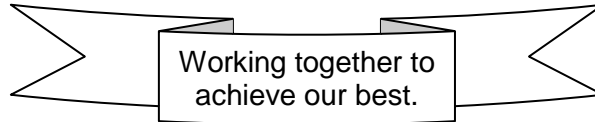




## Newsletter

Issue No.8  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2020  
[www.firslower.co.uk](http://www.firslower.co.uk)



**Chair of Governors:** Gareth Jones

**Governors:** Adam Campbell, Fran Sherry, Jon Wilson, Louise Haigh, Annette Anderson, Jason Manley, John Ashley and Joanna Milne

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Dear parents/carers,

### Staff News

#### **Celia Bennett**

Celia Bennett, our School Business Manager has decided to retire at the end of the autumn term. Celia joined The Firs in 2005 and has done so much for the school and worked so hard for The Firs, in so many different ways. She was instrumental for example, in creating the successful bid for government capital funding that made the construction of our new Y3 classrooms possible. She also led on the sometimes very challenging project to complete the new Saplings building. Her contribution has been critically important in ensuring that the school is financially secure, so that we can make the high quality provision for children that is so important to all of us.

With her great dedication and service to the school, all our children and staff will greatly miss her when she leaves. So on behalf of everyone in our school community, I would like to thank her for all she has done and wish her a very long and happy retirement.

#### **Mackie**

Mackie our Premises Manager will also be retiring in a month's time. He has decided to move to Kent to be closer to his family. Mackie joined our school in 2010 and has worked hard making a valuable contribution to the school including ensuring that the 3 major building projects during his time with us were completed. Mackie has always had a fantastic rapport with our children, helping them in any way he can and he will be greatly missed by us all.

I am sure that you will want to join in with us in wishing Mackie a very happy retirement when it comes.

#### **Vacancies at The Firs Lower School**

We currently have a vacancy for a Teaching Assistant (fixed term post) and a vacancy for a Premises Manager. Both posts can be found on our website under 'school information' and then 'vacancies'. If you require any other information relating to either of these posts, please contact Sue A'Court by email [sue.acourt@firslower.org](mailto:sue.acourt@firslower.org) or by telephone on 01525 402735.

#### **A New Spelling System at The Firs**

Please find attached a letter from Allison Brady, explaining about the new spelling system we have in school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Brady for the huge amount of work she has put into setting this new procedure up.

We are confident that this new approach, with its emphasis on carefully tracking children's knowledge of the National Curriculum common exception words, whilst also setting out a programme to teach spelling patterns is a very positive development. This, coupled with the built in 'over-learning' of words, to help children get the spellings into their long term memory, will make a significant contribution to learning.

#### **PE Outside**

When children have their PE, could they please bring their school shoes in a carrier bag into school. They can then change into their school shoes after their PE lesson and put their trainers in the carrier bag. This is to ensure that the corridor and classroom floors are kept as clean as possible. Thank you for your support with this.

### **Flu Vaccinations**

Several parents have emailed to ask if they have missed the e-form for consenting to the flu vaccinations which are taking place on 8<sup>th</sup> December. These forms should be coming out to you very soon and we will email you when this happens. Thank you.

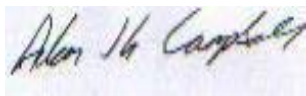
### **New Governor needed**

Your school needs you! We are currently recruiting for a new parent governor to join our fantastic and very conscientious governor team. Please see the letter attached with this newsletter. The letter gives more information and sets out how to proceed if you are interested in putting yourself forward!

### **School Uniform**

If you need school uniform, Prestige we will be CLOSED following the lockdown, but parents can still order online for delivery and click and collect. Please note that all collections will **only** be able to be made from the Barton Le Clay Branch. Thank you for your support.

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.

Adam J G Campbell  
Headteacher