

## Dear Parents and Carers.

Welcome back after the half term break. We hope that you all had a restful week despite the poor weather. We had a great start to the term with our Pancake races, thank you so much to all those who supported this fun event.

## ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Beech Class!

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 class's 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.

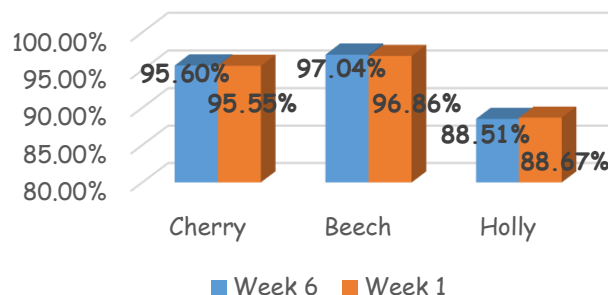
### 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020

- Cherry** **Martha-** for wonderful writing at home and school.  
**Tallulah-** for fantastic contributions to maths sessions,  
**Shea-**for working brilliantly in a group.
- Beech** **Bea G-** Aspiring to be an amazing writer by choosing very interesting and exciting vocabulary.  
**Monty W-** Also aspiring to be a fantastic writer!
- Holly** **Annabelle and Gabri-** Fantastic use of punctuation in their writing.  
**Monty** great improvement in handwriting.

### 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020

- Cherry** **Alex** – brilliant maths ordering 1 – 10 with confidence  
**Erin** – making some brilliant repeating patterns with magnetic equipment  
**Mabel** – a great attitude to maths, always having a go
- Beech** **Matias** has worked incredibly hard in his maths this year. He is becoming a super mathematician!  
**Hopi** has taken on her independent learning at home. She has been motivated to learn spellings at home and it shows!
- Holly** **Flynn** has worked hard on making his sentences more concise. He's a very able writer and is still open to improving his work.  
**Annabelle** has been making some good choices with regard to her behaviour and attitude to her work. Great use of personal power!

## Attendance



## Dates for Your Diary

### March

- 5<sup>th</sup> World Book Day  
 6<sup>th</sup> World Day of Prayer Service  
 w/c 9<sup>th</sup> Bikeability  
 STEM Week  
 13<sup>th</sup> Red Nose Day

### April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Easter Service 2pm  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Last Day of term  
 20<sup>th</sup> Children back to school

**Other INSET days**  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

## PANCAKE RACES

A huge thank you to the FOFs for putting on such a fantastic event to start our new term- all the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the traditional pancake races on Tuesday.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

Earlier in the week we sent out information regarding World Book Day with a suggestion for children to come in pyjamas with their favourite book; however, we are aware that a number of children have already planned costumes to come in as a favourite book characters and we want to allow them to follow these ideas up. So we would like to give children the choice next Thursday; if children would like to dress up as any favourite book character then that would be fantastic; however, if children would prefer, they can come in pyjamas for a different costume idea. Our main aim is to celebrate books and give children the opportunity to engage with a love of reading. All costumes and ideas can be shared in class and assembly on that day.



The theme of World Book Day this year is **SHARE A STORY FOR 10 MINUTES**.

This campaign aims to get everyone sharing stories from breakfast to bedtime on World Book Day and every day. Reading with your child now can have long-lasting benefits for their future and, because we know how busy you are, the great news is that reading together for **JUST 10 MINUTES** a day can make all the difference. Reading doesn't just have to happen at bedtime - reading and sharing stories can happen anywhere at any time.

## SINGING LESSONS

Friday singing lessons recommence this week and singing teacher Dan Vice-Holt has one spare slot available. The half-hourly lessons take place between 9.15 - 12.30 and are £15.50 per session.

If you would like to know more, please contact Dan at [dannyviceholt@harmonessence.co.uk](mailto:dannyviceholt@harmonessence.co.uk)

## CONTACTS

Please can we remind you to inform the office if any of your contact details change e.g. phone number, address etc. so that we can update our systems. It is important for us to have an emergency contact as sometimes we are unable to get hold of immediate family. Thank you.

## FOOD IN SCHOOL

Could we please take this opportunity to remind all parents that we are a **nut free school** and as a result, nuts and any foods containing nuts are not allowed in school. Please bear this in mind when making packed lunches, snacks.

Could we also remind you not to put chocolate bars or sweets into packed lunches- chocolate biscuit products e.g. Penguins are fine. Generally, as a rule of thumb, items in the biscuit aisle are fine; however, items in the confectionary aisle should not be included.

## FONTS

Thank you to the parents who have let us know that they are having difficulty reading our emails! We use comic sans, as it is the most dyslexia friendly font. However, this does not appear to be the case for your devices! We are now using a different font for our emails. Please let us know if you are still having problems, we want our communication channels to be seamless. The office staff are always happy to help if they can.

## SWIMMING

As part of the national curriculum we need to ensure that all pupils can swim 25m by the time they leave primary school. We do this by teaching swimming lessons in year 3 and top up to year 4 pupils.

We need both a qualified swimming teacher and lifeguard at these sessions. We have a member of staff who has both qualifications and so would like put out a request to all parents to see if anyone else has either qualification who would be prepared to help us and also anyone who could volunteer to be a parent helper at the sessions.

We are looking at Tuesday morning for 6 sessions after Easter but as yet we have no fixed dates as we can't book anything without the relevant staff.

Please contact the school office if you are in a position to help.

## BIKEABILITY

Our year 6 children will be taking part in our Bikeability Course from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March. They will need to bring a bike, a helmet and suitable clothing for the course. On 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, an adult is needed to help so if anyone is able to volunteer to support with this, any help would be appreciated.

## CORONAVIRUS

We sent out some information before half term from **Public Health Education** on how to limit risk of spreading an infection.

Since this they have produced further guidance for educational settings and lists of which countries they recommend you self-isolate for if you have visited them recently. Please see link below.

The school did receive a thorough clean in the half term and our cleaner is paying particular attention to communal areas where children touch.

We are doing an assembly on personal hygiene to remind children the importance of washing hands before eating and also to avoid touching their face with unclean hands. We are not discussing the virus with the children but taking the angle of how we can best keep ourselves clean to avoid spreading germs.

This is reinforced in the guidance from PHE.

If you do come into contact with anyone at high risk from the virus, then please contact the school and self-isolate for 14 days.

We will update you if we receive any further advice. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

## GLYNDE STATION

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March we are planning to have a clearing and planting day at Glynde Station.

We are hoping to begin some of the wild flower planting and make a start on this exciting new project

If you could join us anytime between 10.0am and 3.0pm, for however long you can manage, you would be very welcome. Hot and cold drinks, and snacks will be provided.

Please bring rakes, forks, hoes and other gardening equipment - being mindful it is a working and live train line.

With this in mind do consider NOT bringing small children as this is a live and working train line and we cannot be responsible for any children on site - they will be your responsibility at all times.

Please wear high visibility jackets if you have them. We will also have some available for people to borrow as they must be worn when we are working on the station.

There is hopefully significant funding from the Passenger Benefit Fund to support the plans for this community venture. Do contact us if you have any questions or ideas about the garden .

We would welcome more people to be involved and if you would like to know more please contact us on the contact details below.

If you are planning to come on the 21<sup>st</sup> it would be good to have an idea of numbers so perhaps you could let one of us know.

Best Wishes

Helen Sadler and Janet Seller

## FRIENDS OF FIRLE

