

Firbeck News

WORK HARD. BE KIND.

11th December 2018



Dates for the term:

- 12.12.18 Key Stage 1 Christmas performance (9:30am)
- Early Years Christmas performance (2.15pm)
- Christmas in the City – Area Band concert (Children arrive 4:45pm; Concert start 7pm)
- 13.12.18 Early Years Christmas party day
- Christmas dinner day.
- Christmas jumper day.
- 14.12.18 Circus Exhibition – (See note on back)
- 17.12.18 Christmas party afternoon (Y3-6)
- 18.12.18 Christmas party afternoon (Y1-2)

LAST DAY OF TERM

7.1.19 RETURN TO SCHOOL

Please refer to back page for dates for Spring term

Dear Parents/Carers and Community,

I can't believe that in one week's time Firbeck Academy will be breaking up for Christmas.

This is always a very special time of year with Christmas carols, nativities and shows, but is all the more poignant this year as it will be my last as Head of School at Firbeck.

It seems a long time ago since my first day at Firbeck back in September 2015. There has certainly been a lot that has happened: The demolition of the old building and construction of the new; coming out of special measures; the number of new staff and new methods of teaching; there have been so many things.

I have to say that it has been an amazing 3 years, made all the more special by all of the people along the way: staff, parents/carers, community, governors and of course the children.

It has been a privilege to be entrusted with the education and care of your children. It has been a task that I have always taken seriously and worked with a wonderful staff to ensure that it has been done to the best of our ability.

While I will be sad to say goodbye, I do so knowing that they are left in the very capable hands of all the staff of Firbeck Academy.

I wish all at Firbeck a Happy Christmas and the most joyful of New Years.

Jason Osprey



Attendance

It goes without saying that children learn best when they are in school, consequently school, while recognizing that children inevitably get ill sometimes, I can't stress enough how important it is for children to be in school. Nationally attendance tends to be around 96% and this is what we are trying to achieve as a school. Currently our attendance is 94.6%. Across the school, over a year this would add up to approximately 250 days of lost education more than national. Please help us to turn this around.



Circus Exhibition

On Friday 14th December we will be showing work from our latest Circus Topic. This will be a great opportunity to see work on this school wide topic from our youngest to oldest children.

While classes will be hosting at the times below, the exhibition will be open from 8.45 until 4pm and you are welcome anytime. Children will not be released to host the exhibition other than:

- 9:30-10am Year 6
- 10 – 10:30am Year 5
- 11:05 – 11:35am Reception & Nursery
- 1:10 – 1:40pm Year 4
- 1:40 – 2:10pm Year 3
- 2:10 – 2:40pm Year 2
- 2:40 – 3:10pm Year 1

Please come and enjoy some of the amazing work your children have done.

Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Carl Bown and Mr James Brown to Firbeck Academy.

Mr Brown will be working in Year 2 (Wednesday to Friday) with Miss Chantrey, while Mr Bown will be working in Year 6

with Mr Brooks and across the school throughout the week.

Mr Brown is already well-known and respected by pupils at the school, while Mr Bown comes to us from elsewhere in the Trust with the highest of recommendations.

I am sure you will join me in welcoming them both to the team.

“Winter is coming...”

I am sure you will have noticed, like me, that the days are drawing in, getting colder and winter is upon us. This great as you prepare for the warmth and coziness of Christmas but less so for the cold long term when we return.

Can I just take this opportunity to remind people that it is really important that children come to school with **appropriate clothing**. This includes school uniform and a very warm, coat, hat and gloves. Whenever possible we try and make sure the children get outside for some fresh air and a break, therefore it is vital they come to school adequately dressed.

This is probably an appropriate time to write about our **emergency closure procedures**. Firstly can I first reiterate that Firbeck Academy only takes the

decision to close if it is decided that to open would have the potential to endanger our children, families or staff.

If school is unexpectedly closed the following things will happen:

- A text will be sent home to parents (please make sure school has your correct number).
- An emergency message will be placed on the homepage of the school website.
- A message will be placed on Twitter.
- A message will be placed on BBC Radio Nottingham.
- Signs and staff will be placed at entrances to school to catch anyone who does not get the message.

“Bits and Bobs...”

Just a reminder that **school dinners** should be paid for in advance. We would request people pre-order dinners on the Dolce website. If you haven't signed up please contact the school office to find out how.



Spring dates:

- February 15th 2019: INSET day – school closed to children
- February 18 – 22: Half term break
- March 6th & 7th 2019: Parent meetings
- April 5th 2019: Last day of term

