

# Firfield Primary School Newsletter

## February 2023

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

Happy February. As the days start to get longer and the weather is improving, we look forward to continuing with our new curriculum, celebrating a number of special events in the yearly calendar and share learning through our book evening on the 8<sup>th</sup> February and parents' evening the following week.

We eagerly await a visit from Ofsted and are excited to share the developments in school, especially the amazing outcomes from last year. We welcome many new families to the school who have joined us on this exciting journey. We are strong in our vision to help everyone be brilliant every day, having ambition and freedom to release their inner superhero. Inspiring learners with our knowledge rich curriculum as well as developing personal qualities to live happy and rewarding lives.

Mr Yellop

### Children's Mental Health Week – Let's Connect

Next week will be Children's Mental

Health Week. Children will be involved in different activities to help improve awareness. This year's theme will encourage children (and adults) to look at how they can make meaningful connections.



If you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please speak to your child's class teacher, a member of the Senior Leadership Team or Miss Tomlinson who is our Mental Health Lead in school. We also have our mental health and well being champions who will be supporting sharing messages with their peers (they wear rainbow lanyards).

### Swimming at Firfield

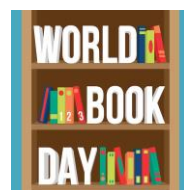
Year 5's last swimming session will be Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February and Year 3's swimming will commence on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Further details will be sent out shortly.



### Hot Chocolate Friday

Each week a group of children are invited to 'Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher' to promote excellent behaviour. This was set up to reward children who are always well-behaved and role models for others to follow in school. Not all children will get the opportunity to do this. Children whose behaviour has improved will be rewarded through Dojo Points and being nominated for 'Star of the Week' by the class teacher.

### World Book Day & Book Fair



World book day this year will be on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March and we will be inviting the children to dress up as a book character. Book Fair will be in school from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### Safer Internet Day



The 7<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it?'

Making space for conversations about life online'. We have recently updated our acceptable use policy for pupils, this can be found on our school website.

### TTS Rockstar Day

We are holding our Times Tables Rockstar Day on (Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February) and invite the children to dress as rockstars. Classes will have time slots in the hall to show their skills. Every class will be 'battling' to see who the ultimate winner will be; prizes will be given for our Rockstar champions.



### Parents' Evening

A reminder that Parents' evenings will be held in your child's classroom on 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, except for Apple and Birch class which have been arranged separately.



### Safeguarding in School

A reminder the school has three safeguarding leads in school. Mr Yellop, Miss Tittershill and Mr Thurgood. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please speak to one of the safeguarding leads in school via the school office. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of a child, then you can use the Derbyshire Starting Point Telephone Number 01629 533190.

### Morning Drop Off

Can we remind parents that if you bring your child into school in the morning for registration, if you need to take your child for a medical appointment they must be collected and signed out at the school office and not from the classroom. This is vital so that we are aware of who is on the school site for fire and safeguarding reasons.

### Attendance

Excellent attendance is vital to support pupil learning and development of a detailed schema of rich knowledge across the curriculum. The school's attendance has been in the top 25% for many years. If your child's attendance drops below 90% then Mr Thurgood, our attendance lead will contact parents to see how we can help make improvements. It is not acceptable for parents to request a leave of absence unless under exceptional circumstances. More information on school attendance can be found in our policy (on the school website).

### Parent Questionnaire

This week we have sent out a link to complete an 'Ofsted style' questionnaire. Your constructive feedback is vital to the school, and we would appreciate you spending a few minutes sharing your views. We will also be conducting some pupil questionnaires to gather the views of children in school (Year 3-6)

### PTA News

We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA team for all their efforts raising funds for the school. The PTA have raised over £3,000 to date this year – excellent work!



Fundraising has included the Cauliflower Cards and the Christmas Fayre. We also thank Lloyds Bank for match funding £500 towards. The PTA has recently spent £1,500 on musical instruments for the pupils and to support the curriculum. The PTA's next event is the School Disco on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.



### **FEBRUARY 2023**

6 <sup>th</sup>	Mental Health Week
7 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
8 <sup>th</sup>	TTRS Rockstar Day
8 <sup>th</sup>	Book Evening 3.30 – 5pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Disco
14 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening
16 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening
17 <sup>th</sup>	INSET Day (School closed to pupils)
17 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup>	Half-Term Break
27 <sup>th</sup>	Return to School

### **MARCH 2023**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 Swimming starts
1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 4 Residential
3 <sup>rd</sup>	World Book Day (Firfield)
17 <sup>th</sup>	Comic Relief – Red Nose Day
21 <sup>st</sup>	World Downs' Syndrome Day