

# Firfield Primary School Newsletter

## January 2023

[www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Happy  
New  
Year

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas with plenty of fun and quality family time over the festive season. Welcome back for the Spring Term and a warm welcome to our new families joining us. If you have made any New Year's Resolutions, I hope they are going well so far! We have been focusing on promoting the school's values at the start of this term (trying to be brilliant everyday!)

We want all Firfield Family members to be:

- compassionate, caring and kind
- honest and trustworthy
- polite and courteous
- determined, courageous and resilient

### Good Manners

To encourage being respectful and having good manners we are continuing to encourage our pupils to use both a knife and fork to cut up their dinner and use these throughout eating their meal. Please help us reinforce these good habits at home.



### School Closures

In the event of adverse weather conditions, families can find out if the school is closed in the follow ways:

- School Messaging Service of emails and texts (Linked to Parent Pay)
- Class Dojo
- School's Website (Front page) [www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk)
- Derbyshire County Council Website [www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)

(The local authority will also inform local radio stations for their regular bulletins and websites)

**Please do not telephone the school before 8.30 am**

On the first day of any school closure, we will not be able to set work through remote learning (Class Dojo) but aim to offer remote learning on the second day of any closure (this enables staff to ensure that work is current and follows current planning).

### Welcome

We would like to welcome a new member of staff to the Firfield team. Mrs Dean who joins us as a teaching assistant in Year 2 and 4.



### Congratulations (baby news)

Firstly, congratulations to Miss Harston who has welcomed her baby boy.

Secondly, congratulations to Mr and Mrs Tolson who are expecting a baby in the summer term. We are really excited about this news and will keep parents informed of any changes in the near future.



### Governors

The governors of Firfield Primary School would like to wish our Families a very happy New Year. Please also see attached to this newsletter a copy of Governor News which highlights the role of the governing body and the current members and their responsibilities.

### Parent Surveys

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out an Ofsted style parent questionnaire to gather your views about the school. We routinely do this but as we approach an Ofsted, we would appreciate your feedback.

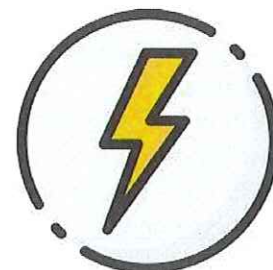
### Safeguarding

A reminder that the designated safeguarding leads are James Yellop, Adam Thurgood and Rachel Tittershill. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of our DSLs through the school office. Remember if you have immediate concerns about the welfare or safety of a child, please contact the police or Derbyshire Starting Point on 01629 533190.

### Power Problems

We wanted to make parents aware of a few power problems that the school encountered at the end of December and the start of the new year. This has caused the school electrics throughout the school to trip.

Whilst we can now quickly sort this and put the electrics back on, we are trying find a longer-term solution with Derbyshire County Council. We wanted to keep parents informed and reassure that we are working towards a solution – any disruption would last no longer than a few minutes during this fixing period.



## Parent Consultation Evenings

This term's parents' consultation evenings will be held on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February from 4.00pm – 7.00pm**. Hopefully we will be able to hold these meeting face to face. We would ask that children **do not** attend. If parents must bring children with them, please ensure that they are supervised at all times. Please note that separate parent consultations have been arranged for Birch and Apple Class. One arranged for the end of this month and another near Easter.



### Book Evenings

A book evening for parents will be held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February** after school from 3.30pm – 5.00pm. This gives you the opportunity to come into school and

look through your child's work with your child before the Parent Consultation Evenings the following week.

## Swimming at Firfield

Year 5 Swimming last session will be **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023** and Year 3 Swimming with commence on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023**. Further details will be sent out shortly.



## TTRS Rockstar Day

This year we will be holding another World famous (almost) Times Tables Rock Star Day on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February** where children will be able to dress as a rockstar to launch our focus on learning number facts (more details will follow).



## Delivery and Collection of Children

We have updated our policy regarding the Delivery and Collection of Children. I would be grateful if all parents and guardians could familiarise themselves with this policy as it outlines the timings for the start and the end of the day as well as gate opening times.

**8:45 am** - Children can commence arriving at school from this time.

**8:55 am** – The whistle is blown, and staff will be on duty just before this time.

**9:05 am** – By this time, all gates onto the playground will be locked and the site secured.

**3:25 pm** - The gates to the playground will be unlocked for parents to enter to collect children.

**3:45 pm** - (or after the last parent / carer / child has left) the Sawley Road gates will both be locked again so that the only point of entry into the school is via the Firfield Main entrance and through Reception or if collecting a child from the After School Club via the WRAP club doorbell.

