

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy fortnight with external advisers visiting in school to help us in being prepared for our Ofsted visit, so your child/ren may have mentioned visitors in school asking them questions.

When we get the Ofsted call you will be notified straight away as they will be coming in the following morning. You will be asked to complete their questionnaire online and can do this now if you would like to by registering/ signing in at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

It is lovely to see the sun shining and we are trying to make the most of it. Please make sure that your child has a sunhat and sun cream applied before school as they spend a lot of time outside, thank you.

ATTENDANCE



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

We still have children arriving late through the front gate. This is very disruptive to the school day so please make sure you arrive in time to enter via the back gate. Thank you.

GOLDEN BOOK

Week commencing 25th April

- Cherry** Marley - fabulous story writing
Ralph - lovely maths work with 10s frames
Martha - trying to improve her writing all the time
- Beech** Beau and Levon for their perseverance with their reading. They have now completed Bullseye and are working hard to embed their vocabulary into their writing too!
- Holly** Alex and Ollie for creating amazing imagery through their use of figurative language and ambitious vocabulary.

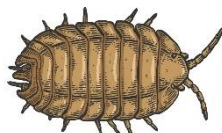
Week commencing 2nd May

- Cherry** Polly, Abeni and Iris for being really kind friends
- Beech** Lowen and Emily: Showing aspiration in their learning. Always challenging themselves to reach their full potential.
- Holly** Hopi - for persevering when she found her writing difficult and achieving a beautifully descriptive piece without any help
Tabitha - consistently demonstrates all our school values and sets an amazing example for our younger pupils. In addition, she has aspired to really improve her descriptive writing and has achieved a wonderful level of competency with this.
Dolly - for asking for help when she doesn't understand (particularly maths). She shows great courage and determination to succeed by doing this.

SATS WEEK 9th - 12th MAY

Yes, it's that time again. Our year 6 children have been working really hard in preparation for their tests. As usual we will be offering a breakfast club for SATs week. Please would all year 6 parents return the tear off slip regarding food choices as soon as possible.

MINI BEAST HUNT



On Tuesday Beech Class will be going on a mini beast hunt in the Millennium Wood as part of their science learning.

Diary

April

w/c 9th Year 6 SATs
12th Toddler Group 9-10 am
19th Toddler Group 9-10 am
w/c 23rd Mental Health Week
26th Whole School Walk
27th Last Day of Term

WHOLE SCHOOL WALK

On **Thursday 26th May** we will be taking the children on our annual whole school walk.

We will walk from school, up the hill to Firle Beacon. We will stop for lunch at the top of the hill before returning to the school field.

Now we are free of Covid restrictions we are delighted that the children and staff from Laughton school will be joining us again this year. As well as an opportunity to commemorate Ascension Day it also provides an opportunity to enjoy our beautiful local area and time together as The Oak Tree Federation.



YEAR 6 PATINA REP

Our Year 6 children will be taking part in the Lewes Patina which is a moving on parade for all those moving on to secondary school in September. The Patina parade is on 1st July and the children walk through the streets with their witty creations that they make with a local artist beforehand.

We are looking for a parent or carer to be our parent rep for this event and attend the planning meetings to keep people informed. If you feel this is something you would be able to do please let Mrs Groves or Mr Carter know. Thank you.

PE KITS

There are still some pupils without PE kits, all the children should have separate clothes and foot wear for PE please. **PE kits should be left in school** as each class has PE twice weekly, Holly class on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Beech Class on Thursdays and Fridays and Cherry Class on Tuesdays and Fridays.

JUBILEE DAY LUNCH

We will be celebrating the platinum jubilee in school on Tuesday 7th June. The children can come to school in red, white and blue and we will have a day of activities learning about the reign of Queen Elizabeth 11 and what has happened in history during her reign.

We will have a whole school picnic at lunchtime and Colette will be making sandwiches as part of a special jubilee lunch organised by Chartwells.

MILK

If your child would like a glass of milk with their snack each day, please check the school website for sign up details. You need to pay for all those over 5 years. You can contact www.coolmilk.com to register your child.

TODDLER GROUP

We are delighted to see our toddler group growing and welcome all children under school age. Please let friends and neighbours know as it is good publicity for us as a small school. We have been very lucky with the weather and been able to have it outside which means we can use the trikes and bikes too.



There will be **no Toddler Group on 12th May** because of the SATs tests and **26th May** because of the Whole School walk.

FRIENDS OF FIRLE



Friends of Firle School raised a whopping £722 selling Sweet Surprises at Lewes Rugby Tournament last weekend. Huge thanks to everyone who came along to help and also everyone who packed the sweetie bags. All this fundraising has meant that they are able to contribute a massive £12 000 towards our playground project which starts on May 16th. We are still trying to raise as much as possible before the bill arrives!



FIRLE HORSE TRIALS

Friends of Firle School have been invited back to help at the horse trials running dressage schools, helping at the show jumping arena, running dog/child agility, selling cakes and running two petting zoos. This is a fundraising opportunity for us so please sign up to help for one or two hours shifts on the **14th and 15th May**. This is our last fund-raising opportunity before our new playground is installed. The signing up sheet is on the school gate.

Buzz and Izzy here were helping whilst their mums learnt some lamb husbandry skills in preparation for the petting zoo!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done to Henry who has been selected to play football for the Chelsea Foundation!

CENSUS DAY 19th MAY

On Thursday 19th May 2022, it 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 or a tomato burger with chips.

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 19th 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 19th 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.

Hopefully 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.

Thank you for your continued support.

CHARTWELLS GOLDEN TICKET CAMPAIGN

This is a three week campaign to increase the take up of school lunches, pupils are in with a chance of winning a Food Superhero fidget bubbles, when they have a school lunch every Thursday between 9th and 26th May.

Kind Regards

Rachel West, Vicki Brown