

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely sunny start to the new term. Please make sure that your child has a sun hat, sun cream applied before school and a water bottle for each day. We hope to install some more areas for shade but lunchtime is particularly warm.

We are looking forward to seeing our school talent at Firle Factor next Friday 9th May. If you haven't been before please come because it is a fantastic event where you see the children showcasing their talents and everyone has a lot of fun cheering them on.

We are aware that over the course of your child's education you will celebrate in your child/ren's successes but you may also experience periods of concern or uncertainty about school. Please make sure that you share these with the relevant staff member in school. We can't talk to you about other children or share information that is not relevant to your child but we can talk through your concerns and answer any queries relating to your own child/ren.

We use our newsletter to share whole school information to inform you of news and any whole school areas of success and development so encourage everyone to read it thank you. There are a number of new dates added to the diary below, these are also on our school website.

ATTENDANCE



Congratulations to Holly Class who had the highest attendance percentage for last week and Cherry Class for this week.

Well done to all those children who achieved 100% attendance in term 4: Ava, Jacob, Leo, Neve, Sol, Andrius, Augie, Izzy, Ted, Maisie, Edward Louis and Gertie. Gertie's name was drawn and she won a £5 gift voucher.



Golden Book

W/C 22nd April 2025

PIPS Gertie for beautiful sentence writing. You pushed yourself to

write your sentences independently.

CHERRY Isaac has been working so hard on his phonics this week. Persevering to be his best.

Archie came back from the holidays ready to learn and got straight back into routine.

BEECH Ted for his wonderful reading this week. Ted has come back from the Easter holiday with enthusiasm and fire for his reading. He has also been spotted reading independently which is brilliant to see!

Jacob for showing respect this week and being thoughtful of others in class. Keep up the great work Jacob!

HOLLY Scarlett for her aspirational writing. She creates beautiful imagery through her use of language and ambitious word choice.

Arthur for his positive attitude to learning. He gives 100 percent effort, even in areas in which he feels less confident. It is an admirable trait, well done!

MAY 2025	
Thursday 8 th	VE Day Celebration
Friday 9 th	Firle Factor
12 th - 15 th	Year 6 SATs Tests SATs Breakfast Club
Thursday 15 th	Census Day Menu Change
Wednesday 21 st	Year 6 Patina Brainstorming Session pm
Thursday 22 nd	Whole School Walk
Friday 23 rd	End of Term 5
JUNE 2025	
Monday 2 nd	Start of Term 6
Thursday 5 th	Class Photographs
Monday 16 th	Diocesan Leavers' Service at St Andrew's Church, Eastbourne
Wednesday 18 th	Transition Day
Monday and Tuesday 23 rd and 24 th	Patina making sessions at Laughton
JULY 2025	
Wednesday 2 nd	Sports Day
Friday 4 th	Patina
Thursday 10 th	KS2 Performance
Friday 11 th	Leavers' Day Out
Friday 18 th	Year 6 Leaver's service FOF Summer Party Last day of term
Remaining INSET Days for 2024/2025 21 st & 22 nd July	

W/C 28th April 2025

PIPS Bluebelle for her amazing sentence of the week!

CHERRY Louis for his incredible dragon writing and his enthusiasm for his writing this week. You have had incredible ideas and incredible spelling to match.

Max has been so enthusiastic with his writing this week and has created the most imaginative sentences in our sentence a day books, also incredible dragon writing.

BEECH Bella for consistently showing our school values I all that she does. Bella is a wonderful role model in lessons and also takes time to care for and think of others before herself.

Polly for her kindness towards others and her perseverance in her learning this week. She has also been a great talk partner this week!

HOLLY Tallulah and Torren for the entertaining dialogue they wrote based on characters from our class text. They both showed an excellent understanding of the character's thoughts and feelings, skilfully conveying character and moving the story forward.



QUIZ NIGHT

A huge thank you to Mrs Sison, who with the patrons of the Elephant and Castle pub, raised a whopping £502 on their weekly quiz night on 4th April.

We are so grateful for the amazing support for our school and will be using this money to further improve our outdoor provision.

HEAD LICE

Again, we have a problem with head lice affecting the younger children. Please check your child's hair and treat if necessary, we will only eradicate the problem if everyone does so. Many thanks.

EASTER WEEKEND MODEL SHOW

Mr Fox Wilson hosted the model show over Easter weekend, among the exhibits were these which were made by some of our year 5 and 6 pupils.



