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Chair of Governors: Sarah Walker

Governors: Jade Brown, Adam Campbell, Amanda Hall, Richard Leonard, Emma Sims, Amaritpal Uppal, Hannah Wadsworth and Claudia Wallis

Dear parents/carers,

Year 3 Faith Tour

On Tuesday, our Year 3 children took part in the annual Faith Tour trip to Bedford Queens Park. It is always such an interesting and valuable day as we explore a mosque, a church, and a gurdwara, learning more about different faiths and places of worship.



Throughout the day, the children had the opportunity to observe important features within each place of worship, learn about special religious artefacts, and hear about the traditions and beliefs of each faith community. They

particularly enjoyed learning about prayer practices, the importance of community, and the meaning behind different symbols and customs.

The children fully immersed themselves in the experience, asking lots of thoughtful and brilliant questions, while also sharing their own wealth of knowledge on the subject. We were incredibly proud of the respect, curiosity, and interest they showed throughout the day towards different faiths and cultures.

Well done, Year 3, you represented our school beautifully!

SEND update and CAMHs Courses for Half Term

https://news.updates.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/0E4DD8EFBD66829C8AFD4E946D4D17EB4B0F129717750CD74370270B148BAF5F/1D7DA6EEA3CB244105AA8C4FC2673792/VIB?utm_source=e-shot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=SEND+News+bulletin+141&es_c=1D7DA6EEA3CB244105AA8C4FC2673792&es_ci=57BE2F789A1522AA3738CF141663BC90&es_id=p48%c2%a3j4

CAMHS Community Access Service Online workshops

Understanding and Supporting your child's emotional regulation - 5-11 years Wednesday 20 May, 12.00 - 1.00 pm Reserve a spot

Supporting School Transitions Tuesday 9 June, 4.00 - 5.00 pm Reserve a spot

Supporting your child's SEND journey: with practical support and advice Wednesday 24 June, 12.00 - 1.15 pm Reserve a spot

[Booking link](#)

KS2 Cricket

Mr Rushby, Mr Baker and Mrs Rashid took two teams of year four children to Ampthill Cricket Club to take part in the Redborne School Partnership Cricket Festival on Friday 15th.

They played against 10 different teams from local schools. All the children showed great team spirit, sportsmanship and were fantastic at supporting and encouraging each other.

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Across the matches children showed fantastic cricket skills, including accurate bowling, confident batting and some impressive catches. Well done!

One team managed to win all of their games and went through to the partnership playoffs which took place on Friday 22nd May.

Mr Rushby took 10 Year 4 children to those Partnership finals. 53 teams entered the event from a range of different schools, and 6 schools made the final.

After some superb cricket, the children finished 5th place.... A great achievement! The children did such a good job, working as a team and battling the heat. Well done to all involved.

Thank you to Mr Rushby for organising our participation in this event and to all the staff who took part.

The PTFA Fun Run

The PTFA Fun Run took place today with children from Saplings through to Year 4 running round our field as part of our popular annual fundraiser for the PTFA.



We were so impressed by the 'can do' attitude of our children... even the youngest! They showed great determination, despite the fact it was a hot day, to get in that extra lap before their time ran out! A huge thank you to the staff for all their efforts organising the children's participation in the event, to the PTFA for all their hard work in organising the fundraising and refreshments and to all the many parents who came along to cheer the children on!



Finally... a massive congratulations to all our budding young runners!

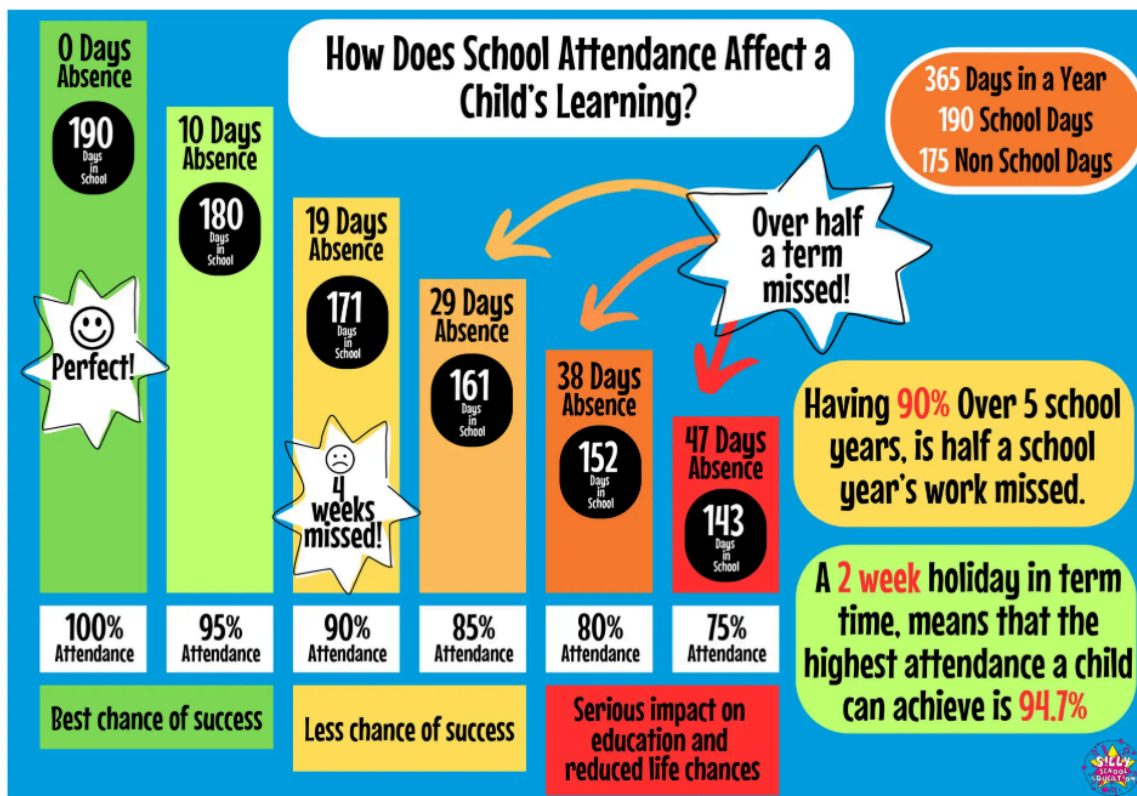
Attendance Matters!

