George Fentham Endowed School Newsletter

SUMMER 2 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of our parents and carers, dedicated staff, committed governors and the wider school community for your on-going support, kindness and partnership throughout my twenty years as Headteacher at George Fentham Endowed School. It has been an absolute privilege to work alongside you all.

Over the last few weeks, I have really appreciated so many kind words and good wishes. The decision to leave George Fentham has been incredibly difficult but I know the amazing work that happens in school, each and every day, will continue.

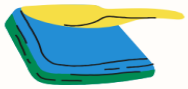
Most importantly, I want to thank our incredible children. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, resilience and kindness have made every day unique and rewarding, and it has been a real joy to watch them follow their own individual learning journeys and to flourish. **They are, and always will be, at the heart of everything that makes George Fentham Endowed School such a special place**.

As I leave, I do so with immense pride in all that we have achieved together and with so many amazing memories that I will carry with me. George Fentham will always hold a very special place in my heart, and I wish every member of our school community continued happiness and success in the years ahead.

Kindest regards

Mrs J Gaughan

Mrs J Gaughan
Headteacher
George Fentham Endowed School



TERM DATES

SCHOOL TERMS & DATES	2026/2027
SUMMER TERM 2026	TERM ENDS MONDAY 20TH JULY – INSET DAY 5
AUTUMN TERM 2026/27	TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2026
HALF TERM	MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2026 – FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2026
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY 2027
SPRING TERM 2027	MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2027 – THURSDAY 25TH MARCH 2027
HALF TERM	MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2027 -FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2027
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	FRIDAY 26TH MARCH 2027– FRIDAY 9TH APRIL 2027
SUMMER TERM 2027	MONDAY 12TH APRIL 2027– WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY 2027
MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY	MONDAY 3RD MAY 2027
HALF TERM	MONDAY 31ST MAY 2027 – FRIDAY 4TH JUNE 2027
5 INSET DAYS 2026/2027	INSET DAY 1: TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER INSET DAY 2: TBC INSET DAY 3: TBC INSET DAY 4: TBC INSET DAY 5: TBC

DATES FOR THE DIARY

MONDAY 20TH JULY 2026	INSET DAY 5 AND END OF SCHOOL YEAR
TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2026	INSET DAY 1
MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2026	YEAR 3 SWIMMING STARTS
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2026	HARVEST FESTIVAL
TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2026	INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS
FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2026	YEAR 6 COVENTRY CATHEDRAL
TUESDAY 1ST DECEMBER	OPEN THE BOOK ASSEMBLY
THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2026	R AND YR 6 NATIONAL CHILDHOOD MEASUREMENT PROGRAMME
WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2027	CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

CLASS TEACHERS 2026/2027

Staffing for academic year 2026/2027

Class	Teacher(s)
Nursery	Mrs Bromhall
Reception	Mrs Brown
Year 1	Mrs Salmon (Mon-Weds) and Mrs Barratt (Thu – Fri)
Year 2	Mr Bass
Year 3	Mrs Maycock
Year 4	Mrs Bradburn (Mon- Weds) and Mrs Kermode (Thu – Fri)
Year 5	Mrs Jones
Year 6	Miss Timothy

At the end of term we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Bailey, our Deputy Head, who will be retiring after 36 years working in education. Mrs Bailey has been at George Fentham for four years and we would like to thank her for her contribution during this time and wish her all the very best in the future.

2025/26 REPORTS REMINDER

Thank you to everyone who has sent back their child's report slip. Your feedback is important to us and is greatly appreciated.

OPEN EVENING

It was lovely to welcome all our visitors to school on Monday 13th July for our Open Evening. We really hope you all enjoyed looking at your child's work and talking with their teachers. We also hope you enjoyed the opportunity to meet your child's teacher for the next academic year and visit their new classrooms. The children are very proud to share their work with you all.

CELEBRATING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

SUMMER TERM 1 ATTENDANCE

1ST Year 1	21 out of 30 children 100% attendance	70.0%
2nd Year 3	19 out of 29 children 100% attendance	65.52%
3rd Year 2	17 out of 29 children 100% attendance	58.62%
4th Reception	17 out of 30 children 100% attendance	56.67%
5th Year 6	15 out of 28 children 100% attendance	53.57%
6th Year 5	11 out of 21 children 100% attendance	52.38%
Joint 8th Year 4	15 out of 30 children 100% attendance	50.00%
Joint 8th Nursery	11 out of 22 children 100% attendance	50.00%

Well done to the 126 children who achieved 100% attendance in Summer Term 1. All of these children received a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

NURSERY

What a fun-packed half-term we have had in Nursery! The children have been fully engaged with our learning theme, **"A Journey to Space,"** and it has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm grow throughout the topic. It has been especially lovely to see the children continuing their learning at home and sharing the exciting facts, books and discoveries they have found with us. Thank you for supporting their learning—it really does make such a difference.

One of the highlights of the half-term was our **Rocket Making Day**. We were so impressed with the children's fantastic creations and loved seeing them put their learning powers into action as they planned, built and proudly shared their rockets. They showed great creativity, perseverance and teamwork, making it a truly memorable day.

As we prepare for the next exciting stage of the children's learning journey, we have been taking part in lots of activities to support their transition into Reception. The children have enjoyed having lunch in the hall, spending time on the big playground, and visiting their Reception classroom to meet their new teachers and make new friends. They have taken all of these experiences in their stride and have shown great confidence and maturity. It has been wonderful to see how excited they are about their next adventure.

As we come to the end of another fantastic year, we would like to thank you for all of your support. This time of year always brings mixed emotions. We are always sad to say goodbye to the children, as we have loved getting to know each and every one of them and have enjoyed watching them learn, grow and flourish. However, we are incredibly proud of how far they have come and know they are more than ready for Reception and all the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

We wish all of our children and families a wonderful summer break and every success as they begin this exciting new chapter. We know they will continue to shine!

Mrs Bromhall and Mrs Porter

RECEPTION

What a fantastic few weeks we have had in Reception!

Our Space topic has been full of excitement and curiosity. The children have enjoyed learning about the planets in our solar system, discovering interesting facts about space, designing and creating rockets from recycled materials and exploring what astronauts might need for their journeys. They have shown wonderful imagination, creativity and teamwork throughout our activities.

We had a wonderful Father's Day Stay and Play session. It was lovely to see the children sharing their learning and enjoying special activities with the important adults in their lives. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us and help make it such a memorable event.

The children have also enjoyed visiting the computer suite, where they developed their computing skills by learning how to use a desktop computer and a paint program to create their own space-themed pictures. They practised using the mouse with increasing control and confidence while expressing their creativity.

Over the past few weeks, we have also been focusing on transition to Year 1. The children have been taking part in a range of activities designed to build their confidence and prepare them for the next stage of their learning. They have visited their new classroom and met the Year 1 teachers. We are incredibly proud of how maturely and enthusiastically they have embraced these opportunities, and we know they are well prepared for their exciting move to Year 1.

We look forward to celebrating the end of the year with an EYFS teddy bears' picnic. We will have fun, play games and enjoy spending time together.

Thank you, parents, for your continued support throughout the year. We are so proud of everything the children have achieved and have really enjoyed teaching them.

Mrs Brown and Mrs Flint

YEAR 1

What a fantastic way to end an incredible year in Year 1!

One of the highlights of our summer term was our wonderful trip to the Herbert Museum and Art Gallery. The children enjoyed exploring beautiful works of art from the past and developing their sketching skills by carefully observing and drawing what they saw. They also took part in an exciting Victorian workshop, where they discovered what daily life was like for Victorian children and explored the toys they would have played with. This was a fantastic opportunity to bring our history learning to life, and the children were engaged, curious and full of excellent questions throughout the day.

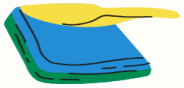
We were also incredibly proud of all the children during Sports Day. They showed fantastic determination, teamwork and resilience, cheering each other on and giving every event their very best effort. Their positive attitudes and sportsmanship were a joy to see.

Our end-of-year assembly was truly a showstopper! The children confidently shared their learning journey from across the year, demonstrating just how much they have grown in confidence, knowledge and independence. They performed brilliantly and made us all incredibly proud.

Finally, a huge congratulations to our amazing cheerleaders. Their enthusiasm, confidence and energy were outstanding, and they entertained everyone with a fantastic performance. What stars!

As we come to the end of a wonderful year, we would like to thank all of our families for their continued support. The children have been an absolute pleasure to teach, and it has been such a joy to watch them blossom, grow in confidence, and develop into enthusiastic learners throughout the year. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and know they will continue to shine in Year 2. We hope you all have a safe, happy and relaxing summer!

Mrs Salmon and Mrs Barratt



YEAR 2

This half term began with our Class Assembly, "A Journey through Year 2"! We had children on a Gerry Hunt, a spaceman, some Wild Things, the Plague & Great Fire of London, fabulous art and D & T and the children had great fun learning their lines, the songs and rehearsing.

In PE we have focused on developing our Athletic skills and used these to great effect during Sports Day, where we competed with enthusiasm and showed lots of perseverance. We've also enjoyed cricket and Tri-Gold sessions this term.

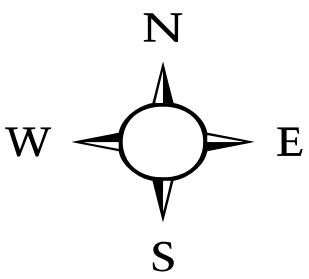
In English, we've been completely immersed in our topic on William Shakespeare, learning all about "A Midsummer Night's Dream". We have researched the playwright, explored the text of the play, unpicked the vocabulary/language and done lots of performing. It's been incredibly challenging, but we have loved being ‘thespians’ and can’t wait to do more Shakespeare in Key Stage 2!

As part of our Design & Technology work, we've been looking at how bread is made - exploring the journey from field to plate. The children have had great fun designing and making their own loaf. Hopefully the finished products tasted as good as they looked?!

We have also loved learning about Seasides - Past & Present, in Geography. We’ve developed our understanding of Human and Physical Geography, using compass points and enjoyed looking at black and white photos of seasides long ago (bathing huts and long swimming costumes).

As we reach the end of our Year 2 journey, I'd just like to say what an absolute pleasure it has been to work with the children this year. They are FAB-U-LOUS and will be a great Year 3. Well done!

Mr Bass



YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic final term filled with exciting learning, creativity and memorable experiences! We were delighted to share our learning during our class assembly - **Time Travelling Adventure**. The children performed with confidence, enthusiasm and great pride. A huge thank you to everyone who came to support us – we loved showcasing all of our hard work!

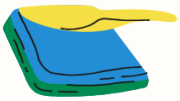
In History, we have enjoyed discovering fascinating periods from the past. From learning about the Stone Age and exploring remarkable sites such as Stonehenge and Skara Brae, to uncovering the secrets of Ancient Egypt, the children have been curious historians, asking thoughtful questions and making exciting discoveries.

In English, we thoroughly enjoyed our author study on Cressida Cowell and the children produced impressive biographies about her life and unleashed their imaginations when writing detailed instructions on how to train a dragon. We certainly have some future authors in our midst!

In Design and Technology, we combined our learning with science by designing and making healthy, balanced sandwiches. Before creating our final products, we sampled a variety of ingredients and discussed which food groups they belonged to. The best part was, of course, enjoying our delicious creations together, with a lovely sunny picnic outdoors!

