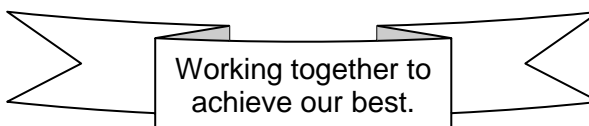




## Newsletter

Issue No.9  
Date 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2020  
[www.firslower.co.uk](http://www.firslower.co.uk)



**Chair of Governors:** Gareth Jones

**Governors:** Adam Campbell, Fran Sherry, Jon Wilson, Louise Haigh, Jason Hart, Annette Anderson, Jason Manley-Donlon and John Ashley

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Dear parents/carers,

We would like to welcome all our children back to school after the Christmas holiday and hope you all had a wonderful time.

### Applications for Starting School and Middle School

We have had an email from Admissions at Central Bedfordshire saying that they are still waiting for applications from parents of children due to start school and also those going onto middle school in September 2020. Please note that if you need to apply for a place for your child starting school or going onto middle school, this has to be done by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. If the Admissions Team receive applications after 15<sup>th</sup> January, they will be classed as late and will not be looked at until June 2020. It is therefore very important that your application is with the Admissions Team by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 – thank you.

### Our value this month is initiative.

At school, we have explained to the children that initiative is about making a decision to do something that needs doing, without waiting to be asked. Children who show initiative learn independence, develop strength of character and a sense of responsibility.

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

- Not putting off tasks that need doing until the last minute, for example, deciding to get their homework done and handing it in before the due date.
- Recognising what needs doing and doing it without being asked, for example, tidying up, setting the table, deciding to do a litter pick.
- Initiative can be saying rather than doing something, for example, owning up to something they have done wrong rather than waiting to be found out, or apologising for something when they have made a wrong choice.

### Bikeability

Letters will be coming home today which gives you information about the Bikeability courses we have booked for the Y4 children in preparation for their visit to Grafham Water Centre. The course is free and every child will complete the course during the school day either on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January or Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. You will be notified of when your child will be participating, so that you will know what day to bring your child's bike to school.

### Grafham Meeting

I would like to remind Y4 parents of the meeting taking place on Monday so that you can complete the medical forms for your child before they go to Grafham Water Centre. The meeting will take place in the Y4 classrooms from 3.30pm – 6.00pm. If you cannot attend this meeting, please complete the form that was sent to you no later than **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January** – thank you for your support.

### Grafham Payments

A letter went out yesterday with all the Y4 children giving information about the payment for your child's residential trip. Please let us know as a matter of urgency if you feel you will have any difficulties meeting the 7<sup>th</sup> February deadline for full payment. You will note, from the letter sent out yesterday, that the scope for us to help you financially is extremely limited and we need to rely on parents to fund this visit.

**PE Kit**

Several children have been coming round to the office to borrow a PE kit since we have returned from the holidays. Can you please make sure that your child has a named PE kit in school and that it still fits – thank you for your co-operation.

**Lost property**

We have lots of lost property from last term and if its is not claimed, we will dispose of it at the end of January. Please come into the office if your child has lost any items and we will be happy to help. The lost property we have is all unnamed – please ensure that all items of clothing and property is named so that we can get it back to the rightful owner – thank you.

**Staffing Update**

We would like to welcome Angela Higgs who started working as a Playworker at Kids' Club this week and has made a very positive contribution to the team. Next week, Oriana Pearce will be joining Kids' Club also as a Playworker and as a pre-school practitioner in The Saplings and we warmly welcome her to the team.

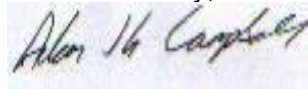
We would also like to inform parents that Beverley Lacey who currently delivers additional RWI support, has been appointed to a post working in Y4 to give additional support to pupils. Congratulations to her and a warm welcome to her from everyone in the Year 4 team.

**Lunchtime Clubs run by Staff**

I would like to take this opportunity to say a public thank you to all the staff who kindly give up some of their own time to run clubs for children at lunchtime. We have had lots of feedback from parents and children about how much these clubs were enjoyed last term, providing children with some lovely extra-curricular experiences.

Accompanying this newsletter is a club letter providing information about the clubs that will be running this term. If your child would like to attend a club, we would be very grateful if you could get the reply slip back to us by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell  
Headteacher