Newsletter

Working together to achieve our best.

Issue No - **1** Date - **4th September 2026**

www.firslower.co.uk

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

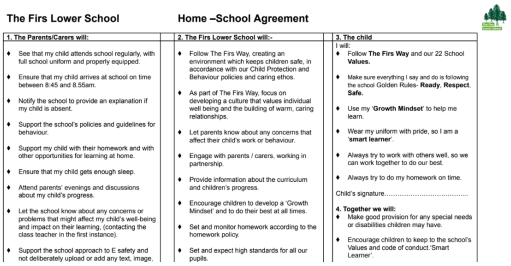
Dear parents/carers,

Welcome Back!

I would like to welcome everyone back to school for the new term. I hope you all had a great summer break. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new pupils who started with us this week throughout the school. It was lovely to see you all and look forward to everyone working together as we start the new year.

Home / School Agreement

This very important document is attached with his newsletter and will be sent home with Y1 - Y4 children next week in paper form, as well as an attachment with this newsletter.



The Firs Lower School — Home –School Agreement

1. The Parents/Carers will:	2. The Firs Lower School will:-	3. The child
See that my child attends school regularly, with full school uniform and properly equipped.	Follow The Firs Way, creating an environment which keeps children safe, in accordance with our Child Protection and Behaviour policies and caring ethos.	I will: Follow **The Firs Way** and our 22 School **Values.**
Ensure that my child arrives at school on time between 8:45 and 8.55am.	As part of The Firs Way, focus on developing a culture that values individual well being and the building of warm, caring relationships.	Make sure everything I say and do is following the school Golden Rules- **Ready**, **Respect**, **Safe.**
Notify the school to provide an explanation if my child is absent.	Let parents know about any concerns that affect their child's work or behaviour.	Use my '**Growth Mindset**' to help me learn.
Support the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour.	Engage with parents / carers, working in partnership.	Wear my uniform with pride, so I am a '**smart learner**'.
Support my child with their homework and with other opportunities for learning at home.	Provide information about the curriculum and children's progress.	Always try to work with others well, so we can work together to do our best.
Ensure that my child gets enough sleep.	Encourage children to develop a 'Growth Mindset' and to do their best at all times.	Always try to do my homework on time.
Attend parents' evenings and discussions about my child's progress.	Set and monitor homework according to the homework policy.	Child's signature.....
Let the school know about any concerns or problems that might affect my child's well-being and impact on their learning, (contacting the class teacher in the first instance).	Set and expect high standards for all our pupils.	**4. Together we will:** Make good provision for any special needs or disabilities children may have.
Support the school approach to E safety and not deliberately upload or add any text, image,		Encourage children to keep to the school's Values and code of conduct 'Smart Learner'.

(if your child is new to our school and you have already completed the Home School Agreement as part of the admission process, you do not need to look at it again!)

It sets out the agreement regarding the ways in which parents, children and the school are expected to contribute to the partnership, which helps us all to get the best outcomes for our children.

We will be talking about it in school next week and we would ask that you please spend some time talking through it with your child, so that there is a common understanding about working as a team, to live our Firs Way values, respect one another and work together, so that we can achieve our best.

There is a place for you and your child to sign the agreement, although this copy is for you to keep at home.

Class Welcome Letters

The class welcome letters for Y1-Y4 parents are attached with this newsletter. These letters are very important and hopefully informative, giving you details such as homework arrangements, PE times, teacher email addresses etc. They will also be available on the **Letters Home** section of our website and on the individual year group pages in the Our Learning section of the site.

Communicating With Parents in Y1 and Y2

Class Dojo was introduced as a communication tool in Pine for the academic year 25/26. There has been lots of positive feedback from parents, including in the Parent Forum meeting last term and as a school we have decided this would be a useful tool to continue to use within KS1.

With this newsletter is a letter for Y1 and Y2 parents to give a little more information about this change.

