



Newsletter: Friday 17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the close of another academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been achieved and to thank you sincerely for the support you continue to give our school.

This year has brought with it many successes and memorable experiences. Our pupils have impressed us with their perseverance, enthusiasm, and willingness to embrace challenges, both in and out of the classroom. From academic successes and sporting triumphs to creative performances and community initiatives, they have continued to shine in so many ways.

I am immensely proud of the way our whole school community has worked together to provide an environment where children can thrive. Our dedicated staff have shown outstanding commitment, ensuring that every child is encouraged, nurtured, and inspired to achieve their very best. Their efforts, alongside your encouragement at home, have played a vital role in all that has been accomplished this year.

A heartfelt thank you goes to you, our parents and carers. Whether by supporting events, volunteering, or simply encouraging your children each day, your partnership has been central to the strength of our school community.

As we look ahead to the coming academic year, we do so with optimism and ambition. We are excited about the opportunities that await and remain committed to providing the very best for every child in our care.

In the meantime, I wish you a wonderful summer holiday — one filled with rest, joy, and time well spent with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back in September, refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

With warmest regards,
Mrs Forster



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End of Year Awards

Today we celebrated with our end of year presentation assembly. Each class teacher was able to award a certificate for a child in their class in each of the following categories:

Perseverance Citizenship Sportsmanship Progress

We would like to say a huge well done to all of the children who were awarded a certificate this year. Congratulations!

Perseverance	Citizenship	Sportsmanship	Progress
Elliot	Heidi	Oscar	Alexander
Polly	Zi Ting	Sonny Ho	Rahel
Jasmine	Aisha	Lilley	Mohammed
Isla	Valentina	Reeva	Freya
Emily	Alfie	Leo	Olivia
Connor	Ali	Kanaan	Anna
Leo	Alyssa	Ezra	Maxwell
Rateel	George	Luna	Alexander
James	Greyson	Olalonpe	Merit
Ethan	Harper	Aria	Aariz
A-J	Lacey	Cooper	William
Mohammed	Alissia	Laney	Charlie
Elsie-Mae	Ava	Myles	Annie
Arlo-Grey	Ffion	James	Arthur
Halle	Emily	Archie	Harry
Ellie-Mae	Darawan	Charlotte	Harley



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Pre-Loved Uniform Shop Opening Information

Thank you to all of our families who have made uniform donations to stock up our Pre-Loved Uniform Shop!

We have been overwhelmed by the response.

We have lots of preloved uniform, that we will be organising in the first few weeks of the summer. The Swap Shop will be based in the Children's Centre and open between 10:00 and 12:00 on the following

Dates:

Tuesday 18th August
Wednesday 19th August
Monday 24th August
Thursday 27th August

- ☐ Coats
- ☐ Jumpers
- ☐ Hoodies
- ☐ Polo Shirts
- ☐ Trousers
- ☐ Skirts
- ☐ PE Kit
- ☐ Shoes
- ☐ Socks

Ring the Bell on the left of the door on arrival.

Do you Follow and Like us?

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



Higherfailsworth



@HigherFPschool

higherfailsworth



ParentPay - Please pay in advance

As we approach the start of the new academic year, we kindly ask that you check your ParentPay accounts and ensure they are up to date.

Autumn Term 1 runs from Thursday 3rd September 2026 to Friday 23rd October 2026, lasting 7 weeks, and 2 days.

ParentPay accounts can be topped up at any time, paid in advance and not in arrears. To help you plan your budgets, we have outlined below the costs for children who attend Breakfast Club every day.

Breakfast Club

Daily: £1:00

Weekly: £5:00

Monthly payments for Autumn 1

September: £22:00

October: £15.00

Total for the half term: £37.00

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring payments are kept up to date. If you have any questions or require assistance with ParentPay, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Where arrears do occur, the following steps will be taken as a reminder but also to support in minimising arrears:

- 1 week's arrears: A reminder via Class Dojo or an email.
- 2 week's arrears: We will ask that any outstanding balance is settled and, in the meantime, request that your child avoids attending breakfast club until the arrears are cleared.



School Meals

From next term, the cost of a school meal is increasing to £3.00 per day/£15 per week.

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ParentPay accounts can be topped up at any time, paid in advance and not in arrears. To help you plan your budgets, we have outlined below the costs for children who attend Breakfast Club every day.

School Meals

Weekly: £15:00

Monthly payments for Autumn 1

September: £66:00

October: £45:00

Total for the half term: £111:00

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring payments are kept up to date. If you have any questions or require assistance with ParentPay, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Where arrears do occur, the following steps will be taken as a reminder but also to support in minimising arrears:

- 1 week's arrears: A reminder via Class Dojo or an email.
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Important Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

You may have seen or heard in the news that the Department for Education is making significant changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility from September 2026.

This information is important for all families, not just those currently receiving Free School Meals. Many more children may become eligible under the new arrangements, while some pupils currently receiving FSM may see changes to their entitlement.

What is changing?

From the start of the 2026/27 academic year, all children from households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to a free school meal, regardless of household earnings.

There will be three categories of benefits-based Free School Meals:

Targeted Free School Meals, children whose families receive Universal Credit and have an annual earned income of £7,400 or less or who qualify under the current criteria.

Children in this category will continue to attract additional support and funding for schools, including Pupil Premium and other associated benefits.

Expanded Free School Meals, children whose families receive Universal Credit but have an annual earned income above £7,400.

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These children will receive a free school meal but will not attract Pupil Premium funding or some other linked benefits.



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Universal Free School Meals, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to receive Universal Free School Meals (UFSM), regardless of household income.

Important – Current Entitlements Will Not Automatically Continue
Since 2018, some families have continued to receive FSM even if their circumstances changed. This is known as “transitional protection”. These protections will end from September 2026.

This means:

- Some families currently receiving FSM may no longer qualify
- All families will need to meet the new eligibility criteria
 - Eligibility will be checked annually

What do parents and carers need to do?

A child can only receive benefits-based Free School Meals if an application has been made and their eligibility has been checked.

We strongly encourage all families who receive Universal Credit to apply, even if they have not been eligible previously.

Applying as early as possible will help ensure that eligible children receive their free school meal from the first day of the autumn term.

School can check your eligibility, with your consent, please complete the consent form by clicking this link:

<https://forms.gle/t6TAMsrD29DriRZ36>

Alternatively apply direct through Oldham Council:

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200231/education_grants_and_allowances/161/free_school_meals

If you have a query email benefitsfsm@oldham.gov.uk



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Staff Update

We would like to wish Miss O'Reilly a fond farewell, as she will be leaving Higher Failsworth to take up a new teaching post in September. Although Miss O'Reilly has been with us for just one year, she has made a positive contribution to our school community through her dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to supporting our pupils. We are grateful for everything she has done during her time with us.

We would like to thank Miss O'Reilly for all her hard work and wish her every success and happiness in her new role. We know she will be a great asset to their new school

We would also like to extend our fond farewells to Kelly from Place2be. Kelly has proved very popular and has supported many of our children in a kind, caring and understanding manner.

We would like to wish her the best of luck in her new venture.

**Farewell
and
Good Luck**



Congratulations to Troy from Sapphire Class who won the KS2 talent show, voted by the school council.



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Buds and Blossoms

From September, Buds & Blossoms will be running a Before and After School club based at Higher Failsworth Primary School.

For more information please contact Buds & Blossoms directly



Budsandblossomsfalsworth@gmail.com



07539 897511

Finally!!

Have an enjoyable summer,
What a fantastic year it has, been!



Thank you to all of our amazing children, families,
and staff for making it so special. Now it is time to
relax, recharge, and enjoy the sunshine!

Wishing all of our Year 6 leavers Good Luck in their
next chapter!

Looking forward to see everyone else return,
refreshed and ready, when school reopens on
Thursday 3rd September for the start of the Autumn term.