



Dear Families

Town Farm has been filled with a strong sense of Christmas spirit this week. Our mischievous elves have made their annual return, bringing excitement to classrooms and delighting children each day with their antics. Christmas performance rehearsals are now well underway, and it has been a pleasure to see children demonstrating such commitment, confidence, and collaboration as they prepare for their upcoming shows:

Year 2 & 3 Christmas production 'Prickly Hay' -
Monday 8th December - 9am

Year 4, 5 & 6 Carol Service at St. Mary's Church -
Tuesday 9th December - 2pm

Nursery and Reception Christmas production -
Wednesday 10th December - 9.15am & 2.15pm

Today, Year 5 visited our local care home, Barchester House, to spread some festive cheer by singing to the residents. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to share kindness and joy within our community. Please see next week's newsletter for a detailed write up and pictures.

A highlight of the week was our annual School Fayre, which once again brought together children, families and staff for an exciting and vibrant community event. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all families who donated gifts, bottles, and prizes, as well as those who attended and supported the fayre. Your contributions played an important role in ensuring the success of the occasion. We extend our sincere thanks to the staff team at Town Farm for their hard work and support in making this event possible. We hope you all had a

Dates for your diary

2025 - 2026 Academic Year

- 8 Dec - Years 2 & 3 Christmas Production @ 9am
- 9 Dec - Year 4, 5 & 6 Carol Concert at St Mary's Church @ 2pm
- 10 Dec - Nursery, Reception & Year 1 Christmas Production @ 9:15am & 2:15pm
- 12 Dec - Panto (for pupils)
- 19 Dec - **Last Day of Term** (Finish 1:30pm)

- 5 Jan - Pupils return to school
- 12 Jan - Year 3 Money Ready Workshop
- 22 Jan - Year 5 Delight in Shakespeare
- 9 Feb - Year 5 Money Ready Workshop
- w/c 16 Feb - Half-Term
- 23 Feb - Pupils return to school

(Dates subject to change)

EYFS = Nur & Reception

KS1 = Years 1 & 2 / KS2 = Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

memorable time.

Some of you may have noticed a stall at the Fayre run by our new and exciting catering company, **Aspens**, who kindly offered samples of their desserts for families to try. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the food options they will be introducing in January 2026. Please look out for further information regarding the upcoming changeover to Aspens, as there will be a number of actions for parents to complete over the remaining weeks of term to ensure a smooth transition.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to celebrating more Christmas activities together next week.

Miss Elliott
Deputy Head

Yuletide Fayre



New Caterers

Look out for the new menus from January



Healthy Relationship Ambassador - whole school training

Year 6 prefects and Class MPs met with pupils to teach the '5 ways of wellbeing': Connect, Keep Learning, Be Active, Take Notice and Give. Alongside some from colourful puppet characters, they gathered feedback as to how we can improve wellbeing across the school. They listened thoughtfully to all ideas and were proud to share the training they received from the charity Eikon last month - including some festive hot chocolate breathing and sunshine yoga. All pupils could explain their ambassador role and how they will be supporting the school across the year - they have already put their plan



Healthy Relationship Ambassadors in action!

All ambassadors met after delivering training for feedback to create an action plan for the year. Already they have started improving wellbeing as multiple pupils requested new non-fiction texts for the library. They used funds from the Roald Dahl Day sweet shop funds to purchase a range of amazing books for the library filled with fascinating facts. These were warmly received by our prefects this week.

A huge thank you as well to award-winning writer and cartoonist Mike Barfield who for non-fiction November chose our fact as his favourite! "*Nanotyrannus is a new species of dinosaur and not a baby tyrannosaurus! It has a narrower snout and more teeth!*" We won a signed selection of his books our MPs happily accepted the delivery and already had many giggles with the 'The Ultimate Insult Generator'!

Well done, here they all are.
Hope your pupils enjoy them. I'd like some feedback on their favourite.
Cheers,
Mike



Highlights from the week

Year 6

This half term we have been investigating light! Through our investigations, year 6 created periscopes using discarded cereal (cereal tins!) and mirrors. We were very successful working collaboratively to achieve our desired results. We will be exploring shadows!

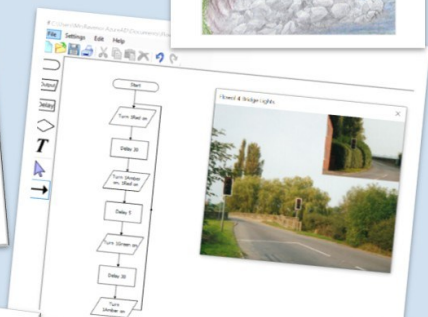
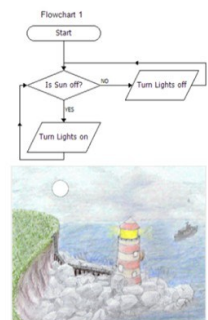


Year 5

Our amazing programmers were showing off their skills in Flowol this week. Flowol uses **flowcharts** to create sequences, decisions, and loops for controlling simulations or physical systems.

Pupils developed their knowledge from programming zebra crossing lights to flash at given intervals, to traffic light sequences and extending to simultaneous lights at a junction in two directions.

The final challenge was to programme a sequence with a 'decision'. Pupils selected a lighthouse - turning on the beacon at night and off during the day when the sun was 'on' and even took a step further to create a sequence for the light to flash at night which required additional loops.



Year 4

Year 4 have been thoroughly enjoying their time in the library, exploring a wide range of books that spark their curiosity and imagination. This experience not only nurtures a love of reading but also strengthens their vocabulary, comprehension skills, and confidence in independent learning.



Year 1

In Computing, the children working in pairs and took it in turns to be a toy robot! Each pair picked cards and attempted to instruct their partner, step by step, to complete the task. The children were challenged to debug their algorithm when something went wrong.

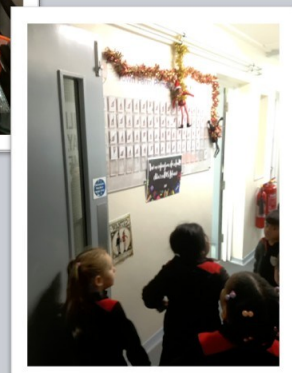
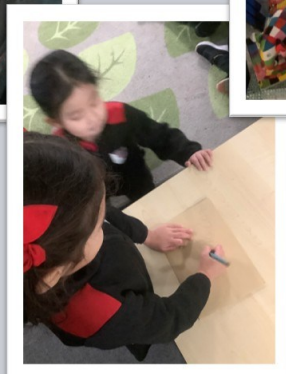
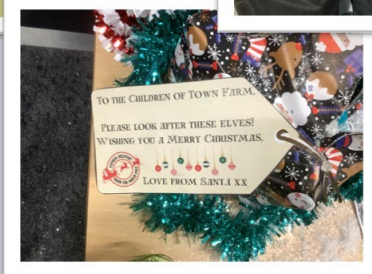


EYFS

In the outdoor area this week a tiny door appeared it sparked a huge amount of chatter and curiosity - some of the children thought it might be to do with Father Christmas or even the Grinch!

In the indoor area a wonderful Christmas tree arrived with our favourite characters and stories on. As part of our topic Out of this World we are reading the story of 'Whatever Next'. The children have enjoyed acting out the story with Baby Bear, his rocket and owl as they picnic on the moon.

In other areas of the school some Naughty Elves arrived with a note. The children decided to write to Santa to say that they would check on the elves each day - they took the letter to the office and asked if it could be posted to Santa.



Eco Warriors

Our Eco Warriors have been busy once again, helping to make our school grounds greener and healthier. This week, they took on the important job of adding mulch to the newly planted trees that will form our future hedgerow.

Before getting to work, the team learned why mulching is so important. Mulch helps the soil stay moist, protects young roots from extreme temperatures, and prevents weeds from competing with the trees for water and nutrients. As it breaks down, it also enriches the soil giving the young trees the best possible start.

Now equipped with their new knowledge, the Eco Warriors have begun sharing what they've learned with their classes, helping everyone understand how simple actions can have a big impact on the environment.



Attendance Matters

Year Group	%
Reception	92.4%
Year 1	94.3%
Year 2	95.4%
Year 3	95.7%
Year 4	95.9%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	93.8%
Overall attendance to date	94.8%

Best Attendance this week

1st Place - Zephaniah 98.9%

2nd Place - Blyton 97.6%

3rd Place - Darwin 97.0%

Most Improved—Hillary up 8%

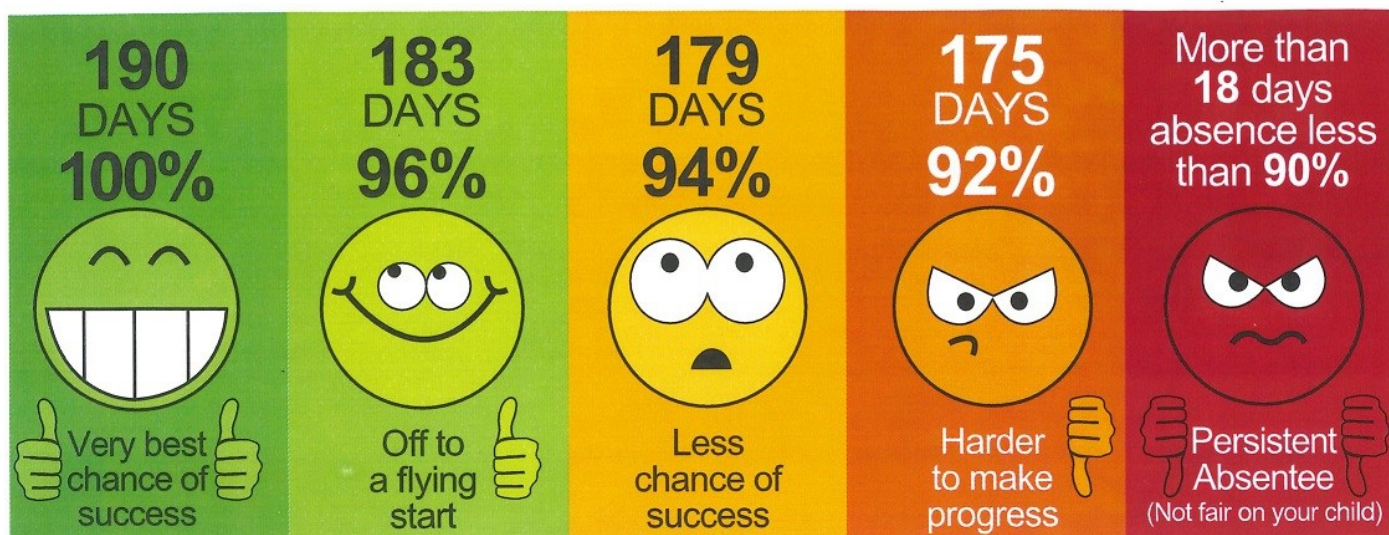
Statutory Notice

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

There are **190** days in a school year which leaves **175** days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things.



Community News -

Community news is provided by outside organisations and Town Farm is not responsible for the content.



Support programmes for parents & carers of children with autism

A variety of 6-part support programmes for parents and carers of children with autism (or suspected autism) are available online and in-person around Surrey. Your child must live in Surrey or attend a Surrey education setting.



Early bird programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under

- Understanding autism
- Communication
- Understanding autistic experiences
- Supporting daily living
- Health and wellbeing
- Connections

Cygnets programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

Teen life for parents of children aged 10-16 years old

- Understanding autism
- Understanding autistic identity
- Stress, anxiety and understanding behaviour
- Health and wellbeing
- Puberty
- Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions?

Email us on parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk

How do I join a course?

Please scan the QR code to register your interest & be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

Surrey Parent Training Programmes





LEARN TO SWIM WITH CONFIDENCE!

WHAT WE OFFER

- ▶ FREE TRIAL LESSON
- ▶ Small class sizes
- ▶ Teachers in the pool with your children (class/level dependant)
- ▶ Progression programme to main pool
Swim England Level 2 certified teachers
- ▶ Fun and interactive sessions

DETAILS

Price: from £38 a month
Classes: Monday - Sunday
Times: Level dependant
Location: Staines Swimming Club, Matthew Arnold School, Kingston Road, Staines TW18 1PF

WHY LEARN TO SWIM?

SAFETY FIRST

Equip yourself or your child with life saving skills.

FITNESS AND FUN

Swimming is a great full-body workout and an enjoyable activity.

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