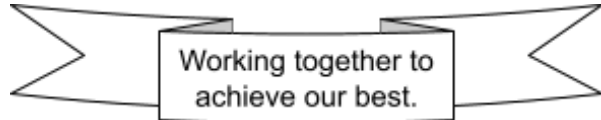




Newsletter

Issue No. 2
Date 17th September, 2021
www.firslower.co.uk



Chair of Governors: John Ashley

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

Dear parents/carers,

Singing Assembly is back!

It has been great to get so many of the regular features of school life going again this term and I thought I would share an update with you about the return of our Singing Assembly on Thursdays.



Led by Mrs Freeman and Mrs Everett, the singing assembly has always been a favourite with the children and it has been lovely to have the school filled with the sound of the children singing with such energy and enthusiasm again. Well done to all the children and staff.

Dates for the term

With this newsletter is our date sheet for the term. These dates also appear on our school calendar.

New One Way System

Thank you to all our parents / carers for their support and patience as everyone gets used to the new one way system.

Just to reiterate that the one way system only applies to the route round the school between the Station Road gate (where you come in) and the Y4 gate (where you come out). Parents / carers are free to enter / exit using either of the gates into the courtyard.

Children were amazing during lockdown and managed happily to walk round by themselves in the morning. We would encourage children to be independent by saying goodbye to them at the Station Road entrance gate in the morning. It seems that for the majority of the children, this gets them in 'school mode' quicker and they come round and make a settled start in their classroom!

Bikeability

The Y4 children had a fantastic time and improved their cycling knowledge and skills during the bikeability sessions this week. Well done to all our Y4 children for taking part so positively and a thank you to all our parents / carers in Y4 for supporting us by bringing in children's bikes for the event.



Use of Photos and Videos within The Firs Lower School

With the launch of our Facebook page, we wrote to you last term and explained that we wanted to renew our information regarding media permissions that we collected when you first registered your child with the school.

Please could all other parents / carers complete the google form (following the link below) to confirm your preferences.

It will only take a couple of minutes!

Please can you complete this form by Monday 20th September. Thank you.

This will also be emailed as a link to you separately and we will be sending SMS reminders as we really need this information. Thank you.

[Photos Preference Google Form](#)

Attendance and learning

We always aim for high levels of attendance. We want to stress to all parents how important it is that children have high attendance levels as all learning time is precious and any time lost will mean that there are gaps in children's learning as they will miss the learning objectives being covered that day. Please support us in maximising children's time in school as much as possible. Thank you.

Open Evening at The Firs

On Monday 18th October we are having an open evening at 7pm for parents of children who are due to start Reception Class in 2022 and for children who are ready to start Pre-School. You will be able to meet our staff, visit our Saplings Pre-School and have a tour of our school. Refreshments will be served during the evening. Please let us know if you are coming by sending an email to office@firslower.org or telephone the school office on 01525 402735. We look forward to seeing you on the 18th October!

Starting School September 2022

Parents can now make a Starting School 2022 application online via the Central Bedfordshire website at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or via a paper application (available on their website or they can post a copy when requested).

Attached is an information leaflet about this and please note that all applications must be received by Central Bedfordshire admissions by 15th January, 2022.

Bike to School Week 2021

Attached is a poster from Sustrans promoting 'Bike to School Week 2021' which takes place on 27th September - 1st October, 2021. If your child would like to take part in this, Let Sustrans know as your child will have the chance of winning a Frog bike. Visit www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge

And Finally...

I hope everyone has a great weekend and we look forward to seeing all our children next week.

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell
Headteacher