



## Term 4 2026 - Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was so lovely to all those that came along to our reading breakfast yesterday. Many thanks for coming, the community spirit was running high! A huge thanks you to everyone who made it happen – we all had a great time!

This is a very short term and we are packing lots in. The infants have their trip to Drusilla's coming up and Yr 3 and 4 are off to Fishbourne Palace. **Please make sure that all slips and monies are in for these, thank you.**

Laughton hosted an anxiety and avoidance workshop on Wednesday for parent and carer support and we have another one here at Firle on **'Triggers, Tantrums and Teaching Moments' on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at Firle** so please pop it in your diary if you think this would be helpful for your family or someone you know. It will be from 8:45-10:20 a.m.

We are currently liaising with the Smartphone Free Childhood, an organisation to collectively respond to the age that children use smartphones from. More information can be found in this newsletter and at <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



### ATTENDANCE

**Congratulations to Holly Class who achieved highest attendance both last week and this week!**

Our target for this year is **96%** and our current whole school attendance is **93.6%**

### HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners for following our school values of

*Kindness Respect Working Together  
Perseverance Aspiration Forgiveness*

#### Last week

#### **Pips Class**

Lyla

#### **Cherry Class**

Romy

#### **Beech Class**

Polly and Beau

#### **Holly Class**

Martha and Luna

#### This week

#### **Pips Class**

Maeve

#### **Cherry Class**

Gertie

#### **Beech Class**

Jacob and Archie

#### **Holly Class**

Frank and Ornella

### DIARY

#### March 2026

Weds 4 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School
Weds 4 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Workshop - Managing Anxiety/Avoidance
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 swimming lesson
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 swimming lesson
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Firle Factor!
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>	Cherry & Pips Class trip to Drusilla's Park
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 swimming lesson
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day!
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Beech Class trip to Fishbourne Palace
Weds 25 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Easter church service at 2pm
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term

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#### INSET days 2026

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> June / Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

## BOOKS FOR BREAKFAST



How lovely to have so many of our families share breakfast and books with us yesterday. Thank you for making the effort to come out and join us. Sharing books with your child has huge proven benefits and yesterday showed how much happiness and connection they create.



## WORLD BOOK DAY



Today we are celebrating World Book Day 2026 across the Oak Tree Federation. This year's theme is "Reading for pleasure" and focuses on encouraging everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations, empowering children and young people to have fun discovering reading on their own terms. We are all so impressed by the effort that our children (and parents) and staff have made for World Book Day today! We have an amazing collection of book characters from Fantastic Mr Fox and Harry Potter to Snoopy and Charlie Brown! All children have received a book token which can be swapped at bookshops or used to get one of the specially selected £1 books for free! We have also attached a digital book token to this email. You can preview the line-up of this year's chosen texts using the link below.

[Books Archive - World Book Day](#)

## FOREST SCHOOL

This week, year 5 have been taking inspiration from nature to produce beautiful pictures by printing with ink.





## CROSS COUNTRY REGIONAL FINALS

Huge congratulations to Scarlett in Holly Class who came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the regional Cross Country Finals! We know that Scarlett has worked incredibly hard and has braved the rain and mud for her incredible achievement. We are all super proud of you, Scarlett!

**THE RAIL SAFE FRIENDLY PROGRAMME**  
The Rail Safe Friendly programme has educated over **3 million young people** on the dangers of the railways.

Discover our FREE rail safety videos and keep your children safe by visiting [railsafefriendly.com](http://railsafefriendly.com)

**DON'T LET YOUR CHILDREN BECOME THE NEXT STATISTIC**

"I implore you to listen to Harrison's story"  
Simon Frazer, Principal, Gulsborough Academy

According to the **ORR Report**, April 23 - March 24 on UK railways:

<b>12</b> people died in accidents while trespassing	<b>58%</b> were struck by a train or train	<b>42%</b> were electrocuted
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According to **Rail Safe Friendly**, July 25:

<b>120+</b> companies support the programme	<b>11,000+</b> schools in the UK have engaged	<b>20,000+</b> UK schools still need to be reached
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## RAIL SAFETY

Children across the school watched a very useful and informative video about staying safe near railway lines. Here is a postcard with a QR code with more information for families.



## Triggers, Tantrums and Teaching Moments

Want to **stay calm** when your child isn't?

Learn simple ways to set **boundaries**, get them to **listen**, and **solve problems** together.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

**8:45- 10:20am**

**Firle C of E Primary School**

To book a place, please email or speak to the office.



## PARENT WORKSHOP

There is another opportunity to join an incredibly helpful parent workshop addressing tricky behaviour. This workshop will be held in **Firle's school hall**. Please let the office know if you are able to attend so that we can have refreshments ready!

## SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

At the beginning of February 2024, a couple of mums from Suffolk set up a WhatsApp group for people interested in holding off on giving their child a smartphone. Within hours it had exceeded its capacity and has now attracted thousands of people across the country. It is now a large ongoing national movement, with national press, and with parents and carers coming together in solidarity.

