



13th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well we have certainly had a busy half term, with lots of hard work and new opportunities for our children. Some of the highlights for me include the dinosaur egg that was discovered in Early Years, a team entering the Boccia competition for the first time, our 'Sign to Sing' fundraising effort last week in assembly and the beautiful artwork of Henry VIII I saw in year 6. We try and put as many things on our Twitter account (@FirbeckPrimary) as possible but in such a busy school unfortunately some just pass me by!

Welcome

We have welcomed quite a few new children over this half term. It has been so lovely to see how well they have settled in, but also how well the children have looked after them and made them feel at home. If you are new to our school and interested in helping out with our 'Friends of Firbeck' group, please contact the school office.

School readiness

Please can I just remind you of a few things that make the school day go a little smoother. Every child should be prepared for the day ahead, so they should have their reading diary with them each day, bring their homework back on the right day and also have their PE kit in school every day. Each class has named days for PE but depending on other things happening in school sometimes a PE slot might need to change at the last minute. If your child always has their bag, then it makes them feel much more prepared.

Attendance

We understand that at this time of year there are a few things going around but it is really important that you try and get your child to school, each and every day. Our school average currently stands at 91%, this is below the national average, please help us to improve this by making sure your child is in school. Attendance letters are going out today.

Firbeck library

The Firbeck library is looking amazing and is open for business after school on a Monday and a Thursday until 4pm. Your child is able to borrow a book, to take home and enjoy and return it when they are done. Please call in after school on one of those evenings and see for yourselves, it really is a lovely place to be.

We have also had the pleasure to take many of our children down to Wollaton library this half term, the children really enjoy their time there and have all been able to borrow books to bring back to school.

School uniform

Over the half term holiday please check your child's uniform is all labelled as we have had lots of lost property again. Also just a gentle reminder that school shoes are to be black and not have any other colours on them. Children are able to bring shoes to change into if they come in wellingtons, if the weather is bad but are not to wear wellington boots in school all day.

Child safety

There are times when I find it quite frightening standing on the front gate as the parking situation is getting worse. We have double yellow lines and the school zig zags, please respect these and do not park in these areas. Pulling in front of the school gates to drop your child off is not safe and often puts the safety of other children at risk. Please park further away from school and walk the short distance to make the drop off or pick up safe for all. I have spoken to the children about this and will continue to do so as I feel it is only a matter of time before someone gets hurt. Also please respect our neighbours by not parking or pulling on to their drives, this really isn't fair to them.

Administration

Recently we have sent out packs with some paperwork that needs checking and returning as soon as possible please.

Also if you have recently moved house or changed phone numbers, please make sure you let the office know.

We hope you all have a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you on Monday 25th February.

Best wishes,

Mrs Riley

Dates for your diary

15 th February	INSET day
18 th -24 th February	Half term
25 th February	Back to school
6 th & 7 th March	Parent evenings
7 th March	Year 1 Great Fire of London workshop
8 th March	World Book Day
11 th March	Fairy tales drama workshop
13 th March	Year 4 at Nottingham University
14 th March	Basketball match at Brocklewood
15 th March	Red Nose Day
27 th March	University led assembly
29 th March	Year 1 London exhibition
1 st April	Girls football match at Brocklewood
5 th April	Break up for Easter holidays