

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been so lovely seeing the children settling back into school this week. They have done amazingly well in getting used to the different routines and expectations and have been looking out for each other. It has been a great week with lots of science, technology, engineering and maths and this has created a buzz in their learning. It has also been quite noisy as they have all had so much to talk about!

Thank you for your support in preparing and reintroducing your child/ren back into school. It has made it so much easier for us. The staff have been brilliant in their support and we thank them for all they have done to help make this new start such a success. If there is anything that you think, we need to know about your child's experience of settling back in then please contact your child's class teacher through the school office.

ATTENDANCE

We will start reporting the highest-class attendees next week. For this week, we just want to say well done everybody for coming back to school.

GOLDEN BOOK

Week commencing 8th March 2021

- Holly** **Lloyd** has a really good effort and attitude to being back at school.
Eva for showing great resilience and attitude to being back although it's been nearly a year since she last came to school.
- Beech** **Arthur** for his interesting and well thought out contribution during STEM week.
Pearl for her positive attitude and thoughtful contributions during STEM week.
- Cherry** **Tallulah** for having such a calming attitude to the younger children.
Finn for working really hard and having lots of ideas for STEM week.

LATERAL FLOW TESTING

We have asked all our staff to do the lateral flow testing twice a week and they share their results with the school office. It is possible for you to collect your own tests now. Please use this link to find out more about where you can pick your tests up.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

WELCOME TO MR CARTER



We are delighted to welcome Mr Carter onto our staff to teach Beech Class whilst Miss Partono works from home and then goes on maternity leave in April. They are working very well together to help with the transition back into school. He has made a great start and we look forward to having him as part of our team.

Diary

March	
19 th	Forest School - Holly group
19 th	Red Nose Day
26 th	Forest School -Beech Class
April	
1 st	Last day of Term
19 th	Children return to school
23 rd	Forest School -Beech Class
30 th	Forest School -Beech Class
May	
3 rd	Bank Holiday Monday
7 th	Forest School -Beech Class
14 th	Forest School -Beech Class
10 th	Bikeability training all week- Holly Class
26 th	
28 th	Last day of term
June	
7 th	Children return to school

SCHOOL BUS AND PICK UPS

We have noticed that since returning there has been more congestion than previously on the road at the back of the school and this has become particularly tricky with the school buses arriving and leaving. We are therefore going to trial next week for the buses to pick up and drop off at the front of the school. The drivers will turn around in the village carpark to ensure that the children always access the bus from the steps and do not have to walk on the road. The driver will bring them through the gate and let the office know which children will be returning home on the bus so that we can see them onto the bus at the end of the day.

Each bus will wait for the other one to move on so that the children can be dropped off at the steps.

We hope this will make it a bit easier for everyone with drop offs and pick-ups. The SLT member who is normally on the gate will still be there in the morning but take the bus children at the end of the day instead. The class teacher will continue to bring the rest of the children to the gate at the end of the day.

This will be a trial and we will let you know how we get on.

MUSIC LESSONS

Music lessons have now started back in school. If you are interested in flute, violin, singing or guitar please contact the school office.

We are pleased to announce that Dan will be coming back into school and leading class singing assemblies from next Friday. He is also restarting singing and guitar lessons with pupils on Friday mornings and is offering free 15 minute taster singing or guitar lessons for your child. To register your child, please contact Dan at dannyviceholt@harmonessence.co.uk

COOKING STUFF

We are hugely grateful to Robert and Ami who had the village shop for their very generous donation of over £200. They decided to ask everyone to give money to the school rather than a leaving gift for themselves. This is such a generous gift and we are thrilled to use it to support all our children. We have decided to use it for cooking equipment so that we can do more cookery in each class. Not only is it a great life skill but it is also a fabulous way to bring subjects in the curriculum together.

Mrs Filtness and Beau are going to be the equipment monitors and all classes will have regular cookery sessions.

The school has sent a thank you card to Robert and Ami and the children are going to write their own messages of thanks.



FOREST SCHOOL

If your child has Forest School on Fridays, see diary dates, please can you make sure that they are appropriately dressed. This means they need to have a coat, long trousers, waterproof shoes such as wellies or walking boots. Please ensure that as much of their clothing is waterproof and provide a change of clothing for when they return to school.

RED NOSE DAY



Next week is Red Nose Day and although we cannot do activities as we normally would we would still like to support the event. We are therefore allowing children to wear red and have crazy hair if they wish in return for a minimum £1 donation. This money will go towards the charity and we will share with the children where it goes to through one of our worship times next week.

RECYCLING

Don't forget we recycle crisp packets, biscuit wrappers and batteries so please give a bag full to your child to bring into the office, once you have a collection

SCHOOL DINNERS

Now that we are back into the swing of things here at school and Colette is back cooking a full menu, please don't forget to log into Parent pay and pay for your child's lunches if they are in key stage 2. We have attached the normal school menu and a new menu will be introduced after Easter.

EMAIL ADDRESS

The staff have had their email address changed so please direct all emails through the school office. We have moved to a firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk email but some are not getting through at present so it is best to continue office emails to our normal one office@firle-school.e-sussex.sch.uk as these will be forwarded once we have corrected the problem.

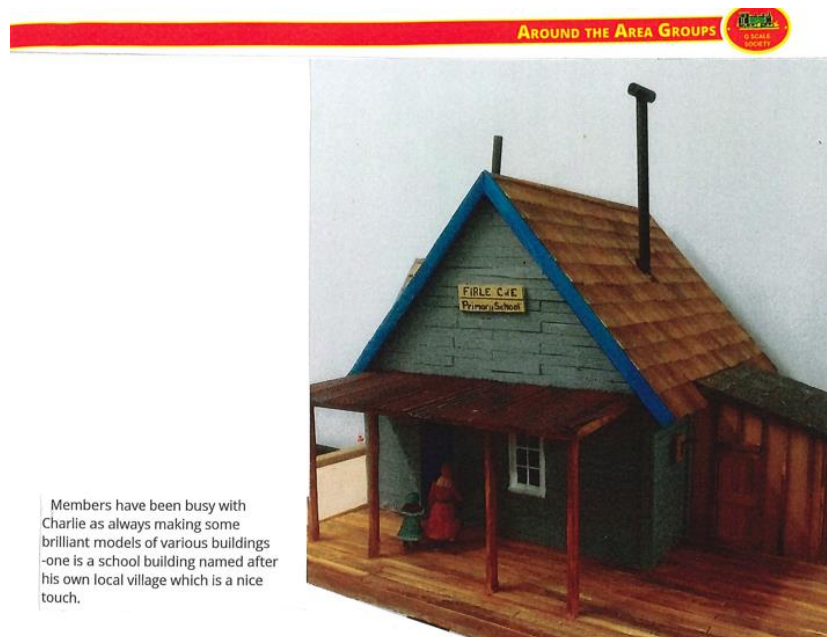
ITEMS BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL

Please can you make sure that your child only brings the necessities to school as we are trying to reduce what is brought in from home. Please can they keep their PE kit in school and water bottles can be washed and refilled in school. Reading books will start to come home on a Monday from next week, to be returned on Fridays, please make sure you have returned your pack from before. Thank you.

PROJECT PLAYGROUND

The Friends of Firle are going to help us with a massive fundraising project to develop our outside area. We did mention this before the last lockdown but it has been hard to get momentum going with not being at school. This week the children have been designing what they would like in our outside areas and we are going to use these to write a brief which we can share with organisations for match funding e.t.c.

FIRLE SCHOOL MODEL



Mr Fox Wilson has got himself into a magazine article for his model of Firle School. Some of you will know that he is a fabulous model maker and has created a huge train set with a diorama of amazing building and scenery. He was hoping to display this in the village hall for an event but this has been delayed due to Covid. We thought that you might like to see a picture of the school building he has made.

STEM WEEK

The children have really enjoyed STEM week being involved in hands on activities and working together on their investigations.

Here are some of the things the classes have been doing:



Kind regards

Rachel West and Vicki Brown

