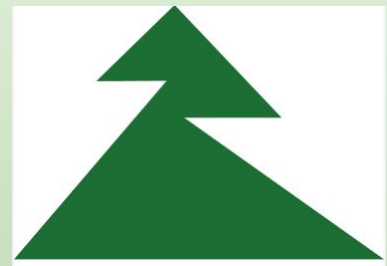


*Become the best that you can be: for
learning, for life, for future success.*



Firside Newsletter

Friday 3 November 2023

Head Teacher's message

Welcome back to a new half term. It is always a busy term but then we say that about every term! It was lovely to see so many parents in school this week for Parents' Evening - thank you for coming.

This term we are introducing a new concept for our 'Firsides Way'. Last half term, all of the children worked really hard with 'Firsides Walking' and 'Firsides Full Time' (when the whistle blows out on the playground). This half term we are introducing 'Firsides listening'. We will be teaching the children about how we show excellent Firsides listening skills.

We are very excited to welcome back the Travelling Book Fair to Firsides. When you buy books from the sale, we earn vouchers to spend on books for school. Last year we were able to buy over £450 worth of books for the library. We are also launching a competition to win a £5 voucher to spend at the sale. See further down in the newsletter for more information about this.

With a definite change in weather more recently, please can we remind all parents to ensure that their child has a suitable coat in school every day. If it is not raining too much, we do try to get the children outside wherever possible.

Kindest regards,

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

Dates for your diary

Mon 6 Nov	Year 3 trip to Time and Tide Museum (3L and half of 3B)
Tues 7 Nov	Year 3 trip to Time and Tide Museum (3W and half of 3B)
Thurs 16 Nov	Book fair in hall after school
Fri 17 Nov	Children in Need 2023
Tues 21 Nov	Flu immunisations (all year groups) - separate email about this Book fair in hall after school
Tues 12 Dec	Christmas dinner Year 3 and 4 (can be booked on Scopay) 9:15am Rocksteady performance to parents of those children involved
Wed 13 Dec	Christmas dinner Year 5 and 6 (can be booked on Scopay)

Dates continued on next page...

Dates for your diary continued...

Mon 18 Dec	9:30am Year 3 Christmas performance	1:30pm Year 4 Christmas performance
Tues 19 Dec	9:30am Year 5 Christmas performance	1:30pm Year 6 Christmas performance
Wed 20 Dec	Last day of term - free non-uniform day for all. Optional Christmas jumper day (winner in each year group for the best home designed Christmas jumper)	
Thurs 4 Jan	First day of term for pupils	

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.



Curriculum Letters

This week, we have sent out curriculum letters which explain what your child will be learning about in each subject area. These are sent out via email each half term.

You can also find these on the learning page on our website by [clicking here](#) and then clicking on your child's year group.

