



10th Feb 2023

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Visit our school website at www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Message from Mr Kilbride

Term 3 seems to have flown by, and despite it being a relatively short term, everyone has worked so hard these past few cold weeks that a half term break now seems due!

Today I am sending out attendance letters to all children whose attendance is below 95%. We really want to see our attendance levels improve to pre-pandemic levels of approximately 96.5% – we are still some way off that at around 93%. It is expected by Kent Local Authority and by Ofsted that we implement local Inclusion and Attendance guidance and do everything that we can to encourage children to attend every day. We have a register rabbit award that goes out in assembly every week, we send out certificates to our most frequent attenders at the end of each seasonal term and specific children with attendance below a certain level are closely monitored and rewarded each week for their regular attendance. I am sure that you will agree with me that improved school attendance for all will help children to reach their full educational potential.

As we begin Term 4, I would like to clarify how we arrange the drop off at the gate each morning. The scooter park has been a great success, but has presented a couple of new problems as well. It has become increasingly difficult to monitor whether children have 'safely arrived' in school, now that some children are coming in with their scooter first, and then going back out to collect their bags and lunch boxes from parents/carers waiting outside. So from the beginning of Term 4 I would like the following to happen:

Where possible in the vast majority of cases, please can children say goodbye to parents/carers outside the school gate and send children into school carrying/wheeling everything they need.

OR

For the youngest children or children who have additional needs relating to personal organisation or physical strength, if parents/carers need to support their child to drop a scooter or bike, please can parents/carers come inside to do this within the confines of the scooter park, and then leave, so that no children are going back and forth by the school gate.

In cases where parents/carers are coming inside to support children to come in through the gate, please could you try to teach the children to work towards independence in this regard.

MATHS WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

Great opportunity for parents to learn about the types of mathematics that their children are learning in the classroom, activities that can be used at home, and strategies to help them with their homework!

Please join us on:

Years 5 & 6 – Tuesday 21st February at 2.15pm
Years 3 & 4 – Wednesday 1st March at 2.15pm
Years 1 & 2 – Thursday 9th March at 2.15pm

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Class Assemblies

We look forward to welcoming you to the following class assemblies, all starting at 10.10am:

Year 4 – Thu 23rd Feb – followed by Multiplication

Check talk for parents

Year 3 – Thu 2nd Mar

Year 2 – Thu 9th Mar – followed by SATs talk for parents

Year 1 – Thu 16th Mar

Year R – Thu 23rd Mar



Achieving more together



WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Our new lunch menus from after half-term are now available at:

<https://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/meals>



#Stay Safe
Get Active

Got to drive?

Park and stride!

Sign up to join us at -
<https://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/park-stride/>

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association Supporting Our Children's Education Registered Charity No. 1137633



KS1 - "Encanto" - Weds 22nd Feb
KS2 - "Matilda" - Thurs 23rd Feb
3.30pm - 5.30pm

Children can go straight from class to the movie - parents do not need to collect from school first other than Yr2 children who will need to be collected from White Oak as per their normal arrangements.

Park & Stride Volunteer Appeal

We are very excited that our Park & Stride initiative has been so popular but this does mean that we need to appeal to all of our parents for some help. We will shortly have to limit the number of children who can take advantage of the scheme as we are unable to offer any more members of staff to operate it. Therefore we would ideally like at least one parent volunteer per session to walk with us. This could be either parents who already use Park & Stride or those who don't and are just able to offer to accompany us on the walk with their own children.

In the mornings, you would need to meet at the Goldsel Road drop off point (side road – opposite entrance to garages for Winton Court) at 8.35am to walk down to school and in the afternoons, you would need to come to school at 3.10pm to walk back up to the Goldsel Road meeting point.

We have set up a booking system to try to ensure that all sessions are covered so please use the following link to access the system and advise of any sessions over the next month that you would be able to help

with: <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/boZKKDja>

Resolution Read at Home

Well done to all our children who rose to our Resolution Read at Home challenge to read at home every night in January. As well as weekly certificates, some children achieved the fantastic target of reading for the whole month and were presented with a Book Voucher in assembly today –

Reception: Brooke, George S

Year 1: Iyah

Year 2: Ellis, Sadie, Dylan, Oliver, Roman, Joshua

Year 3: Poppy, Hannah, Lily, Maisie, Ellie, Faye, Logan

Year 4: Walter, Beatrice, Agnish, Isabella, Samuel

Year 5: Korlekie, Jack B, Lacey, Emanuela, Liam, Ella, Elsie, Sam

Year 6: Tenuki, Evie B, Joshua, Chanelle, Lily, Eloise, Scarlett



Achieving more together



	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	177	2024	Morgan J, Scarlett
CHESTNUT	222	2238	Roman, Ellie R, Faye R, Annie-Grace
OAK	180	2083	Dylan, Poppy C, Elsie, Joshua E
ASH	114	1836	Michael K, Umaiza H

Special Mentions

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

- Freya S – super writing.
- George N – super writing.
- Sabiha M – always working hard and showing enthusiasm for learning.
- Lowen P – always trying his best and putting 100% into his learning.
- Alan G – working hard to improve his reading and writing using his phonics.
- Danny B – always trying his best.
- Hannah C – always trying really hard practising her spellings.
- Emelia S – always trying really hard practising her spellings.
- Karina C – her fabulous leaflet about volcanoes.
- Honey B – working hard to improve her gymnastic skills in PE.
- Thomas D – improved effort in Maths.
- Harrison A – improved effort in Maths.
- Francesca T – great work using Mr Men to understand inheritance in Science.


Register Rabbit

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

YEAR 2
YEAR 4


INSET DAYS
No children in school

Fri 26th May 2023

Mon 10th July 2023

Coming up:

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February – Half Term holiday

Monday 20th February –

French Club & Yr1/2 Story Clubs only today.

The following clubs are cancelled today due to an additional staff meeting:

Yr3 Board Games

Yr4/5 – Speedstacking

Yr4/5/6 – Choir

Tuesday 21st February –

Yr5/6 Parents Maths Workshop 2.15pm

Wednesday 22nd February –

FHF KS1 Film Night

Thursday 23rd February –

Yr4 Class Assembly & Tables Check meeting for parents 10.10am

FHF KS2 Film Night

No Yr3 Computing or Yr3/4 Gym Clubs today due to Film Night

Friday 24th February –

Football Match vs St Paul's



In our classes this week

Reception – learned to use clay to make their own Superworm!

Year 1 – made number bonds to 20.

Year 2 – wrote poems to describe the Arctic.

Year 3 – calculated and measured perimeter.

Year 4 – learned about food chains.

Year 5 – painted pictures inspired by the work of Nicholas Roerich.

Year 6 – learned about inheritance using Mr Men and Little Miss characters.



Celebrate our 1 Year Anniversary with free activities for all the family!



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OPEN DAY
SUNDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2023
WHITE OAK LEISURE CENTRE

Activities are FREE between 10am & 5pm, including:

- Family swimming sessions • TAG Active
- Group exercise classes • Soft play sessions
- Drop-in badminton • Trampolining Sessions
- Gym sessions • Freestyle Football sessions
and so much more on the day!

Enjoy Freestyle Football sessions with Jamie Knight and Rebaz Mohammed, fresh from the world cup stage

everyoneactive.com/news/white-oak-leisure-centre-open-day



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