



Newsletter 1 Term 1

Friday 6th September 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely summer and were able to spend time with friends and family. It is lovely to hear the children's holiday news and see them settling back into school life so well. Well done to you all with remembering the new school times 8:45a.m (gate open from 8:30 a.m) -3:15p.m!

This week's weather has definitely been a reminder that we are now in Autumn so please make sure your child has a raincoat in school every day.

There is a huge amount of information in this newsletter so please read through to the end and encourage others to read it too. All newsletters go on our website and our calendar is kept up to date so please give us feedback if anything is missing.

Due to the amount of information in this letter we will send out class topic webs and home learning grids on Monday.

One of the new changes this year is that children will be able to come to school in the PE kits on their class PE day. This is because some children find changing in front of others uncomfortable and it can put them off the actual lesson. It will also save time in getting ready for PE and ensure that everyone has the appropriate kit. The PE uniform is black shorts and/or black tracksuit bottoms, no leggings. Their PE shirt should be plain in their house colour (red, yellow, blue, green). We have asked the children to take home their kit today ready for next week.

Class PE days are as follows:

Holly- Monday and Wednesday

Beech- Tuesday and Friday

Cherry/Pips- Tuesday and Thursday



Congratulations to Cherry Class who had the highest attendance percentage this week, well done!

TERM 6 ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to:

Louis, Frieda, Hector, Martha, Finn Catchpole, Edward, Torren, Maisie G, Ted, Jude, Phoenix H, Trinity, Polly, Izzy, Otilie, Edelyne, Andrius, Bella and Neve, who all achieved 100% attendance in Term 6, WELL DONE. They will receive their certificates next week in worship.

DATES FOR YOR DIARIES

SEPTEMBER 2024	
Monday 9 th - Friday 13 th	Meet the Teacher Week
Tuesday 10 th	After School Clubs start
Thursday 19 th	NSPCC workshops (Year 2, 5 and 6)
Thursday 26 th	Individual School Photographs
Friday 27 th	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 2.30pm
OCTOBER 2024	

Thursday 3 rd	Poetry Competition at KAR
Friday 4 th	INSET Day
Monday 9 th	Year 6 Safety in Action
Friday 11 th	Open Morning for EYFS 2025 Parent Forum 2.15pm
Friday 18 th	Harvest Festival
Tuesday 22 nd	Beech and Holly to Glyndebourne
	Parents' Evening
Thursday 24 th	Parents' Evening
Friday 25 th	End of Term 1

(also available at <https://firleprimary.eschools.co.uk/>)



Golden Book

HOLLY Maisie for showing great aspiration in her learning this week. She has displayed a very positive attitude - working hard, taking an active role in class discussions and working well with her peers.

RUBEN for the mature attitude he has displayed this week. On more than one occasion he has shown compromise - putting his peers' needs before his own. Well done Ruben!

BEECH Sol for settling in well to Beech Class and demonstrating resilience. Welcome to Firle!

RAYMOND also settling in well to Beech Class and for his aspirational learning. He has amazed us with his efforts so far; being really keen to learn and join in. They have both been SUPERSTARS!

CHERRY Rupert for settling into Cherry Class so well and having such a positive attitude to learning. He has been confidently sharing his answers in group discussions. A great start to the year.

TRINITY What a great start to year 2. You have shown such kindness to your peers and made everyone feel welcome to Cherry and Pips.

PIPS All the Pips class: Hunter, Ava, Romy, Gertie, Dotty and Bluebelle for starting school and coming into class so happily. I'm so proud of every one of you for settling in so well. You are all AMAZING!

MEET THE TEACHER

You are invited to come into school to meet your child's teacher on the following days:

Wednesday 11th September- 2.45pm-3.15pm- Beech

Thursday 12th September- 2.45pm-3.15pm- Cherry/Pips

Friday 13th September- 2.45pm-3.15pm- Holly

These will take place in the classrooms. This is for you to meet the teacher who will be teaching your child/ren and for them to share with you how the class is set up and explain the expectations for behaviour, communication, learning, homework etc. We have planned the dates so that parents and carers with more than one child can attend.

