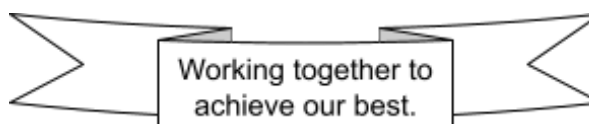




Newsletter

Issue No 8
Date 12 November, 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,

Children in Need Reminder

As we said in our recent letter, the school will be celebrating 'Children in Need' day on Friday 19th November.



- we would like everyone, pupils and staff, to wear something spotty or paint spots on your face to mark the occasion!
- This will be a non uniform, fundraising day, with all donations collected via ParentPay to avoid handling cash in school.
- Please go to our Firs Lower School, Fundraising for BBC Children In Need Page, using the link below. Gift Aid will be an option, adding an extra 25% to your donation.
[The Firs Lower School, Fundraising for Children In Need 2021](#)
- The full amount of your donation, plus Gift Aid, will go directly to BBC Children in Need.

Christmas Performances

In our recent update, following the letter from CBC regarding additional Covid 19 precautions, we let you know that the Christmas performances in December would be going ahead but that to enhance social distancing we would do separate performances for the parents/carers in each class.

So that you can make arrangements to attend the performance for your child, these will be the dates / times for each class:

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

School Photographs - 9/11/21

On Tuesday 9th, the photographer came into school. It was individuals and photographs with siblings and included children in Saplings. The children all enjoyed the opportunity to get their photo taken.

The photograph proofs will be in school soon and they will go home with your child. The photographic company is taking online orders only, so please follow the instructions on the envelope if you wish to order. Thank you for your continued support.

Find The Name of The Teddy Competition Reminder

The School Council is very keen to support the Rotary End Polio Now campaign and so on Wednesday 17th, members of the School Council will be running a stall on the KS2 playground (near The Treasured Friends pirate ship) after school. For **£1** children can choose a name from our list. If you choose the teddy's current name (it's on the list somewhere!) you will win the teddy! (If no-one chooses the name we have secretly picked, we will put all the names purchased into a hat and draw one out!)



Iron Man Survival Blankets from Crisp Packets!

From a BBC News article... 'A former homeless man has been turning empty crisp packets into insulated sleeping bag liners for rough sleepers.

Miley Porritt, 23, of Frome, Somerset, said he had two loves - ironing and eating crisps.

"Since lockdown I've set up my own ironing business, so now I can put the two things together and do some good," he said.

It takes about 150 packets to make one liner and they are sealed together using the heat from an iron.

The foil in the packet will reflect a person's body heat back on to them to help keep them warm.

"Each bag takes about 80 years to decompose so we hope people will want to see the bags go to good use instead of landfill."

[BBC News Article](#)



[Facebook link](#)

We would like to help. We will be setting up a collection box in the courtyard outside the school...

- Please wash your crisp packets first in warm soapy water
- Let them dry
- Post them in our collection box!
- We will package them up and deliver them.

How many can we collect before Christmas?!

Mrs Charles

Today we are saying goodbye to our Kitchen Manager Candice Charles. We will be very sad to see her go as she has done such a fantastic job running our kitchen, working very hard and serving such lovely meals to our children. She has always been so kind to the children and I know they will greatly miss her.

Thank you to her for all she has done and the very best wishes for the future.





Remembrance at The Firs

On the 11th November we held a one minute silence at 11am and some of our School Councillors will be representing The Firs at the Amptill Remembrance Service on Sunday 14th November.

Thank you to everyone who has bought poppies from our stall over the last few days. Well done to the Y4 children who have been selling the poppies, they did a great job!



Read, Write, Inc eBooks and Quizzes

Please don't forget the RWI eBooks and quizzes that are assigned to your child on Oxford Owl once they have completed the third read of the book. All children in Years 1- 4 on the RWI programme have an Oxford Owl login. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of reading these texts again. Re-reading a text gradually increases the number of words in it that they can read 'at a glance' so that they can read it with greater fluency which will allow for 'comprehension'.

Thank you from Mrs Hurrell

Mrs Hurrell would like to say 'thank you' to all our parents who have sent in gifts, cards and lovely messages to wish her well as she moves onto a new job. Mrs Hurrell said that she has been overwhelmed by everyone's kindness.

Yours sincerely,

Adam J G Campbell