

Dear Parents and Carers,

The classes are enjoying their new topics. It is lovely to see KS2 embracing their learning on the Victorians and I think they are all quite relieved to be living in this era instead! Today as part of the infants 'Transport' topic the children were all able to see Mr Fox Wilson's fabulous model railway, he gave a short talk about it and the Year 2s came over from Laughton to join in as well. They all had a lovely time collaborating on a number of activities and play.

You will see from the reports in this newsletter that we have been incredibly busy over the last 2 weeks and particularly today, with Children in Need

Please make sure that you have the dates below in your diaries and remember that we have an **INSET day on Monday 22nd November**.



ATTENDANCE Well done to Cherry Class who achieved the highest attendance last week and this.

GOLDEN BOOK
W/C 8th November

- Cherry** Milo and Ted - always making the right decisions,
listening to and engaging in all the lessons
- Beech** David - being a good friend and showing kindness to the younger children
Ruben for his hard work and focus in all areas of the curriculum
Tallulah for her hard work and interesting contributions
to class discussions
- Holly** Buzzy for making an amazing effort with the presentation of his work - it
really is fantastic now!
Pearl for all her hard work, especially in maths and spelling

**THE WHOLE OF HOLLY CLASS - THREE DAYS AT HINDLEAP WARREN
SHOWING AMAZING SKILL IN WORKING WITH OTHERS,
KINDNESS, MANNERS AND BEHAVIOUR!**

W/C 15th November

- Cherry** Jules for always working really hard at everything that he does
Maisie for being incredibly kind to her friends
- Beech** Ollie for his excellent work in science. He has shown a thorough
understanding of how circuits work.
Levon for his hard work in maths. He has worked diligently on his column subtraction.
- Holly** Monty quietly helpful and kind particularly in maths and computing
Bea always kind - puts others first

KS1 TRANSPORT TOPIC

Mr Fox-Wilson's astounding model of the town of Rainbow Rock. The town's economy thrives from the Rainbow Rock quarry and the sugar mine. The trains move the rock and the sugar to the factory where it is turned into sticks of rock to be sold at local seaside towns.

All the children were able to see it today and marvel at how intricate the details are as well as watch the train go round. Thank you Mr Fox Wilson.

LATENESS

We have noticed that lateness has been increasing recently so please leave plenty of time for your child/ren to arrive at school on time. The gate will be shut at 9a.m and you will need to enter by the front entrance after this.

All the children need to be in their classrooms by 9am when the register is taken. If they arrive later than this, they will receive a late mark and if they arrive after 9:30a.m their mark in the register is classed as an unauthorised absence. Thank you.

Diary

November

19 th	Children in Need day
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22 nd	INSET DAY
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December

1 st	Whole School Coming of the Light
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2 nd	Pantomime
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10 th	KS1 Nativity Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
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15 th	Christmas lunch
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16 th	Church service 6pm
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17 th	Last day of term
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GLYNDE, BEDDINGHAM AND FIRLE MEMORIAL PARADE

'On behalf of Glynde, Beddingham and Firle Memorial Parade, I would like to thank the children in Beech class for their beautiful poppies which they coloured in for our Memorial Parade last week, as we remembered those who fought for our country in both World Wars. Everybody commented on how lovely they were and the children were given a special mention during the service. The poppies will be on display for a little longer at the War Memorial of Glynde Church. If you haven't done so already, please do take a look. Thank you once again to the children in Beech Class' Steve Geer



WINTER WEATHER

As the weather gets colder, please ensure that your child comes into school suitably clothed, with a jumper or cardigan, a fleece and a coat and on particularly cold days a hat and gloves. We are still making sure that the classrooms are fully ventilated so it may not be as warm in school as in previous years

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On 11th November we all went up to the War Memorial in the village to remember those who gave their lives in the conflicts that our country has fought in, with a minutes silence. The children behaved beautifully and were a credit to the school. Thank you to all those who were able to come and help with walking them down.

CHILDREN IN NEED



Well done everyone, we raised a massive £158.10 for Children in Need, what an achievement for a small school! Some of the children donated their own money, our school value of Kindness is certainly very evident here.

One of our School Councillors, Fin says 'We watched a film, The Secret Life of Pets, all those children who donated were able to sit in Holly Class at lunchtime and watch it. Everyone enjoyed the film. The

School Council would like to thank all the pupils for their generous donations.'

BAKE SALE

Harry in Holly class will be holding a bake sale on Friday 26th November to help raise money for giftbox donations to local Foodbanks.

"I really want to help other people at Christmas this year! We are so lucky that we have lovely Christmas with our families and have nice things, but some people are not so lucky. It would be so nice to do something kind and help those people have a special Christmas too."

The bake sale will be held after school in the playground if it is dry, or in the school hall if the weather is poor. The cakes/bakes will be priced at 50p each. Any donations of cake will also be very welcome.

All money raised will be used to make up Christmas boxes which will then be donated to local foodbanks to hand out to families in need at Christmas. The gift boxes will be aimed at different age categories for children, but we would also like to make some up for adults as well, and to make as many as possible.

Please don't feel you must, but if anybody would like to donate items for the gift boxes, please bring them into school on Wednesday 1st December and we will collect them at the end of the day. We are also in need of some good quality empty shoe boxes to fill. We will put together a list of suggested items next week.

We ask that you only donate if you are in a position to do so. Items should be new and unopened, with a good shelf life of at least a few weeks. We also ask that you are mindful of plastic and packaging to minimise any unnecessary waste.

Thank you for your support. We will update you on Harry's progress in the next newsletters.

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

For Anti-Bullying week the children made a paper chain using 'one kind word' from each student in the school to show that just one kind word, when joined with other kind words, creates a ripple effect and can spread kindness to all!



The whole school went on to the playground this afternoon to celebrate this.

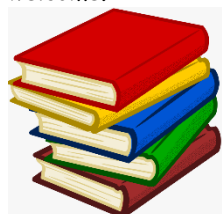
Every day this week classes have had a life skills session around anti bullying, reinforcing that a kind word can make a difference to someone's day. Well done children you modelled this very well over the week and we now want to keep this part of our daily life.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 15th DECEMBER

Don't forget to book your child's Christmas Lunch, please make your payment (KS2 only) on ParentPay. The children may accessorise their school uniform with something festive for Christmas Lunch.

READING ARMY

A huge thank you to all our Reading Army volunteers, we still have space for more! Mrs Fitzpatrick will hold an informal session briefly after school this Friday (19th of November at 3.15pm in the school hall about reading in school. Everyone is welcome.



SCHOOL LIBRARY

We have arranged for a school librarian to visit our school library on 10th December to review and edit our library books. It would be really helpful if some parents could also come in on the day to lend a hand. Please let Mrs Horan know if you can help.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

You will have noticed that we have some lovely new fencing and gate. This does however, make the main entrance to our school look a little shabby. We would love some parents to volunteer to tidy the entrance up a bit and perhaps plant some bulbs, shrubs and climbers. If anyone could donate some plants we would all be really grateful.

OPEN SESSIONS

Our next open Session for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2022 is on **Monday 10th January 2020**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. So we can monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office or email firleoffice@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.

SAVE THE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We will be supporting the Save the Children Charity by wearing a Christmas Jumper to school Friday 10th December.



DANGEROUS PARKING AND MANOEUVRES

We have noticed, and parents and carers have also commented, that it is becoming increasingly unsafe for pedestrians around drop off and pick up times at the school. Cars are turning around when there are children and adults coming in and out which is dangerous. Please can you not use the entrance to School Bungalows to turn your vehicle around or drive up past the gate, there is a turning point further down the Bostal and separate arrangements can be made for those with disabled badges. This will help us improve the children's safety at these times. Thank you



Lewes District Citizens Advice are currently recruiting for volunteer advisers for Citizens Advice in the Lewes District area, and have found that parents of school age children often get a great deal out of their training and the experience of volunteering for them, which often enables them to make steps back into the workplace if they so desire. They have also found that they make very good advisers, and are able to offer a lot of their experience to others in need of help in the wider community.

LOST PROPERTY

If your child has misplaced an item of clothing please come and have a rummage through our lost property box. Clothing marked with your child's name will always be returned to them.

FRIENDS OF FIRLE SCHOOL

Thank you to those who came to the morning and/or evening meeting yesterday for Friends of Firle. At the AGM in the morning the old committee stepped down and the new committee for January 2022 was voted in. Both committees will work together until then, to plan the Christmas Fayre.

The changes are that Fay and Helen resigned as Co-Chairs, along with Miriam as Co-Secretary. No one came forward to take on the role of Chair.

Terina has offered to be the Vice Chair and would like to support the new Chair when we have someone. Anne-Marie will continue to be Co-Secretary and we also need another person to share this role. Laura will continue to be Co-Treasurer and Cassie has volunteered to be share this role with her as Co Treasurer.

This means that we need to fill the following roles Chair and Co Secretary.

Without a Chair, Friends of Firle will not be able to run, so we are desperately asking for someone or a few people to come forward to help. The aim is that it should be a coordinating role and then groups of Friends of Firle get together to plan individual events. Please let Helen or Fay know if you could do this.

I would like to thank Helen and Fay for their amazing work in their shared Chair role. I know they are not officially leaving until the New Year but they have raised so much for the school and have been committed to arranging fun events for the children, even through lockdown, they deserve a huge thank you. I don't think there are many PTA's who made the effort to fundraise through lockdown and adapt events such as the spooky trail, to be accessible during the pandemic.

ONGOING FUNDRAISING

Please remember and sign up to these easy fundraisers for the school, particularly when Christmas shopping as you could help us raise a fortune.

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!

<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