Please do not worry if you are unable to attend these sessions, as we will forward the information on to you by email.

STAFFING

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Adair-Faulkner and Mrs Dyer to Firle Church of England Primary School. Mrs Adair-Faulkner is our new School Business Manager and Mrs Dyer is our R/Year1/Year 2 teacher. We look forward to working with you both.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Please let the school office know if you would be interested in your child attending a breakfast club before school. If we have enough interest we can investigate the viability of starting one. In your email please state preferred time and days.

SCHOOL DINNERS

From September, a daily lunch for KS2 children will cost **£2.97**, therefore a weekly cost of **£14.85**. If you would like to pay for the whole of the first term (minus INSET days) the price will be **£112.84**. Just a reminder that pupils moving into Year 3 will have to register for Parent pay if their child is having paid school dinners from September. The school office sent out the logins last term. Please let the office know if you haven't received this. The menu for this term can be found on the school website. Please would you ensure that your parent pay account has no outstanding balance at the end of every week. If there remains an outstanding balance on a Friday, you will be asked to send a packed lunch in for the following week, or until the debt is paid. Thank you for your support with this.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

This year we will be holding our MacMillan Coffee afternoon at 2.30pm on Friday 27th September. We will provide the tea and coffee and donations of cakes and biscuits will be gratefully accepted. If you are able to help on the day please come to school at 2.15pm in time to set up. Many thanks



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The letter for our after school clubs went home yesterday, please contact the providers directly if you would like a place (Mr Fox Wilson via the school office). Please let Mrs Horan know if you would be interested in your child attending an afterschool club run by The Outdoors Project, as we cannot engage new providers without enough interest.

NO NUTS PLEASE

A little reminder that we are a **NUT FREE** school and pack lunches from home must not contain any foods containing nuts, including chocolate spread, cereal bars etc. We continue to promote healthy eating in school and therefore ask that chocolate bars and sweets are not included in packed lunches. Small chocolate covered biscuits - Kit Kats, Penguin bars etc are fine. As a rule of thumb, if it is in the biscuit aisle, it is a biscuit; therefore, ok in school.



KS2 FRUIT AND SNACKS

All KS1 and EYFS children are given a fruit or vegetable snack through the government healthy school initiative. If you would like your child to receive this in KS2 then you will need to order through the office. The cost of this is £7.50 per full term.

If you wish your child to bring in a snack from home then please make sure that it is only fresh fruit or vegetables, thank you.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Whilst this may seem like a lot of information, we are required by the Local Authority to enforce our attendance procedures. We thought it may be useful to remind everybody of our measures at the start of the year.

As you are all aware, it is important that your child is in school as much as possible. Ideally, we would aim for children to be in school 100% of the time, however, we also recognise that there may be reasons which are unavoidable, such as illnesses where we would not expect to see your child in school.

If your child is too unwell for school, please let the school office know on the first day of absence by 8.45am, and each subsequent day. You can either email in or leave a message on the absence line by calling the office number 01273 858260. Any unexplained absence will be recorded as unauthorised, and prolonged unauthorised absence will result in a fixed penalty from ESCC.

The morning session starts at 8.45am. If your child is late after the close of registration they need to be brought in via the main office to be signed in, where they will receive a 'U' registration code. If they are late before the register closes, their registration mark will be 'L' and the number of minutes late will be noted. Lateness to school can also incur a fixed penalty from ESCC. We are aware of children who find coming into school a challenge. Please be assured, that we will work together with families, to support transition into school. Please do let us know if you have any concerns.