We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved this year. They have demonstrated resilience, kindness, creativity and a wonderful enthusiasm for learning. Well done Year 3 – we hope you have a fantastic summer break. We will miss you enormously!

Mrs Jones and Mrs Chamberlain



YEAR 4

Year 4 have had a very busy end to the year! We have continued reading *Raven Boy* by Pippa Goodhart this half term which has inspired children in their own writing. They have improved their use of figurative language by adding more adventurous adjectives and using similes in their writing.

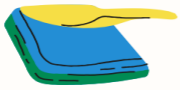
In Reading lessons, we have been enjoying *The Boy Who Fooled The* World by Lisa Thompson, which has created a lot of discussion about whether having money makes us emotionally richer or not. We have focussed particularly on, how to make predictions and summaries, and how to use clues in the story to help us answer harder inference questions.

Our DT topic this half term was entitled *Moving Pictures*. The children enjoyed exploring picture books with moving parts before investigating levers and linkages. After experimenting with a few different types of levers, they designed a moving picture based on a traditional tale for a child in Year 1 or 2. We were very impressed by the way the children were willing to have a go, maturely thinking of an alternative if their idea didn't quite go to plan.

Wow, we ended out year with an AMAZING class assembly! The children produced a wonderful performance, showing off their brilliant ukulele playing, and sharing all they had learnt on our 'Race around the World.' We are so proud of you all for learning your words, speaking clearly and being part of the team.

What a fabulous year it has been Year 4! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication - we are really looking forward to seeing your progress as you move up the school. However, we couldn't end our year without mentioning the Year 4 multiplication check- all their hard work paid off. We even had a special message from Bruno @TTRS congratulating us on our hard work and progress. All the children should be very proud of their scores – our best results ever!

Mrs Bradburn and Mrs Kermode



YEAR 5

Year 5 have had such a busy half term! In our History topic, they have learnt about how Lindisfarne was the first part of the British Isles to experience a Viking attack and the effects this had on the community living there. They have looked at how the monks from the abbey used their skills to produce beautiful, illuminated letters and have produced their own in the same style. They have also written their names in Anglo-Saxon runes.

The children have immersed themselves in our English lessons, learning all about the Anglo-Saxon warrior, Beowulf. The children designed a job-advert for a new warrior for Beowulf, thinking about what skills and experience the person applying might need and used emotive language to try and persuade the audience into applying.

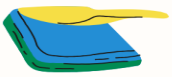
Year 5 represented George Fentham at the Chance 2 Shine Cricket Competition at Berkswell Cricket Club. Their attitude was fantastic, on a really hot day, showing brilliant teamwork and using great batting, bowling and catching skills, remembering the rules and supporting other teams with fair game play in a calm and respectful manner. Well done Year 5!

Recently, Year 5 also went on their educational visit to Hams Hall Environmental Centre where they looked at the features of a river and measured the flow with apples! They also produced some wonderful sketches of the riverbank. In the afternoon, they then looked at lifecycles of creatures and went pond-dipping. This was great fun and they found newts, fish, dragonfly larvae and various other water insects, whilst being respectful of their environments.

Finally, Year 5 produced a fabulous Class Assembly based upon the Rainforest with the theme of how we can protect them for future generations to enjoy. The children performed with enthusiasm, and you could hear every word that was spoken. They all became particularly attached to the pink cowboy hats! We hope Year 5 Parents and Visitors were as proud of the children as I was.

Looking back at our Year 5 journey I am so proud of how hard the children have worked and how they have all supported each other. They have grown and matured so much. I wish them every success next year and know that they will make an amazing Year 6!

Mrs Bailey



YEAR 6

Year 6 have certainly been busy this half term! Not only have we been preparing and practising for the Leavers' assembly and church service, but we have also been designing and sewing personalised cushion covers as part of our work in Design and Technology. I cannot wait to see the finished designs – the children will bring them home soon.

Another exciting part of our curriculum over the last half term has been our many trips! We have been on our residential, to a tag-rugby competition, participated in swimming lessons and attended a Diocesan Leavers' Service.

