

www.firslower.co.uk

Chair of Governors: Sarah Walker

Governors: Jade Brown, Joseph Burton, Adam Campbell, Amaritpal Uppal, Hannah Wadsworth and Claudia Wallis

Dear parents/carers,

World Book Day at The Firs Lower School

We were delighted to celebrate World Book Day once again at The Firs Lower School, and what a wonderful day it was! The children – along with our staff – embraced the occasion with enthusiasm, arriving in a fantastic array of creative and imaginative costumes inspired by their favourite book characters.

It was lovely to see the school filled with such excitement and a shared love of reading. The



effort that went into the outfits was truly impressive, and

the day provided a great opportunity to celebrate books and storytelling together.



Well done to all of our pupils for taking part so brilliantly, and a sincere thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support in helping the children prepare their amazing costumes.

Year 1 Reading Breakfast

Our Year 1 pupils, in Holly and Maple Class, really enjoyed their Reading Breakfast events, which gave the children the chance to read to a parent or carer.

These were really important opportunities to raise the profile of reading and show children how enjoyable it is!

Thank you to all the many parents and carers who kindly gave up their time to join us for the two events.

Also a big well done to all our Year 1 children, who joined in so positively and successfully!



Lucky Hare Visit

We were very fortunate to have Tara from Lucky Hare book shop to visit us after school on World Book Day to read to our KS1 and KS2 children who came back to school for this special evening.

It was a very successful night and the children thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful stories read by Tara.

We would like to thank the PTFA for helping on the night and for providing snacks for the children.

Our thanks also goes to Tara for giving up her time to be with us on World Book Day which meant a lot to everyone at The Firs.



Update for parents and carers on proposed SEND reforms The latest news from Central Bedfordshire Council

We know many families have questions and concerns following the Government's recent announcement of the Schools Bill and proposed changes to the SEND system.

<https://news.updates.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/27j7-78a6/Share>

Governor Update

Suzy McIntosh

I wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Suzy McIntosh, who has recently resigned from the Governing body. Suzy has been such a hard working member of the team of Trustees and she has made very significant and sustained contributions, particularly in the area of financial and premises related matters. We will miss her very positive and thoughtful comments at meetings and we would like to wish her well with all her future endeavours.

New Governors:

We are very pleased to be able to tell you that we have 3 new governors on board. Amanda Hall, Emma Sims and Richard Leonard. I would like to say thank you to all three of them for joining our committed group of trustees and say how much we are all looking forward to working with them.

Red Nose Day

The Firs turned red for Comic Relief Day, as pupils and staff came together to celebrate Red Nose Day!

We're thrilled to share that we've already raised an amazing **£446.15** through both online and cash donations—thank you all so much for your kindness and generosity 😊

Our JustGiving page will stay open for anyone who would still like to support this fantastic cause. Link below 🖱️

[Red Nose Day Just Giving Link](#)



Special Visitors In Assembly In March



We were visited in assembly by Maureen Millway from Ampthill Rotary on Monday 16th March to present the winner of the Teddy Raffle. Thank you to all our parents and carers who have so generously supported the End Polio Now Campaign.

We were visited in assembly by Philip Hynes from Rotary on 22nd March, who came in to acknowledge the superb fundraising done by the school and The Saplings to support Children In Need in November. Thank you to everyone for their generous donations.

These were both great examples of our caring school community in action!

Appreciation - Our Value in March

At school, we have talked to the children about different aspects of appreciation. We have talked about appreciating people and things, as well as understanding the worth or importance of something. We have thought about appreciation in terms of being grateful for something.

What people have said about appreciation:

Make it a habit to tell people thank you. To express your appreciation, sincerely and without the expectation of anything in return. **Ralph Marston**

Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well. **Voltaire**

When you meet people, show real appreciation, then genuine curiosity. **Martha Beck**

Don't forget, a person's greatest emotional need is to feel appreciated. **H. Jackson Brown Jr**

Dwell on the beauty of life. Watch the stars, and see yourself running with them. **Marcus Aurelius**

Thank you to all our children for all their amazing ideas about Appreciation in our assemblies!

Rocksteady Schools Visit

Last Friday we were visited by 'Rocksteady Schools' who are committed to creating bands for children so that they can play like rockstars!

The children learned about the instruments which would be available for them to play, and some children got a chance to play these in front of the school. The children were all introduced to the drums, keyboards, bass and electric guitars, and of course, the vocals. The children had an incredible afternoon of music and so many children have expressed an interest in joining the programme.



We still need more vocalists, so if your child is interested in singing in a band, please contact us to find out more.

Grafham Water

We were so proud of all our Y4 children, who all took part so positively and successfully in our Grafham Water residential visit. All our children entered into the activities demonstrating determination, perseverance and a willingness to support each other to achieve their personal goals.

The children's positive attitude was fantastic throughout and was commented on by members of the Grafham staff on several occasions. It was a real pleasure to experience the 3 days with them, observing how they were all getting the most out of all the opportunities offered to them... a huge well done to all of our amazing Y4s!

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the staff who took part. As always we had a fantastic group of staff who all looked after the children conscientiously and made sure they all had a great time. I would also like to say a special thank you to Alyson Baker, for her hard work arranging everything and a thank you to all the staff who covered in school where needed!

Easter Assembly, PTFA Easter Egg Raffle and a Special Visitor!

On Friday 27th we enjoyed our Easter Assembly, led by Kerry Mercer - Deputy Head.

Our Firs' children also had a surprise visit during assembly, from a very cute Easter bunny who hopped into our hall to deliver Easter Bunny Chocolate Lollies to all the children and to help our PTFA hand out raffle prizes.

The children were thrilled and very excited to see who had won a large egg!

The bunny then hopped over to visit our Saplings Pre-school children for more chocolate lollies and raffle prize giving out, thank you Easter bunny, you did an amazing job!

Thank you to our fantastic PTFA for organising this visit, and to all the families that purchased raffle tickets.



Quiz Night at The George in Maulden - a message from Gemma Wilmer, Y3 Parent

The George in Maulden is hosting its monthly charity quiz night on Thursday 7th May in aid of The Firs Lower School. Quiz starts at 8pm with a minimum CASH donation of £3pp. It's really good fun and very popular but would be nice to see some parents there supporting the school too!

Tables bookable on the website www.thegeorgemaulden.com

Firs "tries" Rugby successfully

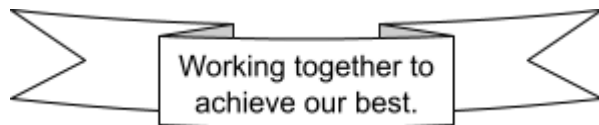
A fantastic rugby morning at Redborne Upper School on (Thursday 26th March) showcased determination, teamwork, and character from all involved. Elm class earned the Respect Award, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, fair play, and positive attitudes throughout the event. Hazel class was recognised with the Self-Belief Award, reflecting their confidence, perseverance, and willingness to keep pushing forward in every match.

Both teams showed outstanding resilience, continuing to play with integrity even when faced with challenging situations. Despite encountering opposition, our pupils stayed focused, upheld the values of the game, and supported one another. Their commitment to never giving up, even in difficult moments, was truly commendable.

Overall, it was a rewarding and inspiring experience that highlighted not only rugby skills but also the importance of respect, self-belief, and perseverance in sport. We also had the loudest cheerleaders as each class cheered the other on!



Newsletter



Issue No - 12 Date - 27th March 2026

We hope you all have a good Easter break and we look forward to seeing all the children back in school on **Monday 13th April**.

Yours sincerely,

Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher