b>	<b>Close at end of afternoon of</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Thursday 3 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
	Tuesday 3 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
<b>Spring Term</b>	Tuesday 5 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
<b>Summer Term</b>	Monday 12 April 2027	Thursday 27 May 2027
	Monday 7 June 2027	Wednesday 21 July 2027
<b>Staff Training Days</b>	Tuesday 1 September 2026 Wednesday 2 September 2026 Monday 2 November 2026 Monday 4 January 2027 Friday 28 May 2027	
<b>Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 3 May 2027 (school closed)	