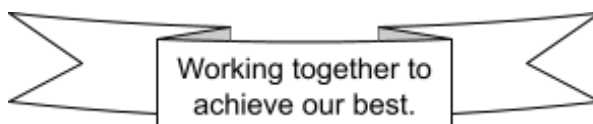




Newsletter

Issue No. 10
Date 25th June, 2021
www.firslower.co.uk



Chair of Governors: Gareth Jones

Governors: Annette Anderson, John Ashley, Franco Cameli, Adam Campbell, Louise Haigh, Kerry Mercer, Fran Sherry and Tom Stean

Dear parents/carers,

Events over the last few weeks of term

We have a number of events happening in the next few weeks, especially in the last week of term, when we are trying to fit in some events that we could not hold during Covid 19 restrictions.

We thought it would be helpful to create a short dates sheet with these on, so that everyone is kept informed. The date sheet is attached with this email and will also be available on our website.

Year 4 Transition Arrangements

Visit by the Alameda Year 5 Leader

Hayley Sibley, the Y5 leader at Alameda, will be visiting The Firs on Tuesday 29th June. She will speak to each class, delivering a short presentation and then taking questions from the children. (She will remain socially distanced from the children throughout).

This will be a very important opportunity for the Y4 children to find out more about Alameda, meet Mrs Sibley and have the chance to ask any questions that they may have.

Outside Alameda Tours!

Alameda are working hard to provide as many transition opportunities as possible in the difficult circumstances we are operating in. To this end, they have organised an opportunity for parents and children to take part in an outside tour of Alameda, getting an idea of the location of key buildings and meeting some of the Alameda staff.

There will be a tour for each Y4 'class bubble'. Both tours will be between 4:00 and 4:30pm.

The dates for each class are as follows:

Wednesday July 14th - **Oak class**

Thursday July 15th - **Willow class**

Thank you to Hayley Sibley and Alameda for organising these transition opportunities.

Arrangements for Y4 children to walk to and from school without an adult

As you will know a letter was emailed to parents on Tuesday regarding Y4 children will be able to walk to and from school without an adult from the 28th June.

We are attaching this letter just in case you missed it as we need to know what your child will be doing from Monday 28th June by completing the tear-off section. This letter is also on our website.

Pine New Parents Open Evening - Date Changed

A letter was emailed out yesterday to all our new Pine Parents whose children will be joining us in September 2021 to let them know that the date for the open evening has changed from Monday 12th July to **Monday 19th July**, starting at 7.00pm. Packs will however, be available from Monday 12th July for parents to collect from school from 9.30am - 3.00pm and 3.45pm - 6.00pm and we are asking that parents bring the completed forms to school when they attend the open evening on Monday 19th.

Transition into Pine for Pre-School Children - Date Changed

An email was sent to all our new parents of children who are coming into Pine in September letting them know the change in date for the transition arrangements. This is due to the restrictions being lifted later than originally planned.

The date for the transition into Pine for children who attend other pre-schools is now being held on Tuesday 20th July at 10.30am - 12.15pm.

The date for the transition for children who attend The Saplings is now 1.30pm - 2.30pm.

If for any reason, you have not received the email about these changes, please let the school office know - thank you.

Sports Days

In line with our Exiting Restrictions Roadmap, we are not holding public sports events this year. We did not want the children to miss out on the chance to get healthy exercise, experience a competitive event and have some fun however. For this reason, we will be holding some sports mornings for each year group. (Y1-Y4 children will participate in their 2 class bubbles, keeping socially distanced from each other, whilst hopefully, still feeling they are participating together as a year group.)

On these days (listed below) the **children will need to come into school in their PE kits:**

Year 3 - Monday 5th July

Year 2 - Wednesday 7th July

Year 4 - Monday 12th July

Pine - Tuesday 13th July

Year 1 - Thursday 15th July

The Fun Run... with a difference!

As you will be aware, every year the PTA organise a Fun Run and Fete in the summer term. Over the years, this event has always been hugely popular as well as raising significant amounts of money for the school.

Obviously with these difficult times, the PTA have not been able to run this and many of the other events that would normally happen throughout the year.

The PTA have however, come up with a good idea to raise much needed money, promote physical exercise and give the children a special experience they will no doubt enjoy!

On Monday children will bring home the sponsorship form for the 'Fun Run events on **Thursday 8th and Friday 9th July**.

The children will need to come into school in their PE kit on the days, which will be allocated to class bubbles as follows:

Thursday 8th - Oak, Willow, Cedar, Beech and Pine

Friday 9th - Elm, Hazel, Maple, Holly and Saplings

Throughout the 2 days, the children will have a slot to run in their class bubbles and we will log the number of laps they complete.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Y4 Grafham Water visit

The children have had a wonderful two days at Grafham, enjoying the range of activities on offer which included sailing, bushcraft, cycling, archery, crate stacking on high ropes (!) and climbing.

Below you can see a few pictures that capture some of the fun and excitement experienced by the children!



Thank you to Mrs Baker for all her hard work organising the visit and to the intrepid band of staff who helped look after the children so well and made sure they all had such a great time!

Thank You Mr Lees

Here at The Firs, Mr Lees, our Premises Manager, is busy making our grounds look beautiful, and it seems to be attracting lots of insects and wildlife, which we love. It's one of the reasons that we're so proud to be set on the edge of The Firs Nature Reserve.





Thank you so much to Mr Lees for all your hard work, making the structures for the flower beds, digging over and planting up wildflower areas, creating vegetable patches and making picnic benches so that our children can sit, enjoy and relax in the new areas that are being created.

We want our Firs children to be respectful of the environment and nature, so we really hope they'll take part in the [Big Bee Challenge](#), which is being run by the BBC. It's open for children from 6-12 years and the closing date for entries is 5th July.

Yours sincerely,

Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher