

# Fitzjohn's

...where everyone can succeed

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**Autumn Term Issue 3**

**22 September 2023**

[www.fitzjohns.camden.sch.uk](http://www.fitzjohns.camden.sch.uk)

## Afterschool Clubs

Please leave the site promptly after you have collected your child so our clubs may begin. If you are waiting for a sibling you may wait in the library **if it is free**. Please do not wait on the school grounds.

## FSA Parent Donations

The FSA can now accept monthly contributions via Apply Pay, Google Pay, and Any card. This is an alternative for the forms and the direct debit, so parents have more choice.

**£50 Donation**



**£100 Donation**



**G'mar chatima tovah** to all our Jewish community members who will be observing Yom Kippur on Sunday and Monday.

Find out more about this festival here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znwhfg8/articles/z4vvjvh>



## Class Assemblies

These happen on Fridays at 9.15am and last about 15 minutes. Join Rob afterwards (in The Lab) for the class tea!

**10 November: Y6**

**17 November: Y4**

**24 November: Y3**

**1 December: Y5**

**8 December: Reception**

Nursery do their first assembly in the Spring Term and **Y1/2 will be performing a version of the Christmas story at 2pm on Tuesday 12 December.**

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast club runs from 8am in The Lab. The cost is £2 per day. Booking (currently) not required.

## Spaces

If you have friends who are moving into the area we currently have a few spaces in:

- Nursery
- Reception
- Year 2
- Year 3
- Year 4

We are funded by the number of children at school so please get them to call the office if they are interested.

## Attendance for the week

Year 1	95.39
Year 2	98.28
Year 3	93.28
Year 4	97.86
Year 5	94.97
Year 6	93.67
<b>School</b>	<b>95.58</b>

