

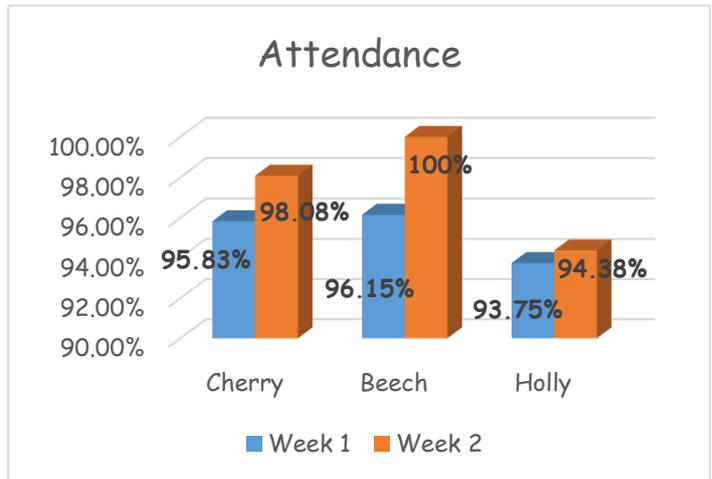
Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you all had a lovely summer; it has been good to hear the children's news of what they have all been doing. They look very smart in their uniform, thank you for supporting our policy.

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Cherry and Beech.

Our school target this year is 96.5%. Please can you make sure that your child is in school for 9.00 a.m. as a late registration affects their classes' attendance figures. Thank you



## GOLDEN BOOK

Congratulations to the following children who have been mentioned in our Golden Book, which is shared in our Celebration Assembly.

### 12<sup>th</sup> September

**Beech** **Fin** consistently pushing himself and a fantastic sentence this morning! 'Aspiration to be great.'

**Arlina** for always respecting the class by listening well to others and working very hard in class

**Holly** **Lloyd** for really giving his maths 100% effort. I've seen a huge amount of learning in just one week

**Flynn** for always concentrating and taking part in class discussions. Again 100% effort in every subject.

**Cherry** **All of Cherry Class**

**Pips-** for settling in so sensibly to their new class and their new school

**Year 1 and 2-** for being so kind, helpful and nurturing in supporting their new classmates

## DIARY DATES

### SEPTEMBER

- 16<sup>th</sup> Yoga starts
- 19<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Lewes taking assembly
- 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Forum 2.15pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Open Morning 9.30am
- 27<sup>th</sup> MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

### OCTOBER

- 3<sup>rd</sup> FoFs EGM 9.30am
- 15<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations
- 17<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations
- 28<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Nov Half Term

### NOVEMBER

- 18<sup>th</sup> INSET

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW RECEPTION CHILDREN

It has been lovely to see how well our new Reception children have settled into school life. They have even come into worship on most days and have enjoyed making new friends with their class. We hope that they will all enjoy their time at Firle and thrive in their new class.

## NEW STAFF

As well as our new Reception cohort, we would also like to welcome Miss Irma Partono and Mrs Jacqui Groves to Firle. Many of you will have met them already this week at Meet the Teacher sessions and Miss Partono was with us last year, as a student teacher.

They have both made a great start getting to know the children around the school and hope to meet more of you as the year progresses.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

We desperately need to improve our attendance this year and will work with you to ensure your child is happy in coming to school. If they are unwell and cannot attend school, please let us know by 8:30a.m on each day of absence (unless they have a longer term illness e.g. Chicken Pox). Vomiting and Diarrhoea require a clear 48hrs from the last episode.

Our school target this year is 96.5%; however, we would like it to be higher! Last year we set our attendance target at 96.5% but unfortunately only achieved 94.21% so we were well under our expectation. Anything under 95% is considered a concern.

We send all our attendance data into County and are informed via a report of children who may become at risk of persistent absence. This is if they fall below the number of sessions set by County for that term.

We will inform you if your child is on this list through a letter at the beginning of the subsequent term. This is a generic letter as we are unable to amend each one for each individual case. If you receive one of these letters and wish to discuss it with myself or Mrs Brown, please make an appointment with the school office. If we have any specific concerns about your child's attendance, we will approach you in person and arrange a meeting.

Please try to avoid booking doctor, dentist and other appointments during the school day and ensure your child is in school on time as late marks are also categorised in our attendance figures. It can be unsettling for children to arrive late to class so please try to leave a bit earlier if you can.

The children need to be registered at 9 a.m so we will be closing the gates at this time. If anyone arrives after 9 a.m they will be recorded as late and you will need to sign them in at the school office. Thank you.

We will be celebrating each class attendance at a weekly worship and keep you informed through the school fortnightly newsletter.