BEHAVIOUR

We started the term with an assembly around behaviour and what examples we see in school of 'good behaviour'. The children contributed really well and linked these to our school values of collaboration, discipline, imagination, curiosity and resilience. Moving forward we have agreed that we will have 3 rules regarding what good behaviour is. These are **to be ready, be respectful and be safe**. We ask that you support us with this by using these terms at home so that we can embed their meaning and reinforce what they look like. Thank you.



BOOK CLUB AUTHOR VISIT

On Wednesday the members of our school book club visited Southover Primary School to meet the author Ele Fountain, who wrote one of our book club choices *Storm Child*. This is what Eve had to say about the visit: She was talking about the beach and how wildlife also uses plastic that's washed up. She was talking about how she stayed at the seaside and it inspired her to write.

YEAR 6 SATS

Our year 6 pupils will be sitting their SATs tests next month, the time table is as follows:

- Monday 12 May: English grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS) papers 1 (questions) and 2 (spelling)
- Tuesday 13 May: English reading paper
- Wednesday 14 May: Mathematics papers 1 (arithmetic) and 2 (reasoning)
- Thursday 15 May: Mathematics paper 3 (reasoning)

We will need to make sure that movement around the school at the times of the test is limited to provide quiet conditions for the children to focus. It will also impact on staffing as some of our support staff will be needed as readers or prompts for particular tests. It would be helpful if you can remind your child/ren during this week that there may be some changes to normal routines, thank you.

SPRING/SUMMER LUNCH MENU

We have a new Spring/Summer Menu, please see the attached. If you would like a hard copy please ask Mrs Horan. Copies are also available on our school website.

SATS BREAKFAST CLUB

During SATs week we will be offering the year 6 children the chance to come into school early for their breakfast. They can arrive at 8.10am in plenty of time to eat and settle before their tests.

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS



To celebrate VE day next week, we will have a 1940's style street party at lunchtime on Thursday 8th May. Chartwells, our school meal provider, will provide a picnic lunch for those children having school lunches, with cheese or ham sandwiches and pinwheel pizzas.

Children and staff are invited to come into school dressed in either 1940's outfits, or anything in red, white, and blue if they wish to.

DIOCESAN LEAVERS' SERVICE

Supporting Your Child with Mental
Health and Wellbeing Survey
Primary Schools



This year our Diocesan Leavers' Service will take place at St Andrew's Church (BN22 7RT) in Eastbourne. Our Year 6 parents will receive an email confirming the details.

WELLBEING WORKSHOPS

Please complete the survey so we know what theme to choose for our next workshop.

WHOLE SCHOOL WALK

We are looking forward to our annual school walk on Thursday 22nd May where we will be joined by the children, staff, and parents from Laughton School. It is always a lovely opportunity to enjoy our beautiful local area and time together as The Oak Tree Federation. We would be delighted if any parents or carers would like to join us on the walk. Letters have been sent home with further information.



CENSUS DAY AND UIFSM - THURSDAY 15th MAY 2025

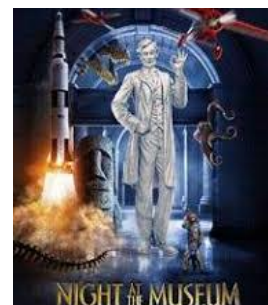
Thursday 15th May 2025, is national School Census Day and, in an effort, to increase the uptake of the Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) on that day, the menu will be fish and chips. There will also be a jacket potato on offer on this day.

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 15th May, 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 15th May. 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.

PATINA

We are delighted that the year 6 children are once again taking part in the Patina Parade on Friday 4th July, in Lewes. The overall theme this year is 'A Night in the Museum'. To support the preparation for this, they will be working with a specialist artist to create the withy structures for the parade. On 21st May the year 6 children will join their peers at **Laughton** for their first session and find out what topic has been allocated to the federation.

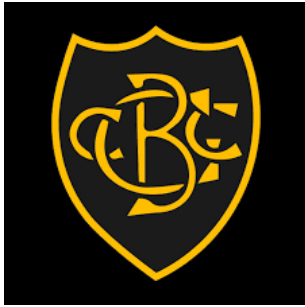




Firle CE
Primary
School

Newsletter 1 Term 5
Friday 2nd May 2025

GLYNDE AND BEDDINGHAM CRICKET CLUB



Please see the attached fliers from *Glynde and Beddingham Cricket Club* which offers great training sessions for boys and girls.

Thank you for all your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown