

June 2024 Newsletter

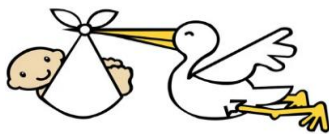
Message from Mr Yellop

Well done to all the children in Year 6 who completed end of Key Stage SATs last month, we are very proud of your efforts. As mentioned previously Year 1 will be doing their phonics screening test this month and Year 4 will be involved in the multiplication check. All these screenings, tests and checks are part of the national checks that are being taken by children throughout the country. We will of course feed back results from these when they are made available to the school. Well done everyone for your super efforts. Other year groups including optional SATs for Year 2 will complete assessments during the summer term to show the progress made over the school year.

Mr Yellop

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Walsh who is expecting a baby during the Autumn term, she will join us in September before taking time off for maternity leave later in the year.



Congratulations to Miss Butler who is also expecting a baby next term, she will also be at school in September before taking maternity leave.

After interviews last month we welcome Miss Crowder to our teaching team who has chosen to start her teaching career at Firfield.

Finally Mrs Lawson will be leaving at the end of the summer term to embark on new adventures. She has been instrumental in the success of our music curriculum, leavers performances and Mayday Galas and her dedication to students she has taught over the years. We wish her all the best in her next chapter.

Treat Day

On Friday 12th July we will be holding our treat day in school. This will follow a similar structure to last year. We will have an ice-cream van and inflatable relay course as well as lots of fun activities arranged in each year group. It is an opportunity to say thank you to the children who have worked so hard over the year.

Hot Weather / Sun Safety

As we enter the second half of the summer term, hopefully we will have some pleasant weather to enjoy. Our school Sunsafe policy offers the following advice. We encourage pupils to wear a sunhat when the UV is stronger during the summer months with the following recommendations:



Either broad-brimmed, bucket style or legionnaire to adequately shade the face, neck, ears and cheeks. Baseball caps are not recommended because they do not provide shade to the neck, ears or cheeks. Whilst we do not recommend baseball caps, they are still better than no hat at all! However extra care should be taken to protect the neck, ears and cheeks with sunscreen, as these areas can easily burn.

We ask parents to apply suncream before school on days where the UV levels are predicted to reach 3 or above and provide suncream for pupils to apply during the day. Pupils will be encouraged to apply suncream before lunchtime, afternoon play and for outdoor PE sessions.

We finally remind parents to provide pupils with drinks bottles, preferably with water to enable them to keep hydrated during the higher temperatures.

A copy of the Sunsafe policy can be found on the school website.

Chewing gum

We remind our parents that chewing gum is not allowed in school for health and safety reasons. Recently we have had a number of children in Key Stage 2 coming to school with chewing gum this term.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains at the top of our priorities in the summer term. Relationship, Sex and Health Education lessons are the main drive of PSHE lessons this term.

A reminder that if you have safeguarding concerns then please speak to one of the school designated safeguarding leads – James Yellop, Rachel Tittershill or Adam Thurgood. Mrs Shepherd has recently become a safeguarding lead, should you need to seek assistance in the absence of all three designated safeguarding leads. If you have concerns about the immediate safety of a child, then please ring the Derbyshire safeguarding team on the number below:

Starting Point 01629 533190

Term Time Leave of Absence

We would like to remind parents that every day at school is of the utmost importance and that the school will not authorise holidays during term time. Only under exceptional circumstances will leave be granted for children at the school. We have had a large number of requests in the summer term and may need to issue Derbyshire County Council fines in the future if this continues to affect attendance at the school. We are in the process of updating our attendance policy as the focus on school attendance by the Department of Education is becoming stricter with more implications on schools to be accountable for this.

Sports Day

A reminder of this year's Sports Days:

Tuesday 18th June –
EYFS on the playground 9:30am to 10:30am
Yr1 + Yr 2 1:30pm to 3pm at Breaston Park

Thursday 20th June – Yr5 + Yr6 9:45am to 11:45am
Yr3 + Yr4 1:15pm to 3:15pm, both at Breaston Park

Parents and Teachers Association (PTA)

Summer Fayre

Firfield Summer Fair is back on Saturday 6th July 12pm – 3pm in the school playground. We are hoping that returning the fair to a Saturday will mean more Firfield families can attend. It is open to everyone so bring your extended family and friends along to join in the fun.

There will be arena events, a BBQ, ice cream, stalls and games, plus lots of fun.

We kindly ask for any volunteers to help on the day. Even if its just 1 hour spared out of your day, this will support the PTA to get one step closer to their fundraising goals. We are currently raising money towards surfacing the entrance to our new Reading Lodge and get additional shaded areas with seating around the school.

We will be putting donation bins out at school and welcome donations of the following:

Good quality teddies and soft toys

Raffle prizes

New unused children & adult gifts for the tombola

Undamaged party bag items

If you can help support this event in any way, please contact the PTA via their Facebook Page, a member of the committee or email pta@firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Please help us to give our community a great day out!

Governors News

It's been a couple of months since we updated you on the role of the governing body and a lot has happened. In April we scrutinised and agreed the budget for the next financial year and in May we held a governors strategy meeting; following our glowing Ofsted report it's important that we know where we want Firfield to be in 5 years and beyond so we can ensure we're heading in the right direction to realise our ambitions for all our pupils and wider community.

Finally, we are delighted that Rosie Pountney will continue as a Parent Governor and to welcome Fiona Kielthy to the Governing Body. A reminder that we are still looking for a Co-opted and a Local Authority (L.A.) Governor and to contact the Chair of Governors or Clerk to Governors if you know of anybody that might be interested in these roles.

Diary Dates

JUNE 2024

Monday 3 rd	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th	Children return to school
Friday 7 th	TT Rockstars Day
Monday 10 th	Phonics Screening Week (Yr 1)
Wednesday 12 th	Times Tables (Yr 4)
Friday 14 th	Year 5 Cromford Trip
Tuesday 18 th	EYFS / KS1 Sports day
Thursday 20 th	KS2 Sports day
Monday 24 th – 28 th	EYFS Transition Lunch Sessions
Monday 24 th	Friesland Year 6 Transition
Tuesday 25 th	Friesland Year 6 Transition
Weds 26 th – 28 th	Year 6 Whitehall Trip

JULY 2024

Tuesday 2 nd	Stratford Year 6 Trip
Thursday 4 th	INSET DAY (Year 5 at Friesland am)
Friday 5 th	Early Years Trip – Stonehurst Farm
Saturday 6 th	Summer Fayre 12-3pm
Tuesday 9 th	All Change Day (am) (transition to new class)
Tuesday 9 th	Year 6 Wilsthorpe/Long Eaton Transition Day
Tuesday 9 th	Year 4 and Year 5 Matilda Matinee pm
Wednesday 10 th	All Change Day (pm) (transition to new class)
Wednesday 10 th	Year 6 Wilsthorpe/Long Eaton Transition Day
Thursday 11 th	Summer Concert
Friday 12 th	Treat Day
Tuesday 16 th	Reports Out
Tuesday 16 th	Year 6 Production
Thursday 18 th	Year 6 Disco
Monday 22 nd	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 23 rd	Last day of term

INSET Days for 2024/25

A reminder of the extra INSET day for the general election on **Thursday 4th July 2024** where the school will be closed to all pupils except Year 5 who will be visiting Friesland during the morning. They should arrive at normal time in school uniform.

INSET Days for next academic year.

Wednesday 4th September 2024

Monday 4th November 2024

Thursday 1st May 2025

Friday 2nd May 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025