



## Newsletter

Issue No: 1  
Date 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2018  
[www.firslower.co.uk](http://www.firslower.co.uk)

Working together to  
achieve our best.

**Chair of Governors:** Gareth Jones

**Governors:** Sue A'Court, Celia Bennett, Adam Campbell, Paul McKinney, Fran Sherry, Phillip Clarke, Jeremy Ramsden, Laura Gilson, Jon Wilson and Jason Hart

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Dear parents/carers,

We would like to welcome all our children back to school after the summer holiday and also to our new children who joined the school on Wednesday. They have all settled in well and it has been good to see so many happy faces!

### **The Saplings Pre-School**

We are very pleased that the pre-school children who attend The Saplings are now situated on our school site. It's been lovely to meet all the children and welcome them into our school. We would like to thank all the Pre-School staff for their hard work ensuring a smooth start to the new term.

### **Welcome letter and what are we learning sheets**

The children will be bringing home a welcome letter from their year group and a 'what are we learning at The Firs this term' sheet, which will also be emailed to you. Please talk to your children about what they are learning about this term and keep copies of this and the welcome letter for your reference. We hope the information they contain is helpful.

### **Contacting staff**

In the welcome letters, mentioned above, you will find staff email addresses. We still believe that, particularly in a lower school, it is easier to work with parents to meet children's needs, by meeting face to face or talking over the phone but we appreciate that sometimes email is an efficient and due to work commitments, necessary way to communicate.

We want communication with parents to be effective and prompt, whilst balancing this with the need to protect staff well-being. For this reason, we would like to share with parents that we have agreed with staff, that any email sent by a parent should be replied to within **36 hours during the working week**.

### **Caterlink our School Meals Provider**

If you pay for your child's school meal, it must be paid on the day it is taken. Please pay this via your ParentPay account. Caterlink have informed us that if meals are not paid for on the day they are taken, no further meals will be provided until the account is cleared. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Guitar Lessons**

John Earley, the guitar teacher will be in school on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September to teach the guitar to the children who are continuing and who have started. If you would like your child to start guitar lessons, you can request that your child is seen by Mr Earley on Monday or, you can complete the registration form attached to this letter.

### **Kids' Club**

Kids' Club is now full on a Wednesday morning and other sessions and filling up quickly. If you would like to use our Kids' Club, please come into the office for a registration form or email [heather.edwards@firslower.org](mailto:heather.edwards@firslower.org) – thank you.

### **Ashburnham Road Residents Association**

We have been asked to remind parents that the part of Ashburnham Road which meets Station Road is a private road and parents should not be parking there. It has been reported that cars have been speeding along this road, which is very dangerous, as many children and parents walk along this road before and after school. Your support with this will be greatly appreciated.

### **Girls Football**

If your daughter is interested in playing football, Flitwick Eagles Girls are looking for new players at under 8, under 9 and under 10's. To find out more, please call Kevin Farr on 07954 672248 or email [kevin.farr@betterhealthcare.co.uk](mailto:kevin.farr@betterhealthcare.co.uk).

### **Violin / Viola lessons**

Mrs Perry will be in school next Thursday to teach the children violin and viola lessons. She still has places if any children are interested in having lessons. Please let the school office know if you are interested.

### **Transfer to Middle School and Starting School 2019**

Information went out today to pupils in Year 4 regarding transfer to middle school. The deadline for both applications is 15 January, 2019 and you can do this online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions). Please come into the school office or telephone us on 01525 402735 if you have any questions regarding this.

### **Pine Open Days – For Children starting school in September 2019**

Advance notice that the school will be holding tours of the school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November for parents whose children will be starting reception in September 19. If you would like to book a place, please contact the school office, who will be very happy to help.

### **Pine Update**

Our Pine Team are very much enjoying their home visits at the moment, which are a very important part of the induction process. The programme of taster days begins on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> and then we look forward to all our Pine children being in school together on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

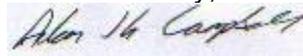
### **Home School Agreement Y1-Y4**

Once a year, we send home the Home School agreement for parents to sign and a copy is coming out with this newsletter. Please read it through with your child(ren) and sign it, and keep it at home. The agreement sets out what we can all expect of each other and as such, forms a very important basis for the positive home / school relations, which are so important to us and of course contribute so much to ensuring good outcomes for our children.

### **Premier Sport Clubs**

Premier Sport Clubs will begin week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> September and information regarding this will be sent to you.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell  
headteacher