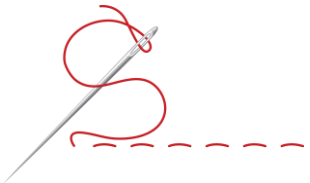
We had a fantastic few days away at Culmington Mannor in Shropshire. The children were a credit to the school and a fantastic supportive team. They faced their fears, ate lots of delicious meals and participated in a whole range of activities from abseiling to orienteering. We all had a fantastic time.

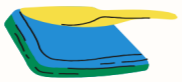
At the tag-rugby competition, the children were incredible. They persevered even in the heat and one Year 6 child was chosen as player of the match. Both teams won all but one of their matches, which means we not only won competitively but we were also voted first place for the school who consistently demonstrated the School Games Values. I am very proud of every single child who took part.

Last week, we attended a wonderful Leavers' Service at St Philips Cathedral. The cathedral was full of children and teachers from various primary schools all singing together and listening to prayers and readings. I was so impressed with those children who carried our school banner and read a prayer to the whole cathedral. They showed such bravery and decorum.

Year 6 have now made it to their final week at George Fentham Endowed School. I wish the children and their families every success and happiness on their next adventure. Thank you for your support this year.

Miss Timothy





MUSIC – MRS KERMODE

MUSIC

What an exciting musical half term we have had in school!

Congratulations to all **Year 5** children for their fantastic performance in 'Solihull Sings' at Solihull School on Wednesday 20th May 2026. The children knew all their words and actions, followed the instructions of Ms Sainsbury attentively and represented George Fentham brilliantly. Mrs Bailey and Mrs Kermode were so proud of all the children who took part.

Year 4 have really enjoyed their ukulele lessons as part of 'Wider Opportunities' taught by Solihull Music Service and performed a selection of songs in their Year 4 Class Assembly. The children made good progress throughout the year, learning how to hold the ukelele, how to name the different parts of the instrument, the difference between strumming and plucking, and some different finger positions for particular notes and chords. The children enjoyed learning songs such as *Chasing Cars* by Snow Patrol, *Best Day of my Life* by One Direction, *Smoke on the Water* by Deep Purple and *Blitkrieg Bop* by the Ramones. Although an unfamiliar instrument to all children, you all rose to the challenge and we do hope that some of you will continue with your music making next year.

Key Stage 1 Choir has continued on a Thursday Lunchtime and the children gelled well as a group, learning about the importance of performance, how to stand and what it means to have a good posture when singing. Well done, Key Stage 1 singers, for your final performance at Landrover Social Club and for your continued dedication and punctuality in turning up at lunchtimes.

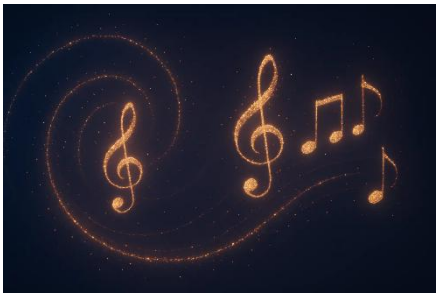
The **George Fentham Rock Band** is now thriving on a Thursday with Mr Jones and Mrs Kermode after school. Some children had not played an instrument before and the progress that they have made this year has been nothing short of phenomenal! We have a wonderful group of guitarists, keyboard players, drummers and vocalists who put together a programme for a live performance at the famous Cavern Club in Liverpool including one or two songs by The Beatles, such as *Eight Days a Week*. It was an extremely busy weekend for them because they also played on the centre stage at the Hampton Festival, drawing a lovely crowd of their peers and parents who were all there to support them. The children are working beautifully together as a group and making a very impressive sound. Well done to all taking part and thank you for your continued commitment. We hope that you will keep up this level of dedication next year and know that even greater things are to come.

We are planning to finish the term with a fantastic music assembly in front of the school and parents. Congratulations to all our musicians who are a credit to themselves and their teachers. It is not always an easy thing to stand up in front of an audience, and you should all be very proud of yourselves. Very well done and we look forward to following your progress next year.

Instrumental lessons have been thriving this half term with keyboard and vocal lessons now taking place in school, as well as drums, strings and guitars. **As ever, if your child is an aspiring musician and would like to learn an instrument, please sign them up using the Solihull Music**

information which came home via Parent Pay earlier in the Summer Term. There are a variety of instruments on offer, such as percussion, singing, keyboard, strings, brass and woodwind.

If you would like some advice as to which instrument might suit you, or to discuss financial support or instrumental hire, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Kermode or the School Office to find out more. Solihull Music can be contacted on: solihullmusic@solihull.gov.uk or 0121 704 6500.



SPORT – MRS BRADBURN

Sporting Success Across School

What a fantastic year it has been for sport! Our after-school sports clubs have been a huge success, with children enjoying new experiences, developing their skills and, most importantly, having lots of fun whilst being active. A huge thank you goes to our wonderful coaches from **Jet Dance** and **Adaptive Sport** for their enthusiasm, expertise and commitment throughout the year. Their support has helped so many children grow in confidence and discover a love of sport.

As we look ahead to the next academic year, changes to government funding mean that we will need to make some adjustments to our sporting provision. However, we remain committed to maintaining our school's strong sporting traditions and providing as many opportunities as possible for our children to be active, engaged and inspired.

Girls' Football Success

Our girls have had a brilliant summer of football. The **KS1 Shooting Stars Festival** showcased the fantastic skills that are already developing amongst our younger players. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, teamwork and determination on display.

At the **Year 3/4 Tournament**, many girls experienced playing in a football match for the very first time. What an achievement! Elouise discovered she is an outstanding defender, while Millie and Marcy brought incredible energy and effort to every game, leading the attack, making space and encouraging the girls from year 3, showing tremendous promise for the years ahead.

Girl Power Graduation

We were delighted to celebrate the **Girl Power Graduation** with all of our participants and leaders. Everyone represented the school brilliantly and enjoyed a special celebration reflecting on how movement and sport have positively impacted our lives, helping us become happier, healthier and more confident. A huge well done and thank you to all the girls who gave up their Monday lunchtimes to be "More Geri" and inspire others through their commitment and positivity.

Sports Day 2025

Sports Day was, once again, a highlight of the year. Blessed with glorious sunshine, it was a day full of smiles, encouragement and memorable moments. It was also the final Sports Day for **Mrs Gaughan** and **Mrs Bailey**, and what a wonderful one it was to remember.

The children truly embodied our **School Games Values** of respect, teamwork and, above all, passion. Across every race and event, the determination and enthusiasm shown by our competitors was inspirational. Whether crossing the finish line first or simply giving their very best effort, every child should be incredibly proud of their achievements.

KS1 Winners = Yellow Team **KS2 Winners = Green Team**.

Thank you to all our children, staff, families and volunteers for making this another outstanding year of sport. We cannot wait to see what next year brings!

Year 1 Shine at Cheerleading Festival

Our Year 1 children recently took part in an exciting Cheerleading Festival, competing against six other schools in front of a huge audience.

The children showed fantastic enthusiasm, teamwork and confidence as they performed their routine, representing our school brilliantly. We were incredibly proud of the energy, determination and school spirit they displayed throughout the event.

A huge well done to Eva D, Sammy, Charlie, Sophie, Ollie, Klara, Carol, Eva P, Edith, Lula, Charlotte, L'Amiyah, Dilys, Diana and Rupert, who all performed superbly.

A special congratulations goes to Ollie, who was awarded Cheerleader of the Tournament and received a medal for his outstanding performance. What a fantastic achievement!

Well done to all of our Year 1 cheerleaders, you made us all incredibly proud!

AND FINALLY….

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 2nd September 2026.