



Newsletter: Friday 18 November 2022



Failsworth Community Fridge

Failsworth Community Fridge is a place where anyone can go and get free food/hygiene products if they are struggling to afford the basics. It is similar to a foodbank, however the community fridge does not require any token or voucher or proof of income to use it.

The fridge is based at Co-op Academy Failsworth and they rely on donations from school staff and students, as well as external donations from the public and businesses. Anyone can donate and anyone can use the Community Fridge.

This year, to support our community, all of our Harvest donations were sent to the Community Fridge, ensuring that the donations made by families and members of our school community remain in the local area. We'd like to say great big thank-you to everyone who was able to make a harvest donation this year.

If you would like to find out more about the Community Fridge, how to donate or how to access the service, there is more information online here:
<https://failsworth.coopacademies.co.uk/stories/failsworth-community-fridge/>

Do you follow and like us?

We're building our social profiles and you can now follow us on three different platforms.

Check us out online!



@higherfailsworth



@HigherFPschool



@HigherFPschool

There's also lots of information about school on our website:
www.higher-failsworth-oldham.sch.uk

Reporting Absences

Please remember that if you need to contact the school about absences, you should leave a message on our dedicated answer phone. This is Option 1, when you call the school number 0161 681 2645. Please do not report absence on ClassDojo, unless you have also made a phone call and are giving us extra information.

The office is very busy in the morning and we pick up the phone messages to check attendance before ClassDojo messages are dealt with. This might mean that you get a phone call checking attendance if you have only reported it on Dojo.

We understand that there are sometimes occasions when you cannot make a phone call, but ClassDojo should always be a last resort. Thank-you!



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Christmas Fair and Non-Uniform Days

As you've probably seen we have two non-uniform days coming up to gather donations for our Christmas Fair.

The first is on Friday 25th November and we're asking for donations of bottles and chocolates/sweets on this day for our very popular Tombola Stalls.

Our second day will be on Friday 2nd December and we're asking for Gifts (unwanted new gifts), Toiletries, New toys Teddies & soft toys, books and boxed cakes. If you are a keen home baker and would like to bake over the weekend for the Fair, then please drop these donations off on Monday morning. Be sure to label your containers so that we can return them back to you.

If you are a local business and would like to support us, we're also looking for prizes for our big raffle. If you'd like more information about this please contact the school office, who will be happy to help!

The Christmas Fair will take place on Monday 5th December from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. In the past, parents have been very generous with their donations and this has enabled us not to have to charge an entry fee for the fair.

We'll have lots of fun things on the day including the chance to come and meet Father Christmas and a variety of stalls. We'll also have refreshments available to purchase. Where possible, please try to bring loose change as we often get lots of notes and struggle to give change.

Entrance will be through the Year 3 entrance on the KS2 Playground or via the Breakfast Club door at the front. Please ensure that you collect your children promptly at 3.20pm so the fair can start on time, as staff are needed to run the stalls so we can't start until all the children are collected.





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Middy Supervisor Vacancy

Applications are still open for our Middy Supervisor role. The post is for 1 hour 50 minutes every day,

We're looking for a positive, team player who has a strong work ethic. You will be confident and have the ability to multi-task in this busy and vibrant environment.

Experience of working as part of a team and with children is desirable, but not essential, if you have great inter-personal skills and are friendly and approachable.

If you feel you could make a positive contribution to our school, we would love to hear from you. Full details can be found on the school website:
<https://www.higher-failsworth.oldham.sch.uk/recruitment/>

Please send your completed application marked 'Middy Application' either by post to school, or by email to info@higher-failsworth.oldham.sch.uk

The Closing date for applications is Tuesday 22nd November 2022 and interviews will be held on Thursday 24th November.



ParentPay Payments and Debts

We'd like to give parents and carers a quick reminder that for all activities that require payment, then payment should be made in advance.

In particular, this includes paying for school dinners, breakfast club and paid after school clubs and activities.

Where debts occur, then unfortunately, we will be forced to withdraw your child's participation in clubs, and you will need to provide a packed lunch instead of them taking a school dinner.

Don't forget!!

It is very busy at the office in the morning so before you leave home check you have packed the following:

- Water Bottle
- Homework
- Book Bag
- Coat, hat, gloves/scarf
- Packed Lunch

We will call home for forgotten items, but sometimes its late morning before we get to this so make sure you check before leaving the house!





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Free School meals – are you eligible?

Oldham Council is urging families to check whether they are eligible for free school meals. You don't need to make a separate claim for free school meals if you are already in receipt of or have applied for Housing Benefit or help with Council Tax.

Oldham Council will use the information and evidence we have already provided to confirm your entitlement to free school meals.

Please remember that you need to apply for each child at school. Even if your children receive a universal free meal in Reception or KS1 you should still apply for them, as there are other benefits for them at school including free school uniform.

If you are a resident in Manchester, please complete the Free School Meals application form. For more information, and to access the form, visit www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances/161/free_school_meals

For any queries about free school meals you can contact the Council on 0161 770 6688 or email: benefits@oldham.gov.uk

Struggling with the Cost of Living?

Help is available, whatever you
are going through.



Did you know that Oldham Council has agreed a £3 million support package that will have a huge impact on the lives of Oldhamers to help them through the Cost-of-Living crisis.

The support includes doubling the size of the Warm Homes Oldham programme, establishing warm spaces across the borough, more money into our community engagement team and helpline, and additional support to local organisations such as Oldham Foodbank.

The main point of contact is our We Can Help helpline available on 0161 770 7007 which is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm. Information on the full support package is also available at www.oldham.gov.uk/wecanhelp

You may also find the following contacts useful:

- Household Support Fund – 0161 770 7007
- Local Welfare Provision – 0161 770 5468 or
- Oldham Foodbank – 0161 622 1061 or email info@oldham.foodbank.org.uk
- Citizens Advice – 0300 330 9073



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Diary Dates

Date	Year/Class	Event
25 Nov	All	Non-uniform for Fair - Bottle and Chocolate donations please
2 Dec	All	Non-uniform for Fair - Toiletries and Gifts donations please
5 Dec	All	Christmas Fair - 3.30pm to 5.00pm
5-8 Dec	All	Half Price Book Fair
6 Dec	All	Christmas Dinner Day - pre-booking required, details to follow
5 Dec	Rec Parents	Reception Christmas Performance (2.00pm)
6 Dec	Rec Parents	Reception Christmas Performance (2.00pm)
8 Dec	Y2 Parents	Y2 Production for parents (4.00pm)
9 Dec		School Governor Day - Governors visit the school
12 Dec	Year 3 / 4	LKS2 Party - Bring change of clothes
13 Dec	Amethyst and selected 5/6	Clarinet Performance for parents at 2.30
14 Dec	Emerald and selected Y5	Brass Performance for parents at 11.45
14 Dec	Year 5 / 6	UKS2 Party - Bring change of clothes
15 Dec	Y3-6 Opt In	Robin Hood Pantomime at Oldham Coliseum (am)
15 Dec	EYFS/KS1	Aladdin Pantomime in school
16 Dec	Nursery Parents	Nursery Singalong - 11.00am to 11.30am
16 Dec	Opal Class	Nursery Christmas Party - Wear party clothes
16 Dec	Sunstone and Moonstone	Reception Party - Wear party clothes
16 Dec	Year 1 / 2	KS1 Party - Wear party clothes
16 Dec	KS2 House TBC	Non-uniform day for winning house team Last day of term - break up for Christmas

Keep checking ClassDojo for more information about all of these activities!

**MARK
YOUR CALENDAR!**