**Well done Year 2**

### This week in class

<b>Nursery</b>	Welcome to Nursery! We've had a few weeks of transition time and now we're all full time. Hooray! The children have adapted to their new environment and they are having a wonderful time playing, as well as making new friendships. We've enjoyed activities such as, playdough, puzzles, dinosaurs, making patterns, riding balance bikes, drawing and water fun! This week we read 'Owl babies'. The story is about a mummy owl leaving her baby owls. Nursery can relate to the story, we know our mummies and daddies will always come at the end of the day! Keep a look out for our 'Owl babies' display in class. We've been talking about our emotions and to help us understand them a little better, we read 'The Colour Monster'. We can now name a range of feelings; angry, happy, calm and worried. We have a feelings Colour Monster display in class to support the children with their emotions each day. We've also enjoyed singing and learning new rhymes.
<b>Reception</b>	Reception have had a great first full week and done so well. We read the book Super Duper You this week, and it made us think about all the things that we like doing and that make us Super Duper! We drew them all and had a go at writing or copying our names for the front covers of our writing folders. We have also been busy doing art this week, drawing and painting self portraits. We carefully looked at our features to try and get them accurate. In maths we have been meeting the Numberblocks. This week we learnt 1-5. We explored each number and talked about the smaller numbers they are made up of.
<b>Class 1</b>	This week in phonics Year 1 have been recapping all of their phase 3 graphemes and tricky words. Thank you to all who were able to join on Wednesday - I hope you enjoyed! In literacy we have started reading a new book called Beegu. We have had some lovely discussions about the text and have started writing some labels and captions about the story. In maths we have worked on the concept of 'one more' and 'one less' and counting backwards from 10. During our topic lessons we have continued our work on continents. We have been learning the names of them and how to label them on a world map. We have also started learning some facts about the continent of Asia. In art we have painted some lovely self portraits which are now on display. Well done for another great week Year 1.
<b>Class 2</b>	In Class 2 this week we were lucky enough to have a visit from Camden Learning Centre, who brought in Blubots and a range of equipment used in programming them. The children wrote algorithms for the Blubots and then tested them. It was brilliant to see the way they problem-solved and visualised in order for the Blubots to get from the start of their 'tracks' to the end without stopping. We discovered a mysterious brown box in the Jungle Area on Monday and have been trying to work out what it contained. In literacy, we wrote stories about what might be inside it, before opening the box to find it was a present for Kapiti Kiwi! In maths, we have been partitioning numbers to 100 using Base 10 equipment. We have also practised writing these numbers the correct way round. We are excited to announce that we will be going on a small walk to the Parliament Hill Viewpoint on Tuesday afternoon to sketch the London skyline. We are hoping it will be sunny, but please send your child to school in a coat and with sensible shoes on, just in case.
<b>Class 3</b>	This week in Class 3, we continued to study letter-writing skills in literacy. Our new text this week was 'The Day the Crayons Quit.' We read the book together and used our reading skills to infer how each character felt when writing their letter to Duncan. In maths, we continued with place value, using hundreds, tens and ones all the way up to one thousand. We learned to use part-whole models to partition a 3-digit number in different ways. Although this was challenging for some, with resilience we worked together to understand it, using base 10 equipment to help us. In science/PSHE, we used the NHS Eatwell plate to aid us in designing a well-balanced, healthy meal using all the food groups in the right proportions. The most exciting part of the week was hearing all the school council candidates' wonderful persuasive speeches, and holding a very democratic secret ballot to decide on our school council representatives for Class 3. Congratulations to all four of our new school councillors: Romy, Kinan, George and Neva!
<b>Class 4</b>	Year 4 have been in the dark depths of Sherwood Forest this week as part of our Literacy learning. We have learnt powerful descriptive techniques including alliteration and similes. We have also learnt how to use a thesaurus to find powerful adjectives. In Maths, we have continued our place value learning, by representing 4 digit numbers and learning to partition them in different ways. We are also mastering how to find 1, 10 100 and 1000 more or less than any 4 digit number, which we found tricky. Any extra practice on this at home would be helpful. In PSHE, we created a beautiful display for our value of Individuality. In History, we discussed chronology and events in history using our class timeline. Then, we focused on Ancient Egypt and created a mini timeline of key events during this civilisation.
<b>Class 5</b>	This week, Class 5 learned in Maths how to count up and down in multiples of 10; how to partition numbers to 1,000,000; to complete number lines as well as compare and order numbers to 1,000,000. In English, we completed writing our own Ancient Greek myths and also wrote our speeches for School Council elections. In PSHE, Class 5 discussed the importance and benefits of staying hydrated and in History we compared the democracy in Ancient Greece with democracy today in the UK. In Science, we looked at the asexual reproduction of plants and compared the benefits to plants' sexual reproduction. Lastly, in RE we looked at different proverbs and their meaning.
<b>Class 6</b>	Over 3 million children were evacuated at the beginning of WW2 - leaving major cities to head to the relative safety of the countryside. In our topic, we learned about their experiences and used this knowledge to plan and create an 'evacuee letter' to a loved-one back home. We also used our powers of deduction and inference when looking at historical photos of this event. In Maths, we compared, ordered and rounded numbers, concluding with a review of negative numbers. We reviewed the apostrophe for both possession and omission in Literacy and began a new topic focusing on an animation about the war called 'Beyond Enemy Lines' - using drama and role-play to help us with our writing. In PSHE, we reviewed what it means to be healthy in year 6 and we compared fossils in Science, using clay and plaster-of-Paris to create our own fossilized shell remains which we will 'excavate' next week.



## The Year at Fitzjohn's 2023-2024

As well as assemblies, class trips and visitors into school we have a packed diary of events to which parents are encouraged to attend. Here are some highlights so you can plan for them now!

### Autumn Term

**Thursday 28 September 8.45am Fitzjohn's School Association AGM**

**Friday 3 November:** 6pm Halloween Disco

**Monday 6 November:** Parent/Teacher Meetings (all day)

**Thursday 7 December 9.15am** Key Stage 2 (Y3-Y6) Winter Concert

**Tuesday 12 December 2pm** Y1 & Y2 Nativity

**Thursday 14 December 9.15am** Key Stage 2 (Y1-Y2) Winter Concert

**Friday 15 December 2.45pm** Christmas Fair

**Wednesday 20 December 2.30pm** Class Parties

### Spring Term

**Wednesday 17 January 6.30pm – 8.30pm** The Fitzjohn's Conversation 2024. A chance for staff, children, governors and parents to gather together to discuss issues around a theme.

