



Newsletter 2 Term 1 Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We appear to have moved from summer into autumn rather quickly! Please ensure that your child has a suitable coat for playtimes as we go out in all weathers.

We have a number of events coming up so please check for further information in this newsletter.

We have also attached a letter about our inclusion statement and ask that you all take a moment to read this. Both our schools take pride in our inclusive practice to try to meet the needs of all children. This can be quite a challenge with limited school budgets as this affects staffing and resources. We want to be a school where parents and carers feel comfortable to come in and talk about queries or concerns so please feel free to contact the school office if you require any further information.

ATTENDANCE

We are disappointed to see that there has been a recent increase in term time absence. Please can we remind you that holidays are not authorised. All holidays taken in term time (of 10 learning sessions, which do not have to be consecutive) incur a penalty fine of £60 per child per parent. A session is a.m or p.m. Absences from school can affect learning progress so they are only authorised if your child is unwell, attending a medical appointment or family wedding or funeral. There may be an exceptional reason outside of these areas but this needs to be discussed with Mrs Brown or Mrs West.

A new school year marks a fresh start for children to reconnect with friends and it's a chance to reset their patterns of behaviour, including attendance. Every professional adult and parent that interacts with a child plays an integral part in supporting children back to school. The first days matter. Last year, of those absent for at least one day in this period, 55% went on to be persistently absent. There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly. The Chief Medical Officer and other health leaders have just written to schools on this, and their [letter](#) is available here.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Congratulations to Cherry Class who achieved the highest attendance last week and Pips for this week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Please note all dates can also be found on our website at firleprimary.eschools.co.uk)

September

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 22 nd | After School Street Dance Club |
| Monday 25 th | AITC After School Football Club Year 5 and 6 After School Modelling Club |
| Tuesday 26 th | Year 5 and 6 After School Modelling Club |
| Wednesday 27 th | After School French Club |
| Thursday 28 th | Individual Photographs After School Spanish Club |
| Friday 29 th | City Mission Harvest Assembly McMillan Coffee |

Afternoon 2pm

After School Street Dance Club

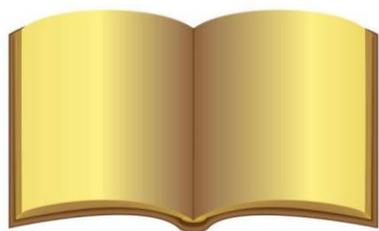
October

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 2 nd | Year 6 Safety in Action 2pm Harvest Service Year 5 and 6 After School Modelling Club |
| Tuesday 3 rd | Year 5 and 6 After School Modelling Club |
| Wednesday 4 th | After School French Club |
| Thursday 5 th | After School Spanish Club |
| Friday 6 th | Poetry Competition Final Booking window opens for Parents' Evenings |
| Tuesday 17 th | Open Morning 9.15sm Open Afternoon 1.30pm Parents' Evening 3.30 - 7pm No Modelling Club |
| Thursday 19 th | Parents' Evening 3.30 - 5 pm |
| Friday 20 th | Last Day at School for the Children Inset Day |



Golden Book

Week commencing 11th September 2023



Holly

Izzy and Tallulah for working so well together. They have been fantastic talk partners, always supporting and encouraging each other.

Beech

Torren and Winter for always showing respect at school. They are both respectful listeners as well as showing care to the classroom by looking after their belongings.

Cherry

Rosie, Orson and Jude for perseverance. All can sometimes find PE tricky in different ways but they persevered and worked really hard.

Cherry Pips Beau for excellent perseverance and independence in his writing, describing the Enormous Crocodile.

Week commencing 18th September 2023

Holly Chloe for her aspirational work in English. She works incredibly hard to ensure that she meets her learning objectives, carefully applying her success criteria to her writing.

Beech Scarlette and Finn for their working together skills during Forest School this week when making a raft.

Cherry Leonard for using his words when he doesn't understand or needs help and for always trying so hard in the classroom
Edward for getting on so well with his work and needing very few corrections. He always finishes his work and is very professional.

Cherry Pips Ferne for being a great encourager and encouraging everybody to work together as a team to tidy up.
Isaac for showing great perseverance making his clay model crocodile.



DATA COLLECTION FORMS

You should have all received a blue data collection form for completion. It is so important that we have the correct contact details in case of an emergency. Please complete and return the forms as soon as possible even if there are no changes. Many thanks

POETRY COMPETITION

We are currently running a poetry reading competition for years 1-6. The children have chosen from a selection of poems in the categories, KS1, Lower KS2, and Upper KS2. They have selected which poem they are going to learn to read off by heart. They will then share this in class. If they do not want to recite it in front of the class, they can share it in smaller groups or with a member of staff. The finalists from each class will be heard at a whole school assembly on ?. From this, a finalist will be selected to go to the finals at Kings Academy Ringmer on the afternoon of Friday 6th October. This competition is between the local primary schools and is to promote the reading of poetry and develop skills in memorising.



