



Firthmoor Primary School Newsletter

Date: Friday 6th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and welcome you all into another school year together. Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers I have met in person and spoken to on the phone for their kind words and support. It has been a really positive start to the school year. We will be sending newsletters out electronically from now on. I hope you are all able to access this newsletter as it will be emailed to you once a fortnight, uploaded to the school website and put on Facebook in order to ensure that everyone can see it. If you do require a paper copy, then please notify the school office so that this can be arranged. Please can you keep an eye out for information on all school events.

I am looking forward to meeting you all and getting to know you and your families. If you would like to meet with me to discuss any aspect of school life, then I plan to offer time after school on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th September. Please could you contact the school office if you would like to express interest in this and then I will arrange timings according to the number of parents. You can contact by phone or email: admin@firthmoor.org.uk

New starters

We have had lots of children join us from other settings and we are so pleased with how well everyone is settling in. Our youngest pupils who started in Reception this week have made an amazing start to school life and we are delighted.

Nursery now open at 8.45am

We have brought the nursery start time forwards so that it is in line with the start of the school day for all children. We hope that this helps parents who have children in school and in nursery. Nursery will now finish at **11.45am**.

Breakfast Club for Reception Pupils

Reception children will be able to access a free Breakfast Club from Monday 23rd September. The breakfast Club is located in our Nursery block and starts at 8.20am each day. We have spaces for up to 15 children and this will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. Please speak to a member of the admin team if you would like a place for your child.

Next term, parents will be able to book online via our SchoolCloud booking system. More details will be sent out in the coming weeks.

School Site Updates

We are encouraging all children to arrive to school promptly and we do not want children to miss out on their learning. The KS2 gate (near to the main entrance of the

car park) will be closing at 8.50am from Monday as staff need to return to class to focus on teaching and learning. The Reception and KS1 gate will also close at 8.50am to enable staff to return to class. Once this gate is closed anyone arriving after 8.50am will need to use the main school entrance gate and sign in at reception.

A reminder that pupils in Miss Trainer's class, Miss True's class and Mrs Blagg and Mrs Howland's class now need to use the KS2 gate (near to the main entrance of the car park) when they arrive and leave school.

We have noticed some congestion at the gates when collecting children at home time which does make it difficult for people to get through the gates. All Parents and Carers need to come into school to collect children via the main gate and leave via the KS2 gate (near to the car park entrance) to ensure that everyone can access the site safely.

Pupil Attendance

We need to safeguard all pupils in school so when a pupil is absent, and we have not heard from the pupil's family for 3 days then we will call out to the home to check that the pupil is fit and well. If we are not able to make contact, then we may refer this to the local authority safeguarding team. If you are on holiday, then please let the school know so that it does not become a safeguarding issue.

We will be reviewing our attendance policy over this half term, and we want to encourage all children to attend school on time every day. We will be putting plans in place to support this with class attendance awards in addition to the current attendance rewards system.

Behaviour Expectations

We will also be reviewing our behaviour policy in the coming weeks, and we will provide further information as soon as it is available.

Uniform

Thank you also for your support with ensuring our pupils attend school in the correct uniform. If anyone needs any additional uniform, then please let the school office know as we have lots of spare second-hand jumpers.

School Meal Prices – Year 3 and above

The Local Authority increased the price of school meals some time ago. We have subsidised this price increase so that parents will pay £2.60 per meal. We will be implementing this price increase from September 2024. This reflects the rising costs in food. This charge applies to all pupils in Year 3 and above who are not in receipt of free school meals. If your circumstances have changed and you think you are entitled to free school meals, then please contact the school office to collect a form.

After School Clubs

We are planning some after school clubs to be available to the children in the next few weeks. We will be sending more information out about this shortly.

Sports Update

Autumn 1 – PE Kit Days

Here are the days that your child will be taking part in PE lessons in **Autumn 1**.

Y1VM – Tuesday and Thursday

Y23HI – Monday and Tuesday
Y2TH – Thursday and Friday
Y3SB/RH - Monday and Thursday
Y34NT – Wednesday and Thursday
Y4MT – Tuesday and Friday
Y5LJ – Wednesday and Friday
Y56AW – Monday and Wednesday
Y6DM – Monday and (swimming on Tuesday)

If PE days change in Autumn 2, we will inform you nearer the time.

PE Kit

Pupils should wear a plain red t-shirt, plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit and trainers.

No jewellery to be worn on PE days.

Children in Year 2 to Year 6 can come to school dressed in their PE kits on their specified PE days.

Children in Reception and Year 1 will continue to change into their PE kits at school.

Please bring kits in a school drawstring bag.

Save the Date – Thursday 24th October

Harvest Festival – further information to be given nearer the time

In2 Project

The Y6 children will be taking part in exciting activities again this term for the sixth year running. Hopefully, this will continue through the whole year, if funding allows. A timetable of activities for this term will be sent home in due course.

Nursery Stay and Play

Nursery will be having a 'story-time' stay and play session on Friday 4th October 11am-12pm.