

Firfield Primary School Newsletter

October 2023

www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

Now we have been in school for five weeks we are fully immersed in our knowledge rich curriculum. We are working hard as a staff team to improve writing outcomes and continue to promote a love of reading, our reading cabin will be open soon (we are waiting for furniture to arrive). Hopefully (weather permitting) we will complete our new trim trail by the end of next week. It is looking great already but we still have a couple of pieces of equipment to arrive and the surfacing to be done. We know the pupils are looking forward to testing it out!

We also look forward to seeing you all at our parents evening at the end of the month.

Thank you, Mr Yellop

Parents' Evening

A reminder that next week we will be holding our first Parents' Evening. We will hold a second Parents'

Evening in the Spring Term. Parents have been invited to attend on either Tuesday 24th or Thursday 26th October. A reminder that this year we will be holding these within the hall. Please ensure that you turn up at the allotted time slot given.



Book Evening

On Wednesday 18th October we invite parents into their child's classroom to look at work in books. These will be available between 3.30 and 4.45pm. We look forward to seeing you and sharing our new curriculum.

Pupils as leaders

During the Autumn term we have a number of positions of responsibility that children can apply for. These include:

- School Council Reps
- Anti-bullying Ambassadors
- Ivengers (Online safety)
- Happy Lunchtime Helpers
- Wellbeing Champions
- Mini Movers, Play Makers and Young Ambassadors for sport.

Safeguarding / Wellbeing



A reminder that the current safeguarding leads in school are Mr Yellop, Miss Tittershill, Mr Thurgood and now Mrs Shepherd. We continue to support the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils and we are celebrating this on Tuesday 10th by wearing something yellow with our school uniform. A reminder, we will not be requesting any cost for this. However, if you wish to make a donation to the Young Minds charity use the QR code below.



Derby and Derbyshire Emotional Health and Wellbeing



The website below has resources and advice to support emotional health and wellbeing for parents and children, click on the link or use the QR code.

<https://derbyandderbyshireemotionalhealthandwellbeing.uk/>



If you have any mental health or wellbeing concerns, please speak to a member of the school wellbeing team (we wear rainbow lanyards). The staff responsible for this are Mr Yellop, Miss Tittershill, Miss Tomlinson, Miss Fox, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Walsh (who has taken over as coordinator of PSHE).

Firfield Parents and Teacher Association

Facebook Group

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.

PTA Committee

Thank you to the parents who attended the AGM on Monday, it was great to see some new faces.

Following a vote, the committee structure is now:

Samm Honeybell - Chair
Rachel Fletcher - Vice Chair
Vic Beardmore - Secretary
Gail Patching – Treasurer

Pre-loved Halloween costumes

Hopefully you will have seen the PTA donation bins are back out at school. If you have any costumes, you no longer need, we are taking donations and will hold a sale on Friday 20th Oct after school in the playground. Please ensure they are clean and in good condition with any accessories attached so they don't get lost.



Lost Property

Please could parents check that all uniform is clearly labelled. Every year we have a huge amount of lost property and without a name we are unable to give these back to the right children.



Dogs on the school grounds



**NO DOGS
ALLOWED ON
SCHOOL
GROUNDS**

A polite message to our families that dogs (except guide dogs) are not allowed on the school grounds, this includes the car park area. We also ask that they are not tied to the school gates or fencing at the entrance to the school. We understand that dogs are an important part of family life for many in the school community, and as such are often included in day to day activities such as walking children to and from school. However, others may find the presence of dogs stressful, even frightening particularly with younger children, and even well-behaved dogs can behave predictably when placed in a busy, noisy and crowded environment or when unattended.

Collection and delivery to school

The school collection, delivery and supervision policy asks that children are picked up from school by an authorised person (A person for whom the parents/carers have given authority to the school to collect the child. **This person must be aged 14 years or more**). We ask parents to inform the class teacher if this authorised adult is different to normal. In the summer term in Year 5 and throughout Year 6 children (with permission) will be allowed to walk home without an authorised person. The exception to this is for Year 5 or 6 children who attend an afterschool club which finishes later than 3.45pm or collection from WRAP club where they must be collected by an authorised person.

Travel Smart Week

As part of making active and environmentally friendly journeys, which are good for us, our community and the planet, we will be engaging in Travel Smart Week in school where we encourage children to find alternative methods of travel and record these within each class. This week will be 16th – 20th October and helps the school work towards Silver Accreditation. In November PCSO Danielle Bryant will be leading a road safety assembly to both KS1/EYFS and KS2.

Parking

Another reminder about thoughtful parking. We are still receiving concerns from our residents and parents about parking. The road at the end of Firfield Avenue (Holt Croft Close) is a private road and we ask parents not to park here. We also ask parents to be mindful of blocking drives and pavements.

DIARY DATES

OCTOBER 2023

Tuesday 10 th	Hello Yellow
Wednesday 11 th	New parent tour 2pm
Tuesday 17 th	New parent tour 4.30pm
Friday 20 th	Partake in School (Year 4)
Friday 20 th	PTA Costume sale
Tuesday 24 th	Individual Photos
Tuesday 24 th	Parents' Evening
Thursday 26 th	Parents' Evening
Thursday 26 th	New parent tour 10am.
Friday 27 th	INSET Day – School closed to pupils.
30 th – 3 rd	Half Term Holiday

NOVEMBER 2023

Monday 6 th	Pupils return to school.
Wednesday 8 th	New parent tour 2pm
Friday 10 th	PTA Non-Uniform Day
Tuesday 14 th	New parent tour 4.30pm
Friday 17 th	Children in Need Day
12 th -18 th	Anti Bullying week

INSET DAYS

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 27th October 2023

Friday 22nd December 2024

Thursday 2nd May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024