BEE THANKFUL THEME DAY MENU

Please see the attached menu for Thursday 28th September.



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INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

On Thursday 28th September Nicky our school photographer will be taking our children's individual photographs as well as family groups. If you have pre-school children who you would like to be photographed with their siblings please bring them into school at 8.45am.

WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure that your child brings a named water bottle to school each day.

ONE VOICE

Our Year 5 and 6 children will be taking part in a One Voice performance

CENSUS DAY AND UIFSM - THURSDAY 5th OCTOBER 2023

On Thursday 5th October 2023, it is national School Census Day and, in an effort, to increase the uptake of the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) on that day, the menu will be Fish and Chips. There will also be a jacket potato and sandwiches on offer on this day.

Census Day is when the Local Authorities collect information electronically from every school in their area, partly to guide them in planning and funding. They collect details such as pupil numbers, numbers of pupils with Special Educational Needs, entitled to Pupil Premium funding, entitled to Free School Meals, attendance information and so forth. One thing in particular they are looking at this term is the number of children taking the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM), to provide schools with appropriate funding for this service such as utility costs.

To maximise our potential funding, we would encourage all families with children entitled to UIFSM to enjoy their free meal on Thursday 5th October, rather than bringing a packed lunch that day. It is the number of children in Key Stage One eating the free meal on the actual day's lunchtime that informs our funding, rather than meals ordered for that day or children attending school. Pupils who bring a packed lunch from home unfortunately are not able to be included, nor are children who normally take UIFSM, but who are absent on 5th October. Once again, we encourage as many as possible to commit to eating the UIFSM on Thursday that week; this will record those children as having eaten on Census Day and therefore count towards the total Government funding that will be allocated to our school for UIFSM for a whole year. We hope that it will also create some enthusiasm amongst the children who don't normally take the meals and lead to more of them eating over the rest of the school year.

SAFEGUARDING

At Firle Church of England Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. All professionals who come in to contact with children and their families have a role to play. Within school, we have a number of staff members who are responsible or leading on child protection and welfare. We would like take this opportunity to remind you of who to contact if you have a welfare concern about a child. If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Lead staff members straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Firle Church of England Primary School:

Mrs Vicki Brown - Lead DSL

Mrs Rachel West- Lead DSL

Ms Clare Ness - Deputy DSL



Mrs Natalie Bayliss is our safeguarding governor.

These members of staff can be contacted via the school office at firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk or on 01273 858260.



CHANGING WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, please can we remind that all children should have a coat in school every day suitable for the wet and windy weather.

HOLLY CLASS CORNET LESSONS

Holly class had their first cornet lesson yesterday, Ruben said 'I found it quite fun, we learnt how to use it and are preparing for a performance at Christmas'



CLASS+

The CLASS+ team hope that you have had a good summer and we look forward to you joining them at one of their coffee and chat dates this term. Whether your child has an Autism diagnosis or you're awaiting a diagnosis meet and talk with other parents and members of the CLASS+ team. Part of the session will focus around the theme of autism and change. Please note that parents/carers don't need to book they can just turn up.

20 September 2023 - St Thomas a Beckett Primary School, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

27 September 2023 - Peacehaven Community School, 9:15 am - 10:45 am

28 September 2023 - Willingdon Primary School, 9:15 am - 10:45 am

4 October 2023 - Robertsbridge Secondary School, 9:15 am - 10:45 am

19 October 2023 - Telscombe Academy, 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

NITS

As often happens at the start of a new term some children have nits across the school. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary. Anyone with hair below collar length must wear their hair tied up. Thank you for your support.

COLLECTION AT 3.15PM

Please would you let the school know if you have made arrangements for someone different to collect your child at the end of the school day.

We have also noticed that a number of children are given snacks at pick up time. Please could these be given once you have left the school grounds, thank you

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

The deadline this year for applying to secondary school is Tuesday 31st October 2023. We will keep you updated with Open Evenings but do also look out for upcoming dates if there is a school you are considering for September 2024.



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We will be raising funds for Macmillan on **Friday 29th September at 2p.m** in the school hall. Staff will provide some cakes and we would also be very grateful for donations too. Please pop along for a chat, cake and cup of tea or coffee from 2p.m on this day.



Firle CE
Primary
School

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GLYNDE CLOTHES SWAP

Women's clothes and accessories, Saturday 7th October 10am to 1pm at The Coach House. Tickets are £10. Please bring up to 5 items clean and in good condition and take up to 5 items, refreshments are available. Tickets are available from Glynde Store. All money raised will go towards the pool.

SPOOKY DISCO

Friends of Firle School have arranged their annual Spooky Disco for Wednesday 18th October. Years Reception, 1 and 2 have their disco from 3.030 until 4.15pm and Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 from 5 until 6.30pm. Entrance costs £5 per child (£4 for siblings) this includes a hotdog, crisps, cake and a drink. If you are able to help please let Mrs Horan know. Please see the attached flier.

Thank you for all your support.

Kind regards

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown