



# Fir Tree Newsletter

Issue 16  
17th May  
2019

Dear Parents,

What a lovely end to a very full on week at Fir Tree. The children have worked really hard today in their houses to produce House Artwork for the displays in the hall. The children have been focusing on the themes of landscapes, portraits, animals and fruit & vegetables. I look forward to their creations taking shape in the Hall and celebrating their hard work, enjoyment and talents.



It was a lovely activity to finish the week on for our Year 6s, who have had SATs all week. I could not be prouder of their resilience and determination this year and this week – they really have all worked so hard. Next week will be the turn of Year 2 and we wish them the same success and attitudes to the week ahead.

Thank you very much to all the parents that attended our 'Sex and Relationships' Evening on Tuesday. It is indeed a sensitive subject matter but our aim with yourselves is to focus on building healthy attitudes and positive relationships for our children as they grow. A copy of the presentation can be found on our school website if you were unable to attend.

A huge well done to Year 5 for a fabulous assembly last week, a very insightful presentation about the USA. Year 3 will be next in June and we look forward to that.

Finally, can I just gently remind you that children should not be on any of the play equipment at the beginning or the end of the school day. This is purely for their health and safety, thank you for your support with this.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend and a fabulous half term from next Friday.

Kind regards

*Lindsay Wood*

Headteacher



You will see in the diary dates to the right that there is another book viewing next term. As mentioned before, Parents' Evenings can always

feel rushed when looking at books; plus, our children don't always come home and tell us what they have done at school each day! This is another opportunity for you to come into the classroom after school with your child to look at their books together and for them to show you their work. The session is planned for 3:15 – 4:30pm, however if you would like to come in later, between 5:30 – 6:30, your child's books can be made available for you in the school hall. Please contact the school office to arrange the later viewing.

We have also added the Year 2 and 3 Class Assembly dates to the school calendar.

Miss Slater our FSSW (Family Support Worker) will be holding a Coffee Afternoon for parents in the Annex on Tuesday 4th June 2:15 -3:15pm. This is the opportunity for you to pop in if you would like any support or would like a chat over lots of tea, coffee and biscuits – she looks forward to you joining her!



## Diary Dates

**W/c 20th May 2019**  
Year 2 SATs

**Monday 3rd June 2019**  
Book Look 3:15 – 4pm

**Tuesday 4th June 2019**  
FSSW Coffee Afternoon 2:15-3:15

**W/c 10th June 2019**  
Year 1 Phonics Check

**Wednesday 19th June 2019**  
Year 3 Class Assembly

**Thursday 20th June 2019**  
Sports Day

**Friday 21st June 2019**  
Non Uniform day for PTA Fete donation

**Tuesday 25th June 2019**  
Siblings Photographs

**Wednesday 3rd July 2019**  
Year 2 Class Assembly

**Saturday 6th July 2019**  
Summer Fete 12 – 2pm

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### Teacher Training Days

Friday 28th June 2019

Monday 2nd September 2019

Tuesday 3rd September 2019

Friday 25th October 2019

Monday 6th January 2020

Friday 14th February 2020

Friday 26th June 2020

We are sometimes asked by parents how they can support learning at home.



Oxford Owl is an award winning website with 250 free ebooks for you to share with your child. There is a range of different types of books, all graded, so you can find the perfect book for your child to share and enjoy.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/readingowl/library-page>

Helping your child to learn to read and learn to love reading is one of the greatest gifts you can give them.



Hopefully we are now moving into a term of 'summer' weather. So that we can all feel our best, please can children:

- have a fresh water bottle each day
- bring a hat for sports/playtime
- name all clothing so that when jumpers are taken off they can be returned.

If your child brings a packed lunch from home they also need a suitable drink please.



### Every day really does count!

I would like to remind parents about good regular and punctual attendance for their children. Good regular attendance often means doing well academically, better relationships with other children and better overall behaviour in school.

- Your child can quickly fall behind if even one day is missed. This includes days where children could go to school but don't feel like it.
- Catching up even a little lost time from school can be really difficult.
- Good attendance isn't just about what happens in school. Absence when your child is young can limit their future opportunities, and set up bad habits for work and life.

If a child misses just one day a week, over the course of their school life they will miss 2 years of schooling.

### Your responsibility:

As a parent you have the legal responsibility for making sure your school-registered child attends.

### You can help your child by:

- Making sure your child understands the importance of good attendance and getting to school on time.
- Taking an interest in your child's education—ask about school work and encourage them to get involved in school activities.
- Listening to your child when they tell you about problems at school - inform their teacher or head teacher about anything serious.
- Not letting your child take time off school for minor ailments - particularly those which would not prevent you from going to work.
- Arranging appointments and outings after school hours, at weekends or during school holidays.

Competition Winners



Congratulations to many of the children in Year 2. The children in the Spring Term took part in a Poetry Patrol competition where they had to create their own poem. This could have been a riddle, sense or acrostic poem. The children worked very hard thinking of ideas, planning, editing and improving their work ready for the competition.

All the children were very excited to enter the competition and to have their work published in a book. All the children's poems are in the School Foyer for you to have read. The children's ideas were very detailed with lots of descriptions. We look forward to seeing the books published with their amazing work. Well done to all of Year 2 and particular congratulations to **Riley, Ace, Lola, Noor, Lily-May, Dylan, Jessie, Elena, Daniel, Jessica, Alexandra, Holly-May, Jannat, Sam, Leighton, Lilly, Isla and Gregory.**



### Year 5 and 6 girl's county cup semi final

On the 9th of May the Year 5 and 6 football team played in the County Cup semi-final against a strong team from Chieveley School. Fir Tree started the game strong, gaining the lead within the first 10 minutes, but Chieveley fought back and gained a goal just minutes before half time ended.

The girls started the second half strong however an attack from Chieveley led them to take the lead with only 5 minutes of the game left. This did not stop the Fir Tree girls from keeping their heads held high and fighting until the end, with one of the last kicks of the games, the Fir Tree girls played some pinpoint passes to each other to make it up the pitch and score the goal they had worked tirelessly for.

With this important goal it lead the team to extra time where both teams continued to battle. However, Fir Tree were able to take the lead in the first half of extra time. With this goal advantage, the girls were able to play more defensively to see out the game and winning the game 3-2 taking them through to the final, which will be held in mid-June. Amazing performance girls and in the torrential rain too!! Great resilience and thoroughly deserved.



### Quad Kids

On the 11th May a selection of children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 represented Fir Tree in this year's Quad Kids at Park House where there were over 600 students from other schools taking part. The children took part in 4 different events: a sprint, long run, standing long jump and vortex. The children all performed amazingly in all of their events and gave it their all. The behaviour of the children while waiting to move on to the next event was outstanding and they all did Fir Tree proud. Well done to all who took part!

