



17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# High Firs Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

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Visit our school website at [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)

## Message from Mr Kilbride

A really lovely week of achievements to celebrate this week. The Book Fair, as ever, has been a roaring success with many children taking home exciting new reading materials for great prices – and this super engagement has led to school being able to obtain £250 of new books for classes completely free of charge.

The eight children who represented our school at the district cross country event (pictured below) on Tuesday did so with great sportsmanship and excellent behaviour. Real ambassadors for our school with the effort they put in to do their best – well done to all!

We have enjoyed engaging with Science Week in school this week. All classes have had their own challenge to protect a chocolate egg against various outside influences ranging from perilous round the world voyages to exciting parachute jumps and extraordinary rocket launches into outer space! Each scenario relates to learning classes have encountered in their science curriculum this term. In assembly next week, children will present their results to the school and we will learn which class has had the greatest success rate in egg protection.

Spring time always brings great progress in school, and we look forward to sharing this with you in detail in Parent Consultation meetings next week. Additionally, Miss Rennie and I will be meeting with teachers to discuss pupils' progress and to review focus groups and targets as we anticipate moving forwards into the Summer Term. Certainly work in children's books, observations of lessons, displays around school and content shared in class assemblies reveal that children are making really good progress and thoroughly enjoying their learning.



## Cross Country

Eight of our children took part in the District Cross Country competition at Swanley Park on Tuesday afternoon along with eight other local schools, running a fantastic 1800m! Well done to all the children who took part and a special mention to our boys' team who were placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and who came home with a super silver medal each.



## Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair. We sold a fantastic number of books which meant that we have been able to buy almost £35 per class to spend on super new books to enjoy in our classrooms.



## EASTER & SPRING COMPETITION

For this year's competition everyone is bringing home a paper bowl! You can use it to make anything you like so long as it is on an Easter / Spring theme....

Bring your finished entry to school on **MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH – please, not before!**  
**PARENTS – please pop into the hall after school on MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> to view all our fantastic finished entries.**



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### Parents Consultations

We look forward to welcoming parents & carers into school next week for their consultation meetings with class teachers. Please arrive about ten minutes before your appointment time so you have time to look at your child's books beforehand.



### School Clubs

Due to Parents Consultations and other events in school next week & the week after, **all after-school activity clubs have now finished**. We hope that the children have enjoyed taking part this term; new club arrangements for the Summer Term will be available in due course. FOSC Breakfast Club & After School Club continue as normal.

### Birdwatch

Thank you to all our families who took part in this year's Birdwatch. Well done to EcoClub for collating and counting all the outcomes! The final results were:

19 returns	
What did you see?	
Tick and count the birds that you see - you might not see all of these! If you see some different birds you can add them to the empty grid.	
 Woodpigeon <b>52</b>	 Blackbird <b>24</b>
 Carrion crow <b>16</b>	 House sparrow <b>49</b>
 Starling <b>55</b>	 Black-headed gull <b>16</b>
 Magpie <b>30</b>	 Blue tit <b>38</b>
 Robin <b>24</b>	 Feral pigeon <b>31</b>
 Great tit <b>10</b>	 Chaffinch <b>2</b>

### Special Mentions

Well done to all of our children who received a Special Mention and certificate from their teacher in assembly today –

- Anthony L – writing a super shopping list for Gruffalo Crumble!
- Alice H – trying really hard with her reading.
- All of Year 1 – their amazing class assembly.
- Albert T – his lovely manners and hard work at Woodlands.
- Luca C – being a supportive classmate
- Darcie D – her detailed newspaper report about an alien landing.
- Logan TG – using great verbs in his story writing.
- Selena L – being such a positive member of the class.
- Amy V – her consistently positive attitude towards all learning but especially her progress in Maths.
- Isabella T - her consistently positive attitude towards all learning but especially her progress in Maths.
- Jack M – working really hard on his writing describing the Aurora skyship.
- Lola H – working really hard on her writing describing the Aurora skyship.
- Mason T – an excellent improvement in Maths.
- Alby R – great teamwork designing & making a rocket for our Science Week challenge.
- Tommy G – great teamwork designing & making a rocket for our Science Week challenge.



### Safeguarding concerns – how to contact us

Safeguarding our pupils is everybody's responsibility and all those directly connected (staff, volunteers, governors, leaders, parents, families, and learners) are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for our children and have an essential role to play in making our community safe and secure. We have Designated Safeguarding Leaders who have responsibility for the day-to-day oversight of safeguarding and child protection systems (including online safety) in school – these are currently Mr Kilbride, Miss Rennie, Miss Allin & Miss Selby. If you have any safeguarding concerns, you can make an appointment with one of our DSLs to discuss these. Alternatively, we have a dedicated form on our website at <https://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/safeguarding/> or you can email [safeguarding@high-firs.kent.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@high-firs.kent.sch.uk) Any concerns sent by the website or email will go directly to our DSLs; please provide as much information as you can so that we have a full understanding of the circumstances. We will respond as promptly as we can; however, if you believe that a child is in immediate danger you should always call the police immediately on 999.

**Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility**

*How to contact us  
if you are concerned*



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## HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	129	2355	Harrison F, Aayden C
CHESTNUT	234	2746	Anthony L, Annie-Grace G
OAK	116	2423	Jamie W, Francesca F, Amy V
ASH	111	1984	Michael K, Logan P, Isabella T, Emanuela M

### In our classes this week

Reception – learned to grow cress.  
 Year 1 – enjoyed their Science Week challenge.  
 Year 2 – wrote newspaper reports  
 Year 3 – learned to work out equivalent masses.  
 Year 4 – compared the geography of Italy and United Kingdom.  
 Year 5 – mixed vinegar and bicarbonate of soda to inflate balloons!  
 Year 6 – created storyboards about the evolution of the peppered moth.



### Register Rabbit

Congratulations to this week's winners of Register Rabbit for their excellent attendance:



YEAR R  
YEAR 6

## Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education  
Registered Charity No. 1137633



You can choose up to four rules from the list below to break on **FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH** only!

Pay 50p per rule you break – maximum of 4 rules / £2 total.  
All funds raised for Friends of High Firs.

- You must wear a yellow school jumper.
- You must not wear trainers to school.
- You must wear matching socks.
- You must not have squash in your water bottle.
- You must not have a tattoo.
- You must use your school branded rucksack.
- You must not have coloured or wacky hair.
- You must only eat a healthy snack (if you break this rule it must still be nut-free, please)
- You must not paint your nails.



These are the only rules you are allowed to break 😊



### INSET DAYS

**No children in school**

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Mon 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023



### Coming up next week...

**There are no activity clubs now until the Summer Term.**

Breakfast Club & After School Club paid provision are open as usual.

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Yr4 pizza day

Parents Consultations – by appointment

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March

District High Fives Netball at Hextable Primary 1.15pm–4pm

Parents Consultations – by appointment

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Parents Consultations – by appointment

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Reception Class Assembly: 10.10am – parents welcome!

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Y5/6 Football vs The Gateway (home match)



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Hextable Wind Band  
performs



## A concert for children 'Movies and Musicals'



A selection of music from the movies, performed live, for children.  
Music from The Lion King, Frozen, The Greatest Showman, Annie  
to name but a few ...

We encourage the children to sing and dance as we play!!

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2023**

High Firs Primary School  
Court Crescent, Swanley, Kent

1.30 pm to 3 pm

Tickets available from [sjarvis64@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sjarvis64@hotmail.co.uk)  
Children £2 Adults £5

All monies raised will be donated to  
Beams Charity in Hextable.



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