

 **Firbeck Academy**  
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 @FirbeckPrimary  
 firbeckacademy

**Head Teacher**  
Sem Cao BA (Hons), PGCE, QTS  
**Executive Head Teacher**  
Alys Finch BA (Hons), PGCE, QTS, MA (Cantab), NPQEL



Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have a very exciting summer term and end of the academic year ahead. There are many things that are happening behind the scenes that you might not be aware of, the following information will help you understand how truly special Firbeck Academy is!

We are currently working towards gaining an **Eco Schools Award**, supported by Mrs Mitchell. To continue to achieve this, we need to ensure we are **reusing, recycling and reducing** our waste at home and at school.

To support this, please:

- Donate any old clothes that you no longer need to support our **Firbank**. The Firbank is now located in Main Office. Please come and speak to a member of staff if you need support with this.
- Ensure our school grounds are kept tidy. Put litter in the bin.

Some of the **trips and experiences** that our children have had this year, have been **remarkable**. From inspiration days at the University of Nottingham; trips further afield to Crich Tramway Museum and Creswell Crags; This Girl Can sports events and visits from local everyday heroes.

The **Co-op store at Bramcote Lane** have very kindly donated a fruit tree for the King's Coronation. This will be planted in our **allotment**.

**Book boxes** are often topped up with new and exciting titles. Please help yourself - we aim to build your personal libraries at home, so help yourself! Our boxes can be found on the bottom playground or children can help themselves to the box in the KS1 corridor.

**Reading Leaders** are our reading role models. They are passionate about reading and support our staff to ensure the library is well organised.

**Dance** is used to express ourselves and to support emotional and educational needs. After-school dance club has been funded by the **Samworth Foundation**. Children have learned a variety of routines which they have performed both in front of the whole school and during public events.

We have a range of **After-school clubs** for children in Y1 to 6 to immerse themselves in. From arts and crafts, to football. Most recently, our **Football Team** had a visit from Brocklewood. Mr Denty and Mrs Bowles will continue their coaching.

Every Tuesday, we have a visit from **Music Hub** to develop and lead music in Y4 & Y5. Children are given opportunities to play instruments, learn various melodies and perform in public. One of their most recent performances was part of the **Great Youth Orchestra**, where schools from around the city came together to become a united orchestra.

**Digital Leaders** have worked hard and produced some wonderful mini movies. They premiered their films last half term both to parents and to the school. If you missed it, tune into @firbeckacademy1224 on You Tube. Films coming soon!

**Student Council** have been an important voice who represent pupil voice. They have been involved in our recruitment process, interviewing candidates, meeting our CEO, completing school tours, presenting assemblies to the school about important issues and much more. One of the areas they recognised we needed to improve on was on how we recycled in the classroom. They identified the issue, discussed the best possible ways to improve this, presented to the school and launched the class recycling bins.

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We have a range of **volunteers** in school, including reading volunteers. Thank you to the parents and careers who have been able to support on trips too. It is greatly appreciated to help enhance the experiences our children have during their learning journey at Firbeck Academy.

## **You Said, We Did...**

**Work Hard, Be Proud afternoon** will be held at the end of every term to showcase the amazing learning all our children have been doing. From 2.30pm you will be able to visit your child's classroom and see just how proud they all of their learning and share this with you.

**Firbeck's Always Children**, is a new way of celebrating those children who are **ALWAYS** showing the school values – Work Hard and Be Kind. These children will be chosen carefully by the staff and presented with a certificate during assembly in the first week back after each half term. They will then receive a special treat just for them, to show them how much we appreciate their hard work and kindness in school.

**Stay and Play** has been introduced in Nursery and Reception, this will continue to be once a half term. The children love to show off our amazing environment to their grown-ups.

Miss Cao loved gaining parents' and carers' feedback and suggestions during **Headteacher's Question Time**. This will happen once a term so that we continue to work together to achieve an excellent school for our community.

Our **School Library** is open after school every Thursday and Tuesday. Please come and share a story with your child.

At the end of the year, we will be holding our first annual **Excellence Awards**. Selected children will be sent an invitation and invited to an evening, alongside their grown-ups, to celebrate theirs and others' excellence. An evening of celebration!

The introduction of our **POP (Power of Parenting)** meetings are a great opportunity to learn all about your child's current and future learning. We have held sessions on letter formation; SATs prep and Emotion Coaching.

Join us for **coffee morning** every Thursday morning from 9am. We are also going to be joined by guests throughout the summer term to provide opportunities for parents to ask questions or hear about things to support you at home. Some of our guests this half term included Vicky Gill, Educational Psychologist to talk about emotion coaching and zones of regulation and Sally Newsome who will talk about parenting - the challenges and successes.

At the moment, we are using Twitter and Instagram to share every day news. Please would you have a look at both. Over the next few weeks we will be looking at which is the best platform to use.

Our **Instagram** account is [@FirbeckAcademy](https://www.instagram.com/FirbeckAcademy)

Our **Twitter** account is [@FirbeckPrimary](https://twitter.com/FirbeckPrimary)

If you are interested, please feel free to follow all of our staff team as they share on their own school Twitter accounts.

[@MrsKBayliss](https://twitter.com/MrsKBayliss) [@MissSnell58](https://twitter.com/MissSnell58) [@MrDMurcutt](https://twitter.com/MrDMurcutt) [@MissStimson](https://twitter.com/MissStimson) [@MissSCao1](https://twitter.com/MissSCao1) [@MrsBFirbeck](https://twitter.com/MrsBFirbeck) [@OMalplaquet](https://twitter.com/OMalplaquet)

Mrs Hebbs' twitter account to follow shortly.

Thank you for continued support,

The Firbeck Family