

November 2025

RE: Christmas at Farlingaye

As we move into the festive season, Farlingaye really comes into its own. This is genuinely my favourite time to be Head of such a vibrant school, as the run-up to Christmas brings out the very best in our staff, students and wider community. It's also a wonderful chance to showcase everything that makes Farlingaye so special. I wanted to write to share what's coming up over the next few weeks, the support we need for a few key events, and the different ways you can get involved.

There's a lot of detail below, but if you're looking for the headlines, there are three key ways you can support the fantastic efforts of our community this Christmas:

1. Contribute to your child's form group hamper: The hampers produced by our tutor groups are a huge part of the work we do at this time of year. They are an utterly brilliant contribution, delivered across Suffolk to families in need, homeless shelters, and other local causes. Please can every student contribute to their tutor group's efforts, and liaise with their form tutor regarding the contents so we can ensure that the hampers are varied, well balanced and ready for Tuesday 9th December.

2. Donate a small gift for our Senior Citizens Concert: We like to mark Christmas by inviting in the older local population for a special concert, and it's lovely if they can leave with a small gift. If you have anything you could contribute that would be great.

3. Come along to an event! Finally, and most importantly, our amazing singers and musicians need an audience and your support, appreciation and encouragement is definitely needed. It would be so lovely to see as many of you there as possible.

Events over the Christmas period

Event

Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 9th December

Details

Anyone can wear a Christmas jumper instead of a school jumper on this day – but otherwise it is normal school uniform. It is of course optional!

Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 16th December & Wednesday 17th December

A Separate communication will be going out regarding student Christmas lunch.

School Christmas Concert

Thursday 11th December 6:30pm

Tickets will be available online via ParentPay. A letter with full details about this will be sent out separately from the Music Department.

Christmas Community Concert

Friday 12th December 1:30pm- 3pm

Our annual Christmas concert for local senior citizens within our community. A separate invitation letter was recently sent out to invite

older grandparents, friends or neighbours to this event. This is a lovely concert and many care homes attend.

Monday 15th December 6pm

Our traditional Christmas Concert will be held at St Mary's Church in Woodbridge. There is no cost for this, but there will be a retirement collection on the door. This is a lovely evening, with fruit punch and mince pies served.

Arrangements for the last days of term- Friday 19th December - Non uniform day for all.

On the last day of term, Friday 19th, school will finish at 1.00pm. We will be asking school and service bus providers to collect students earlier wherever possible, with the exception of the following buses who will not be able to collect students before the usual time of 3:25pm:

WE915, WE917 & WE918

There will be the option for students who cannot get home to remain in school. Please note, students may **not** leave site at 1pm and then return to get on the bus.

I hope this all makes sense, but please don't hesitate to contact your child's Year Co-ordinator, or myself, if you have any queries.

As we head towards the Christmas break, I want to offer a special welcome to families who have joined Farlingaye this year. I hope you are beginning to feel part of our community and are seeing how much we value every student who walks through our doors. The holidays offer all of us a chance to pause, reflect, and enjoy time with the people who matter most. I wish you all a peaceful, joyful Christmas, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2026, ready for the exciting term ahead.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Smith
Headteacher