Please may we take the opportunity to remind you that holidays are not authorised in term time. Any absence from school can affect your child's learning progress. A new National Penalty Notice Framework came into effect from 19 August 2024. All holidays taken in term time (of 10 learning sessions, which do not have to be consecutive) incur a penalty fine of £160 per child per parent, or £80 if paid within 21 days. A session is am or pm. We have attached the term dates you may find useful when planning holidays. Please complete a withdrawal from learning request if you need to take your child out of school for any reason other than illnesses. Please can we encourage you to book medical appointments outside of the school day whenever possible.

We will continue to review everybody's attendance every three weeks, from the end of term 1, as part of our attendance policy, and will write to all parents whose children are at risk of persistent absence based on the Local Authority set target of 10%. We understand that there are a number of reasons for absence, and we would like to work closely with you to support you in every possible way that we can. You can view your child's current attendance by logging into the Parent Portal. Thank you for your support with this.

ARBOR PARENT PORTAL

Thank you to everybody who has logged on to the new Parent Portal. We hope that this will help make administrative tasks easier to manage as well as the booking of clubs and any planned trips.

DATA COLLECTION

At the start of every academic year, we update our contact details for the children. I'm sure you can appreciate it is imperative that we have up to date information in case of an emergency. If you haven't done so already, please check the details on your Arbor parent portal and make any changes as necessary. Thank you.

PARENT FORUM

Our first parent forum of this academic year is on **Friday 11th October** at **2.15pm** and will be related to school improvements for this academic year. Everybody is welcome to attend and it will be a chance for open discussion and to put your views forward. We are also happy to take requests for parent forums on matters that you would like to raise. This can be done via an email to the office or in person to a member of staff.

ASDA CASHPOT FUNDRAISING

If you shop at ASDA and have an ASDA Rewards App, you can now raise funds for our school every time you scan. All you need to do is the following:



1. Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards App
2. Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select 'Laughton Community Primary School'
3. Shop in Store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
4. Asda will donate a percentage of your shop total to our school each time you shop and scan
5. Asda does the rest!
6. The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to our school to spend on what we need the most. This won't affect your own cash pot you earn. Once opted in and selected a school, ASDA will add £1 to our school Cashpot to help us get started and an additional £50 after at least one customer shops and scans their Rewards app.

UNIFORM

It is great to see the children back in their full school uniform. Please ensure that they stick to the correct uniform; see below.

- Green cardigan or school sweatshirt with logo
- White polo shirt or shirt (with which school tie may be worn)
- Smart dark grey/black school trousers, skirt or shorts (no jean type trousers or leggings)
- Green gingham summer dresses from April to October
- Plain socks/tights in white/green/grey/black
- All black shoes (no trainers, crocs or open toed sandals), flat heeled black boots may be worn
- Hair to be tied back at all times
- Make-up and jewellery are not allowed apart from simple stud earrings (no nail varnish)
- P.E. Kit consists of a t shirt in house colours* and plain black shorts/ tracksuit bottoms, with plimsolls or trainers. As the weather gets colder each year children should bring sweatshirts and tracksuits in school colours

We will continue to have a uniform draw each term on a random day when all the children, who are in the correct school uniform on that day will have their names go into a hat and one will be picked out for each class. The winner will receive a £5 WH Smith voucher. This is to help support our uniform policy. If you are having any difficulties purchasing a uniform then please speak to the school office.

Please make sure that any long hair e.g. reaching shoulders is tied back and avoid elaborate accessories.

Uniform can be purchased from the uniform website or a provider of your choice. The Friends of Firlie will also be running second hand uniform sales.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2025 you will have receive a leaflet about how to apply. Information can also be found on;

https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/secondary_school/

The closing date for secondary school admissions close on **Thursday 31st October**.

OPEN SESSIONS

We are having the first of our Open Sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2025 on **Thursday 10th October 2024 at 9.15am**. So that we can monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01273 858260 or email firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. The session will last a maximum of 45 minutes.

Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The other Open Day dates are on **Monday 11th November 2024 (1:15pm)** and **Friday 10th January 2025 (9:15m)**.

The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2025**.

Kind regards, Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown