

FINSTALL FIRST SCHOOL



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HEADTEACHER: Mr Stuart Evans We care, we share, we learn and achieve

5th January 2016

Dear Parents.

YEARS 1-4-PARENTS' MEETINGS-JANUARY 20th and 21st 2015

Our next Parents' Meetings are on Wednesday 20th January from 4.00 to 7.00pm and Thursday 21st January from 3.30 to 6.30pm. The main purpose of these meetings is for you to have the opportunity to have a discussion with your child's class teacher(s) about your child's progress, particularly in the core subjects of Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

By the 15th January, the week before the meetings, you will receive, by e-mail, a detailed interim summary of what your child has achieved so far this year, in Reading, Writing (Composition and Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation) and Mathematics (Number only), and the areas that he or she will still need to work on during the remainder of the academic year. We have not included the statements for Handwriting and Spelling or the other areas of Mathematics as we felt this would have overloaded you with too much information.

You will receive this information by e-mail in the form of a list of statements, which detail what the children are expected to be able to demonstrate **by the end of each band (year group).** The teachers assess each child against each of these statements and highlight them as follows:

Blank – Your child has not yet started work on this statement

Red - Your child is working towards achieving this statement

Blue - Your child has demonstrated that he or she has achieved this statement

Please do not be concerned if many of the statements are blank or red. The assessments are based on the progress made by the children up to the end of the Autumn term and, therefore, we will not have completed a year's work by this time.

You will receive an updated version of this information within the end of year reports in July, by which time you can expect more of the statements to be highlighted in blue.

If you do not receive this initial report by the 15th January, please inform your child's class teacher or the School Office immediately, as this information will be central to the discussion at the Parents' meeting.

At the meeting, you will also have time to talk about any other issues or concerns you may have and the class teachers will clarify exactly how you could best support your child's learning at home. You will also have the opportunity to see your children's work in all the various subjects as this will be placed in the practical areas / corridors outside the classrooms, in clearly labelled trays.







By the end of the meeting, we hope that you will have gained a better understanding of the work that your child has completed and, perhaps more importantly, the work that your child still has to do and how you, as parents, can support your child's learning.

We are aware that the language used within the assessments that you will be receiving is, at times, rather "school specific" and so we have included a link to a page on the School website, below, which provides guidance to help parents to understand the curriculum.

http://www.finstallfirst.co.uk/website/curriculum and assessment - support for parents/173332

In addition, as some of the statements refer to "Appendix 2 from the National Curriculum Programme of Study for English," this can also be found on the link above.

For this round of meetings, we would like you to book your own appointment time, using an online booking system. This can be accessed via the School Website, in the following way:

- Log in using the <u>Parents'</u> User Name and Password (If you can't find this, please contact Mr Mason via your child's Communication Book)
- Click on the Parents' Evening tab
- Click "View Event Bookings" (Blue Button)
- Click on your child's name
- Click "Book / View" (Blue Button)
- Choose a date and time and click "Save"

If you are booking appointments for more than one child, with different staff, we recommend that you leave at least 20 minutes between appointments in case they are not running exactly to time.

A list of all parents' appointments will be posted on each classroom door and the names will be ticked off after the discussion to give an indication to those waiting of the progress being made. Please do not be offended if the class teacher brings your meeting to a close after the **10 minutes** are up as we do not want other parents to be kept waiting beyond the time of their appointment. If you, or the teacher, should feel that there are special reasons for a longer discussion, then we will be pleased to arrange a separate meeting on an alternative date. Also, please remember that staff will always be willing to meet with you at other times during the year if you have any concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Evans Head Teacher





