



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to welcome back Miss Walton, who will be teaching in Year 3 for the remainder of this academic year. We are very pleased to have her return as Phase Leader and as part of our team.

We are also preparing for some maternity leaves next academic year. Mrs Rance and I have been busy recruiting teaching staff for September, which has included observing candidates in their own schools, as well as conducting formal interviews. We look forward to sharing further updates with you soon.

A huge well done to all of our Year 6 pupils for completing their SATs. They were a credit to our Fordbridge family, showing resilience and maturity throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of them.

After half term, our Year 1 pupils will begin the Phonics Screening Check, led by Mrs Reilly. We wish them all the best as they demonstrate their reading progress.

On the 19th, we welcomed our governors into school for the day. Staff shared the subjects they lead, and we carried out a learning walk across the school. Governors were very impressed with pupils' oracy, the quality of work in books, and behaviour across the school. I felt very proud to showcase all that we do.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Mrs Simcox





IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS MONTH AT FORDBRIDGE...

Careers Day - HELP NEEDED

We are excited to share that our Year 6 Careers Day will take place on the morning of 25th June, and we would love to invite parents and carers to support this inspiring event. Throughout the morning, pupils will rotate around a series of tables, spending 5-10 minutes at each one to ask questions and explore a wide range of careers. We would like to expose the children to lots of different and inspiring careers and know we have a wealth of fascinating professions amongst our parents.

Our last two Careers Days have been a tremendous success, with several ex-pupils returning to talk about their journeys since leaving Fordbridge and the paths they have taken towards their chosen professions. Their stories have been incredibly motivating for our children.

This event forms an important part of our Flourishing Futures programme, where we place a strong emphasis on aspirations, dreams, and helping children understand the many opportunities available to them — as well as the routes they can take to get there.

If you can support, feel confident and enthusiastic to talk about your job and would like to inspire Fordbridge pupils, please contact the school office.



SEND Spotlight

Achieving

excellence

together





Phase 1

Launch Pad Adventures

Our Launch Pad children had a fantastic trip to the soft play centre. They climbed, crawled, slid and explored with huge smiles on their faces. It was a brilliant opportunity for them to build confidence, practice physical skills and enjoy time together.

A Visit From the Bug Man Children in FCP, Launch Pad, Nursery and Reception were thrilled to welcome The Bug Man into school. He brought an exciting collection of insects and mini-beasts, and the children were fascinated as they learned about habitats, life cycles and how to care for living things. There were plenty of brave volunteers eager to take a closer look!

Year 1 Phonics Superstars Our Year 1 children have been working incredibly hard as they prepare for their upcoming phonics assessments. Their determination and progress have been fantastic to see, and we are very proud of the effort they are putting in each day.

Art on Display at The Core Theatre Every child in Reception and Year 1 has created a beautiful piece of artwork this half term. A selection of these pieces will be displayed at The Core Theatre, giving our young artists a chance to shine in a public exhibition. We can't wait for families to see their creativity celebrated.

Royal Ballet Opportunity We are delighted to share that four Year 1 children have been chosen to work with the Royal Ballet. They will receive a full year of ballet lessons—an incredible opportunity and a wonderful recognition of their talent and potential.

As we head into the half-term break, we hope you enjoy some rest, family time and (hopefully!) a bit of sunshine. We look forward to returning for a bright and joyful Summer Term 2.





Phase 2

Year 2 had a fabulous trip to Tamworth Castle, where they enjoyed an exciting hands on workshop exploring life in medieval times. The children learnt how to be a squire, practised bowing and curtsying with great enthusiasm, and even discovered how to lay a table fit for a grand feast. After the workshop, they thoroughly enjoyed exploring the different parts of the castle, and even had a go in the stocks much to their amusement! It was a memorable day full of learning, laughter and adventure.

Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic Art Day inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keeffe. The children explored her focus on detail and learnt how to use observational drawing skills to carefully study and sketch a still life flower. They looked closely at shapes, lines and shading, learning how to capture the beauty of natural forms with increasing accuracy and confidence. The children showed great concentration and creativity, producing some wonderful pieces of artwork that really reflected their developing artistic skills. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring day for all!

Year 4 took part in an exciting DT day where they designed and created their own catapults, linking their learning to our Vikings history topic. The children explored how the Vikings used catapults during battles and applied this knowledge to build their own models. As part of the project, pupils developed a strong understanding of new design technology vocabulary, including key terms such as levers and pulleys, learning how these mechanisms help to create movement and force. It was wonderful to see the children working collaboratively, applying their problem solving skills and creativity to test and improve their designs.





IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS MONTH AT FORDBRIDGE...

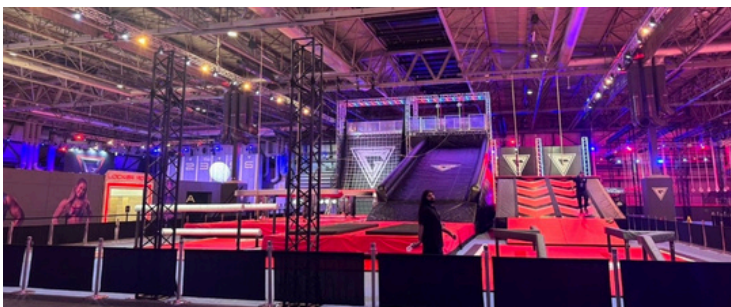
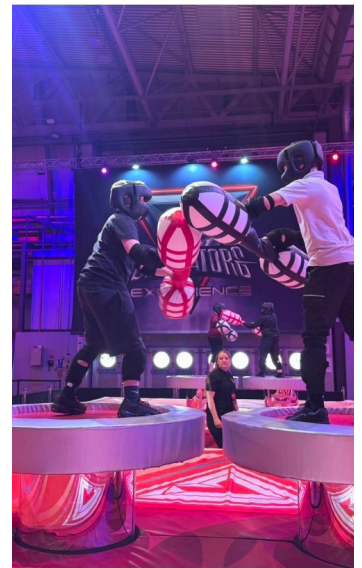
Phase 3

Year 5 have launched into their new space topic with great enthusiasm this term. The classroom is already buzzing with questions about planets, stars and what lies beyond our atmosphere. Pupils are especially excited about their upcoming visit to the National Space Centre, where they will deepen their understanding through hands-on exhibits and immersive learning experiences.

Alongside this, the children will also be heading into Birmingham city centre to explore local landmarks and discover how the city's history and architecture connect to their wider curriculum. With so many opportunities ahead, Year 5 are set for an inspiring and curiosity-filled half-term.

Year 6 had an unforgettable day at the NEC as they stepped into the world of the *Gladiators* experience. From the moment they arrived, the children were buzzing with excitement, ready to take on a series of high-energy challenges inspired by the popular TV show. They tested their balance, strength, teamwork and determination as they rotated through activities that mirrored the real arena.

Whether dodging, climbing, racing or cheering each other on, every pupil embraced the spirit of friendly competition. The day gave them a brilliant chance to push themselves, try something new and discover what it feels like to be a true *Gladiator* contestant. It was a fantastic mix of fun, fitness and confidence-building — a trip they'll be talking about for a long time.



Achieving excellence together



Respect



Resilience



Reliability



Responsibility

Summer 1 Term - Sports Competitions

We have had some very exciting events that we have taken part in this term, with lots of children getting the opportunity to represent the school, and they have all done brilliantly.

This term, pupils have participated in:

- Year 6 SEND Archery
- Girl Power Festival
- Year 6 Cricket Festival
- KS1 Values Football Festival
- SEND Panathlon

We have also had our Year 5 and 6 Girls' Football League begin, with the team showing fantastic skill, teamwork and work rate throughout every game — all while keeping smiles on their faces the whole time. Well done, girls!

We have been incredibly proud of all the children who have taken part this term and represented the school so positively, showing all of our Golden Values when competing against other schools. There are lots more exciting competitions and sporting opportunities coming up in the Summer 2 term, with even more children getting the chance to participate, represent the school and continue to demonstrate excellent teamwork and determination.



UPDATES FOR PARENTS

BE SMART
ONLINE



Online Games (Fortnite, Roblox)

These games are popular and social, but children can spend excessive time on them and may encounter strangers or cyberbullying. They are rated PEGI 12+, and parental guidance is essential.

There are junior versions of Fortnite available for younger children such as Lego Fortnite (PEGI 7) and Rocket Racing (PEGI 3).

Roblox - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safetyBlog/roblox/>

Fortnite - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zcjdvj6>

REMINDERS - JUNE

- 3rd June - Year 5 Trip (Cadbury)
- 8th June - EAL Workshop
- 9th June - Year 4 Space Centre
- 15th June - Year 2 Sports Day (1.30-3pm)
- 16th June - Rec & Yr 1 Sports Day (9-10.30am)
- 16th June - Year 6 Sports Day (1.30-3pm)
- 17th June - Year 3 Sports Day (1.30-3pm)
- 18th June - Year 5 Sports Day (9-10.30pm)
- 18th June - Year 4 Sports Day (1.30-3pm)



Stay connected and discover all the amazing things happening in your child's class by following their Class Story via Class Dojo!



Respect



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Multi Academy Trust



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