



19th April 2024

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Message from Mr Kilbride

Welcome back everybody - I hope you all enjoyed the Easter Holiday and have come back feeling well rested and raring to go for the Summer Term.

There are so many things to look forward to this term and we got underway with a bang at the FHF school disco on Wednesday. This was a really well attended event by both children and parent helpers. A huge thank you to the Friends for organising and to all the parent volunteers, without whom, we could not put on a disco. I look forward to bringing you news of the amount raised in due course.

See the FHF bingo evening date below – we ran this family event for the first time last year and it was a real success – we hope to see many of the same faces attending again this year and some new ones too.

Our certificate winners from Thursday before Easter are attending their Golden Tea today to celebrate being selected for their great work and attitude over the whole of the Spring Term.

Year 4 parents remember your Parent Consultation meeting slots are next week – you will have received notification of your time already. Any concern, please contact the school office.

This term we have begun a live Timestable Rockstar challenge in assembly on Thursdays – children can practise at home and enter the chance to compete against a teacher in assembly to see who can score the most in a minute! Make sure you know your child's login details (Y2-6) – any concern, contact your class teacher on their class email.

Year 4 began their term of swimming this week and did really well and Year R (Wed), Y1 (Fri) and Y5 (Thur) are in the woodlands this term. Year 2 are taking part in Small Steps road safety training every Monday afternoon and Reception are beginning their journey of learning to ride on our balance bikes every Thursday.

See the chance to sign up for clubs below.



Don't forget to log on each week
<https://trockstars.com/>

School Clubs

You can sign up for this term's school clubs at <https://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/clubs> until 12pm on Monday 22nd April.

Clubs start week beginning Monday 29th April; staff running clubs will confirm if your child has a place by Thursday 25th April.

No nuts, please

Please can we remind parents that we are a **NUT FREE** school – this is **ALL TYPES OF NUTS**. Please can we therefore ask for the support of all our school families in ensuring that none of our children or visitors bring any nuts or nut-based products (eg: Nutella spread / Snickers / nutty cereal bars etc) into school. Thank you for your understanding and support in helping to ensure the safety & wellbeing of those members of our school community for whom these products can pose a serious risk.

NUT FREE



THANK YOU
for keeping our school safe!



Achieving more together



Special Mentions

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

- Lola F – super phonics learning and trying hard with her reading.
- Florence F – always trying her best especially in writing.
- Anthony L – working hard to improve his reading.
- Freya S – always working hard and giving 100% to her learning.
- Kaya O – his use of interesting vocabulary when writing descriptively.
- Courtney B – always trying her best!
- Millie B & Darcie D – great paired work in our cricket lesson.
- Annabelle B – her writing in response to an illustration from “Arthur and the Golden Rope”.
- Rakshanaa S – her fantastic times tables knowledge.
- Fraser D – returning to school focussed and ready to learn.
- Kenneth C – great work in Maths on angles.
- Jack B – brilliant work punctuating speech accurately.
- Jessica T – working hard in all lessons and always demonstrating our school values.



Register Rabbit

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

YEAR 2

YEAR 4

Our class totals were:

Year 4 99.6%

Year 3 99.2%

Year 2 97.8%

Year 5 95.6%

Year 6 93.3%

Year 1 93.1%

Year R 92.6%



St George's Day

Members of Guiding (Rainbows / Brownies / Guides), Scouting (Beavers / Cubs / Scouts), Girls Brigade, Boys Brigade etc. may wear their organisation's uniform to school on Tuesday 23rd April to commemorate St George's Day.



In our classes this week

Reception – learned the names of 3d shapes.

Year 1 – learned to use “er” and “est”.

Year 2 – started their new class text, “The Boy Who Grew Dragons”.

Year 3 – measured capacity and volume.

Year 4 – enjoyed their first swimming lesson!

Year 5 – designed Greek vases.

Year 6 – started their new book, “The Explorer”.



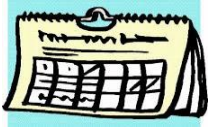
HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	109	109	Robert L, Samuel S
CHESTNUT	139	139	Mason B, Bella O
OAK	113	113	Henry RW, Jack W, Elsie W, Holly P
ASH	130	130	Lowen P, Baraa R



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INSET DAYS
Fri 24th May 2024
Mon 1st July 2024

Coming up next week...

