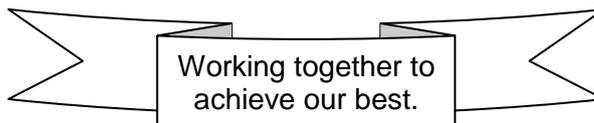




Newsletter

Issue No: 3
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www.firslower.co.uk



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

Dear parents/carers,

Parent Consultation Evenings

We will be holding our parent consultation evenings on Tuesday 16th and Thursday 18th October for all years. The boards will be going out in the hall on Monday 8th October. If you are unable to come in to sign up for parents evening, please telephone the school office where we will be very happy to help – thank you.

Collaboration/Teamwork

Our value this month is **Collaboration**.

In school, we have explained to the children that collaboration is about working as a team with co-operation and patience to achieve a common goal. They can achieve their best as a team by having good relationships with others (for example, working with any of their peers without complaint) and by making good choices because that will benefit the group as a whole. We have discussed how practising collaboration and teamwork will help them throughout their life.

We are asking parents/carers at home to send in a note if they think their child has demonstrated collaboration/teamwork, describing how they showed this value. We will celebrate some of their achievements in assembly (if they are happy with this).

Examples of collaboration might be:

- Demonstrating a willingness to work/play with everyone – not just their best friends.
- Listening respectfully to both their peers and to adults.
- Supporting the ideas of another person even if they don't agree with them.
- Consistently taking a fair share of something they are offered.



Year 2 Visit to Ampthill Great Park

The year 2 children enjoyed their recent visits to Ampthill Great Park which provided a lovely opportunity for them to increase their knowledge of the natural world. They had a great time collecting a variety of seeds to put in their buckets. They were of course, fascinated to find Beech and Cedar seeds! The seeds are being sent to Kew Gardens to make a contribution to their seed bank archive. Thank you to Mrs Ware who organised this visit as part of the children's Forest Schools work and to the Year 2 team and other staff who helped on the days.

Year 3 Ancient Egyptian WOW Day

On Tuesday 2nd October Year 3 had a great day when Ancient Egypt was brought to life by our visitors from 'History off The Page'. All the children looked fantastic in their costumes and enjoyed taking part in many different authentic activities whilst learning all the time about what life was like 5,000 years ago in that far away land.

The children said they had an amazing time and couldn't wait to write all about it the next day. The day would not have been possible if it hadn't been for the team of parents and grandparents who came along to support us by teaching the children crafts and helping them rehearse their roles and the staff too who joined us that day - a big thank you to everyone for the part they played in our wonderful WOW history day!

Year 4 Celtic Day

Today, Year 4 were visited by 'Rent a Celt' when children had the opportunity to experience a day of Celtic activities. The children have been learning about Celt life as part of their curriculum this term and this was a great opportunity for them to enhance their knowledge on this subject. The children were amazed by all the fantastic artefacts they looked at in the morning and in the afternoon they learned a lot including how to make bread and thoroughly enjoyed making their own Celt pot out of clay. All the children had a super day and we would like to thank the parents for supporting this event.

Photographer in school

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 9th October to take individual photographs of all the children. Siblings will also be taken together. If you do not wish your children to be photographed together, please let the school office know beforehand. You are under no obligation to buy but proofs will be sent home with the children when they arrive in school, a few days after the photographer has been.

Kids' Club

If your child no longer needs a session that you have booked at Kids' Club, please cancel this 24 hours in advance otherwise you will be charged with the full session. If your child is unwell, please let us know by 8.45am on the day, so that we can cancel them out for the session booked.

If you arrive after 6pm to collect your child, you will be charged a £5.00 fee for late pick up as Kids' Club closes at 6pm. Thank you.

Head Lice

Head lice seem to be doing the rounds again. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat if necessary. If head lice are found to be present, it is better to treat immediately to avoid the spread of this from head-to-head. Thank you for your support.

Arriving to School Late

In the morning, the gate at the front of the school opens at 8.45am and needs to close at 8.55am. Any child arriving after this time must be registered as late. We have recently become aware that several children are arriving late to school regularly, which is very disruptive for the rest of the class.

If you arrive after 8.55am, you must sign the late book, giving a reason as to why your child is late. To help us ensure that the gate can be closed at the right time, it is important that parents have left the school site before 8.55am.

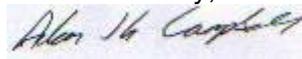
In addition, some staff are finding it very difficult to begin their day, as there are a number of parents wishing to speak with them. We understand that sometimes there is an important message to convey, but we would ask that if it is possible, conversations of a less urgent nature are reserved for the afternoon pick up, when staff have more time to properly address the matter being raised.

We would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and support with this.

Anticipating another amazing Firs Ball!

Preparations are well under way for our bi-annual Firs Ball and the PTA are working very hard and will be continuing to do so during Saturday to make the finishing touches to what we are sure will be another memorable and successful event. We would like to say a thank you to everyone in the PTA Ball team who are working so hard and to everyone who is coming on Saturday.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell
headteacher