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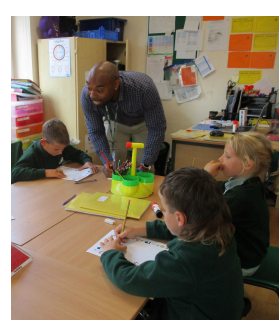
**Chair of Governors:** Sarah Walker

**Governors:** Steph Bedford, Jade Brown, Joseph Burton, Adam Campbell, Grant Chaney, Suzi McIntosh, Amaritpal Uppal, Hannah Wadsworth and Claudia Wallis

Dear parents/carers,

## Welcome Back!

I would like to welcome everyone back to school for the autumn term. I hope you all had a great summer break. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all the new pupils who started with us this week throughout the school. It was lovely to see you all and look forward to everyone working together as we go into the new academic year.



Thank you to all the many children who have followed The Firs Way in kindly helping new children to settle into their new class. It has been lovely to see children on the playground living our values by looking after new children and ensuring they are included in their play.



The children have all made a fantastic start to their learning this year, focusing well and trying their best... well done to all our children!

## Summer Holiday Club - Fun in the sun!

The children who attended our summer holiday club had a great time. Each day there were lots of fun activities to do including a range of art and craft activities, including for example, making their own jewel cases.

Children enjoyed cookery every day including cakes, sandwiches and even making fruit salads. They took some of their creations home, which we hope you enjoyed!



A big thank you to Ellen Ashby, our ICT administrator, for leading on the booking process and to Michelle Kensall our deputy KC Leader and her intrepid team of staff volunteers, who did such a fantastic job planning and running the sessions.

## Introducing Literacy Tree

This year we are embarking on an exciting project to introduce [Literacy Tree](#), a new literacy scheme, to support the teaching of writing throughout the school.



Literacy Tree is a book-based resource for primary schools, covering all Primary English curriculum requirements with built in training and ongoing support. We are using it as a framework to enhance our curriculum. We are also looking forward to benefitting from being part of the National (and global) Literacy Tree community of teachers, sharing good practice, as we work together to provide the best experiences to develop children's writing skills.

More information is available on the Literacy Tree website, see the link above and we will be including further information and updates in newsletters during the course of this year, and on our website.

## Changes To Our Timetable

We wanted parents to be aware of a few changes we have made to our timetable from the beginning of term.

To accommodate the writing lessons (supported by the Literacy Tree scheme) we are focusing on delivering the reading aspects of our highly successful KS1 Read Write Inc. Programme in slightly shorter sessions, focused on the elements that will help children to develop their reading skills so they continue to make the rapid progress RWI allows us to achieve.

Lunch time will now be from 12:00 - 1:00 for all children in school and we feel that having 1 hour, which is slightly shorter than it was previously, will provide children with the vital break to eat and socialise that is such an important part of their day, whilst not being a little too long for some children, as it was previously.

Children tend to be better focused and ready to learn in the morning than the afternoon and so we are moving all our regular assemblies into the afternoon, so that more critical learning time is available in the morning.

## Home / School Agreement

This very important document is attached with this newsletter and will be sent home with Y1 - Y4 children tomorrow in paper form, as well as an attachment with this newsletter. (if your child is new to our school and you have already completed the Home School Agreement as part of the admission process, you do not need to look at it again!) It sets out the agreement regarding the ways in which parents, children and the school are expected to contribute to the partnership, which helps us all to get the best outcomes for our children.



# Newsletter

Issue No - 1 Date - **5th September 2025**

We have talked about it in Assembly at school and we would ask that you please spend some time talking through it with your child, so that there is a common understanding about working as a team, to live our Firs Way values, respect one another and work together, so that we can achieve our best.

There is a place for you and your child to sign the agreement, although this copy is for you to keep at home.

## **Class Welcome Letters**

The class welcome letters will be going out shortly. These letters are very important and hopefully informative, giving you details such as homework arrangements, PE times, teacher email addresses etc. They will also be available on the [Letters Home](#) section of our website and on the individual year group pages in the Our Learning section of the site.

## **Smart Learners**

*Making sure our children are focused on their learning:*

When children are dressed smartly in their uniform it really does help them to develop the right mindset and adopt a positive attitude towards their learning. Please help us with this by ensuring:-

- All children come to school in their school uniform
- No trainers are worn apart from when it is a PE day
- Black school shoes are worn with their school uniform
- Hair bands or ribbons are always green or black only
- No nail varnish is worn

*Uniform on PE Days:*

When your child's class has a PE day, please ensure that the appropriate PE kit is worn. All pupils should be wearing their green PE t-shirt, black shorts or black jogging bottoms.

When PE is outside during the winter, please ensure that your child has a green Firs fleece or sweatshirt.

Please do not send your child in bright coloured leggings or sweatshirts for PE as the colours stated above must be worn.

Thank you for your support with this.

## **ICT Acceptable Use Agreement - Y3**

ICT, including the use of the internet, email and mobile technologies, is a central part of our school and home lives. We aim to ensure that all children are safe and taught to be responsible when using ICT.

We believe the benefits for pupils from accessing the internet exceed any disadvantage but it is important children are aware of the importance of using the internet responsibly. For this reason we ask parents to sign our Acceptable Use agreement when children start with us.

We have decided that it would also be good practice to repeat this process as children enter KS2, to give staff and parents the opportunity to have an important conversation with children about using the internet and ICT devices safely.

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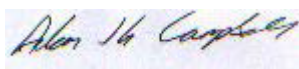
We would ask all Y3 parents to please read and discuss the safety rules agreement attached with their child. The agreement will also come home in paper form as this 'User Agreement' plays a vital part in keeping our children safe and it is essential that the reply slip is **returned to school**. In addition, we hope that you will support the school by promoting safe use of the internet and digital technology at home.

Thank you for your support.

### **Autumn Term Date Sheet**

We are currently working on the date sheet for this term and this will be available with our next newsletter.

Yours sincerely,



Adam Campbell  
Headteacher