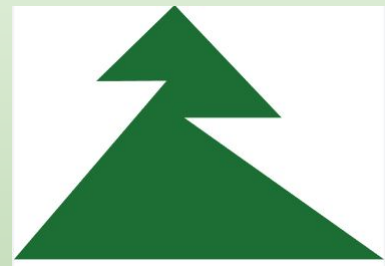


*Become the best that you can be: for  
learning, for life, for future success.*



# Firside Newsletter

Friday 22 September 2023

# ***Head Teacher's message***

It has been a busy few weeks since we returned. We have been really impressed with the children's positive attitudes and hard work in class. We are particularly excited about their art work that they have been creating as part of our art exhibition. We look forward to welcoming parents into school to view the work on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 October.

We have included in this newsletter some further dates for later in the term for our Christmas performances . We know it is early but want to make sure that parents have enough notice for getting time off work if needed.

If you have been on the playground in the mornings, you will have noticed our new whistles for getting the children to stop and listen. This is all part of work we are doing with the children to improve the way that we all move around the school safely. We have been really impressed with the children and have they have taken on board our new way of doing things.

You may have seen a report in the EDP today regarding the planned rebuild for Firside Junior School. As you will already be aware, this project is being managed by the Department for Education and we are meeting with them and their contractors regularly to help facilitate the rebuild programme. The planning application was submitted last month and the DfE is hoping to get the plans finalised to start work on the site early in 2024. We will keep you updated as and when we receive information from either the DfE or their contractor.

Don't forget that it is individual and sibling photos on Tuesday - everyone in uniform please!

Kindest regards,

*Mrs Robinson (Head Teacher), Mr Keer (Deputy Head Teacher) and Mrs Seagrave (Senior Teacher)*

# ***Dates for your diary***

<b>Mon 25 Sept</b>	Y4 Norwich Castle Museum visit (4C and half of 4L)
<b>Tues 26 Sept</b>	Individual photos for all pupils (all pupils in uniform - no PE kits)
<b>Wed 27 Sept</b>	Y4 Norwich Castle Museum visit (4M and half of 4L)
	Mental Health Support Team: Anxiety Presentation to parents 3:15pm in hall
<b>Fri 29 Sept</b>	Macmillan Coffee morning for parents in the hall 9am-10am
<b>Tues 3 Oct</b>	Norfolk Open Studios art exhibition 10am-12pm, 2pm -3pm
<b>Wed 4 Oct</b>	Norfolk Open Studios art exhibition 10am-12pm, 2pm -3pm
<b>Tues 10 Oct</b>	Open Evening for Year 2 children
<b>Fri 20 Oct</b>	Last day of half term
<b>Mon 30 Oct</b>	First day of term
<b>W.c. 30 Oct</b>	Parents Evening appointments this week - more information to follow

# ***Christmas dates for your diary***

We know that it is early but just wanted to let you know of some key dates ready for the end of term.

Christmas performances will be on the following dates. Please note that last year, we started the morning performances around 9:30am and the afternoon performances around 1:30pm and we anticipate that this year will be similar timings. Performances usually last 45mins to 1 hour. We will let you know of exact timings closer to the time but hopefully this helps you to plan time off work if needed.

Monday 18 December AM Year 3

Monday 18 December PM Year 4

Tuesday 19 December AM Year 5

Tuesday 19 December PM Year 6



# Uniform

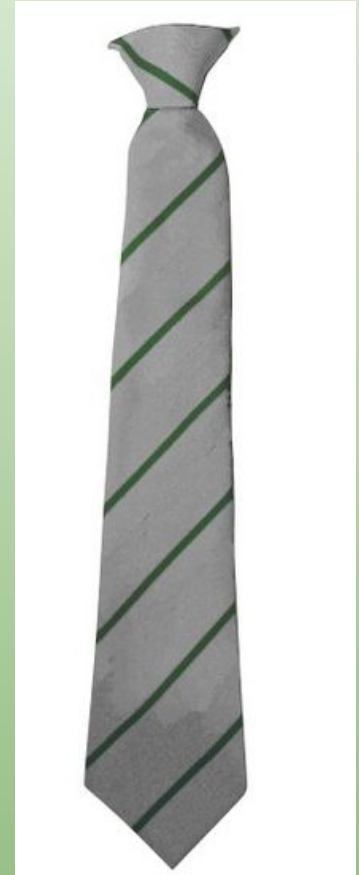
Now that the weather is cooler, all children wearing shirts should return to wearing their school ties. **ALL** ties and jumpers must be named as we have over 350 almost identical items in school every day.

Summer dresses can continue to be worn up until October half term.

School jumpers / cardigans should either be the logo version available from Birds or a dark green jumper / cardigan.

A reminder that leggings are not part of our school uniform and should only be worn as part of PE kit.

Please make sure that children have a named coat in school every day for play times and lunchtimes.



***Say cheese!***

Photographers will be in school on Tuesday 26 October for individual and sibling photos. Please make sure that the children are in full uniform (including ties) for the photos. Summer dresses can still be worn. Children will not need their PE kit on Tuesday.



# ***Mental Health Support Team: Anxiety Presentation***

The Mental Health and Support Team (MHST) who attended last year's parents evening will be joining us on Wednesday 27 September. They will be running a presentation for parents focusing on anxiety. This will look at how to recognise this in children and how to support them.



The session will be held in the hall from 3:15pm after pick up. After the presentation, they will be available for questions.

If you would like to attend can you let Mr Keer know by emailing him at [office@firside.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@firside.norfolk.sch.uk) so we have an idea of numbers. If you decide to drop in at the last minute, please do!

# ***Norfolk Open Studios 2023***



We are pleased to say that we are participating in this event again this year. The exhibition will take place on Tuesday 3 October and Wednesday 4 October in the school hall 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 3pm. The exhibition will showcase art work from children in all year groups. All of the work is around our planet and recycling. We hope you will be able to join us for our event to view the children's work.



# ***Fish and nut free***

A reminder to all families that we aim to be a fish and nut free school. This is due to severe allergies in some children in our school. Please help us to keep them safe by refraining from including fish or nut products in your child's lunchbox. Nut products might include: whole nuts, nuts in cereal bars, peanut butter and Nutella. Fish products might include, but is not limited to: tuna, salmon, fish paste, fish sticks and prawns. We do not serve fish as a hot dinner or jacket potato filling option.

We ask that all parents follow this guidance as food allergies can be very serious. Thank you.



# ***Macmillan Coffee Morning***

We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee morning next Friday (29 September). This will be held in the school hall for parents between 9am and 10am.

If you are able to donate or make any cakes for the coffee morning, these should be brought to the school office on the day (please remember no nuts). Why not arrange to meet your friends at the coffee morning and help raise money for a great cause?

Mrs Seagrave would appreciate any parent support to run the event so please get in contact with the school office if you can help.



## *Art shirts / aprons*



We are sorry to hear that some of the children have come home with paint on their shirts recently which some parents have said has been difficult to remove. Please be assured that the paint used is branded as washable paint so we are sorry to hear that it is not coming out. We do have a stock of aprons in school however these tend to be kitchen style aprons which cover the front so do not have full coverage. Please be assured that our art coordinator is investigating new aprons for art lessons. In the meantime, if you have an old oversized shirt or tshirt (perhaps from an older sibling, parent or even grandparent that they no longer need) then please send this into school with your child.

# ***Blue Peter Book Club***

Did you know that Blue Peter have launched their very own Book Club? The Blue Peter Book Club is all about sharing the joy of reading. Each month they'll talk about a different book and find out your thoughts on it too. Children will also have lots of fun activities, quizzes and cool challenges to try. If this wasn't exciting enough, you can now apply for the brand new Blue Peter Book Badge. By sharing your book reviews, you can earn this book-tastic badge. We'd love to hear if your child earns their badge!

You can find out more by [clicking this link.](#)

