



# Fir Tree Newsletter

Issue 2  
25<sup>th</sup>  
September  
2020

Dear Parents,

**Thank you for all your continued support**, it has been great to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm for their learning. **They really are a credit to you, working hard and settling into new routines well.** Behaviour I have to say is exemplary and I am incredibly proud of all of them. I am seeing lots of **fantastic work** daily and I share this in my live weekly celebration assembly online which seems to be enjoyed by the children, yet it's strange for myself talking to a webcam in my office.

Coronavirus continues to be prominent and as you will be aware we are taking all reasonable precautions in order to minimise the risks of COVID-19. I know that testing nationally has been a difficulty for those that are symptomatic and I hope that we see improvements in the weeks to come.

If your child is unwell please do not send them to school. If your child, or any member of your household, displays any symptoms of COVID-19, please do not send them to school. Please contact the School Office to inform them and explain who in the house has symptoms and what the symptoms are.

## Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

- **new continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) and/or
- **high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) and/or
- **a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Further information is available here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

## What to do if your son or daughter develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child or anyone in your household develops symptoms of COVID-19, you should organise for them to be tested online, here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. Do not send children to school if they have any symptoms or a member of your household has any symptoms. It is also important that your **whole household isolates** until you receive the test results giving the all clear.

Unfortunately for now, this is the new normal along with the 'rule of six' but please rest assured that we are installing as much normality as possible and supporting your children in school.

Regards,

*Lindsay Wood*

Headteacher



## Collection

Thank you very much for supporting us with the new routines for drop off and collections. **Please can**

**we ask that you stick to your allocated time** unless it has been agreed that you can pick your child up earlier at an agreed gate with a sibling; this is really important because it can hold up other classes if you arrive earlier than you need to do so.

Please do contact the office if you would like to have siblings collected together.

**Please remember that we finish earlier now on a Friday** and that if you need to speak to the class teacher please email them, or call or email the office, and they will return the call when they can.

If you would like to bring your own hand sanitiser and sanitise in the line to help speed up entry in the mornings too that would be fine and welcomed.

**Again, can we please can we ask that no cars enter our car park or are parked in front of the school gate.**



## Diary Dates

**W/C 30<sup>th</sup> September**  
STEM Week  
(more details to follow separately)

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October**  
National Poetry Day

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**  
'Hello Yellow' World Mental Health Day

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**  
Parents Meetings 3:30pm – 7pm / All day Friday

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**  
End of Term 1

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**  
INSET day

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**  
Start of Term 2

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
End of Term 2 – early afternoon finish

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**Teacher Training Days**

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021



Due to Covid 19 we are slightly changing how we run **parents meetings** this term. Parents meetings are more imperative than ever following time missed at school; we would like to discuss how your child has settled back into school and

what their next steps are, and most importantly how you can help. Parents meetings will take place towards the end of term on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** in the evening and then all day on our INSET day on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. A separate letter with details for booking and how to keep Covid safe will follow next week. Please do book a slot!!

To support with this, you will be sent today by email guides for English and Maths for your child's year group. This is to make you aware and help you understand the year group expectations and what you could support with at home. These can all be found on our class pages on our school website too.

**Our class webpages have been updated** and will continue to be regularly. Each teacher has written what their expectations are for their class and you will find a copy of their class timetable and their topic map for the autumn term. Teachers will be



regularly uploading photos so you can see the fantastic things that take place at Fir Tree regularly. On each class page is also the link for you to contact the class teacher. This year our school calendar will be live and up-to-date to help you too. Happy browsing!!!

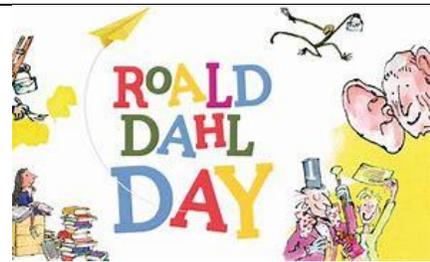


Every Friday we celebrate our GROW ethos – where children are rewarded for **achieving Goals; showing Resilience; being Outstanding and demonstrating Wonder**. Along with this, children who demonstrate

excellent or improved presentation are celebrated. I also round up and award my **Golden Book** certificates to those children who

have been to visit me over the course of the week to show me their excellent work (this really makes my day!) This year we have added a new award to our weekly celebrations.

We want all our children to be good citizens; to be kind, respectful and supportive to one another, because at Fir Tree we are one big family. So, this year we are awarding weekly **'Random Acts of Kindness'**! We are looking out for those who think of others, spread a smile and happiness! Something we think is more important than ever.



On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September, Fir Tree celebrated **Roald Dahl Day**. Every class got lost in one of his fabulous books and wonderful imagination. As you know we value reading immensely and it was lovely to see so many children inspired by his stories.



This year at Fir Tree we are really focussing on reading across the school. **We want all our children to develop a love for reading and have the opportunity to read a range of books**. As part of our continuing drive to expose children to different books and foster a genuine passion for reading, **we reward reading at home**. Children will be rewarded for 50 reads with a bronze certificate; 100 reads with a silver certificate and 150 reads will earn a gold certificate and prize! Reading at home once a night to a parent/guardian or independently to themselves counts as one read. Reading daily really does make a difference!!!! **Please support us with this!!**

### Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

**Student "A"**  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



90<sup>th</sup> percentile

**Student "B"**  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



50<sup>th</sup> percentile

**Student "C"**  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



10<sup>th</sup> percentile

If your child does feel ill and you are in any doubt about them attending, please look at the guide below:

# IS YOUR CHILD TOO SICK TO JOIN US TODAY?

## RED LIGHT

### TRY AGAIN NEXT WEEK

- Fever 38.2C (101F) or higher
- Diarrhoea or vomiting
- Unusual colour
- Chicken Pox / Shingles - until spots have crusted over (usually 5days)

## AMBER LIGHT

### OK TO JOIN US

- Fever free for 24hrs
- Sporadic cough
- Minimal green / yellow runny nose
- Redness or runny nose
- Sore throat or swollen glands – BUT no fever
- Lethargy – BUT no fever
- Undiagnosed rashes – BUT no fever
- Conjunctivitis – only when been on treatment for 24hrs
- Ear infection – if severe, keep away until feeling better AND no fever
- Hand, foot and mouth disease – if well in themselves
- Glandular Fever – once you feel well again
- Impetigo – until sores crusted over and been on medication for at least 48hrs
- Ringworm – only once started medication
- Scarlet fever – only if been on medication for at least 24hrs

## GREEN LIGHT

### COME IN AND LEARN!

- Cold sores
- Mild / infrequent Cough
- Colds – BUT no fever
- Clear runny nose
- Head lice and nits
- Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)
- Active, alert and ready to learn



**If in doubt, please stay out and try again next week!**