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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,

PTFA Firs Fete - Come and join in the fun!

It's Time for the Firs Lower PTFA Summer Fair! 🎉

Join us on Friday 3rd July from 3:30pm – 7:00pm for an afternoon and evening packed with fun for the whole family!

☀️ What's On?

- Teacher Activity Stalls (4pm–6pm)
- Bouncy Castle
- Tombolas & Fun Stalls
- PTFA Bar
- Food & Refreshments
- Balloon Magic & emergency vehicles

📅 Activity Passports

- If you haven't yet purchased one online...

KS2 Sports Morning - Reminder

The KS2 sports day is scheduled for **Wednesday 8th July, starting at 9:30am**

Just like last year entrance to the school field will be via the gate used to drop children off in the morning.

We would ask that, in the interests of pupil safety, parents enter and exit the event via this gate.

The gate will be closed but a member of staff will be on duty and toilets can be accessed by exiting through this gate and reporting to the main school reception.

The prediction for the weather currently seems to indicate it will be very warm but, in the morning, we are expecting conditions to allow us to continue with the event. We would ask however that **children participating have sun cream applied in the morning before coming to school and have a hat and a water bottle with them in school** - thank you

The children will no doubt have an amazing time and we look forward to seeing lots of parents there too!

Pyramid Schools Trust Update

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

As you know 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 Approval from the DfE Regional Director has now been received and we are now working with PST on the necessary steps prior to joining the Trust.

As I said in a previous update, we have already begun to benefit from the services offered by PST, participating in the PST conference this term, which was very informative, being invited to meetings with various members of the PST central team, such as attending the half termly safeguarding liaison meetings and this half term, welcoming Steve Kelly and other members of the PST central team to The Firs.

We will keep you updated about developments in this exciting project next term.



Misguided Walk Full House Theatre Event

This week, our Y2, Y3 and Y4 children visited Ampthill Park for a 'Misguided Walk' Theatre event. This year, the Misguided Walk was inspired by The Tudors, in connection with the 'Henry On Tour' project and the dig that took place in the park in June. As FHT say 'the Misguided Walk reimagines Ampthill Park for young imaginations!' The actors held the children spellbound as they told their tales about life working at the Tudor palace, which stood in Ampthill park in the time of Henry VIII, and about being cast out to live as outlaws in the park!



The children were kept very engaged and were actively involved in a range of different activities including collecting objects, a sporting event and dancing! (Some of the teachers were involved in the dancing too, but sadly and strangely no pictures were taken to capture this!)

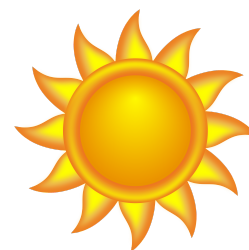
Hot Weather Next Week

We are monitoring the forecast regarding expected temperatures next week and we will continue to do so.

As it stands at the moment (Friday 3rd) we are not anticipating any changes to the normal school day.

If we feel that conditions have changed we will of course update you regarding any arrangements we decide to make.

We will limit children's time out in the sun as appropriate each day but we would ask however that **children have sun cream applied in the morning before coming to school and have a hat and a water bottle with them in school** - thank you



Big Tent Weekend

Our Choir are eagerly anticipating getting involved in the **Big Tent Event** as we gear up for the FARM choir extravaganza on **Thursday 9th July**. The Choir had a practice in front of the school yesterday and gave a great performance, so we are really looking forward to the event and I am sure our choir will be fantastic as always! (A big thank you to Mrs Wadsworth and Mrs Jamieson for all their work organising our participation in the event.

The Big Tent Event itself will be taking place between the 9th and 12th July - for more information and to book tickets please follow this link - [Amphill Big Tent Event](#)

A letter has been sent out to all members of the choir, as they will need to bring a packed tea and plenty of water, given the expectation of hot weather. In addition to this, as there could be quite a bit of waiting around in the Performers Tent, children may want to bring a light, fold-up camping chair to sit in.



Amphill Parade - Update from the PTFA

The Firs Lower School is delighted to be taking part in the Amphill Big Tent Fete Parade, as part of Amphill's **Big Tent Weekend**.