## NEW BUILD

We are absolutely delighted with our new Build to form Cherry Class. A huge amount of work took place over the summer with the Glynde and Firle Estate teams working together under Jason Lee's management. We would like to say an enormous thank you to all those who enabled this to happen and to get it ready for the start of the new term. Teaching and support staff were in over the holidays and Mr Fox Wilson worked hard to ensure everything was ready. It really is a lovely area that brings a free flow and explorative environment to our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children.



We are hugely grateful to the Friends of Firle and all of you who have supported events as this has enabled us to fund £3000 of new resources to make it the best learning environment for the children.

## PARENT FORUM

We will be having our first parent forum of the year on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 2:15p.m in the school hall. Our focus will be our revised draft behaviour policy and school improvement priorities.

Please come along, if you can, for a cup of tea/ coffee and join in the discussion.

### **LEFT AT THE CRICKET CLUB**

Some plates and a big food storage box were left at the cricket club after the summer party, please come to the office to collect.

### **NEW WEBSITE**

We have a new website! Please follow this link to access it [www.firleschool.co.uk/website](http://www.firleschool.co.uk/website)

However, it should now appear if you search for Firle Primary School. We are very grateful to Nigel who ran our old website but have decided to go with a provider that allows us to have more accessibility

### **MEET THE TEACHER**

Thankyou very much to all those who were able to make our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions this week. We hope you found them useful. Some of the teachers may have given out things and if you were not able to be there these will be sent home with your child.

If you have any concerns at any point during the year, please speak to your child's class teacher as the first point of contact. Thank you.

### **MILK**

Free milk is available for all children under the age of five in school, funded by the UK government. In our school, this milk is provided by Cool Milk, the UK's leading school milk supplier. When your child turns five, you are able to pay a subsidised rate for your child to continue to receive milk. If you wish for your child to continue receiving milk from the age of five, simply register with Cool Milk directly via their website ([www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)). They will then contact you at the appropriate time to arrange pre-payment.

### **SCHOOL LUNCHES PRICE REDUCTION!**

You will be pleased that the price of a school lunch has decreased this term and will be £2.05 per day. If you would like to pay for the first term the cost will be £75.85. Colette, our cook, always offers a choice of baguettes, jacket potatoes and a meat and vegetarian option so there is always plenty to choose from. A new addition to the menu this year is fruit infused water. If your child has any special dietary requirements please let the school office know.

### **YOGA**

Yoga will begin next week, on Monday afternoons. If your child has any medical condition or sports injury that could be affected by yoga please can you let their class teacher know.

The children will use many of the elements from these sessions to support them during the week and hopefully in life, in becoming more aware of breathing and body positioning techniques.

### **HOLLY CLASS RESIDENTIAL TRIP**

We would like to remind parents that the Holly Class trip to Hindleap Warren is taking place this year from Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. We will be having a meeting to share the relevant information about the residential, later this term and will send the details out in due course.

### **GLYNDE PLAY STREET**

Trevor Gardens, Mill Lane, Glynde will be closed to traffic and open for play on the following dates:

11/9 3.30 - 6pm

26/9 3.30 - 6pm (special visit from Lewes Community Fire Service)

5/10 1 - 4pm

3/11 1 - 4pm

### **DATA COLLECTION FORMS**

Please return your completed pink data collection form to the school office at your earliest convenience.

### **COATS**

Please ensure that your child brings a coat to school every day as the weather is very changeable.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

Please send in your completed club letter along with your payments as soon as possible as all our clubs will run next week

## **AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS**

If your child is not going home with the usual person, please let the school office know, as we cannot allow children to go home with other parents without prior notice.

## **PLEASE DONATE**

We need spare wool for weaving and spare compost for planting please.

## **FRIENDS OF FIRLE**

Thank you so much to the new parents who came and joined us in the hall for tea and cake after dropping their little ones off in Cherry class for the first time, it was really lovely to meet you all!

Our Friends of Firle AGM was held in the last school term, where a whole new committee was elected. Since then Debra Vice-Holt has been asked to be Chair of Governors and so will be stepping down in her role as Treasurer to F.O.F but will remain closely involved with all things FOF!

Therefore, we are giving notice of an EGM to take place on October 3rd at 9:30 in the school hall.

There will be just 1 item on the agenda - electing a new treasurer and then we will immediately follow this with an open meeting to discuss all events and anything else for the coming year.

Our first event being the 'Spooky Disco' this term (date TBC).

FOF plays a vital part in the school community and all parents are members, so please do come along, if you can, with any ideas or skills you think will help us in raising money for our wonderful little school.

Lastly a big thank you to everyone who has volunteered to man the dog agility stall at the Bentley Wood Fair on 21/22 September. Good luck to everyone and hopefully we will raise lots for very little effort- we are so grateful to the organisers who thought of us. If you know anyone going with a dog do spread the word about our stand.

Look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Thank you

Lucie Crago and Helen Sadler  
(co -chairs)