## Caretaker Vacancy



### Job type

Part Time Permanent

### Job advert

**Caretaker - Vertas Derbyshire Limited**

**Firfield Primary School, Derby**

**52 weeks per year**

**Wednesday PM Only, Thursday Split Shift AM & PM, Friday Split Shift AM & PM;**

**06.00am to 09.15am and 14.00pm to 18.00pm**

**£9.91 per hour**

Please contact the school by emailing [enquiries@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk) if you are interested in the role

## Cleaner Vacancy

### Contract type

Part Time Permanent

### Job advert

**Cleaner - Vertas Derbyshire Limited**

**Firfield Primary School, Derby**

**10 hours per week 52 weeks a year**

**Monday - Friday ; 06.30am - 08.30am**

**£9.72 per hour**

Please contact the school by emailing [enquiries@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk) if you are interested in the role

## School Crossing Vacancy



Derbyshire County Council

are hiring for a School Crossing Patrol for Wilsthorpe Road. If you are interested in this role, please contact either on:

Tel: 07768 554384

Or

[school.crossing@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:school.crossing@derbyshire.gov.uk)

## JANUARY 2023

- 9<sup>th</sup> Return to School
- 13<sup>th</sup> Curriculum News Out
- 24<sup>th</sup> Wider Opportunities Concert (Birch Class)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Apple and Birch Parent Consultations

## FEBRUARY 2023

- 6<sup>th</sup> Children's Mental Health Week
- 8<sup>th</sup> TT Rockstar Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> Book Evening for Parents
- 9<sup>th</sup> Young Voices
- 7<sup>th</sup> Safer Internet Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening
- 16<sup>th</sup> Parents' Evening
- 16<sup>h</sup> LAST DAY OF TERM
- 17<sup>th</sup> INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
  
- 27<sup>th</sup> Back to school

Further dates will be added on the February Newsletter.



## **Governor News**

Welcome to the latest update from the Governing Body.

### **What is the role of the Governing Body?**

The Governing Body at Firfield Primary School currently consists of 13 members, comprising the Head Teacher, staff governor, LA governor, parent governors and co-opted governors. Derbyshire County Council accept changes, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, to our Instrument of Government to reduce the Governing Body.

You can get in touch by contacting SarahB-P@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

We would like to extend an invitation to all members of Firfield Primary School community to attend Governing Body meetings as an observer, by agreement of the Chair of Governors and Head Teacher, you would be most welcome although there maybe confidential matters for Governors only.

Governors have three key objectives:

- Ensure clarity of the vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Hold the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its students, and the performance management of staff
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Questioning, challenge and support is at the core of this. Termly reports about the activities of the Governing body can be found on the Governor pages of the School website. These provide more details about the monitoring and evaluation the Governing Body has carried out.

Governors have continued to visit the school regularly this term and carried out monitoring visits centred around:

- Safeguarding
- Literacy and the Curriculum
- Health and Safety
- Finance

Governors have also refreshed their Safeguarding training including online safety using an online training provider, and in addition during the final Full Governing Body meeting of the term, the safeguarding policy was updated and approved by Governors.

## Meet the Firfield Primary School Governing Body

Name	Role	Committee	Link
James Yellop* <i>Head Teacher</i>		Both	N/A
Ashley Oates <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Resource Management	Behaviour Looked After Children
Rachel Tittershill* <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Resource Management	
James Stafford DL <i>LA Governor</i>	Chair	Both	Curriculum
Rosie Pountney <i>Parent Governor</i>		Curriculum	Safeguarding Anti-Bullying
Olivia Dale <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Curriculum	SEND
Sophie Maskrey <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Resource Management	Pupil Premium Sports Premium
Haydn Wheeler <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Curriculum	Numeracy
Victoria Beardmore <i>Parent Governor</i>		Resource Management	Literacy
Corinne Poland <i>Parent Governor</i>		Curriculum	PSHE RSE
Dee Hill <i>Co-opted Governor</i>	Vice Chair	Curriculum	GDPR Health and Safety
Barbara James <i>Co-opted Governor</i>		Resource Management	Finance
VACANT* <i>Staff Governor</i>	Staff Governor election to be held		

\* Member of staff