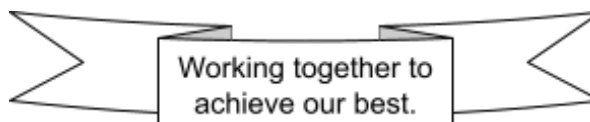




Newsletter

Issue No 10
Date 3rd December, 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,

Christmas Tree Festival

The children have been very busy making the decorations to go on the Christmas Tree for our entry to The Christmas Tree Festival which is now all decorated at St Andrews Church.

We would like to thank Allison Brady who has worked very hard organising this and to Kerry Mercer who helped her decorate the tree today at St Andrews Church.

If you would like to visit the Christmas Tree festival this weekend, you will be able to see our tree and vote for The Firs!



Christmas Jumper Day, 17th December 2021 Raising Funds for Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day is an annual fundraising campaign in the UK organised by the charity 'Save the Children'.

We are inviting all the children and staff to come dressed in either a Christmas jumper or wearing Christmassy accessories on the last day of term, Friday 17th December. **Please Note: - this is a non-uniform Day**

A letter is attached with full details, and our fundraising link and a QR Code can be found here to take you straight to our fundraising page.



[Save the Children. The Firs Lower Christmas Jumper Fundraising Page](#)

Name the Teddy

Last week some of our Year 3 School Councillors helped raise money for The Rotary Club to eradicate polio by having a 'name the teddy' stall. They worked really hard manning the stall and the lucky winner is Jacob J from Year 4, who named the teddy 'Paddington'. Today, Jacob was presented with 'Paddington' who will now go to live with him!

Thank you to everyone who took part - your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Part-Time Pre-School Practitioner Vacancy

We are currently advertising for a 2 day fixed term pre-school practitioner vacancy to start in January. All the information can be found on the website. Please email sue.acourt@firslower.org if you are interested in this post or telephone the school office on 01525 402735.

PTA Vacancy

A role has arisen within the PTA for a Treasurer. It's a really exciting time to join the PTA with a new committee having just formed and preparations for the next ball being underway! The treasurer is responsible for management and control of PTA funds, including banking, bills, receipts and maintaining up-to-date financial records. A handover and support is available from the outgoing Treasurer to enable the role to be fulfilled.

Should you be interested in this role please email firslowerpta@gmail.com

Christmas Plays

I thought I'd remind you of the dates and times for the Christmas plays for YR-Y3 next week.

Monday 6th		Tuesday 7th		Wednesday 8th		Thursday 9th		Friday 10th	
Y1 no 1 9:45 am	Maple	YR no 1 9:45 am	Acorns	Y2 no 1 9:45 am	Cedar	Y3 no 1 9:45 am	Hazel		
		Y1 no 2 2pm	Holly	YR no 2 2pm	Conkers	Y2 no 2 2pm	Beech	Y3 no 2 2pm	Elm

A maximum of 2 people per child can attend the performances and we would please ask that you adhere to this so that everyone is as safe as possible in the hall.

Due to the fact that we have some children and staff absent with Covid and cases are rising, we would politely ask that you please wear a face covering when coming into school and during the performances. We understand that wearing a face covering during your child's performance is not ideal but we must ensure that we are doing everything we can to keep you, your children and our staff safe at all times.

PTA Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who has donated prizes for the PTA Christmas raffle. The PTA are still looking for more raffle prizes such as alcohol and other appropriate gifts. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Household Support Grant - Christmas Holiday 2021

We are pleased to inform you that Central Bedfordshire Council will be providing food and utility support to parents/carers with eligible free school meals (FSM) children this Christmas holiday, via the Household Support Grant.

Parents/carers will receive a supermarket e-voucher to the total value of £60 per eligible FSM child. This will consist of £30 (to cover 2 weeks) for the food element and an additional £30 (to cover 2 weeks) to help offset utility costs. Please remember that these vouchers must not be used for age restricted items such as alcohol or tobacco.

Central Bedfordshire has commissioned an external organisation (WONDE) to distribute the vouchers and parents/carers will be able to select a supermarket from a range of providers including Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Aldi, Iceland and Waitrose.

Flu Vaccinations

As you know, the flu vaccinations will take place on Thursday 16th December for all the children in school whose parent or carer has consented.

As the flu vaccination date is later than originally advertised, the immunisation service wants to know if your child has been vaccinated since you consented. If this is the case, please go back into the online form and let them know that your child has already been vaccinated by submitting a non-consent form.

I attach the online form again, should you need to do this.

Christmas Fun Afternoons in the Last week of Term

We will let you know next week the arrangements for the Christmas Fun afternoons which are all in the last week of term.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adam J G Campbell', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Adam J G Campbell