



FINSTALL FIRST SCHOOL



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HEADTEACHER: Mr Stuart Evans

We care, we share, we learn and achieve

16th May 2018

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to Year 3 and 4 – Newsround Art Competition Winners

A couple of weeks ago, the children in Years 3 and 4 entered their work into an Art competition, which was run by BBC Newsround. This followed some work they had done about a ship called the Empire Windrush, which, 70 years ago, was the first of many to bring people from different countries to work in the UK. To mark the anniversary of this event, Birmingham City Council are creating a garden, which will be on display at the Chelsea Flower Show, and they asked children to send pictures and drawings that would explain what life was like for the passengers of the Windrush. The 100 best pictures would be used in the garden display as an edging.

We entered the work of all our Year 3 and 4 children into this competition, following a lesson in which the children learned about this event, and I am pleased to be able to inform you that Baroness Floella Benjamin, who judged the competition, has decided to use **all 120** of the entries submitted by the children of Finstall First School. She was extremely impressed by their quality and how our school turned the competition into a lesson, learning all about the Empire Windrush. The artwork produced covered all of the elements Baroness Benjamin was looking for and a few others she was delighted to see. She didn't want to disappoint any of the children who had obviously spent a lot of time researching and producing their work.

Now, all of the drawings will be scanned and transferred on to boards ready to go on the display. After Chelsea, the garden will be re-created at Handsworth Park where it will remain until September.

This is a fantastic achievement for our School and for all of the children in Years 3 and 4. More details and some images of the garden can be found using the link below.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/43655924>

PTO



Year 4 Residential Trip to Malvern Outdoor Elements

From 2nd to 4th May, the children in Year 4 visited Malvern Outdoor Elements for a 3 day Residential Visit. I would like to commend the children on their behaviour and the characteristics they showed during their stay. They worked extremely well, collaboratively and independently, they showed a great deal of determination and resilience and were extremely supportive of each other.

As you are probably aware, a number of the children were feeling unwell before and, in some cases, during the visit, especially with the outbreak of “slapped cheek syndrome,” which has been rife in this area. Despite this, the children did extremely well to keep going and to keep their spirits high.

I would like to say a special public and formal thank you to the staff who accompanied the children on this visit, who showed so much care for the children to ensure that they all enjoyed such a successful experience. Thank you also to the many parents who have expressed their gratitude to the staff in acknowledgement of their efforts. This is much appreciated.

Royal Wedding Celebration

To mark the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle, children will be allowed to come to School on Friday 18th May wearing any combination of Red, White and Blue although, if they prefer, they could still attend in their school uniform. Weather permitting, we may set up the tables for lunch outside so that we can turn our lunch time into a Royal “Street Party.” We will also be talking to the children about the Royal Family this week and the role they play in Modern Britain. We hope to make it a really enjoyable day for the children.

Vacancy – Grounds person / School Security Officer

Unfortunately our School Caretaker, Richard Dalton, will be leaving us at the end of this half term and so we are re-organising the way his duties will be performed and have advertised for a Grounds person / School Security Officer (Mornings) with hours totalling 17 ½ hours / week throughout the year. If any parents know of anyone who might be interested in this role, which could be carried out in the mornings only, please direct them to the information on the link below – please note that the closing date is Monday 21st May. On behalf of everyone connected with the School, we would like to wish Richard the very best of luck in the future.

<https://www.eteach.com/jobs.aspx?empno=18921>

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Evans
Head Teacher

