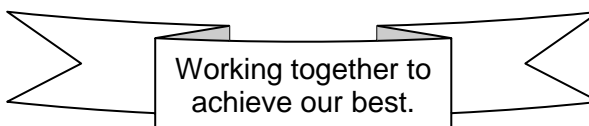




Newsletter

Issue No.12
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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, John Ashley and Joanna Milne

Dear parents/carers,

Y4 Trip to St Albans



On Monday, Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic visit to St Alban's cathedral to begin their history topic of The Romans. They participated in two main activities there. One was the Alban trail which involved them walking around the cathedral, noticing its various features which linked to the story of Alban who lived under Roman rule and how he became the first saint in England. The children had great fun dressing up in costume and participating in role play to re-enact the historical story. The other activity was based around Roman art where the children learned about Roman mosaics and then used coloured tiles, wood and grout to make one of

their own - they loved making these and they all looked brilliant! We were also lucky enough to be visited by a Roman legionnaire, who insulted us and informed us about how he was much superior! We looked in detail at the clothing, armour and weapons that would be used by a Roman soldier and learned about their way of life.

It was a very enjoyable day, we learned a lot and the cathedral staff remarked that the children were a credit to the school, showing good behaviour, lots of interest and asking appropriate questions.

We would like to thank all the parents who helped on the day and the Y4 staff for organising this trip.



Parent Consultation Evenings

The parent consultation evenings for Year 1 – Y4 take place on Tuesday 17th March and Thursday 19th March. The late evening is on the Tuesday and the early evening is on the Thursday, finishing at 6.00pm.

The boards for signing up will be in the hall on Tuesday 3rd March from 8.45am, so please come in and book your time. If you have difficulty in getting in to sign up, please telephone the school office on 01525 402735 and we will be very happy to help you.

Pine will be sending out a separate letter to parents explaining how they will be feeding back to you regarding your child's progress during the year.

Kids' Club Invoices

Invoices for Kids' Club will be uploaded to your ParentPay account over the weekend. Emails will be sent and payment is required within 7 days from receipt of your invoice. Thank you for your support.

Saplings Pre-School Building Update



The new pre-school building is progressing well and is nearing completion and we would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding while this work is going on. We will send out more information regarding the date of when the pre-school children will be moving into their new home and what arrangements will be put in place, which will hopefully be sometime in March.



Arriving to School on Time

Please remember that school starts at 8.55am and therefore all the children should be in their classroom by then, ready to start their learning. The gate opens at 8.45am which gives the children ample time to get to their classroom on time. A significant number of children are walking up to the gate after 8.55am, which is very disruptive for children who are already learning in the classroom. It can also be embarrassing for the child who walks in late.

The gate will be closed at 8.55am and if you arrive after this, you will need to come to reception and sign the late book, with a reason as to why you are late and a member of the office staff will take your child to their classroom. For safeguarding reasons, parents need to be able to leave the way they have come in, **please do not walk through the school without signing yourself in at reception and collecting a 'visitor' badge.**

We really need your support with this and look forward to seeing all the children arriving to school on time – thank you.



Y3 Faith Tour



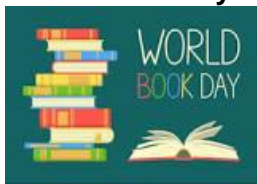
On Tuesday 11th February, Y3 visited Queen's Park in Bedford, where the children participated in a 'Faith Tour'. The children spent time at All Saint's Parish Church, Jamia Masjid Gulshane Bagdad Mosque and Guru Nanak Gurdwara. Each tour was led by a member of that faith community.

The children all had a wonderful experience and behaved very well on the day. We would like to thank all the parents who helped accompany the

children and to the Y3 staff for organising this event.



World Book Day at The Firs –Thursday 5th March and Book Fair



On Wednesday, letters were sent out with the children and also emailed, about the arrangements for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. We are very much looking forward to the day and hope that you will sign up for the book sharing sessions. Scholastic Book Fair will also be in the school hall on 5th March from 3.30 – 4.15pm, Friday 6th March from 3.30 – 4.00pm and Tuesday 10th March from 3.30 – 4.15pm, when you will be able to purchase books – thank you for your support.

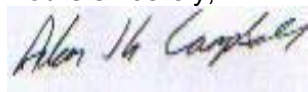
Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child comes to school with their water bottle. We are having lots of children coming round to the office for cups, as they do not have their water bottle in school. Please help us look after our environment and remind your child to pick up their water bottle in the morning and bring it to school – thank you.

An Update from Bookclub

Thank you to all parents and children who've been supporting Book Club. So far this academic, year we've sent over 100 books home and have had children from Pine through to Year 4 come and visit us. Book Club runs every other Tuesday and there are three more sessions for this term - on 3rd March, 17th March, and 31st March. All Book Club books cost £2. If you would like your child to come along, please put their name, class, and year group with money in an envelope and hand in to the school office. We will then issue your child with a savings card and envelope and once they reach £2, we'll invite them to Book Club to choose their book. All profits raised go to the PTA, so it's another great way to support your child's school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adam J G Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher