

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have made a good start back to term 2 and our new whole school topic, 'A long walk to Freedom' has sparked a lot of interest. We hope you have all received your topic webs so that you can see the learning planned. We are also using the book 'Grandpa Mandela' as well as the 'Illustrated Long Walk to Freedom' for our research and English work.

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Cherry for their attendance of 93.68% this week. We are going to celebrate the highest attendees in our newsletters from now on and will share the classes' attendance termly instead. Thank you for your continued effort to arrive promptly at school before the gate shuts at 9am

GOLDEN BOOK

Week commencing 2nd November

- Cherry** Bella for always coming into school with a smile on her face
Stanley for working hard in his writing
- Beech** The whole of Beech class for a brilliant first week of the new term. Every child came to school with a huge smile and ready to learn- Well done Beech.
- Holly** Bea - giving everything a go - really trying her best and putting her hand up in class.
Monty W - wonderful descriptive writing and not worrying when he gets stuck, he just asks for help

Week commencing 9th November

- Cherry** Albert for focussing really well on his work
Abeni for coming into school really nicely in the mornings
- Beech** Dexter - for his fantastic work in all lessons this week. Dexter has shown positivity and enthusiasm all week- Well done!
Levon - For amazing independent writing in science. Levon wrote about his magnet investigation and both Mr Dawson and Miss Partono were completely wowed!
- Holly** Lloyd for amazing precis work
Isabel for persevering when she found something tricky

DIARY DATES

November

27th Crazy hair day

December

4th Non uniform day for raffle

8th Flu nasal spray

11th Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Raffle.

18th Last day of term

January 2021

4th INSET day

5th Children return to School.

CONTINGENCY

If we get a confirmed case of Covid-19 in school, we will be guided by Public Health England as to the steps we need to take. We have a contingency plan for this. Should your child need to self-isolate we will provide work on the learning platform for them, from their first day of isolating. If the whole class needs to self-isolate then this will also be the case and teaching will be carried out online. Should the whole school need to self-isolate we would send home a timetable of lessons so that they did not overlap with siblings (enabling IT availability at home).

To help us prepare for any individual or group self-isolation, please could you let us know if you have access to a laptop, iPad or desktop at home. We will then create a list in school of those, who would need to borrow equipment, should circumstances arise. You can do this by email or phone call to the school office stating if you would need to borrow a laptop, thank you.

FLU VACCINATION NASAL SPRAY

Our flu vaccines (via a nasal spray) will take place on **Tuesday 8th December**. Forms have been sent home for you to complete, whether or not you would like your child to have the nasal spray. If you have not already done, so please return your completed form as soon as possible.

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. The nasal spray helps protect against flu has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record.

OPEN SESSIONS

Our next open sessions for parents and carers, with children due to start school in September 2021, will be held on **Thursday 7th January 2021**. There will be two sessions, the first at 9:15am prompt, and the second at 1:30pm. To ensure we are Covid-19 compliant, only two people are invited from each potential new family. This can be with either your child, or one other adult. There will be a maximum of five parties per session so please book your attendance with the school office on 01273 858260 or email office@firle-school.e-sussex.sch.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. Social distancing will apply throughout your visit. The session will last a maximum of 40 minutes. You will need to bring photo ID for safeguarding purposes and also provide your email and contact number when booking your place for track and trace purposes.

Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year.

The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2021**.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

We were so impressed with all the children for taking part so responsibly in the 2 minutes silence that we held this Wednesday. They were very reflective and thoughtful during our time of Remembrance. We were also able to hear the flare, signalling the start and finish of the 2 minutes from Firle Estate. Some classes have also done some artwork inspired by Remembrance Day.

STARFISH MALAWI



Laughton CP School has now joined Firle CEP School in supporting this charity. We are linked with Thawale School in Malawi, which will provide opportunities for children in all three schools to learn about each other's cultures and hopefully to communicate with each other. We will hold events across the year to raise money for the charity - more details to follow.

On Monday, the children in all classes across both schools in The Oak Tree Federation enjoyed learning activities as part of **Starfish Malawi Day**, which will now be a yearly event. Learning included comparing domestic and wild animals in England and Malawi; finding out about water in Malawi; comparing and contrasting trees in both countries and learning about the importance of trees for a healthy planet.

FOREST SCHOOL FROM MRS SISON

I have always known that I enjoy teaching Forest school, hearing the children laughing and running about. But, during this challenging year I've started to look deeper into just what the children gain from this experience and how important it is for their wellbeing; both physical and mental.

We live in a very beautiful part of the country, and while we are outside learning, the children have an opportunity to connect with their local environment. It helps children broaden their knowledge of the wider world and develop an understanding of the impact they have on our living planet.

Whilst in the playground at playtime children will often be heard to say, "I'm bored; I've got nothing to play with." When in the Nature Reserve with no footballs, skipping ropes, etc. - suddenly they do not need any toys.

They are inspired to take ownership of their activity, use their own knowledge, build their life skills, solve problems and communicate with each other. The result is a sense of personal achievement, bonding with their peers and building their resilience.

However most of all they have fun, develop curiosity and play!

AMONG US

We are aware that the new app craze 'Among Us' has reached our schools and wanted to ensure parents are kept up to date about this new game and what it means for children playing it online. Please find attached a parent guide to the App, to help understand what children are up to. We would like to remind parents that this is a great opportunity to check in with pupils regarding keeping any accounts and online games private and reporting any concerns to adults if they arise.

WISH LIST

We have been very lucky to receive some extra stock for school donated by some very kind parents and friends. The children send a **HUGE** thank you!



BLUE PETER LAUNCH

[Blue Peter on YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter)

Blue Peter is the longest running children's TV show in the world and they are uploading videos that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. They have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. They also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.

If you think your child/ren would be interested in this you can subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's completely free to subscribe!)

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

This week we had individual photographs taken and the proofs should be ready to be sent out to you on Friday 20th November, ready for ordering. Please look out for these in your child's reading pack next Friday. We are aware that some children were absent for photographs and have arranged for the photographer to come back to take these later in November. We are waiting to confirm a date and will let you know asap.

CHILDREN IN NEED

It was great to see the children arriving at school in their loungewear and pyjamas. We raised an astonishing **£77.10** for Children in Need. Well done Firle!



REQUEST

Mrs Filtness has lots of voile to hang in the rainbow room. However, if anyone can offer to hem it, if Mrs Filtness provides the measurements, then please let the office know. We can arrange to get the material along with the measurements to you.

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Next week we will be taking part in national anti-bullying week. The theme this year is 'United against bullying'. We will be discussing with children what bullying is, what we do about it and how we can work together to stop it. I met with the school council today who shared their thoughts and we are hoping to make a film next week with children's understanding and ideas.

Classes will have sessions on bullying and we will share our learning in the next newsletter.

CHRISTMAS

We are hoping to keep Christmas full of fun activities and events in school and staff either are planning a short music / drama / readings for their classes to perform, with social distancing or via a live feed, further information to follow.

Kind Regards

Rachel West, Vicki Brown