More recent research means that now we know a difficult truth - smartphones and social media are linked to increased anxiety and depression, decreased attention span, cyberbullying is more prevalent and children are accessing inappropriate content, amongst other risks. These risks are present at surprisingly young ages, not necessarily just during teenage years. Education is obviously hugely important to try and keep our children safe, but our children's young brains are not wired to be able to avoid the risk or the addiction. There are alternatives to smartphones that allow us to keep in contact with our children without these risks.

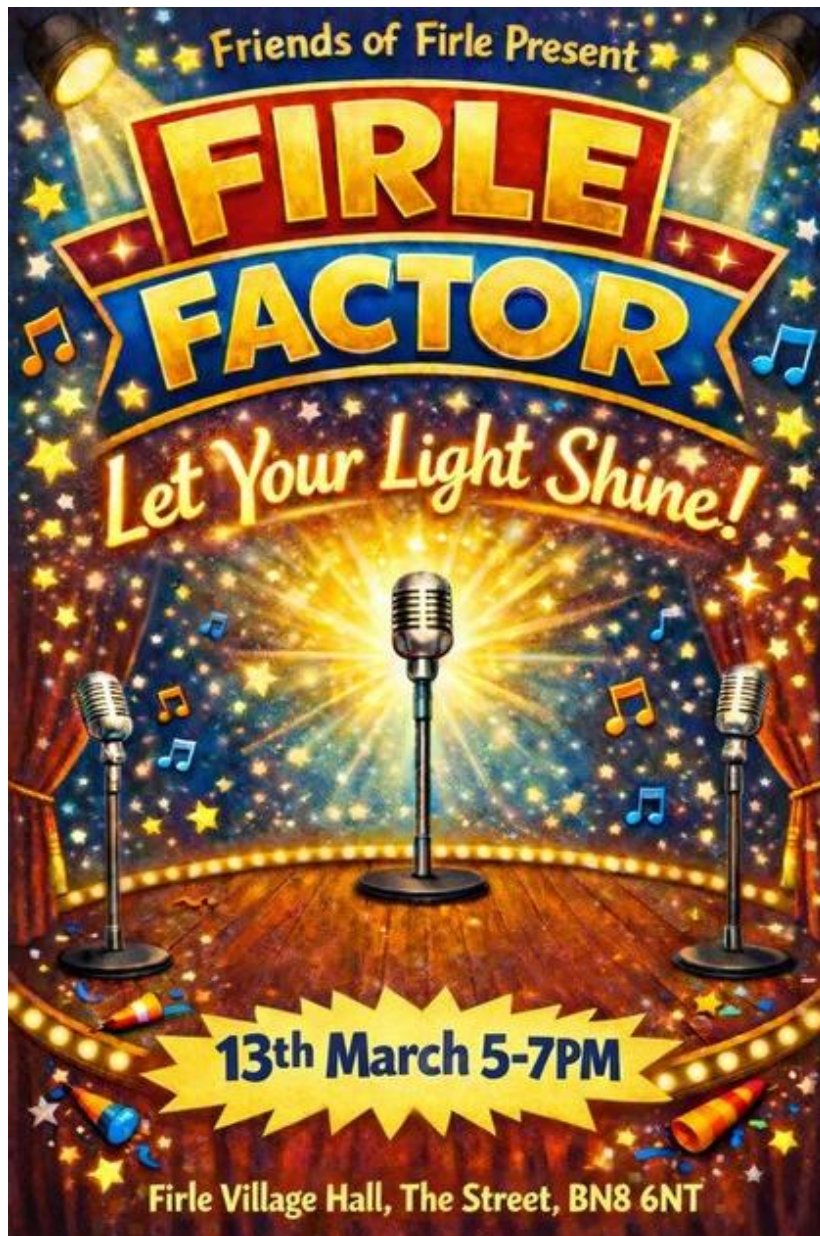
We plan to hold a meeting for parents with Magda Bannister about this issue on a Wednesday morning and will confirm the date when it has been arranged.

## RED NOSE DAY

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day in school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.



## AND DON'T FORGET...



## CELEBRATE YOUR TALENTS AND BE A STAR!

We are very pleased to announce Firle Factor 2026 is taking place on Friday 13th March at Firle Village Hall from 5pm and we need YOU!

To all those budding performers of singing, dance, comedy, acting, poetry, storytelling, rap, magic tricks, musical instruments, gymnastics or any skill you have to show to the world, sign up and take part in Firle Factor 2026!

This year, Firle Factor is a celebration of the wonderful and magical talents the children of Firle School possess with all entrants valued and recognised as winners for showing their fabulous abilities on stage. Once again, Finn Curry and Dan Vice-Holt will be Musical Directors and compères. If you have any questions, please contact:

Finn Curry: [finncurry@gmail.co](mailto:finncurry@gmail.co)



What will you discover?

## The interactive exhibition about the life of Jesus

TRINITY Church Lewes is hosting this unique event and would

like to invite you to visit and explore the One Way Experience

Saturday 21st March to Thursday 26th March 2026 10am – 4pm  
The experience is open for school groups in KS2 to book visits  
Mon16th – Fri 20th March

TRINITY, Southover, Southover High Street, Lewes, BN7 1JH

Thank you for all your continued support.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Jeannette Fuller