Smart Learners

Making sure our children are focused on their learning:

When children are dressed smartly in their uniform it really does help them to develop the right mindset and adopt a positive attitude towards their learning. Please help us with this by ensuring:-

- All children come to school in their school uniform
- No trainers are worn apart from when it is a PE day
- Black school shoes are worn with their school uniform
- Hair bands or ribbons are always green or black only
- No nail varnish is worn

Winter Uniform	Summer Uniform
Boys: • White or green polo shirt • Bottle-green sweatshirt with school logo / green V-necked jumper - **(Compulsory branded item 1)** • Long grey trousers • Grey socks • Sensible black 'school' shoes or smart black, flat-heeled, ankle boots.– no trainers allowed. Girls: • White or green polo shirt • Grey (school style) trousers /skirt /pinafore • Bottle-green sweatshirt – cardigan with school logo **(Compulsory branded item 1)** • White knee socks or green/grey tights • Sensible black 'school' shoes: smart black, flat-heeled, ankle boots– no trainers allowed.	Boys: • White or green polo shirt • Grey trousers – short or long • Grey or white socks • Sensible black shoes or sandals – no trainers allowed. • Green legionnaire style cap with logo Girls: • Green and white checked summer dress or skirt with polo shirt/blouse • White socks • Sensible black shoes or sandals (no trainers, open-toed or heeled sandals) • Green legionnaire style cap with logo

Uniform on PE Days:

When your child's class has a PE day, please ensure that the appropriate PE kit is worn. All pupils should be wearing their green PE t-shirt, black shorts or black jogging bottoms.

When PE is outside during the winter, please ensure that your child has a green Firs fleece or sweatshirt.

Please do not send your child in bright coloured leggings or sweatshirts for PE as the colours stated above must be worn.

Thank you for your support with this.

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Reading Partnership Agreement
Last year we launched our 'Reading Partnership Agreement'.

We want to do everything we can to make sure there is a clear picture of how we can work together to help children make great progress with and enjoy their reading.

As a reminder, we have attached the Partnership Agreement, along with a '**Reading With Your Child At Home**' guide with this newsletter. These will also be placed on the **Letters Home** page of our website.

ICT Acceptable Use Agreement - Y3
ICT, including the use of the internet, email and mobile technologies, is a central part of our school and home lives. We aim to ensure that all children are safe and taught to be responsible when using ICT.

We believe the benefits for pupils from accessing the internet exceed any disadvantage but it is important children are aware of the importance of using the internet responsibly. For this reason we ask parents to sign our Acceptable Use agreement when children start with us.

We repeat this process as children enter KS2, to give staff and parents the opportunity to have an important conversation with children about using the internet and ICT devices safely.

We would ask all Y3 parents to please read and discuss the safety rules agreement attached with their child. The agreement will also come home in paper form as this 'User Agreement' plays a vital part in keeping our children safe and it is essential that the reply slip is **returned to school**.

Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement
Safety Rules and E-Safety Rules

1. I will be responsible for my behaviour and/or actions when using any ICT equipment.
2. If I feel unsafe or worried when using any ICT, I will ask for help and tell my teacher or an adult in school, or someone I trust at home.
3. I will only use ICT in school for school purposes with the permission of a teacher.
4. I will support the school approach to e-safety and not deliberately upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of our school community.
5. I will not tell other adults or children my password.
6. I will only open/delete my own files with the permission of a teacher.
7. I will make sure that all ICT contact with other children and adults is polite, sensible and safe.
8. I will not deliberately look for, save or send anything that is nasty, unpleasant or rude.
9. If I accidently view something nasty, unpleasant or rude I will tell an adult straight away.
10. I will not give out my own details such as my home phone number, mobile phone number or home address in an e-mail or arrange to meet someone I don't know (unless it is part of a school project approved by my teacher and a responsible adult comes with me).
11. I will use my school allocated e-mail address in school and only use it to open emails. I will use it at home sensibly and with permission from an adult.
12. I will only open any email attachments from people I know or someone my school has approved.
13. I will 'log off' at the end of a session on a computer or a mobile device.
14. I know that my use of ICT can be checked and that my parent/carer contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my E-safety.

In addition, we hope that you will support the school by promoting safe use of the internet and digital technology at home.

Thank you for your support.

Open Evening
We will be holding an open evening on Wednesday 23rd September at 6:00pm - 7:30pm for parents of children who are due to start school in September 2027.

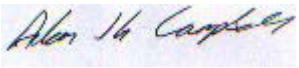
You will meet our staff, have a tour of our school and get an insight into the fantastic learning opportunities we provide for our children at The Firs.
We help children to develop a positive 'growth mindset', so they feel confident as a learner, to take on challenges and always aspire to achieve their very best.

Please contact the school on 01525 402735 or email office@firslower.org if you would like to be booked in for this open evening.

We look forward to meeting you!

Autumn Term Date Sheet
We are currently working on the date sheet for this term and this will be available with our next newsletter.

Yours sincerely.



Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher