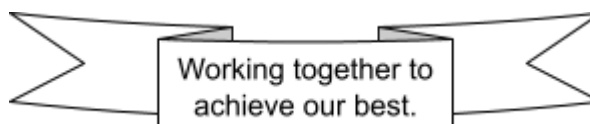




Newsletter

Issue No 20
Date:-29th April, 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,

Parent workshop

Understanding Emotions and Behaviour of Children who are Neurodiverse

The Early Years SEND Advisory Service focus on supporting families and setting with children with additional needs, aged 0-5 years. Further information can be found on the Local Offer website. They will be offering the following workshop for parents and carers of children (aged 0-12 years) with emerging SEND needs:

Title: ***Understanding Emotions and Behaviour of Children who are Neurodiverse*** (Special Educational Needs and/ or Disabilities).

You would only need to attend one of the following workshops:

Date:

Thursday 9 May – 12:30-2:30pm (online)

Thursday 23 May – 4-6pm (online)

Thursday 20 June – 9:15-12:45 pm (at Shefford's Children Centre)

Wednesday 10 July – 9:15-12:45 (at Leighton Buzzard Children's Centre)

Venue:

Either online or at one of the Children's Centres named above.

Trainers: Jade Keyte, Emma Reed & Rachel Richardson

Bookings: Jade.Keyte@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Year 2 'Victorian Seaside' Day

On Wednesday, Year 2 had the most wonderful Seaside Day brought to us by History Off The Page, and Fiona, our knowledgeable, and very enthusiastic, teacher for the day.

The children got the opportunity to spend the morning making items which they would have seen at the seaside during the Victorian era, such as shell souvenir boxes, tea cups and Punch and Judy pop-ups.



After lunch, each class took it in turns to be either 'workers' or 'visitors' at the seaside pier and promenade. Each visitor was given 10 pennies to spend at various shops or amusements, such as 'roll a penny', 'spin the wheel', the fish and chip shop or the café. The children loved the role play aspect of the day and were thoroughly absorbed in all the activities. We were so proud of them and their behaviour, which Fiona and our fantastic parent helpers commented on.



Thanks must go to our amazing volunteers, who enabled the day to run so smoothly, and who also put on a hilarious Punch and Judy show for the children at the end of the day – we didn't know we had such a talented group of adults in our midst!

Thank you to all the parents who kindly gave up their time to help us on the day and a big thank you to Mrs Wadsworth and Mrs Jamieson for organising such a successful and enjoyable learning opportunity.

Year 2 'Vaisakhi' Assembly

A few weeks ago, Year 2 were treated to a really interesting talk from Mrs Bassra, who spoke to the children about 'Vaisakhi', a Sikh celebration which her family observes each year.

The children were fascinated with the story behind Vaisakhi and asked some really insightful questions! We were so proud that they wanted to learn so much more.

Thank you so much to Mrs Bassra for giving up so much of her time to come and deliver such a brilliant talk!



Kids' Club and Holiday Club Behaviour Agreement

We believe that children are entitled to childcare of the highest quality in a safe, secure and caring environment.

The Firs Kids' Club and Holiday Club will always strive to provide the highest levels of care, so that the children can have a happy, calm and fun time. We believe that to have a safe and happy time all children must follow our behaviour guidelines of being safe and respectful. We therefore expect the highest standard of behaviour from all pupils at all times.

We have created a Behaviour Agreement that shares our expectations and we will shortly be sharing this with all the parents currently using Kids' Club. Next week we will be talking to all the children in Kids' Club about the agreement. When the Agreement is shared with our Kids' Club parents, we would like you to sign and return the 'School Copy' to us. We look forward to your support in providing quality child care for your child. Thank you.

Year 4 Alameda Sports Morning



On Friday the Y4 children participated in the Transition Sports event at Alameda Middle School. Some of the children were a bit nervous beforehand but they entered into the occasion with their usual enthusiasm and positivity and had a great time, well done to all our Y4 children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Redborne Sports Partnership for organising the event and our staff team, who did such a great job looking after the children during the morning. An additional thank you to Mr Rushby, for leading our participation in the occasion.

The PTFA 'Firs Party'!

The Firs Party took place at Parkside Hall on Saturday 27th. Well done to the PTFA for staging such a great event for the school. We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers who came along and a very big thank you to the PTFA for all their dedication, organising the event, working hard to get sponsors for the auction and for all the hard work needed to set everything up at Parkside and of course for running the evening.

We really appreciate all your efforts on behalf of the children of The Firs.



Year 4 Friendship List Reminder

As stated in the letter from Alameda emailed / sent home this week, we would like to remind you that the deadline for completing and returning the Alameda Friendship Lists is **Friday 3rd May**. You can do this by emailing the form to us or completing the printed version we sent home and returning it to your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Firs Summer Holiday Club

[Firs Summer Holiday Club 2024 Booking Form](#)

We are still taking bookings for our 'Summer Holiday Club', Monday 22nd July to Friday 2nd August 2023.

For all children of the Firs Lower School and Saplings Pre-school aged 3 years old and over, we are offering the following sessions:-

- Full Days (9.00am - 4.00pm) for £31.50
- Mornings (9.00am - 12.30pm) for £15.75
- Afternoons (12.30pm - 4.00 pm) for £15.75

Please find above a link to our registration form to book your child's place. For further details please visit our Holiday Club Page on [The Firs Lower Website](#), or see the attached letter. Any queries, please email: holiday.club@firslower.org



Safety on the Service Road

I wrote to all of you on 2nd February regarding safety on our service road at the beginning and at the end of the day. In that letter I stressed how essential it was that the service road wasn't used by parents and carers unless authorised to do so.

Unfortunately, the unauthorised use of the service road has continued and so in the newsletter on 28th March, we indicated that we would be introducing more frequent staff monitoring in order to ensure everyone's safety.

I am writing to you this evening to let you know that we will be restricting access to the service road from tomorrow. We are of course doing this to reduce the risks as far as is possible, to ensure everyone onsite is safe and so I would ask all of you to understand why we are doing this and to show respect for those members of staff on duty on the service road.

Thank you in advance for your support

Yours sincerely,