<p>Maths</p> <p>In Maths, we will be recapping addition and subtraction methods. We will then be learning about multiplication and division through sharing and grouping.</p>  <p>We will also be working on our 3 and 4 times tables.</p> 	<p>History</p> <p>In History, we will be looking at the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. This will include: discovering how people used to gather for food and how farming began, and how tools, art, and houses have changed. We will also look at Skara Brae and the Stonehenge.</p> 	<p>French</p> <p>We will be learning about colours and shapes in French.</p> <p>Music</p> <p>We will be learning and rehearsing the songs for our Christmas nativity at the end of this half term.</p> <p>RE</p> <p>We will be exploring Christmas through looking at the Holy Trinitarian.</p>	<p>Maths</p> <p>The key focus this term will be on multiplication and division. Pupils will learn to understand the relationship between multiplication and division. Facts and work through the times tables. They will use a range of facts resources to support their learning. They will learn to apply their skills to reasoning questions.</p> <p>Times tables: learning the rules and patterns for different times tables, daily times tables practice and weekly times tables homework</p>  <p>Arithmetic: Pupils will work through the Place in 5 arithmetic problems, working out when it is best to use a mental method and when it is best to use a formal method.</p>	<p>History</p> <p>Using knowledge of the Roman Empire gained in Autumn 1, we will begin to delve deeper into Roman Britain. Pupils will discuss the invasion of Britain and link this to the expansion of the Roman Empire. We will explore the Celtic scene and their conflict with the Romans. Pupils will compare the Roman Britain to Iron Age Britain to develop an understanding of the changes and impact the Romans had on Britain during this time.</p> 	<p>French</p> <p>In French, we will be revising French greetings and learn how to use adjectives of colour, shape and size. We will also be learning how to say numbers and tell someone's age.</p>  <p>Music</p> <p>Pupils will learn and rehearse the songs for their Christmas nativity play so that they are ready to perform with confidence at their end of term show.</p> 
<p>English</p> <p>We will be reading 'How To Wash a Woolly Mammoth' and creating our own set of instructions on how to catch a stone age animal. We will be learning about key features of instructional writing including: comprehension, imperative verbs, adverbs, coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions as well as titles and sub-headings.</p> 	<p>Science</p> <p>We will be learning about Light in Science. We will explore the differences between light sources and non-light sources. We will learn about light from the sun and how it travels.</p>	<p>Computing</p> <p>In Computing, we will be learning about computer systems and networks. We will be identifying: penents and learning how information is shared.</p> <p>PE and Games</p>	<p>English</p> <p>After completing their Autumn 1 unit, pupils will be writing their own stories. If the author characters, setting, plot, and theme.</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Animals, including humans and then electricity.</p> <p>Electricity</p> <p>Pupils will complete the Autumn 1 unit and then explore electrical appliances and electrical circuits. Pupils will learn to use electrical components in a circuit, test insulators, learn about electrical safety, how electrical components change with electricity.</p> 	<p>Year 4</p> <p>Autumn 2 learning 2023</p> <p>French</p> <p>Pupils will learn how to create and share documents online using Google, for example creating Google Docs.</p>	<p>Maths</p> <p>Fractions A: equivalent fractions and simplifying, equivalent fractions on a number line, compare and order fractions with the same denominator, and order fractions using the numerator, add and subtract simple fractions, add and subtract any two fractions, add mixed number fractions, subtract mixed number fractions, multi-step problems involving fractions.</p> <p>Fractions B: multiply fractions by integers, multiply fractions by fractions, divide a fraction by an integer, divide any fraction by an integer, mixed questions with fractions, fractions of amounts, fractions of amounts—finding the whole.</p> <p>English</p> <p>Analysis essay: Using 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes, pupils will be writing an analytical essay about the poem.</p> <p>Police report: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing a police report, reporting on the crime that has occurred within the short story.</p> <p>Diary entry from different perspectives: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing about the crime that has occurred within the short story from different character perspectives.</p> 
<p>Maths</p> <p>Multiplication and Division: Multiples, common multiples, factors, common factors, prime numbers, square numbers, cube numbers, multiples and divide by 10, 100 and 1000, multiples of 10, 100 and 1000.</p> <p>Fractions: Recognising equivalent fractions, converting improper fractions to mixed numbers, converting mixed numbers to improper fractions, comparing fractions less than 1, ordering fractions less than 1, comparing and ordering fractions greater than 1, add and subtracting fractions with the same denominator, adding fractions to within 1, adding fractions with a total greater than 1, adding and subtracting using mixed numbers.</p>	<p>History</p> <p>Pupils will be studying the time of the Viking through to the Anglo-Saxons and the struggle between them for the kingdom of England. This will take us to the end of the word the confessor reign in 1066. The children will use sources and evidence and comparing different aspects.</p> 	<p>Year 5</p> <p>Autumn 2023</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Animals including humans.</p> <p>In this unit, pupils will learn how to identify the key stages of a mammal's life cycle. Explore the gestation periods of mammals, learn about fetal development, investigate the hand span of differently aged children, learn about the changes experienced in life and describe the changes humans may experience during old age.</p> 	<p>Computing</p> <p>Pupils will explore how to create media and will be looking at vector drawings. They will be using software to use how vector drawings can be made using different 2D shapes and how they are used in the real world and this will lead to the children to create their own.</p> <p>PE and Games</p> <p>In the Autumn term, children will continue to have swimming lessons at their PE sessions as well as their weekly games sessions with CSE coaches on a Thursday.</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>Animals, including humans and then electricity.</p> <p>Electricity</p> <p>Pupils will complete the Autumn 1 unit and then explore electrical appliances and electrical circuits. Pupils will learn to use electrical components in a circuit, test insulators, learn about electrical safety, how electrical components change with electricity.</p> 	<p>Maths</p> <p>Fractions A: equivalent fractions and simplifying, equivalent fractions on a number line, compare and order fractions with the same denominator, and order fractions using the numerator, add and subtract simple fractions, add and subtract any two fractions, add mixed number fractions, subtract mixed number fractions, multi-step problems involving fractions.</p> <p>Fractions B: multiply fractions by integers, multiply fractions by fractions, divide a fraction by an integer, divide any fraction by an integer, mixed questions with fractions, fractions of amounts, fractions of amounts—finding the whole.</p> <p>English</p> <p>Analysis essay: Using 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes, pupils will be writing an analytical essay about the poem.</p> <p>Police report: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing a police report, reporting on the crime that has occurred within the short story.</p> <p>Diary entry from different perspectives: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing about the crime that has occurred within the short story from different character perspectives.</p> 
<p>English</p> <p>Describe the short story writing: Using 'Tuesday's children' will explore key features of descriptive writing such as expanded noun phrases, prepositional phrases and using verbs and adjectives of varying complexity to produce a descriptive short story.</p> <p>Discussion text: Using 'The strange case of the Original rats' children will explore the features of a discussion text and what is needed to form a coherent and balanced argument.</p> <p>Art</p> <p>What is printing?</p> <p>Students will explore the artistic process based on the principle of transferring images from an implement to another surface.</p> <p>Sample of United Artists</p> <p>Liam Morris Roy Lichtenstein Pablo Picasso Andy Warhol</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>Animals including humans.</p> <p>In this unit, pupils will learn how to identify the key stages of a mammal's life cycle. Explore the gestation periods of mammals, learn about fetal development, investigate the hand span of differently aged children, learn about the changes experienced in life and describe the changes humans may experience during old age.</p> 	<p>Computing</p> <p>Pupils will explore how to create media and will be looking at vector drawings. They will be using software to use how vector drawings can be made using different 2D shapes and how they are used in the real world and this will lead to the children to create their own.</p> <p>PE and Games</p> <p>In the Autumn term, children will continue to have swimming lessons at their PE sessions as well as their weekly games sessions with CSE coaches on a Thursday.</p>	<p>Science</p> <p>Animals, including humans and then electricity.</p> <p>Electricity</p> <p>Pupils will complete the Autumn 1 unit and then explore electrical appliances and electrical circuits. Pupils will learn to use electrical components in a circuit, test insulators, learn about electrical safety, how electrical components change with electricity.</p> 	<p>Maths</p> <p>Fractions A: equivalent fractions and simplifying, equivalent fractions on a number line, compare and order fractions with the same denominator, and order fractions using the numerator, add and subtract simple fractions, add and subtract any two fractions, add mixed number fractions, subtract mixed number fractions, multi-step problems involving fractions.</p> <p>Fractions B: multiply fractions by integers, multiply fractions by fractions, divide a fraction by an integer, divide any fraction by an integer, mixed questions with fractions, fractions of amounts, fractions of amounts—finding the whole.</p> <p>English</p> <p>Analysis essay: Using 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes, pupils will be writing an analytical essay about the poem.</p> <p>Police report: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing a police report, reporting on the crime that has occurred within the short story.</p> <p>Diary entry from different perspectives: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing about the crime that has occurred within the short story from different character perspectives.</p> 	<p>Year 6</p> <p>Autumn 2 learning 2023</p> <p>French</p> <p>Pupils will learn how to create and share documents online using Google, for example creating Google Docs.</p> <p>Maths</p> <p>Fractions A: equivalent fractions and simplifying, equivalent fractions on a number line, compare and order fractions with the same denominator, and order fractions using the numerator, add and subtract simple fractions, add and subtract any two fractions, add mixed number fractions, subtract mixed number fractions, multi-step problems involving fractions.</p> <p>Fractions B: multiply fractions by integers, multiply fractions by fractions, divide a fraction by an integer, divide any fraction by an integer, mixed questions with fractions, fractions of amounts, fractions of amounts—finding the whole.</p> <p>English</p> <p>Analysis essay: Using 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes, pupils will be writing an analytical essay about the poem.</p> <p>Police report: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing a police report, reporting on the crime that has occurred within the short story.</p> <p>Diary entry from different perspectives: Using 'The Mystery of the Speckled Band' by Arthur Conan Doyle, pupils will be writing about the crime that has occurred within the short story from different character perspectives.</p> 

Rearranged Parents' Evening appointments

Apologies to those who were unable to attend their child's Parents' Evening appointments last week due to staff illness.

We tried to contact parents via email on the day however an admin error may have meant that you didn't receive this email. We apologise for this inconvenience.

We are planning to move the appointments to next week at the same time. If you are unable to make the same time next week, please contact the School Office or your child's class teacher and we will arrange a different time.

Mr Wilkinson's Monday appointments will now be on Monday 6 November

Miss Campbells' Wednesday appointments will now be on Wednesday 8 November

Miss Ribband's Wednesday appointments will now be on Wednesday 8 November

These appointments will take place in their classrooms.

Remembrance

At Firside, we always support the Royal British Legion by selling poppies. School Councillors from Year 6 will come round to sell them after lunch each day in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday.

If your child would like to buy a poppy, they need to bring their money (suggested donation of 50p) into school in a named purse or envelope. They must give this to the class teacher for safekeeping until they are able to buy a poppy.

We also have some other items for sale including Royal British Legion slap bands, plastic bracelets and poppy reflector key rings. These will be on sale on the playground after school from Mrs Seagrave on **Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays** next week. These are priced individually (slap bands £1, plastic bracelets £1 and poppy reflectors 50p).

We are almost out of poppies now but have plenty of the other items which we will sell up until Friday 10 November.

Please bring the correct money as it goes straight into a collection pot and we cannot give change.

Thank you for your support so far.



Travelling book fair

Later this half term, we will be welcoming back the Travelling Book Fair.

This is a great opportunity for you to buy books for your children - perhaps even do a bit of early Christmas shopping.

The other fantastic thing is that the more books that we sell, the more money we get to spend on books for our school. Last year, we raised enough to be able to spend £465 on books!

The fair will be held on Thursday 16 and Tuesday 21 November after school in the hall. Card payments only.



Book fair competition

Mrs Seagrave has launched a competition this week where one child in each year group can win a £5 voucher to spend at the fair.

In order to enter the competition, children should ask their teacher for a bookmark template. They can then design their own bookmark with a book theme. They could design it with one book or a series of books or perhaps even lots of different book characters.

The closing date is Friday 17 November and the winners will be announced on Monday 20 November. All entries should be handed to the School Office.

Children in Need 2023

We will be supporting BBC Children in Need this year on Friday 17 November.

Children are invited to be 'spot-tacular' and wear their spots in support of the charity.

If they don't want to be spotty then normal non-uniform is fine.

Pudsey ears etc are also welcome!

Please bring a donation of 50p (cash) to put in our collection buckets.



Uniform for sale

We are now keeping our uniform sale permanently in the School Office where we have a range of second-hand and new uniform for sale.

If you need any pieces, please do pop by the office to see what we have. All items are just £1.

We are always looking for donations of second-hand uniform in good condition. Particularly jumpers, cardigans, ties and PE fleeces. All the money raised from our uniform sales go back into buying things for the school.

It has also been suggested to us about selling second-hand coats. If you have any winter coats in a good condition, we would also welcome these.

Thank you.