

### Attendance: Year to Date %

Catkins: 99.04

Willow: 96.30

Beech: 95.89

Holly: 97.50



Well done to Catkins, Willow, Beech, Holly

### Harvest Festival Service



Yesterday we went to St Peter's Church and celebrated the Harvest Festival with Andrew Jackson, who kindly stepped in as Reverend Peter Owen was unavailable. The children sang beautifully, shared artwork to reflect the season and read prayers to give thanks for the Harvest.



The collection at the church raised **£56.13** for our school charity Starfish Malawi.

Next week, as part of our continuing Harvest celebrations, we will be having an assembly led by the charity City Mission for the Brighton Foodbank, when they come to collect the food contributions made by the children in church yesterday.

We would like to thank parents and carers for joining us for the Harvest Service, for your food contributions to the City Mission charity, as well as the collection for Starfish Malawi.



### Writers Workshop

Last Thursday, 4 children from Holly class were chosen to attend a creative writing workshop at Ringmer Academy, led by the children's poet Brian Moses. Megan, Flora, Scarlett and Lucy joined some Year 6 children from Laughton, Alfriston, Ringmer, as well as a group of Year 7 children from Ringmer Academy, to enjoy a day of stretching their minds and exploring language. They created a number of different poems, including a love letter to an alien, and were able to share their ideas throughout the day. The children behaved brilliantly and were a credit to Firle.

*'During the day we learnt how to produce different rhymes and rhythms,' said Lucy.*

*'I loved the opportunities we had,' said Scarlett.*

*'Brian Moses was very funny and entertaining,' said Megan.*

*'I can now produce different kinds of poems fluently in my writing,' said Flora.*

Brian Moses has a blog set up containing ideas for getting children writing if anybody wants to search for any good ideas: [brian-moses.blogspot.co.uk](http://brian-moses.blogspot.co.uk)

### **Football Tournament at Laughton**

Our Football team took part in a football tournament with Laughton and Alfriston yesterday at Laughton.

Our team played brilliantly, working well together as a newly formed team. They overcame tumbles and injuries and never gave up battling for goals. Despite their best efforts they didn't win on this occasion, but with their talent and determination it can only be a matter of time. We are very proud of how they represented Firle. Well done!

A photograph of the team is available from the school office for parents of the team members.

### **School Census**

Thursday 5th October is school census day and there will be a special dinner menu of Fish Fingers or veggie lasagne with chips, designed to be especially popular with children. The more children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that have a school dinner that day, the more funding the school receives. Dinners are free for all children in Catkins and Willow, so please let them have a school dinner that day if possible - it really helps us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



### **Individual School Photographs**

Just to remind you that children will have their individual school photos on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October next week.

### **Parent Forum**

Thank you to those who were able to come to our forum on Monday. We discussed progress towards developing our website, items that parents would like to know more about and suggestions were made about which workshops would be helpful to give more information about children's learning. These included an opportunity to see part of a maths lesson, as well as how reading is taught.

### **Parent Volunteers**

If you have some time to spare during the school day and would like to volunteer in a class to help with hearing readers and support pupils with other aspects of their learning, please speak to a class teacher, the office or Mrs West/Miss Swaine. We will be happy to arrange for you to do this. We would be very appreciative of any help you are able to give. Thank you!

### **Partnership**

This week we had a joint staff meeting with Laughton to discuss and agree our end of year expectations for children in English and Maths for each year group, together with how this will be assessed and pupil progress tracked.

Holly Class have an Egyptian day planned with Laughton on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Holly class shaduf building**

On Wednesday 4th October, Holly class will be visiting the woods to build a shaduf as part of our design technology work. They will need clothing appropriate for the weather. Please could the children bring welly boots and a coat. If it is particularly wet then they can bring waterproof trousers to wear over their uniform. If any parents would like to join us then please let the office or Mrs Anderson know. We will need at least one parent helper in order for the session to take place.