**Wednesday 7 February 9am-11am** Being a Safe, Happy and Healthy Child (PSHE and Information for Parents)

**Monday 26 February – Friday 1 March** Book Fair

**Thursday 7 March World Book Day** (Dress up as your favourite book character)

**Wednesday 27 March 2.45pm** Hat Parade and Stalls

### Summer Term

**Friday 17 May 6pm** International Food Evening

**Saturday 13 July** Summer Fair

**Wednesday 17 July 7.30pm** Y6 Performance

**Tuesday 23 July 9.30am** Reception Graduation

**Tuesday 23 July 6pm** Y6 Leavers Disco

**Tuesday 23 July 7.30pm** Y6 Leavers Assembly

Still to come: Popcorn Night Dates

### Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 27 September Y6 CLC  
Thursday 28 September FSA AGM  
Friday 29 September KS2 Cross Country Running  
October: Black History Month  
Thursday 5 October Y2 Tower of London  
Tuesday 10 October Y6 Zoo  
Friday 13 October Harvest Assembly  
Monday 16 October Y5 British Museum  
**23-27 October: Half Term**  
30 October-3 November Science Week  
Monday 30 October: The Crick in school  
Monday 30 October Y6 Junior Citizens  
Tuesday 31 October Dr Andrew Szydlo  
Wednesday 1 November Planetarium  
Thursday 2 November: Y5 The Crick  
Friday 3 November Mother Nature Science  
Friday 3 November Halloween Disco  
**Monday 6 November INSET Parent/teacher Meeting (School closed)**  
Monday 13 November Y5 Swimming (10-11am) all week  
Tuesday 7 November Dr Matt Pritchard—The Science Magician  
Monday 20 November Y5 Swimming (10-11am) all week  
Tuesday 21 November N-Y3 Drama in hall  
Tuesday 21 November Y6 RAF Museum  
Tuesday 21 November Y4 CLC  
Monday 27 November Y6 The Magic Circle  
Tuesday 28 November Y3 CLC  
Tuesday 5 December Y5 CLC  
Thursday 7 December KS2 Winter Concert  
Tuesday 12 December Y1/2 2pm Christmas Play to parents  
Thursday 14 December KS1 Winter Concert  
Thursday 14 December Nur/Rec Little Angel  
Friday 15 December (provisional) 13.30 Christmas Fair  
Monday 18 December Y6 War Rooms  
Wednesday 20 December Magic Shows & parties  
Thursday 21 December School Closes 13.30

### Harvest Assembly Friday 13 October

This year we will be collecting for the Camden Foodbank. Bring the items in on **Friday 13 October** and the foodbank will collect them.

Please do not give before this date as we cannot store.

#### Targeted food needed by Camden Foodbank:

**Tinned Meat; Tea; Long Life Juice; Tinned Fish; Coffee; Long-life Milk; Tinned Fruit; Sugar; Soap;  
Tinned Soup; Biscuits; Shampoo; Baked Beans; Chocolate; Shower Gel; Pasta/Rice; Washing Powder; Toothbrush; Pasta Sauce; Washing Up Liquid; Toothpaste; Cereal; Cooking Oil; Deodorant**

## Every School Day Counts



**Don't let your child miss out - every school day counts**

Attending regularly is vital for your child's happiness and success in school.

We know that pupils with good school attendance – of 95% or more – are far more likely to achieve the expected level in their primary school tests at age 11 and go on to gain good passes in their GCSEs at age 16.

Camden  
Learning



Schools have a legal requirement to ensure that attendance is as high as possible.

We are accountable to Camden, the DfE and to Ofsted for this.

We are working hard to improve our attendance and need your help:

Please do not take holidays during term time and avoid medical appointments, etc during the day.

Missing school is missing out!

## **The Fitzjohn's School Association (The FSA)**

Registered Charity No 102 9947

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

8.45am-9.15am Thursday 28 September

The Fitzjohn's School Association is our version of the PTA or the Parent/Teacher Association which you find in many schools. It is a voluntary charity of which everyone in our community is a member. It has an important function in helping our community to socialise and to raise funds.

One of our most important meetings is the Annual General Meeting where we elect the people who will help run The FSA and make decisions on where the money will be spent.

Please come to the AGM at 8.45am-9.15am on Thursday 28 September. The meeting will be held in the hall and everyone is welcome.

#### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. This term's FSA events
3. **FSA AGM**
  - President's address
  - Election of The Chair
  - Treasurer's report 2022-2023
  - School Funding Requests 2023-2024 - for vote and approval (see below).

#### **Funding Requests 2023-2024**

##### **Coaching and Support**

Art: £6,000

Games/Gym Coach: £15,000

Music: £21,000

##### **Playgrounds**

General Resources: £4,000

##### **Computing**

Camden City Learning membership, iPads, computing resources £15,000

##### **Resources**

Musical instruments for class lessons: £10,000

Science Resources: £5,000

Geography resources: £5,000

##### **On-going:**

Transport for trips (circa) £6,000

Support and sponsorship for children on Free School Meals to attend one club per term: £6,000

Events: £4,000

Ongoing: messaging, etc: £3,000

**Total: £100,000**

**Solar Panel Project** Separate from the above, we are looking to fundraise and invest £40,000 for solar panels for environmental and cost saving benefits.

## The Gate in the Morning

To help improve site security (as staff are here working early in the morning) we will be closing the gate.

It will be open from 7.55am to 8.05am to allow breakfast club to enter. If you arrive after this time please buzz the office.

**The gate will remain closed until 8.40am. Please do not arrive before this time if you are not in breakfast club.**

## Visitors on Site

Aside from when you drop off and collect at usual times (08.40-08.55 and 15.15-15.30) all parents, carers and visitors must report to the office. If you are dropping off something your child has forgotten, collecting your child early, dropping off your child late all adults must report to the office where a member of staff will deal with you. Please do not go further than the office as it is a safeguarding risk and disturbs our learning.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL  
T-SHIRT & HOODIE SALE!**

FITZJOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS CREATED A NEW SITE TO BUY SCHOOL LOGO T-SHIRTS, HOODIES AND MORE FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS. THE FITZJOHNSNW3 LOGO REPRESENTS OUR COMMUNITY AND AREA, AND IS IN AN EXACT REPLICIA OF THE STREET SIGN DIRECTLY BESIDE THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE. THE HISTORY OF THIS LOGO IS UNIQUE TO OUR LOCATION AND HISTORY. OTHER LOGOS AVAILABLE ARE THE HOUSE SIGNS OF AIR, WATER, EARTH AND FIRE AND THE SCHOOL BUILDING LOGO.

<https://shop.spreadshirt.co.uk/FitzjohnsNW3>

**Click the image to be taken to the site.**

T-SHIRTS: BETWEEN £12 - £17  
HOODIES: £27 - £37  
DEPENDENT ON SIZE  
ALL ITEMS CAN BE PERSONALISED

FitzJohn's Primary School  
**FITZJOHN'S NW3**

## Easy Fundraising

Getting started is easy – just click below to support us for FREE.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fitzjohnsprimary/?invite=XHGTH7&referral-campaign=c2s>

easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fitzjohnsprimary/?invite=XHGTH7&referral-campaign=c2s>

## School Council

Thank you to everyone who stood for School Council. Congratulations to:

Year 1: Livya, Ivy, Chiaki, Yuval  
Year 2: Michael, Tymon, Daniela, Iris  
Year 3: Romy, Kinan, George, Neva  
Year 4: Alia, Kyoka, Tighe, Tom  
Year 5: Jesse, Alex, Lily, Lara  
Year 6: Yair, Nevo, Vivian (W), Sophia (S)

## House Captains

Democracy in action on Monday when the whole school elected its House Captains. Well done to everyone who stood! Congratulations:

Air: Maya and Amalia  
Earth: Isla and Dan  
Fire: Abi and George  
Water: Garance and Bear

As well as our House Captains and School Council members we will be selecting pupil Learning Ambassadors (who help champion subjects and learning) and Diversity Champions (who help celebrate and champion diversity) over the new few weeks.

## FITZJOHN'S SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES: 2023/2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023	
INSET Days - pupils not in school	<b>Monday 4 &amp; Tuesday 5 September</b>
<b>TERM BEGINS FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>Wednesday 6 September</b>
Half term holiday	Monday 23 – Friday 27 October 2023
<b>SECOND HALF-TERM BEGINS</b>	<b>Monday 30 October 2023</b>
INSET Day – pupils not in school (Parent/Teacher Meetings)	<b>Monday 6 November 2023</b>
Term Ends	Thursday 21 December 13.30
SPRING TERM 2024	
INSET Day - pupils not in school	<b>Monday 8 January 2024</b>
<b>TERM BEGINS FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>Tuesday 9 January</b>
Half term holiday	Monday 12– Friday 16 February 2024
<b>SECOND HALF-TERM BEGINS</b>	<b>MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2024</b>
Term Ends	Thursday 28 March 13.30
SPRING HOLIDAYS	Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April
SUMMER TERM 2024	
INSET Day - pupils not in school	<b>Monday 15 April</b>
<b>TERM BEGINS FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>Tuesday 16 April 2024</b>
Half term holiday	Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May
<b>SECOND HALF-TERM BEGINS</b>	<b>Monday 3 June 2024</b>
Term ends	13.30 Wednesday 24 July 2024
2023-2024 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	
Christmas Day	Monday 25 December
Boxing Day	Tuesday 26 December
New Year's Day	Monday 1 January
Good Friday	Friday 29 March
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April
May Day	Monday 6 May
Spring Bank holiday	Monday 27 May
Summer Bank holiday	Monday 26 August

26 May 2023

Please do not book holidays during term time as they will not be authorised and you may be fined.

# Fitzjohn's School Association



Community School. Community Spirit.



[DONATE NOW](#)

## The Fitzjohn's School Association (The FSA)

FSA is our volunteer parents school association, working to fundraise for the school and organise events for the school community.

The FSA is a voluntary registered charity set up to support Fitzjohn's Primary School. It is run by the parents at Fitzjohn's with the support of the Head of School, Rob Earrey. **You don't need to be invited, registered or voted in – all parents of the school are automatically FSA members!**

We are so lucky to have a wonderful, engaged and committed community of families in our school. That means we have a good starting point to work from. Last year we raised a record £100,000 for the second year in a row.

**This year, with costs going up and the impact of government budgeting, we aim to reach £100,000 once again.**

The FSA co-chairs for the year are Miri (mum of Mikey Y4 and Nathaniel Y2) and Tali (mum of Noam Y2). Our treasurer is Nitzan (dad of Roni Y5). We also have an **FSA Committee** of parents who wish to be more involved – Megan (Y1/Y3/Y4), Lee (Nursery/Y2), Tara (Y1), Laura (Y2/Y4), Lola (Y5) and Anna (Y1) – together with our fabulous class reps.

If you would like to join do find us on the playground or by email:

Miri: [miri.shelkovits@gmail.com](mailto:miri.shelkovits@gmail.com)

Tali: [tali07@gmail.com](mailto:tali07@gmail.com)

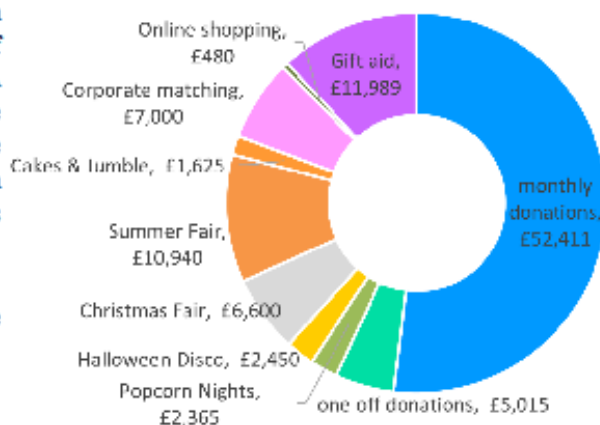
## Fundraising for the School

Our main focus and the best way to support the school is through monthly donations. Having a steady and predictable source of funding that the school can rely on, means we can safely plan ahead.

**Monthly donations accounted for over half our income last year** and we now have over 80% of families in the school giving through standing order.

**Our aim is that ALL families who are able to will participate as they can. [Sign-up here](#) or complete the enclosed form and return to the office.**

The other big revenue source (and much more fun) is our events! Our Christmas and Summer Fairs, the Halloween Disco and our popcorn nights are run successfully with support of all our families. It's also a great way to spend time together with friends and create a strong sense of community for our children (and grown-ups) at Fitzjohn's.





## How will your donations be used in 2023/2024?

Our goal for the year is to raise £100,000 towards music, art, sport, IT, books and more. When we fund these expenses, that means that the school is able to use its running budget to the fullest on valuable staff and teaching assistants that are a crucial part of our children's learning.

✓ Every year the FSA funds the cost of our gym, PE, music, African drumming and art instructors that are not part of the school staff. These activities enrich the curriculum and enable specially trained instructors to teach these subjects. This amounts to £42,000.

✓ IT and Digital Skills – £15,000 provide computing resources, new/refurbished iPads as well as an annual membership at the CLC (Camden Learning Centre) where the kids go for robotics and coding enrichment activities.

✓ Playground equipment – Good quality equipment has a real impact on physical and mental wellbeing - £4,000.

✓ Learning resources – musical instruments, science and geography resources - £20,000.

✓ Transport for trips – The FSA funds the coaches and transport costs at £6,000

✓ Free clubs for children on Free School Meals – as a community we fund one after-school club per term for every child on FSM, at a total cost of £6,000.

✓ Communications and Events – £7,000.

## Top five ways you can help make Fitzjohn's even better

1 **Set-up a standing order:** a monthly donation is the most significant contribution you can make and has an incredible impact on the running of our school. We ask that all families who are in the position to do so, donate as much as they can according to their means. Sign-up on this [quick link](#).

2 **Sign up to Gift Aid:** for every £1 you give, we can get an extra 25p from the Inland Revenue. This is FREE money from the government for just filling-out a form and make your donation go so much further. We aim for ALL contributions to include Gift Aid.

If you already contribute, please just fill-up the Gift Aid declaration at the bottom of the enclosed form or [here](#). That will allow us to also claim back up to four years on past donations.

3 **Corporate match giving:** many companies where our parents work will offer match-funding on employees' donations. If you donate through your employer please consider our school. The FSA is a registered UK charity.

4 **Shop on Easyfundraising:** Shop on your desktop or mobile through the [Easyfundraising app](#) with all the big brands (John Lewis, M&S, Boots, H&M and many more). This has no cost to you and raises FREE money for the school.

5 **School events** are run and supported by parents and carers and we always need people to volunteer on the day. Reach out to your class rep to get involved with upcoming events.

Find out more on how the school is funded and how you can get involved at the

**Annual FSA Meeting**  
**Thursday 28th September 8:45 -9:15**

Thanks for being part of the Fitzjohn's community!

Join us on  [Fitzjohn's Families](#)

**STANDING ORDER MANDATE**

<b>To The Manager</b>	
Bank Name	
Bank Address (optional)	
Bank Sort Code	
Bank Account Number	
<b>Please Pay</b>	
Payee Bank Name	Lloyds TSB
Payee Account Name	Fitzjohn's School Association
Payee Sort Code	30-93-80
Payee Account Number	00008235
Payment Amount (circle)	£30   £50   £100   £250   £500   Other: £
Frequency	STANDING ORDERS from my account as detailed in this instruction on the ___ day of every month
Date of First Payment	
Reference	Fitzjohn's Parents Appeal
<b>Customer Details</b>	
Print Name	
Signature	
Date	
Address	
Email	
Phone number	
<b>GIFT AID IT—UK TAXPAYERS!</b>	
<p>For every pound you give to us we get an extra 25p from the INLAND REVENUE so please sign below if you are a UK taxpayer*</p> <p>I am a UK taxpayer and under the GIFT AID scheme, I would like the Fitzjohn's School Association to claim back the tax on any donations I make until further notice OR have made in the past 4 years.</p> <p>Signature _____</p> <p><i>*To qualify for Gift Aid what you pay in UK income tax or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount we will claim in the tax year from the Inland Revenue. NB. Please notify us if you change your address. NB. You can cancel your standing order form at anytime.</i></p>	

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE FITZJOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL'S OFFICE.

Registered Charity No. 102 9947