

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school.

We hope you all managed to get a good break over the Christmas holidays and are ready for 2022!

It has been a particularly cold start to the year so please can you make sure that your child/ren has a hat in school every day. Due to ventilation in communal areas, they can also wear additional clothing e.g. long sleeves under their shirts, leggings, woolly hats, scarves etc.

We are closely monitoring the ventilation in classes and the children will still have opportunities to use the outdoor area for learning so they do need to wear extra to keep warm.



**ATTENDANCE** Congratulations to Holly Class for achieving the highest attendance percentage this week.



### GOLDEN BOOK

**W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022**

**Cherry** Jacob and Maisie B for their wonderful manners. They always put up their hands and listen carefully  
Albert and Abeni for their thoughtful contributions to our topic lesson on pirates

**Beech** Emily for showing a real passion for her learning on the first day back. Emily was keen to share her fantastic knowledge of the Vikings with her class  
Beau - Beau produced some brilliant writing for his fact file of the Lindisfarne Invasion. Beau showing real determination when independently writing down his facts

**Holly** Bracken for great effort overcoming a difficult first day back to school.  
Willow for great effort overcoming a difficult first day back to school.

### Diary

#### January

10<sup>th</sup> Open Day for children starting school in September 2022

11<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Swimming

18<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Swimming

20<sup>th</sup> Infant Pirate Day

25<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Swimming

28<sup>th</sup> F of Fs Break the Rules Day

#### February

1<sup>st</sup> Y5 Swimming

8<sup>th</sup> Yr 5 Swimming

8<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening

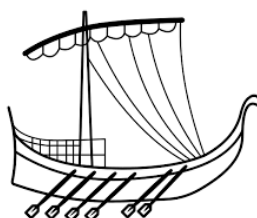
10<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening

11<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

21<sup>st</sup> Children return to school

### CURRICULUM

Topic webs will be sent home today; they outline the objectives the children will be covering this term. The infants are going to be learning lots about pirates, Years 3 and 4 are focusing on the Vikings and Years 5 and 6 are exploring Ancient Greece.



### A27 IMPROVEMENTS SCHEME

Please see the attached letter with some information that may impact your journeys to and from school this term.

### OPEN SESSIONS

Our final open session for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2022 is on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. In order to monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01273 858260 or email

[fireoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk](mailto:fireoffice@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, and you will have the opportunity to meet with the Executive Head teacher, Rachel West. Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The ESCC closing date for applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

Our afterschool clubs begin next week please see the letter attached. Our football and gymnastic clubs will need to run at full capacity to be viable, so please don't be shy - sign up!

## **SWIMMING**



Next week our year 5 children will be going swimming to Wave Leisure Pool in Lewes, some year 6 children will also be going. This will take place on Tuesday afternoons for a period of 10 weeks.

It is a requirement that children can swim 25m before leaving primary school and for those children that can already do this, they will further their skills in style of stroke, speed and lifesaving.

We hope to provide the opportunity for children to learn swimming in Year 4 in the summer term but need to catch up due to Covid restrictions hence Year 5 going at this time.

## **BIKEABILITY**

Bikeability this year is open to those year 6 pupils who didn't participate last year, it will take place during the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> March.

## **READY, STEADY, GO!**

**Ready, Steady, Go!** is an eight-week group programme for children aged 4 to 11 and their families. The focus is on helping families achieve and maintain a healthy weight by making small and achievable lifestyle changes with the support of a team of trained staff. Please see the attached for more information

## **UPDATED POLICIES**

We continue to update our school policies and these can be found on our website under statutory information. The majority of these have to be ratified by the federation governing body. We will let you know when we have reviewed policies by putting a list of the reviewed ones in our newsletters after our Full Governing Body (FGB) meetings. At our last FGB meeting these were;

Assessment  
Complaints  
Data Protection  
Parent Code of Conduct

## **COVID UPDATE**

We are continuing to apply our procedures to reduce the risk of Covid spreading in school and these include;

- Regular handwashing and use of hand sanitiser
- Visitors wearing face masks in school and taking LFT before coming into school
- Staff wearing face masks in communal areas such as the hall
- Staff testing with lateral flows at least twice weekly and reporting dates to the school office
- Good ventilation in all areas
- Fogging all areas
- Co2 monitors in class to check on air quality and adapting activity if needed

We thank you for your contribution in testing your child/ren with lateral flows and keeping them off school if they have a high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste and smell, or other symptoms of illness.

We are hoping to plan for some visits later in the term but are just checking to see what happens over the next week before confirming them.



#### FUNDRAISING

**EasyFundraising** - an online fundraising tool. We have raised over £200 just by people signing up and doing their shopping (we don't see what you buy, but get pennies each time you shop) Just click here to sign up and you can download the app too! Don't forget to share with family and friends. Every time someone signs up we get £5! Do your Christmas shop at Sainsburys and we will hopefully receive a massive contribution.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/firlecoeps/>

**My School Lottery** - we recently signed up for this and have had a winner every week so far. Just click the link and set up a direct debit or make a one off payment for entries. Please share this with your family and friends too as it is a great way to get funds from outside of the school community.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/firle-church-of-england-school>

Kind regards Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown