# Weekly Word - 18/09/2026

## Head of School Message

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Another wonderful week at Fishburn!

It has been another busy and positive week at Fishburn, with lots of fantastic learning taking place across school.

**Democracy in action**

This week, the children have been learning all about democracy and have taken part in our first whole-school vote of the year!

Our Year 6 children confidently presented their cases for why they would make a good Prime Minister, before children across school had the opportunity to cast their votes. Alongside this, each class has been voting to elect their own Members of Parliament to represent them on our School Parliament.

We celebrated the results together in assembly and are very excited to see what our newly elected School Parliament can achieve this year. Well done to everyone who put themselves

forward and shared their ideas – we were incredibly proud of the confidence and enthusiasm shown by our children.

**Marvellous Maths at Fishburn**

There has been some fantastic Maths learning taking place across school this week, with children making excellent use of practical resources and manipulatives to develop their understanding of place value.

Class 2 have been exploring numbers up to 20 and investigating how numbers can be partitioned using part-whole models. The children used Dienes to partition numbers into tens and ones, helping them to develop a secure understanding of place value.

Class 3 have been using manipulatives to explore numbers up to 1,000 and investigating different ways that numbers can be partitioned. The children then worked independently to use part-whole models to partition three- and four-digit numbers. Some super Maths learning as they build the foundations needed for addition and subtraction.

Class 4 have also been developing their understanding of number and partitioning. The children have used part-whole models and repeated addition to explore and partition numbers up to 10,000, demonstrating some excellent mathematical thinking.

Class 5 have been exploring the position of numbers on number lines up to 100,000. They then used place value charts to support them in rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000.

It has been fantastic to see children across school using practical resources, mathematical vocabulary and their growing number knowledge with such confidence. Some fantastic Maths skills have been on display at Fishburn this week – well done everyone!

Have a fantastic weekend!

Warm regards,

Mr Parkin

Resilience
Knowledge

Resilience
Knowledge
Star of the Week
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week

## Attendance Update

***OUR ATTENDANCE TARGET FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR IS 96 %.***

**We are currently on 95.2 %**

🎲 **Fishburn Attendance-opoly Update!** 🎉

**Class 5** have claimed victory in this week's **Attendance Award with 96.1 %.**

**Monitoring of Nursery Attendance**

In line with Government guidelines we now need to closely monitor the attendance of all our nursery children. Our nursery children are included on our automated email notification system which goes out on a weekly basis. This is for information only and is to simply make you aware of your child's current attendance levels.

We appreciate that our nursery children are of non statutory school age but their attendance and punctuality does need to be monitored carefully and in line with the rest of the school. As always if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, we are here to support you. If your child is absent from school without a reason being provided, our office staff will contact parents / carers to ascertain the reasons for any absences.

*Please note, if your child is absent without a reason being provided, school staff and/or the local authority attendance team will carry out a welfare visit to the home address or request that the police carry out a welfare visit.*

**School doors open as follows:**

Nursery AM = 8:40 am - 8.50 am

Nursery PM = 12.25 pm - 12.30 pm

Reception = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

KS1 = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

KS2 = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

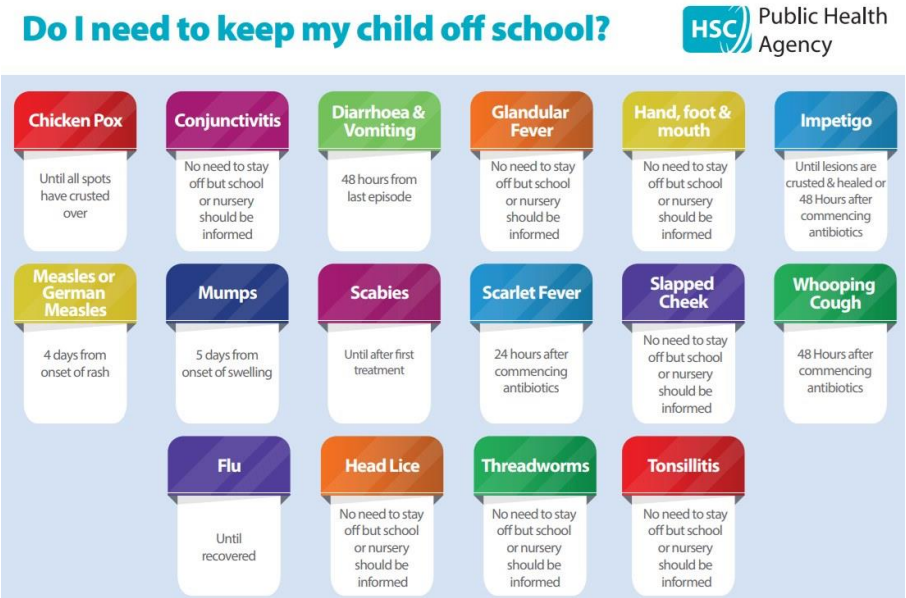
Please try and get your child into school on time to make sure that they get their full education entitlement and have a settled start to the day.

**Please note, if your child arrives more than 30 minutes late they will be marked in as 'arrived after registration has closed'. This goes down as an unauthorised absence and will affect attendance (this is a legal requirement for all schools).**

**Attendance Absence Reporting:** if your child is absent from school can you please ring or email the school office before 9.00 am to report your child's absence. If you do leave a message on our school answerphone out of school hours Mrs Leddy may ring you back to discuss your child's absence with you in further detail.

| Class Name | Weekly Percentage |
|---|---|
| | |
| Class 5 | 96.1% |
| Nursery | 95.7% |
| Class 2 | 95.0% |
| Class 4 | 94.0% |
| Class 1 | 92.7% |
| Class 3 | 90.6% |
| | |

## *Do I need to keep my child off school?*




## Community Hub

FareShare

fighting hunger, tackling food waste

We are pleased to let you know that our **Uniform Bank** is now up and running in school.

We have a wide range of pre-loved uniform items available, completely free of charge, for families to come and collect. If you require any support with school uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school office — we are always happy to help.

Thank you for working with us to ensure every child feels comfortable, confident and ready to learn.

## Nursery Places available - Childcare for Children aged 3 & 4

Please find below the latest information on childcare for children aged three and four.

* 15 hours free education and childcare for all 3 and 4-year olds (universal entitlement)

* 30 hours free education and childcare for eligible 3 and 4-year olds (working parents)

**15 hours free childcare for 3 and 4-year-olds (universal entitlement)**

This scheme is universal and open to all 3 and 4-year olds.

There are no earnings or work requirements and you don't need to be claiming any benefits to get the free childcare.

**30 hours free childcare for 3 and 4-year olds (working parents)**

If you are working you may be entitled to free childcare.

The amount of free childcare you can get depends on the age of your child. If your child is 3 to 4 you can get 30 hours of free childcare. To be eligible for 30 hours free childcare you and your partner must each expect to earn (on average) the equivalent of working 16 hours a week at your national minimum wage.

To receive 30 hours free childcare, you will need to apply online through gov.uk. After registering for an account, you will get a code that you can take to your childcare provider. You need to apply before the term starts or you will have wait until the beginning of the next term.

For further information on our nursery provision, please contact the school office.

## Rag Bag - Help raise funds for free!

The 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme has been developed to provide regular fundraising for schools in the UK.

Will you be having a clear out of old clothing, shoes, handbags and belts, if so you can help us raise some funds for our school. We have a metal outdoor bank box which is adjacent to the main school office, any items of clothing, shoes, handbags and belts can be placed into this box, once the box is full it is emptied and the school will receive a monetary payment.

## Key Dates

Friday 23rd October 2026 - Break up from school

Thursday 5th November 2026 - School Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 18th November 2026 - School Photos

Friday 4th December 2026 - Teacher Training Day

Friday 11th December 2026 - Crafts and Carols

Wednesday 16th December 2026 - School Christmas Dinner

Thursday 17th December 2026 - School Christmas Parties

Friday 18th December 2026 - Break up from School

## Cauliflower Christmas Cards

Fishburn Primary School will be taking part in the Cauliflower Christmas Card Project. The Cauliflower Christmas Card Project is where your child will be creating a piece of Christmas artwork in class which can then be used to print onto a mug, playing cards, wrapping paper, gift labels, spiral bound book and Christmas cards.

The artwork which your child creates will be sent home attached to an order form later this month.

Orders and payment must be made online using the unique code located at the top of the pupil order form. Please refer to your order form for further details. **Once you have placed**

**your order online, you must return your artwork to Fishburn Primary School by 9.30 am on Wednesday 7th October 2026.**

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the school office.  Thank you

## PE at Fishburn

**PE Timetable (from September 2026)**

Monday  - Class 2

Tuesday -  Class 3, Class 4

Wednesday - Nursery, Class 1

Friday - Nursery, Class 1, Class2, Class 3, Class 4 & Class 5.

**Class 5 - Swimming on a Wednesday**

We ask that all children come to school in their full school uniform every day. On PE days, children should bring their PE kit in a named bag, and they will get changed in school.

**Our PE Kit**

- White round-neck t-shirt (no vest tops)
- Plain blue or black shorts
- Black tracksuit bottoms for colder weather
- Trainers or plimsolls

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children are fully equipped and ready for PE each week.

## Wraparound Care  - bookings must be made via Arbor

**Afterschool Care Club:**

Our Afterschool Care Club is also available to all years from Reception to Year 6. The club runs Monday – Friday from 3:15 pm until 5:30 pm.  The cost is £6.00 from 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm and £7.00 from 3:15 pm until 5:30 pm per day.

If you wish for your child to attend our Afterschool Care Club, **you MUST pre-book them onto the relevant After School Care Club session using Arbor**, at the time of making the booking(s) you will be required to pay for the session(s) upfront.  **Your child /children will not be allowed to attend the After School Care Club without being booked onto the session via Arbor.**  Bookings can be made up until 2.00 pm on the day.

Children who attend our Afterschool Care Club need to be collected by a nominated adult from the KS1 yard.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## School Meals - Hutchison Catering

Hutchison
CATERING

Our school meals are provided by Hutchison Catering.  The price of a school meal is £2.81 per day  (ie. £14.05 per week).  If you wish for your child to have a school meal and they are

not entitled to free school meals, you will need to pay for your child's dinners **one week in advance at all times**, via Arbor.

Can parents / carers who pay for school meals please ensure that your Abor account is always in credit as meals need to be paid for in advance, thank you.

**If you do not pay in time and you accrue arrears of more than one week's worth of meals, your child will not be able to have a school meal and you will be asked to provide a packed lunch for your child.**

Reminder: If your child wishes to **change** their **meal pattern** from school meal to a packed lunch or vice versa **you must** inform the school office, who require at least one weeks' notice for the change to be made.

**FROM MONDAY (21.09.2026) WE WILL BE ON WEEK 3 OF OUR MEAL MENU. Our latest meal menus are below.**

**MENU WEEK 1** — **SERVED W/C:** 4th May, 15th June, 6th July — Hutchison

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main Meal Option 1 | Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges | Mixed bean bolognaise with penne pasta | Vegetable sausages with roast potatoes & gravy | Pea-powered vegetable stir fry with carrot rice | Vegetable nuggets, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Main Meal Option 2 | Pepperoni pizza & oven baked wedges | Creamy coconut chicken & chickpea curry with carrot rice | Roast gammon with roast potatoes & gravy | Beef & lentil bolognaise with penne pasta | Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup |
| HALAL | Halal pepperoni pizza & oven baked wedges | Halal creamy coconut chicken & chickpea curry with carrot rice | Halal roast chicken breast with roast potatoes & gravy | Halal beef & lentil bolognaise with penne pasta | Halal fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Veggies | Broccoli | Carrots & peas | Carrot & cabbage | Broccoli & Cauliflower | Baked Beans |
| Sandwiches | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Cheese<br>Tuna mayo |
| Sweet Treats | Lemon shortbread biscuit | Chocolate & banana brownie sponge | Apple Strudel & Custard | Baked apple & cinnamon sponge | Chocolate Shortbread |

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

**MENU WEEK 2** — **SERVED W/C:** 11th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July — Hutchison

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main Meal Option 1 | Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges | Cheesy cauliflower pasta bake | Pea-powered vegetable pie & new potatoes | Veggie all day breakfast | Quorn dippers, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Main Meal Option 2 | Tomato, spinach & salmon pasta | Chicken & vegetable pie with new potatoes | Roast turkey breast, roast potatoes & gravy | All day breakfast, with pork sausages (beef casings) | Fish & chips with tomato ketchup |
| HALAL | Halal Tomato, spinach & salmon pasta | Halal chicken & vegetable pie with new potatoes | Halal Roast turkey breast, roast potatoes & gravy | Halal All day breakfast, with chicken sausages (beef casings) | Halal Fish & chips with tomato ketchup |
| Veggies | Broccoli | Peas | Carrots & cauliflower | Baked beans | Peas |
| Sandwiches | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Cheese<br>Tuna mayo |
| Sweet Treats | Traditional Flapjack | Oaty apple crumble & custard | Chocolate Mousse | Carrot cake with orange glaze | Chocolate fruit crispie cake |

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

**MENU WEEK 3** SERVED W/C: 18th May, 8th June, 29th June — Hutchison

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main Meal OPTION 1 | Vegetable sausages & mashed potatoes with gravy | Pea-powered mild chilli with rice | Pea-powered cottage pie with gravy | Baked creamy mac 'n' cheese | Vegan Sausage roll, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Main Meal OPTION 2 | Mild beef & lentil chilli con carne with rice | Pork sausages (beef casing) with mashed potatoes & gravy | Roast chicken breast, roast potatoes & gravy | BBQ chicken loaded mac 'n' cheese | Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Main Meal HALAL | Halal mild beef & lentil chilli con carne with rice | Halal chicken sausages (beef casing) with mashed potatoes & gravy | Halal roast chicken breast, roast potatoes & gravy | Halal BBQ chicken loaded mac 'n' cheese | Halal fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup |
| Veggies | Sweetcorn | Peas & carrots | Broccoli & carrots | Selection from the salad bar | Baked Beans |
| Sandwiches | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Ham<br>Cheese<br>Tuna mayo | Cheese<br>Tuna mayo |
| Sweet Treats | Chocolate Shortbread | Apple & summer berry crumble with custard | Lemon Sponge & Custard | Garden Brownie | Strawberry Mousse |

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

## School Uniform

**Friendly Reminder**

A polite reminder that children are expected to wear full school uniform every day. Our uniform helps to promote a sense of pride, belonging and high standards across the school.

PE kits should be brought into school on your child's allocated PE day. Children will change into their PE kit in school rather than arriving wearing it.

Please see uniform section below for expectations.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our high expectations.

**Uniform Policy**

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school uniform policy.

We believe that wearing a uniform helps children to feel part of something important and creates a sense of belonging. From September, members of the Senior Leadership Team will be monitoring uniform daily and will be contacting parents where children are not in the correct attire.

Please note that there is **no expectation** for your child's uniform to have the school badge embroidered. We also have a **Uniform Bank** in school, which has plenty of good-quality uniform items available, including shoes. Please make use of this if needed.

**Our School Uniform**

- Grey or black skirts
- Grey or black trousers or shorts (no joggers or tracksuits)
- White polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Year 6 students may wear a white shirt and tie
- Blue gingham dresses may be worn in the summer
- Flat black shoes or plain black trainers (no inappropriate styles or heels)

**PE Kit**

- White round-neck t-shirt (no vest tops)
- Plain blue or black shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Black tracksuit bottoms may be worn in colder weather

Thank you for your support in helping all children come to school smart, proud, and ready to learn.

***Our School Uniform - please note there is no expectation at all that your child's school uniform needs to include the school logo on it.***

**OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM**

EXAMPLES– **please note there is no expectation at all that your child's school uniform needs to include the school logo on it.**

| | |
|---|---|
| <br>Royal Blue Round Neck Jumper | <br>Royal Blue Cardigan |
| <br>Royal Blue V Neck Jumper | <br>White Polo Neck T-shirt |
| <br>White Shirt for Year 6 children<br>(Long or short sleeves) | <br>Grey or Black School Skirt<br>(pleated or non- pleated) |

| | |
|---|---|
| <br>Grey or Black School Trousers (no leggings) | <br>Blue Gingham Dress (during summer months) |
| <br>Blue or Black PE Shorts | <br>White Round Neck T-shirt for PE |

## Term Time Dates for 2026 -2027

Eden Academy Trust
Together for better

| SCHOOL TERM DATES 2026/2027 | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| **Summer 2026** | Friday 17th July 2026 | Wednesday 2nd September 2026 |
| **Autumn Half Term 2026** | Friday 23rd October 2026 | Monday 2nd November 2026 |
| **Christmas 2026** | Friday 18th December 2026 | Monday 4th January 2027 |
| **Spring Half Term 2027** | Friday 12th February 2027 | Monday 22nd February 2027 |
| **Easter 2027** | Thursday 25th March 2027 | Monday 5th April 2027 |
| **May Bank Holiday 2027** | Friday 30th April 2027 | Tuesday 4th May 2027 |
| **Summer Half Term 2027** | Friday 28th May 2027 | Monday 14th June 2027 |
| **Summer 2027** | Friday 16th July 2027 | |
| | | |
| Teacher Training days 2026 / 2027 - Tuesday 1st September 2026, Friday 4th December 2026, Monday 19th July 2027, Tuesday 20th July 2027, Wednesday 21st July 2027. | | |

## Safeguarding - is everyone's responsibility

At Fishburn we take the safety of our children incredibly seriously.

If you have any concerns at all regarding a child please speak with our Designated Safeguarding Leads who will be happy to advise.

Mr Parkin - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Sinclair - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

**Key Safeguarding Information and contacts.**

Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP) - responsible for co-ordinating local agencies, in the 'statutory' and 'non statutory' sectors, with a collective responsibility for ensuring that all agencies working with children in Durham undertake their safeguarding duties and responsibilities.

Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership: 03000 265 770 / dscpsecure@durham.gov.uk

First Contact: 03000 267979 / firstcontact@durham.gov.uk

Safeguarding Referral Form

Https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdurham-scp.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F07%2FSafeguarding-Referral-

Early Help: EarlyHelpAdvisorSupport@durham.gov.uk ; strongerfamilies@durham.gov.uk

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Sharon Lewis03000 268835
CYPSLADOSECURE@durham.gov.uk

**Key Documents**

Keeping Children safe In Education 2024 -
Https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2

Working Together To Safeguard Children in Education; Https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2