



Term 1 2026 - Week 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been really lovely to see the children settle so well into their new classes. Thank you to those who were able to come to the Meet the Teacher sessions, we hope you found them useful. The teachers have worked hard to ensure the classroom environments support all our learners.

It has been great to start the new year with some lovely weather. Please make sure that your child has a coat every day in school as we still go out in the rain. It is also really important that they have appropriate clothing for Forest School on Thursdays so that they are able to fully enjoy the woods in all weathers. We are very grateful to the people who have signed up to support with these so do let the office know if you can help out on any days.

We look forward to seeing you at our **Macmillan coffee afternoon this Friday from 2p.m.** Please see further details in this newsletter.



ATTENDANCE

Huge congratulations to Pips Class who achieved 100% last week and to Pips and Holly Classes who achieved 100% the week before! What an amazing start!

Our target for this year is **96%** and our current whole school attendance is **95%**

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners for following our school values of

*Kindness Respect Working Together
Perseverance Aspiration Forgiveness*

Last week

Cherry Class

Lyla

Beech Class

Trinity and Andrius

Holly Class

River and Bella

This week

Cherry Class

Rowan

Beech Class

Caspian and Judith

Holly Class

Marley and Aida

DIARY

Sept 2026

Fri 25th

Macmillan Coffee afternoon

Mon 28th

Firle Poetry Final (in school)

Oct 2026

Thurs 1st

Poetry Final at Ringmer School

Mon 5th

Open sessions at Firle CE Primary School

Tues 6th

Nasla flu vaccinations

Fri 16th

Harvest Festival

Tues 20th

Open sessions at Firle CE Primary School

Tues 20th

Parents evening

Thurs 22nd

Parents evening

Fri 23rd

Spooky Disco

Fri 23rd

Last day of term 1

Nov 2026

Mon 2nd

Return to school – Term 2

INSET day 2026

20th Nov, 4th Jan, 21st June and 22nd July

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The individual school photos took place this week and the order the QR code to order has been emailed, and as well as a paper copy sent home with your child.

STAFFING

Mrs West is at Firle on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mrs Fuller is at Firle on Thursdays and Fridays. Mr Smith, our school SENCO is in school from Monday to Friday.

Mrs Dyer is off school due to her horse-riding accident, so we have Mrs Backler in the infants in her absence. Mrs Dyer is recovering well and we look forward to welcoming her back soon.

If you have any queries or concerns then please speak first to your child's class teacher as they may be best placed to answer them. We encourage parents and carers to let teachers know if they have any worries or concerns straight away so that they can help.

CLUBS

We are delighted to be able to offer after-school clubs. Our after-school clubs will run on the following days.



After School Club	Day	Bookings
Drawing & Building Club	Monday 3:15pm-4:30pm	Booking and payment made via Arbor.
Gardening Club	Tuesday 3:15pm-4:30pm	Booking and payment made via Arbor.
Modelling Club	Tuesday 3:15pm-4:30pm	Booking made via Arbor. Payment made to Mr Fox-Wilson.
Calm Club	Wednesday 3:15pm-4:30pm	Booking and payment made via Arbor.
Multi-Sport Club	Thursday 3:15pm-4:30pm	Booking made via Bright Sparks website.

CENSUS

On **Thursday 1st October** it is national School Census Day. We have decided to keep the main meal as sausage and mash, and the vegetarian option as macaroni cheese. We would like as many of our Pips and Cherry pupils to have the school meal on that day. There will also be a jacket potato or paninis 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 1st 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 Thursday 1st 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.

GOVERNORS

We are currently looking for 2 Co-opted Governors and 1 Foundation Governor for the Oak Tree Federation Governing Board. If you would be interested in supporting our schools by becoming a governor or know of someone who would be then please let the school office know. The foundation governor needs to be approved by the diocese so it would need to be someone who is an active member of the church.

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 to 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 Laughton School:

Mrs Rachel West- Lead DSL

Mrs Jeannette Fuller – Lead DSL

Mrs Lisa Geer - Deputy DSL

These members of staff can be contacted via the school office:

fireoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk or by telephone on 01273 858 260

FOREST SCHOOL

The children thoroughly enjoyed the return of Forest School last week, and we would like to thank everybody who has offered to be a volunteer, it's very much appreciated.