At The Firs, we are committed to giving every child the very best opportunity to succeed, grow in confidence, and enjoy their learning journey. One of the most important factors in achieving this is regular school attendance.

Every school day matters. Children who attend school consistently are more likely to:

- Make strong academic progress
- Build positive friendships and social skills
- Develop confidence and routines
- Feel secure and included within the school community

Even occasional absences can make it harder for children to keep up with lessons, class activities, and important learning experiences. Missing just a few days each term can quickly add up over the course of the school year. See below:



We understand that children may sometimes be unwell and unable to attend school. However, wherever possible, we kindly ask families to:

- Ensure children arrive at school on time each day
- Arrange appointments outside school hours where possible
- Avoid taking holidays during term time
- Contact the school promptly if your child is absent

Our staff are here to support every family. If there are any concerns or difficulties affecting your child's attendance, please speak to us. By working together, we can help ensure that every child has the best chance to thrive.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can help our children achieve their full potential through excellent attendance and positive daily routines.

Pyramid Schools Trust Update

I thought I would give you an update regarding our plans to join the Pyramid Schools Trust.



In the spring term we conducted a consultation exercise, including a very well attended consultation meeting attended by Steve Kelly, the CEO of PST. This process concluded very positively in February.

The application for the necessary approval from the DfE Regional Director has been submitted and we are now waiting for an update from them.

We have already begun to benefit from the services offered by PST, participating in the PST conference this term, which was very informative and being invited to meetings with various members of the PST central team, such as attending their termly safeguarding liaison meeting. After half term we are looking forward to welcoming Steve Kelly, the CEO of PST, who will be coming to look round the school and meet some of our fantastic children and hard working staff.

We will keep you updated about developments in this exciting project as the term progresses.

PTFA Reminder - The Firs Party 2026

The link for booking is

[The Firs Party](#)

The Firs Party 2026 - 6th June @Parkside.

If you're still deliberating whether or not to come to this year's Firs Party, take a look at this flyer for some more details about the event.

It's shaping up to be a great night and our auction lots/raffle prizes are AMAZING!

If you're looking for a local night out with fellow parents, friends or family, please extend the invitation. All 18+ friends and family of Firs pupils are very welcome :)

YR Library Visits

On Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th YR children visited Ampthill Library and had a fantastic time learning how the library works, really loving using the scanner to take books out and enjoying looking at books with their friends.

There was also an opportunity for many parents to sign up to the library, which was another really great part of the visit.

The library team commented on what a pleasure our children were to host at the library and how impressed they were with their behaviour and listening skills... well done all our amazing Pine children.

Year 4 GL Tests

In the first week after half term, (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) the Year 4 children will be doing the GL Tests that all the local schools take part in. The tests will

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be covering reading, maths and science. There are also separate spelling and grammar tests.

To support this, we would be very grateful if you could ensure that children have an early night and a good breakfast so they can come to school fresh and raring to go in the morning!

Y4 Times Tables Test

With this newsletter there is a letter to Y4 parents regarding the national Year 4 "Multiplication Tables Check" that takes place annually.

The check itself will take place at The Firs the week beginning **8th June** and the letter gives more details.

This letter is also available on our website on the [Letters Home](#) page.


KS2 Sports Day

This is just a reminder that the KS2 Sports day is taking place on **June 9th from 9:30**. The children will no doubt have an amazing time and we look forward to seeing lots of parents there too!

Half Term

We hope you all have a good half term and we look forward to welcoming all the children back on Monday 1st June.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher