



# Fir Tree Newsletter

Issue 20  
24<sup>th</sup> July  
2019

Dear Parents,

What a quick academic year that was! It seems to have come and gone! This year has been an incredibly busy year for Fir Tree and one that we are very proud of. We have worked hard as a team since our visitors in November and the school is certainly moving forward.

Thank you to all the parents that answered the parent's survey this term because your comments certainly support the progress that Fir Tree has made and are invaluable to us as we continue on our journey.

It has been wonderful to have all your support this year and it has been lovely to see a real sense of community and togetherness to ensure the very best for our children.

The children have been a credit to you and have worked so hard this year. I am often sent emails and told by visitors what delightful, polite and hardworking pupils we have at Fir Tree and they are right!

I want to take this opportunity to not only thank you for all your help and support, but also to all the staff who have worked determinedly this year.

And on a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for making my first year at Fir Tree so enjoyable.



I wish you all a wonderful summer break, the children certainly deserve it and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Kind regards

*Lindsay Wood*

Headteacher



As a parent of three myself I know how important it is to be kept up-to-date and informed. Accompanying the newsletter today is the parent handbook for 2019/20. I hope this handbook helps you with our routines and procedures at Fir Tree.

As you know at Fir Tree our vision is to have the 'Freedom to Flourish'. Well to flourish means to grow!!! This year we introduced four awards, which link to GROW. Our GROW culture will underpin our curriculum and learning going forward into next year as these are our values. Within the parent handbook you will see that there is a parent GROW charter that we would like you to read and sign, so that you can support us to achieve the very best for your child/ren.

<b>G – Goals</b>	aspirations, targets
<b>R – Resilience</b>	effort, trying hard, determination, perseverance, doing your best
<b>O- Outstanding</b>	drive, motivation, success, achievement
<b>W – Wonder</b>	curiosity, question, inspiration, enthusiasm, creativity

In September your child will be given a new Fir Tree School Diary. This diary is not only for you to record home reading, but an avenue for you to communicate with the class teacher/TA. It has supportive materials within it as well a pupil GROW charter and pupil safeguarding information.

Communication is key. We will try and ensure that you are kept informed with as much notice as possible going forward.

## Diary Dates

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
First Day Back

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
'Living One -Handed Day'

**W/C 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
STEM Week

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
Year 5 Science Workshop at  
Trinity 3:45 – 5:15pm

**W/C 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**  
Whole School Maths Investigation

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
October 2019**  
Parents Evenings

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
Year 5 Music Workshop at  
Trinity 3:45 – 5:15pm

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## Teacher Training Days

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020**



On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July the School Council held their first fund raising event for REACH, a charity for children with upper limb differences. Thank you for all your support. Through the non-uniform day; wristband purchases and tombola the children raised £412.92 (+ £76.30 raised at the Summer fete) for REACH which they are very proud of!

The School Council are keen to add to the amount that has been raised and promote further awareness, so they have decided to invite the children and staff of Fir Tree to take part in a sponsored "Living One-Handed" day at the end of September, to raise both money and awareness of life with limb differences. Please find attached a sponsor form. Children and staff will be asked to cover one hand with a sock for the morning and complete everyday activities using only one hand and be sponsored for doing so!!!!



A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Summer Fete on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July. It was lovely to see so many people attend and enjoy the sunshine. We raised £1000, which is fabulous. It was a great event not only to raise money for the school but also to bring us together as a school community. Thank you for your kind donations, as it would not have happened without your support!

The PTA have already met to think about how to make it even better next year as well as plan events to further fundraise in the autumn term – we are currently thinking of a bingo or quiz night for parents; Halloween disco and a Christmas Movie night.



May I take this opportunity to thank all the members of our Fir Tree PTA, they truly are working tirelessly and volunteering their own time to run such events and to raise funds for our children. They are an asset to our school and we are incredibly grateful!



Yesterday, the final end of term Head Teachers Tea Party took place and was a lovely way to end the term. Nominees for term 6 were:

**Reception:** Finlay, Alpha, Breanna, Rosie, Samuel, Tyler & Lexie

**Year 1:** Freddie, Elijah, Nicola, Waseel, Ali, Archie Y and Saanvika

**Year 2:** Lily-May, Elena, Dylan, Daniel, Tyler, Sam & Lola

**Year 3:** Millie, Tejas, Lily, Gabriela, Ben, Caiden & Maisie Herbert

**Year 4:** Aisha, Sean, Holly, Kirsten, Jack F, Jack S & Kristjan

**Year 5:** Dolly, Paige-Marie, Brandon, Rowan, Lewis, Clark & Trinity

**Year 6:** Axel, Connor, Nicole, Brayden, Tallulah, Ellie & Sonia



The Summer Holidays are indeed a time to rest and refresh after a busy school year. However you will have seen that your child has come home with a Summer Homework Challenge from their class teacher this week. There will be some time inevitably during the break where children say that they are bored!! But also we know that some parents would like their children to continue practicing and keeping on top of their learning because 6 weeks is a long time!



So we have set the children a challenge, where they have been set very short tasks to complete each week during their break. They can achieve 10 dojos per week for any work they undertake – this is an ideal opportunity to give their house a head start on points!!! Certificates will be presented too on their return to Fir Tree for those that have completed any activities. We just ask for you to fill in the log provided with the homework challenge and return it to their class teacher when we come back in September!!!



A huge well done to many of our Key Stage Two pupils who represented Fir Tree at Dance Fest at Trinity School on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July. What a spectacular and polished performance by them all, again highlighting the talent that we have at Fir Tree.



Also a big well done to our Year 6's who performed a great version of Shrek last week. It was fantastic and came together in such a short amount time. We clearly have some groovy movers in that class!!!



It's with sadness that we say our goodbyes to some members of the Fir Tree Team at the end of this term. Firstly we say goodbye to Mr Rose who has worked for Fir Tree for a very long time, he will be sorely missed, although I have a feeling this will not be the last we see of him. Also to Mrs Carter, who will be joining St John's, we wish her all the best in her new endeavours. And finally to Mrs Lewis, Mrs Brown, Mrs Griffin and Miss Tucker who are leaving us for new chapters.

Thank you to each and every one of them because they have been instrumental in moving the school forward this year. We wish them all the very best for the future!

