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Headteacher: Marc Knight

Monday 18th September 2023

Dear Year 5 Families,

We're delighted that the children have settled so brilliantly into their new Year 5 classes and are demonstrating lots of positive attitudes to learning.

We hope you'll find this letter a useful source of information for the year.

Who are the adults in our team?

In our Chestnut Class Team, the teachers are: Mrs Ash (Monday – Thursday) and Mrs Fairbairn (Friday) and the TAs are: Miss Millsom, Mrs Somarakis and Ms Lucas who all work from Monday – Friday.

What are morning and end of school routines?

Our school gates are open from 8.30am and children can come onto the playground where school adults will be supervising. The bell will ring at 8.45am and the children will line up to wait for their teacher in a line outside of the cloakroom area door. If it is raining, the entrance doors to our cloakroom area will be open from 8.30am and the children will come straight into school where their class teacher will supervise them.

At the end of the day, at 3.15pm, the cloakroom area doors will open and children will make their own way onto the playground to be collected or to walk home. Children who attend FTFT Club will be escorted to the hall to for registration.

What equipment/kit will children need and on which day(s) of the week?

Please try to name all property to help us avoid lost items and ensure property can be returned to the owner promptly. Children are welcome to bring in pencil cases to school with their own stationery, if this is not possible, school will provide all necessary equipment.

Our PE days this term are Tuesday on Wednesday; PE kit needs to be worn on these days (including warm layers for winter). Our PE kit consists of a plain white t-shirt/polo shirt, navy or black shorts/joggers and a navy zip up or sweatshirt.



What are the current homework expectations?

Homework books are sent out on Tuesday and are expected back the following Monday. Details of homework expectations have been attached to the front of children's homework books. To summarise, we hope children will:

Read as much and as widely as possible and record, where they can, at the back of their homework book. Recording is helpful for adults as it helps us to develop a reading dialogue with children and offer book recommendations.

Practise their timestables in a range of ways (Hit the Button, TT Rockstars, Dice/Card Games, Chanting).

Complete spelling practice; each week a set of 6 x words will be sent home linked to our spelling lessons in school. We hope that in addition to school practice, over-learning at home will help children to secure their knowledge of the spellings in preparation for their test which takes place each Friday.

We warmly welcome any additional child-led learning from home – if children want to share their knowledge from an out of school visit, have been inspired to research or create sometimes or they have some special news such as a sporting achievement, we would love them celebrate with them.

Protocol for parents contacting teachers

We have an open-door policy at school so if you have any questions or concerns, please do come and find the class teacher; ideally, we'd hope to have time to talk with you straight away, however if this is not possible, the teacher will help to find a mutually convenient time as soon as possible.

Equally, please send an email to the office (office.2578@fir-tree.oxon.sch.uk) who will forward it onto the class teacher.

Class section of the website

On our class pages of the website - <https://www.fir-tree-juniors.org/class-pages/> - you'll find a range of information about our learning and achievements. Copies of our timetables are there, as are our project learning overviews for the term. In addition, we showcase our fantastic learning and progress across the year so please check-in regularly to see what we've been up to.

Best wishes

Mrs Ash and Mrs Fairbairn



Fir Tree Junior School

Chestnut Class Weekly Timetable

2023 – 2024

DATE: Term 1

Project: Take One Picture / Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'

		9:00	9:00 – 10:45			10:45	11:00 – 12:30			12:30	1:30	1:30 – 2:00	2:00 – 3:00		3:00	3:15
Monday	Mrs Ash	Register	Recognition Assembly	Maths	Spelling	Break	Reading	English	Lunch	Register	Science	French	Class story	Staff Meeting		
Tuesday	Mrs Ash			Spelling	Maths		SMSC Assembly	PE			Reading	English				
Wednesday	Mrs Ash			PE	Spelling and Grammar		Reading	Maths			Project					
Thursday	Mrs Ash			Values Assembly	Spelling		Maths	Reading			English	PSHE			Project	School Council Feedback
Friday	Mrs Fairbairn			Maths	Singing		Writer's Workshop	Spelling (Assessment of weekly words)			RE	Reading				