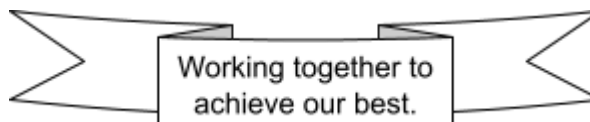




Newsletter

Issue No 12
Date:- 22nd January, 2024
www.firslower.co.uk



Chair of Governors: John Ashley

Governors: Annette Anderson, Franco Cameli, Adam Campbell, Kerry Mercer, Stuart Hobbs, Grant Chaney, Amaritpal Uppal and Sarah Walker.

Dear parents/carers,

Mr Lees' Marathon Hike



Just a reminder to follow Mr Lees on his Marathon Hike this Saturday, using the link below. Any further donations towards his £2000 target for Prostate Cancer UK will be sincerely appreciated.

<https://runthemothme.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/martins-going-the-extra-mile-challenge>

Thank you for your support and good luck Mr Lees!

Kids' Club, Safety and Security

For the safety of all our children, we request that all parents accessing the Kids' Club and Saplings Pre-school provision **please ensure that both gates are shut firmly and securely** as you enter and leave the premises. We have had a number of occasions when the gates have been left open.

We also require all parents to 'buzz' in and wait for the gate to be released before you enter. For the safety of our children and staff, and to ensure we always know who is on our premises. **Please do not hold the gates open for other parents.**



Thank you for your support in keeping our school premises safe and secure for our Firs children.

NSPCC Maths Number Day 2024, 2nd February 2024

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in their Maths Number Day on Friday 2nd February.

The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.



Throughout the day we will be having fun taking part in maths activities and challenges. Pupils are invited to take part in 'Dress up for Digits' by wearing an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt). Or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme. **However**, if you haven't got a number related item of clothing please do not worry, the children will be making items on the day that can be worn, ie wrist bands, hats etc. (see attached letter).

This will be a fundraising day for a very worthwhile cause, please make any donations you wish to make to Just Giving using our link – [NSPCC Maths Number Day 2024](#)

Lunchtime Clubs at The Firs

Starting after half term, teachers will be running a number of clubs at lunchtime. The details about the clubs running are below:

Club	Year(s)	When?	Staff in charge
Choir	Y2-Y4	Monday	Mrs Wadsworth and Mrs Jamieson
Lego Club Y3	Y3	Tuesday	Mr Lacey
Sewing Club Y3 & Y4	Y3 & Y4	Tuesday	Mrs Mercer and Mrs Donbavand
Chit Chat & Colour Club YR / Y1	YR & Y1	Tuesday	Ms Cox and Mrs Fuller
TT Rockstars Club Y3 and Y4	Y3 & Y4	Tuesday	Miss New
Board & Puzzle Club Yr1 / Yr2	Y1 & Y2	Wednesday	Mrs Boyes and Mrs Jappy
Drama Y3 & Y4	Y3 & Y4	Thursday	Mr Campbell
Gardening Club	(Y4)	Thursday	Mrs Rogers and Mr Rushby
Firs Friends	(Y4)	Monday	Ms Gamble

Y4 children have already been chosen as Firs Friends / Gardeners and so do not need to sign up using the Google Form below.

Please use the Google link - <https://forms.gle/1k24dPWCDMXNMs499> to access the form to express your interest in a 1st and 2nd choice club for your child.

We will then look at all the applications and let you know if your child has got a place or is on the waiting list for a club.

Thank you

Year 4 St Albans Trip

Year 4 enjoyed a fantastic visit to St Alban's cathedral, to compliment their history topic on The Romans. As well as looking at the armour and equipment of a Roman Legionary soldier, they participated in two main activities there.

One was the Alban trail, which involved them walking around the cathedral, noticing its various features and dramatising the story of Alban, who lived under Roman rule and how he became the first saint in England. The children had great fun dressing up in costume and participating in the role play to re-enact the story.

The other activity was based around Roman art, where the children learned about Roman mosaics and



then used coloured tiles, wood and grout to make one of their own - they loved making these, and they all looked brilliant!

It was a very enjoyable day, they learned a lot and the cathedral staff remarked that the children were a credit to the school, showing good behaviour, lots of interest and asking appropriate questions. Well done Y4!

We would like to thank all the parents who helped on the day and the Y4 staff for organising this trip.

The Firs PTFA are 'Easyfundraising'

Please help Firs Lower School PTFA - Bedfordshire **WIN** from a £1,000 prize fund in the January *#easyfundraising Refer to Win giveaway!* They'll get a FREE entry each time a new supporter signs up before the 31st January!



It only takes a moment and it's completely free, so please get involved if you haven't already!

Sign up here: - [Firs Lower PTFA easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/register/individual)

A reminder that It's PTFA Movie Night at The Firs Lower tomorrow - 26th January 2024!

Thank you Zonita Community Cinema for hosting this event for us.



YR, 1 and 2 will be watching 'Room on the Broom' 15:30 – 16:30 and Y3 and Y4 will be watching 'Chicken Run' 16:45 – 18:30.

This will also be a non uniform day.

All children that attend will have their name put into a draw, with a chance of winning a prize at the end!

Parent Forum - Wednesday February 7th

Please come along and join us for a 'coffee and a chat' at our next Parent Forum meeting on Wednesday 7th after drop off (9:00 - 10:00 am)

We will be talking about:

- Improving safety on the school service road
- How to promote healthy eating in school
- Parent views on extra curricular provision including school clubs
- Feedback on the interim reports (that will be going out to parents next week)

It is also an opportunity to let us know about anything that is important to you so please come along and have your say!



Reading Breakfasts

We passionately believe that reading is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as we possibly can into making sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible.

We would like to invite parents in Maple and Holly to a Reading event after half term, which will give you the opportunity to read with your child in a small group. The events will be on the following dates:

-Monday 26th - Holly Class


-Tuesday 27th - Maple Class

Please see the two letters attached with this newsletter, there is one for each class. They will also be placed on the letters home section of our website.

We hope that these events will be very enjoyable and a great way to encourage your child to see reading as important and fun!

So, If you have about half an hour to spare, then please come and join us!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alan 16 Carphel". The signature is written in a cursive style and is located on a light blue background.