

End of Term 3 Newsletter - February 2026

Red Nose Day - Friday 20th March 2026

The theme of this year's Red Nose Day is 'Take Yourself Funny for Money'. This includes daft dressing up, silly dance moves or anything funny that could be used to raise money. We will once again be raising money for Comic Relief on 20th March.

We plan on having fun by getting the students involved in various fun activities. There will also be the vote for the annual senior leadership gunging, which this year is being extended to include Pathway Leads.



Children's Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. We have been exploring this year's theme, 'This is My Place'. Feeling a sense of belonging helps children feel safe, valued and understood. For our students, belonging isn't about fitting in — it's about being accepted exactly as they are, having predictable spaces, trusted people, and routines that support their emotional wellbeing. We place a strong emphasis on helping every child feel that this is their place.

Throughout the week, children have been exploring what makes them feel calm, safe and happy, whether that's a favourite activity, a special person, a sensory space, or a familiar routine. These experiences help build emotional security, which is the foundation for learning, communication and confidence.

Thank you for everything you do to support your child's wellbeing every day. Together, we are helping our children build a strong sense of place, connection and belonging — at school, at home, and beyond.

Ideas for Supporting Belonging at Home

- Create a cosy "safe place" - A beanbag, blanket, or small tent with familiar items for calming moments.
- Use photos and visuals - Family pictures, pets, favourite staff or places help build connection.
- Offer small choices - Two snacks, two activities, two outfits — simple but empowering.
- Share calm time together - Music, a favourite show, sensory play — presence over pressure.
- Keep routines predictable - Visuals or simple schedules can reduce anxiety and increase confidence.
- Name feelings gently - "You look calm," "I can see you're worried" — validating and safe.

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What's Next – Transition Event

We have planned this year's transition event for parents/carers and young people to explore post-school options. The event will be held on Friday 15th May, between 10am and 12.30pm in the school hall at Foreland Fields School. Once again, this year's event has been jointly organised by both Foreland Fields School and Stone Bay School.

This event is an opportunity to look at post-school options by meeting with a range of providers and identifying support and resources available in the local area.

This event is targeted at parents/carers of students aged 14 and above however, should other parents/carers wish to attend, they are welcome.

For more information contact Sharon Bremner at the school office or via email:
sharonbremner@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Playground Opening During the February Half-Term Break

At the beginning of the half-term break, we will be opening our playgrounds to parents/carers of children within our infant and junior departments.

The playgrounds will be open between 10am and 1pm on Monday 16th February.

The infant playground should be used by students in Year R/KS1 (Year 2 and under). The junior playground should be used by students in Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and over).



Siblings who do not attend the school are also welcome to attend.

A staff member will be on hand however, parents/carers are responsible for the supervision and support of their own children. Whilst we will have toilets for children to use, we are unable to provide any drinks or snacks. If any parent/carer would like to bring anything with them, they are more than welcome.

Should this date need to be changed or cancelled, we will post a message on ClassDojo.

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Boccia Tournament by Lee Goddard (PE Teacher)

Keller Class recently took part in the Active Kent and Medway Boccia Tournament, and what an incredible day it was! Our students represented the school brilliantly from start to finish, showing outstanding teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the event.



The class played an impressive six games and won every single one, demonstrating excellent Boccia skills and a real understanding of the game. However, it wasn't just their performances on the court that stood out. Our students were fantastic role models, confidently supporting and encouraging players from other schools, helping them understand the rules, and forming new friendships along the way.

A real highlight of the day was the opportunity to meet two England Boccia World Champions, who spent time talking with the students and watching them play. They were especially complimentary about Keller Class, praising them not only for their skill but for how polite, kind, and welcoming they were to everyone they met.

We are incredibly proud of Keller Class for their positive attitude, teamwork, and for representing our school so positively. Well done to all involved you were amazing!

School Uniform

A reminder that all students, other than those in our 6th Form and Key Stage 4 college (EKC) attendees, should come to school dressed in school uniform.



We understand that some variation is helpful in order to meet certain student needs, e.g. jogging bottoms rather than traditional school trousers and plain white polo shirts for those who require frequent changes.

Official uniform can be purchased from the Schoolwear Centre in Margate (01843 293555) however, we are happy for students to wear items of the same colour that do not contain the school logo. We ask that parents name all clothing.

The Schoolwear centre have recently moved premises and can now be found in The High Street, Margate. Their website can be found at: <https://www.schoolwearcentre.net/>

Children of all ages need a basic PE kit and students may need clothing for more specific activities from time to time, e.g. waterproof jackets and wellington boots for Forest School.

The school carries a number of second-hand clothing items which can be purchased at very low cost. Please contact our Family Liaison Officer Sharon Bremner for further details sharonbremner@foreland.kent.sch.uk

Students who attend our Garlinge or Hartsdown satellite classes must wear the uniform of the school they attend.

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Holidays During Term Time



At Foreland Fields School, we believe we offer a supportive approach to attendance and encourage our families to contact us should there be any barriers to their child attending school.

Headteachers are not permitted to agree leave of absence during term time unless they are satisfied that there are exceptional

circumstances. School attendance guidance emphasises that 'a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance'. Could I please ask that parents do not book holidays or visits during term time as I am not permitted to authorise them.

Exceptional circumstances could include:

- Service personnel returning from a tour of duty abroad where it is evidenced the individual will not be in receipt of any leave in the near future that coincides with school holidays.
- Where an absence from school is recommended by a health professional as part of a parent or child's rehabilitation from a medical or emotional issue.
- The death or terminal illness of a person close to the family.
- To attend a wedding or funeral of a person close to the family.
- Where there are exceptional and unforeseen circumstances that fall outside of the above.

Please note, evidence will be required in each case. It is the decision of the Headteacher how many days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

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Communication Workshop

The next Communication Workshop for families and friends of our students is on Tuesday 17th March (9-11am) at The Hive. Further details to be shared on ClassDojo.

We will be focussing on early communication development and learning core Makaton signs to use with your child.

Don't forget that the Foreland Fields Communication Hub Online Resources are always available on our school website - www.foreland.kent.sch.uk

World Book Day 2026

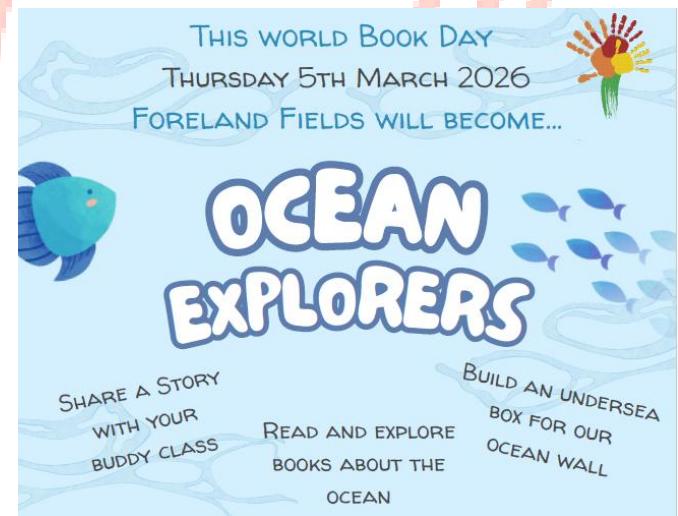
Students are invited to come to school dressed up as a favourite character on Thursday 5th March.

Our theme this year is "Ocean Explorers" so you may see some suspicious sea creatures around in school!

We have lots of activities planned to inspire a love of story-telling and reading.

Students will also be visiting our "pop-up bookshop" supported by the "Happy Reading Children's Bookshop" in Broadstairs.

They will be able to exchange their £1 book token to choose a book to bring home.



Nikki Gray

Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) Lead Teacher

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Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show 2026

Once again, we will be participating in this year's Royal Academy Young Artists Summer Show competition.



The Young Artists' Summer Show is an opportunity for UK-based young artists aged 4-18 to make and share a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no set theme and we welcome submissions covering a range of techniques including drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation, video, and more.

The student's artwork needs to be accompanied by a parental consent form and a short description about the artwork. Consent forms can be requested from the class teacher (or ClassDojo).

Artwork (entries) along with the completed parental consent form can be sent in to the class teacher, no later than **Friday 27th February**, to allow time for the pieces to be submitted.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Students Return for Term 4 on Tuesday 24th February 2026.

Please note – Monday 23rd February is a Staff Training Day and school is therefore closed to all students.

- Monday 16th February - Playgrounds Open for Key Stage 1 and 2 students (Between 10am and 1pm)

Term 4

- Monday 23rd February - Staff Training Day
- Tuesday 24th February – Start of Term 4
- 2nd – 6th March 2026 - National Careers Week
- Thursday 5th March 2026 - World Book Day
- Tuesday 17th March 9.00am – 11.am – Communication Workshop at The Hive
- Friday 20th March 2026 - Red Nose Day/Down Syndrome Day (World DSD: Saturday 21st March)
- Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th March 2026 - Circus Skills
- Thursday 2nd April – End of Term 4

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It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Chris Holmes. Chris has been at the school for 44 years in various roles. More recently, Chris has held the role of Health and Therapy Assistant and has been a real support to many students, staff and parents. We wish Chris well and hope that she continues to pop in and see us.

Please join us in welcoming new Teaching Assistants

Georgia Williams, Alexandra Hayward, Jack Eteen and Caitlyn Snelson.

Elisha Kennett has also joined us in the role of midday meal supervisor.

We hope you all have an enjoyable break and look forward to seeing all students back with us on Tuesday 24th February.

Adrian