

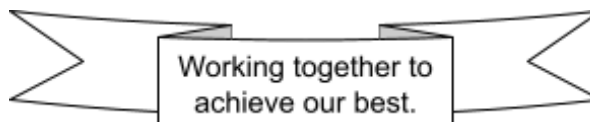


Newsletter

Issue No 2

Date:-16th May, 2022

www.firslower.co.uk



Chair of Governors: John Ashley

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

Dear parents/carers,

Visit of the Police and Crime Commissioner to The Firs

On Friday 6th May we were visited by the Police and Crime Commissioner Festus Akinbusoye, who spoke to the Y4 children about his life and his role.

Festus Akinbusoye was a very inspirational speaker and the children listened very eagerly to everything he had to say and thoroughly enjoyed his visit. They learned about some of the key aspects of the Crime Commissioner role, about some of the highpoints and difficulties Festus has encountered along the way, about his life experiences and what he learned from them and how important it is to make the most of the learning and other opportunities life presents us.



Festus said that he was very impressed by the impeccable behaviour and focus shown by all the children during his session and by the very searching and thoughtful questions they asked at the end of his presentation. Well done to all our fantastic Y4s and a huge thank you to Festus Akinbusoye for visiting The Firs!



Ampthill Rotary Assembly

Last Monday, The Ampthill Rotary visited the school and joined our assembly to present a certificate of appreciation to The Firs for the outstanding contribution of £623.02 towards 'BBC Children in Need 2021 Appeal'.

We talked to the children about how this reflects the caring ethos of our school and how this extends to thinking about others beyond our immediate local community. Thank you to all the parents and carers who purchased items and helped us raise this impressive sum.

Mrs Everett

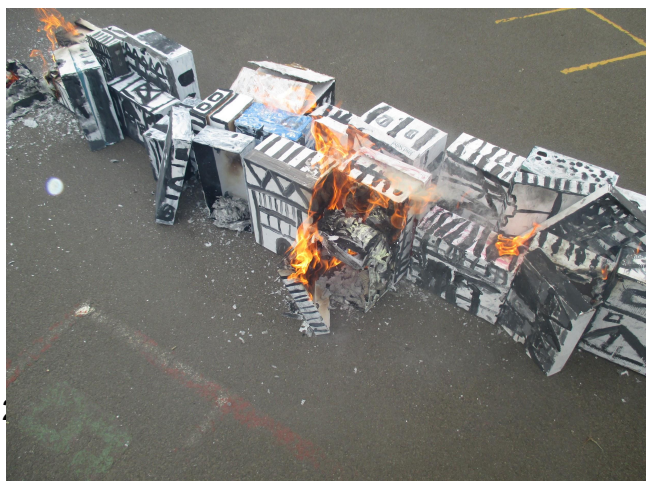
We are very pleased to announce the birth of Ralph Everett who was born on Saturday 14th May. Mrs Everett and baby Ralph are doing well and I am sure that everyone would want to join me in passing on our warmest congratulations.

Y1 and The Great Fire of London!

Year 1 children have been learning about The Great Fire of London and as a 'fantastic finish' we decided to make our own Tudor houses out of shoe boxes.

The children spent an afternoon decorating the boxes, creating their own version of the crowded streets of London in the 17th Century. The following day we set up our London skyline on the playground, and with the assistance and watchful eye of our Site Manager, we set fire to one of the boxes. The children sat around the edge of the playground and watched as the flames passed from one building to the next.

The children were astounded how quickly the fire spread, they witnessed a vivid and thought-provoking representation of the destruction caused by The Great Fire in 1666.



What are we Learning Sheets

The 'What are we Learning' sheets will be emailed out this week to all parents. We hope they are useful in keeping you informed about what your child is doing in school this term and support you in helping them with their learning at home.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations at The Firs

On Friday 27th May, we are asking the children to come dressed in red, white and blue to mark this special event (no football strips please). This is a **non-school uniform day** and any class who has PE on this day will still have their lesson but in their dress down clothes.

The children will be taking part in activities in class to find out about and celebrate the occasion and we will be sharing some details of what each class is doing and learning a little about the life of the Queen and her reign in a special assembly.

During lunchtime, weather permitting, the children will be eating outside on the KS2 playground rather than in the school hall. The playground will be decorated with bunting and we are hoping that some members of Ampthill Town Band will come and play while the children are eating their lunch.

The lunch menu for Friday 27th May is as follows:-

**Cheese and Tomato Pizza or
Pork Sausage Roll / Vegetarian Sausage Roll
Coleslaw or sweetcorn
Jubilee Victoria Sponge or
Ice cream**

We hope the children all have a simply fantastic day to kick off the festivities that will be occurring in Ampthill during half term.

YR Visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park

The Pine children had a fantastic time on their visit to Shepreth Wildlife Park on Thursday 12th.



They saw many different types of animals including capybaras, wallabies, red pandas, tigers and meerkats. The children also listened to an educational talk about minibeasts and learnt how important insects are to our planet. Once we had visited all the animals, the children enjoyed some time in the play areas where they also got to enjoy an ice lolly! The children behaved really well and we would like to say a big thank to Mrs Whitehead, Mrs Chaney, Miss Stout and Miss Dawes who helped on the trip.

Parking on The Crescent

It has been reported that parents are finding it very difficult to cross the road safely with their children when cars are obstructing their view when parked on the corner of The Crescent/Station Road area. Please can you also consider the residents when parking on The Crescent by not blocking their driveways. We understand that these areas get very busy and parking can be difficult but we really need your support with this - thank you.

School Council Update

The School Council met on Thursday 12th and amongst other things, they discussed the feedback from the PTFA following the visit to a School Council meeting last term by Mrs McGovern, treasurer to the PTFA. The School Council were very grateful to Mrs McGovern for taking their ideas to the PTFA meeting and for adopting some of them to add to their fundraising programme for this year and next.

The School Council also talked about the importance of finding out what children think about The Firs and life in school. Getting children's views is a key part of our efforts to continuously improve and the children came up with lots of ideas that had been generated in class council meetings prior to the meeting. These ideas will be used to create the pupil questionnaire which children will complete next half term.

Elm Class Open Afternoon

We would like to remind Elm class parents / carers that we will be holding an open afternoon on Wednesday 18th from 2:30pm to enable them to come and see children's work and have an opportunity to meet Mrs Herrick, who is teaching in Elm class during Mrs Everett's maternity leave.

Kids' Club - signing children in and out

Children's safety is obviously of primary importance to us and so we would be very grateful if parents / carers could, after being buzzed in please come to the door to Kids' Club so that staff can sign children in or out and pass on any important information. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Flitvale Wildlife event

Flitvale nature watch is running an afternoon in half term which is aimed specifically at primary age and is on coopers hill, so is very local. Please check the link below for more details:

[Flitvale Wildlife Watch](#)

Change to Caterlink Menu on Monday 23rd May

As cheese and tomato pizza is on the menu for Friday 28th May, **option 1 will now be fish fingers on Monday 23rd May.**

Yours sincerely,



Adam J G Campbell