This year's parade will take place on **Sunday 12th July 2026 at 10:30am**, just before the Big Tent Fete.

For those who have not experienced the Amphill Parade before, it is a truly exciting event and a wonderful opportunity for the children to get involved.

There is still time to sign up if your child would like to take part. Please ensure you do complete the form so we are aware of how many children and carers are taking part in the parade for safety reasons. Link to the sign up form can be found here <https://forms.gle/dud83YvcXF7mM3pGA>

For more details, please see the update letter with this newsletter.

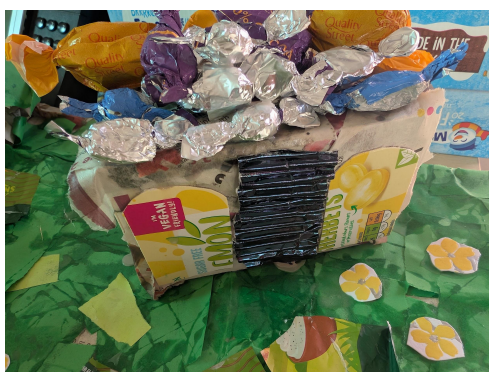
Big Tent Eco Sculpt Competition

As part of the Big Tent Fete on July 13th, The Firs is taking part in the 'Amphill Eco Sculpt Competition'.

The idea is to create an object related to Amphill in recyclable materials.

This year there is a Saplings entry and a school entry. The Saplings entry is 'Amphill Through The Years' and The School entry takes the theme of the Tudor Rose, very appropriate for Amphill of course and linked with the recent archaeological dig that happened in Amphill park and the fascinating Tudor Amphill workshop Year 4 enjoyed this term.

Here are some 'work in progress pictures'!



A big thank you to Toni Gore and The Saplings team for the work on their entry and to Laura Davidson, Year 2 TA, who has led the school project this year.

Y1 Herrings Farm Visit

Year 1 had a brilliant time at Herrings Green Farm. Throughout the day, the children enjoyed a range of exciting hands-on experiences, including holding a corn snake, feeding a goat, cuddling a chick, stroking the rabbits and guinea pigs, and even holding and flying an owl. They also watched a fantastic bird display, which was a real highlight of the visit.



Issue No - 18 Date - 3rd July 2026

The Year 1 children represented The Firs Lower School fantastically, and we were incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, engagement, and willingness to take risks by trying new experiences throughout the day. They were a credit to the school and made the most of every opportunity. 🦉 🐸 🦊 🐰 🐣

Grafham Talk - for Y3 Parents

On **Monday 6th July at 6pm** we will be holding our annual meeting for Y3 parents, to introduce the Grafham Water residential visit which is scheduled for March 2027.

This is a good opportunity to hear about how the trip is organised, the activities children take part in and to hear from some of the current Y4 children, who will share a little bit about their experiences.

Year 4 Performances

The Year 4 performances are in week 13 (the last week of term) on the following days:

- Tuesday 14th 9:30 am
- Tuesday 14th 2:00 pm
- Wednesday 15th 6:30 pm

Please click on this link to the [Leavers' Performance Booking Form](#) to book your tickets for the performances. To try and allocate places fairly, each child has 2 seats allocated for each performance (a total of 6 across the 3 performances). We hope this will enable you to arrange which members of your family attend at times most convenient for you, whilst ensuring we can safely accommodate the audience in the hall over the three performances.

Thank you to Mr Rushby and the Y4 team for organising this.

Open Afternoon

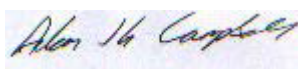
On Monday 13th July we will be holding an open afternoon, starting at 2:30pm. This is an opportunity to come and look at your child's work. The teacher will be busy working with the children but you are welcome to look at the work in their tray, with your child perhaps in the classroom or perhaps even better, in a space nearby, such as the hall or of course outside if the weather permits!

When you have finished and returned the tray of work to the classroom, you can take your child home with you, collecting any other siblings from their classroom.

Meet the teacher opportunity

Between 3.45pm and 4.15pm there will be an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher for the next academic year in the classroom where your child will be in September.

Yours sincerely.



Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher