

Firfield Primary School Newsletter

September 2021

www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

Welcome

A warm welcome back to all our families. It has been great to see everyone back in school and enjoying time with friends and learning together in the classrooms. It has been good to relax some of the Covid rules such as staying within a bubble so we have been able to get together at playtimes and for assemblies.

We continue to follow good hand hygiene, additional cleaning and keeping classrooms well ventilated to reduce risks. If there is a local outbreak, the school may need to add additional measures to protect our community.

Illnesses

The new guidance which was issued over the summer will hopefully see less children self-isolating.



If your child develops any symptoms of Covid, they must not come into school. A reminder that the main symptoms are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell and taste. However, further symptoms may include muscle pain, headache, nausea/vomiting, diarrhoea and tiredness.

You will need to book a PCR test. If the test comes back negative, then there is no need to continue self-isolation. If the test is positive, please inform the school as soon as possible.

NHS Track and Trace will inform any close contacts. Children under the age of 18 years and 6 months or adults who have been double vaccinated will not need to isolate if they have been a close contact unless they develop symptoms and will then need to book a PCR test.

PE Days / School Uniform

We ask that children in Year 5 (Wed/Thurs) and Year 6 (Mon/Tues) continue to come to school in PE kits on their allocated days. All other children need to bring and leave PE kits in school and will change before the lesson.

For PE, children will need black plimsols, navy blue / black PE shorts or skorts and a plain white T-shirt. For

outdoor PE children will need trainers, a blue / black tracksuit or dark jogging trousers which can be worn with a school sweatshirt. Please note that hair should be tied up for all PE lessons.

Jewellery

No watches, jewellery or hard headbands of any kind should be worn during P.E.

If your child has pierced ears, please ensure only studs are worn to school. These will need to be taken out for P.E. or covered with tape / plasters for safety.

Remote Learning

The school will continue to follow the Remote Learning Policy which is available on the school website. Any child who is required to self-isolate will be provided work and support during any time where they are not able to attend school.



Wider Opportunities and Music Lessons

This week we have started to work with Wider Opportunities to support music lessons in Year 4, starting with Birch class. Individual / paired lessons will start again in the Autumn Term.



School Leadership Team

A reminder of the members of the Senior Leadership Team. This consists of Mr Yellop as Headteacher, Miss Tittershill as Assistant Headteacher who also leads behaviour and nurture support. Mrs Roseveare leads Key Stage 1 and Reception and Mrs Swallow leads Key Stage 2. Mrs Byard continues as Special Needs Coordinator. Mrs Donoghue continues as our School Business Manager. We are currently in the process of recruiting a Deputy Headteacher to lead the 'Quality of Education' across the school.

Safeguarding Team

The three designated safeguarding leads in school are James Yellop, Rachel Tittershill and Claire Roseveare. If you have any concerns about a child at Firfield Primary School please speak to one of the leads. If you have immediate concerns that a child is suffering or at risk of harm, please call Starting Point on 01629 533190.

Parents' Evenings

This year we hope to hold Parents' Evening face-to-face in the classrooms on the following dates. We also hope to give parents an opportunity to look at your children's books prior to parents' evening. However, this will be dependent on the covid restrictions in place at the time.



Prospective Parent Tours

There will be a number of parent tours this term for families with children looking to start school in September 2022. If you know anyone who may be looking for a school for their child, we would

be grateful if you could share the dates and times below:

Tuesday 28th September at 10am
Tuesday 12th October at 2pm
Thursday 4th November at 4pm
Wednesday 17th November at 10am
Thursday 2nd December at 2pm



Parking

Now we have fully returned to school we have started to have parking issues on both Firfield Avenue and Meadow Close (off Sawley Road). The local community is very important to the school. Please try, wherever possible, to park further away from the school and take a little extra time to walk. There is much more space on Wilsthorpe Road or the side roads off Wilsthorpe Road.

WRAP Club Parking

We remind parents that when dropping off or picking up children from before or after school club that they use the spaces nearest to the school rather than the spaces on the left as you enter the car park. If you are arriving after 8:15am please park outside the school grounds.

Litter Poster

The Parish Council would like to run a litter poster competition. This follows the competition that was interrupted last year, previous entries will be included. Please see additional details emailed to parents.

Bikes and Scooters

As we have more parents and children waiting in the car park outside the main gate, we ask that children and adults dismount from bikes and scooters as soon as they enter the school grounds and walk with them to the scooter / bike park near the tennis court. This will ensure safety at all times.



PTA - Facebook

Just a reminder that the PTA have a Facebook Group for parents and carers which enables them to communicate with you quicker and more effectively. They also use the

Group to advertise events and keep you updated on fundraising activities.

To join, you will be asked a set of membership questions which will be reviewed and once they have confirmed your details match the school records, you will be accepted into the group. They are unable to provide access to anyone who does not complete these questions.

We really hope you will find this useful in keeping up to date with fundraising initiatives and activities.

PTA – Amazon Smile

The PTA have been registered with Amazon Smile for nearly two years now and have received donations of over £427! We would like to thank the 105 Amazon customers who have helped to raise this fantastic amount. If you **haven't already**, please choose Firfield PTA as your preferred charity to donate 0.05% of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to PTA funds. It would also be great if you could share this with friends and family members who shop with Amazon, especially as we are about to begin the busy Christmas shopping period.



Link: [Amazon Smile](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)

ParentPay

Can we please remind parents/carers that school meals should be booked in advance via your ParentPay login.

Free School Meals

We appreciate that this year has been a difficult year for everyone and some families may have found it harder to manage their finances. We would encourage any family who find themselves in this position to consider applying for free school meals.

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals the application is quick and easy. Please follow the link below to apply.

[Apply for Free School Meals](#)

Job Vacancies

We would like to share several job vacancies that are available for companies and organisations that work closely with the school. See below for details:

The school is currently looking to recruit Relief Midday Supervisors. If you are interested in applying, please pop into, or call, the school office for further details and an application form.

Relief Catering Staff

Derbyshire County Council employ over 1500 staff to cook in our kitchens across the county. We are always on the lookout for enthusiastic and friendly people to join our team working term time only. For more information, please email catering@derbyshire.gov.uk

Relief School Crossing Patrol

Derbyshire County Council are looking for a Relief School Crossing Patrol for the Breaston area. If you are interested in this role, please click on the link below for further details:

[School Crossing Patrol](#)

Vertas Cleaning and Caretaking

A message from Vertas (our cleaning and caretaking provider)

We have an exciting opportunity for caretakers and cleaners to work for Vertas Derbyshire Ltd. We recognise that our cleaners and caretakers help our children and young people stay healthy and happy and a clean school supports their learning. If you are interested in working for us, we have lots of different hours available please simply email careers@vertas.co.uk telling us whereabouts in Derbyshire you are so we can match you to a convenient location.



SEPTEMBER 2021

21st September- Yr 6 German Breakfast
23rd September- Yr 5 Egyptian Workshop
24th September- European Day of Languages
28th September- New parent tour – 10am
29th September- 6th Oct - Travelling Books Book Fair

OCTOBER 2021

5th October- School Photographs
7th October- Yr 6 Viking Workshop
11th October- Yr 4 Mayan Workshop
12th October- New parent tour – 2pm
13th October- Book evening for parents - TBC
15th October- Yr 1 Warwick Castle Trip
19th & 21st October- Parents' Evenings
25th- 29th October- Half term week

NOVEMBER 2021

1st November- Poppies on sale
4th November- New parent tour – 4pm
12th November- Flu Immunisations
15th- 19th November- Anti- Bullying week
17th November- New parent tour – 10am