Please can we remind you to send your child in with wellies and clothing suitable for Forest School.

Due to the prompt turn around, please can Beech class arrive to school in their Forest School clothes as they are the first class to attend.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

The online booking window for our parent consultations on **20th** and **22nd October** will open on **2nd October** at 3.30pm. You will need to use your parent portal login to access this. If you haven't yet logged in, it would be helpful to do so now so that you can access the bookings when they become available. If you have any problems, please contact the office. Thank you.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We will be raising funds for Macmillan on **Friday 25th September at 2pm** 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 cuppa from 2pm on this day and help us to raise money for this amazing charity.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival will take place on **Friday 16th October at 2pm** and you are welcome to join us if you would like to. We are collecting food for the City Mission, where the Brighton Food Bank is based; and they will be collecting the donations from school.



VOLUNTEERS

We are always grateful for any help we get in school and there are many ways you can support us in school if you have any free time to volunteer? This could be for a range of activities e.g supporting at lunchtimes, helping at Forest School, hearing readers, helping with the grounds etc. If you think you have any time to help either regularly, on a rota basis or ad hoc and are willing to get a DBS beforehand (which the school office will arrange with you), then please contact the school office and let us know what you would be willing to support in. Many thanks.

CHANGING WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, please can we remind you that all children should have a waterproof jacket in school every day.

OPEN SESSIONS

We are having the first of our Open Sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2027 on **Monday 5th October 2026 at 9.30am & 1.30pm**. So that we can monitor numbers, please can you book

with the school office on 01273 858 260 or email firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. Please let friends, family and neighbours know.

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 **Tuesday 20th October** and **Wednesday 18th November**.

The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2027**.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2027 you will soon 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 **Friday 31st October**.

FLU VACCINATIONS

Just a reminder that the Immunisation Service are coming into school on **Tuesday 6th October** to offer your child the **Flu vaccination**. You have been sent the **Flu parent letter** which contains information about the upcoming vaccination session and instructions on how to complete the online consent form. If you need another copy, let me know.

PARENT SUPPORT TEAM

Please see attached information on parent support sessions from the Family Hub. You can also find useful up to date information here <https://familyhubs.eastsussex.gov.uk/activities>

PARKRUN

Free, fun, friendly, weekly community events organised by volunteers for children aged 4 to 14. They take place on Sunday mornings and are a 2km run, walk, or jog. A great introduction for all the family to be physically active outside together.

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/peacehaven-juniors/>

There are other venues in East Sussex as well.

CHARTWELLS JOB VACANCY

Please see attached flyer

FRIENDS OF FIRLE

The FOF would like to share some ways that you could help our school:

- Please sign up to support us on easyfundraising. You can raise free cashback donations for us when you shop online with all your favourite retailers! It doesn't matter how often you shop, you can raise money for us every time you buy clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, holidays or anything else you buy online at no extra cost.

We'd really appreciate your support!

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/firlecoeps/YBVAM2/c2s/11YccjD6/CE942/facebook/>

- Join us every Friday morning for coffee and pastries at our Under the Canopy café at drop-off time!
- Look out for Frozen Fridays at school pick-up.
- Don't forget, you can buy second hand uniform for 50p per item.

Also if anyone has any questions or would like to get involved with FOF they can come and speak to Eve Hoare, Mrs Fuller or Mrs West.

Thank you for all your support.

Kind regards

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Jeanette Fuller



SIGN UP TODAY
WWW.TRINITYLEWES.ORG/CAST

Join the cast of
'Have You Heard The News'

A Christmas musical at TRINITY Church, Lewes
11th and 12th December 2026.

Calling all young people aged 6–13
Love singing and dancing? Come and join us!
No audition needed.

Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 3.45–5.00pm
from 23rd of September

Where: TRINITY, St John sub Castro,
Abinger Place, BN7 23QA



Questions? contact: esi@trinitylewes.org

TRINITY
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