Many thanks  
Mrs Anderson

### **Message from Chartwells - our school meals provider**

Our dedicated team of nutritionists work with our chef teams to create menus for those children that suffer with allergies or require a special diet. A special diet is a requirement different to the choices offered within the menu cycle, which are medically required or due to religious beliefs. For medically required diets all special diet request are required to be supported with a GP/Dieticians letter confirming the allergy.

The Chartwells nutrition team develop four core special diet menus that are released with every new central menu cycle. This includes non-gluten containing, milk, egg, and nut free menus. For pupils requiring multi allergy menus these are created on a case by case basis.

Once a special diet menu is devised it must then be sent to parent/guardian for written consent, only when authorised by the parent. If your child does require a special diet you must complete the special diet menu request or the caterers will only be able to provide your child with a jacket potato.

### **University Research**

We have been asked by Sussex University if we would like to take part in a research project they are carrying out to do with gender and diversity. It is an exciting piece of research to find out how children perceive voices and occupations in regard to gender. Letters have been emailed out this week to ask for permission from parents for their child/ren to take part.

The school will also receive a small amount of funding for each study. This will go towards class resources.

### **First Day of Absence**

Thank you to all of you who let us know when your child is absent due to illness or other exceptional circumstance, as is our policy, we will contact you if we have not heard why your child is not in school on the first day of any absence.

### **Friends of Firle School Annual General Meeting - with cake!**

2.30pm Thursday 5th October in the school hall. Come along and meet everyone and enjoy a cup of tea and homemade cakes 🍰

Find out what's involved and how little you need to do to feel that warm glow of helping!

FoFS statement:

*Parents, guardians and carers of children attending the school are automatic members of a PTA, with anyone wishing to offer support being included by a Friends group.*



Our Spooky Disco is on Friday 20th in the school hall, details to follow!

## Dates for your diary.....

### October

- 3<sup>rd</sup> October Individual School Photographs
- 5<sup>th</sup> October Friends of Firle AGM School Hall
- 9<sup>th</sup> October Full Governing Body meeting 6pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> October Years 5 and 6 Egyptian Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> October Parent consultation 3.30-5.30pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> October Catkins Learning Journey share 2.45pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> Flu Immunisations
- 19<sup>th</sup> October Parent consultation 4.30-7pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> October - Hind Leap Warren balance for Holly class deadline
- 20<sup>th</sup> October - break up for half term
- 30<sup>th</sup> October - start of Term 2
- 31<sup>st</sup> October Secondary School applications must be submitted to East Sussex Local Authority

### November

- Week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> Anti bullying week
- 17<sup>th</sup> November official Children in Need but **CHANGE OF DATE** - as Holly are at Hind Leap Warren on this day, we will have our Children in Need fundraising event the following week on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November
- 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> November Hind Leap Warren

### December

- 4<sup>th</sup> R.E. Day & Parent Forum 2.30pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> New intake Open Morning
- 5<sup>th</sup> Big Sing
- 7<sup>th</sup> Coming of the Light Church Service 2pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Nativity 9.30am
- 18<sup>th</sup> Carol Service 6pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> Break up for Christmas holiday

### INSET dates for 2018

- 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018
- 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Details of these events will follow.....

**Children mentioned in our Golden Book and in Celebration Assemblies:**

**DATE: 28<sup>th</sup> September**



- Catkins:** Chloe - for working very hard at writing her name with the letters in the correct order  
Jessica - for going to lunch happily all by herself
- Willow:** Lily K - for doing amazing writing at school and home  
Tom - for working really hard (trying hard and having a go) amazing handwriting, reading and maths
- Beech:** Esther - for settling in so beautifully and working hard in every lesson. We are delighted to have her in Beech Class!  
Ami - for excellent maths work, she worked really hard this week on ordering numbers and negative numbers
- Holly:** Lauren - for always following our Golden Rules. She sets a great example to others!  
Jorgi - for pushing herself in maths. She will always work hard at a challenge!