No school clubs.
FOSC BC & ASC are running as usual.

Monday 22nd April
Year 4 Parents Consultations – by appointment
12pm – Club applications close

Tuesday 23rd April
Year 4 Parents Consultations – by appointment
St George's Day – children who are members of Guiding / Scouting /
Brigade organisations may wear these uniforms instead today.

Wednesday 24th April
Year 4 Parents Consultations – by appointment
High Fives team session to 4.15pm

Thursday 25th April
High Fives Tournament at Hextable Primary 1pm – 4pm

**SEN
COFFEE
MORNING**

Come along to our SEN Coffee Morning - everyone is welcome whether they have a child on our SEN register or just want to find out more...

**Tues 21st
May at 9am**

Save the date!
Focus(es) to be confirmed...

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

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

**Family
BINGO**

**Fun
For all the
Family**

**FRIDAY 17TH MAY
AT 6PM**

More info coming soon!



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#Stay Safe
Get Active

Got to drive?

Park and stride!

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



No Parking

Think before you stop,
Choose a safe spot...

... and please show consideration
to our neighbours.



GIRLS
we need YOU!

Come and join us for **2 FREE** taster sessions at Dartford Cricket Club

Whether you have years of experience or none at all, everyone is welcome. All coaching staff are ECB qualified & DBS checked, male & female coaches.

When: Every Monday at 6-7pm (from 13th May)
Where: Dartford Cricket Club, Hesketh Park
Who: Girls age 7 - 11

Simply scan the QR code below to register your interest



 ESTABLISHED 1727
DARTFORD CRICKET CLUB



Achieving more together





February 2024

High Firs Primary School

FOCUS ON: Maths



At High Firs, we follow the White Rose maths scheme throughout the school and our maths lessons ensure that all children complete fluency style questions, as well as reasoning and problem solving.



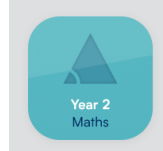
Each year group is split into blocks, and so far this year, classes have been learning about:



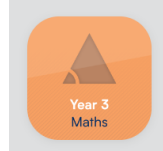
- ◆ Matching, sorting and comparing
- ◆ Measures and patterns
 - ◆ 1, 2, 3
- ◆ Circles and triangles
 - ◆ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- ◆ Shapes with 4 sides
 - ◆ 5, 6, 7, 8



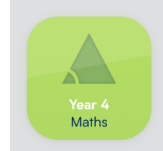
- ◆ Length, height and time
- ◆ Place value within 10
- ◆ Addition and subtraction within 10
 - ◆ Shape
- ◆ Place value within 20
- ◆ Addition and subtraction within 20



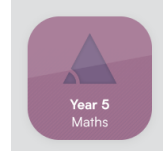
- ◆ Place value within 50
- ◆ Place value
- ◆ Addition and subtraction
 - ◆ Shape
 - ◆ Money
- ◆ Multiplication and division
- ◆ Length and height



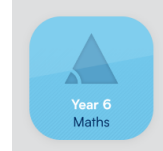
- ◆ Place value
- ◆ Addition and subtraction
- ◆ Multiplication and division
- ◆ Length and perimeter
 - ◆ Fractions
- ◆ Place value



- ◆ Addition and subtraction
 - ◆ Area
- ◆ Multiplication and division
- ◆ Length and perimeter
 - ◆ Fractions
- ◆ Place value



- ◆ Addition and subtraction
- ◆ Multiplication and division
 - ◆ Fractions
 - ◆ Decimals and percentages
- ◆ Place value
 - ◆ Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division



- ◆ Fractions
- ◆ Converting units
 - ◆ Ratio
 - ◆ Algebra
 - ◆ Decimals
 - ◆ Fractions, decimals and percentages

Aims for maths at High Firs this year

1) Use arithmetic quizzes across the school to improve basic maths skills.

This year, we have introduced Popcorn Maths arithmetic quizzes to keep track of the children's key maths skills. Class teachers are then able to use these to find out which skills need to be focused on.



2) Children will independently use the practical resources provided to self-support themselves.

Years 1-6 now have 5 resource boxes in their classes, to be available on children's tables during every maths lesson. The resources included are the key concrete manipulatives modelled in the White Rose scheme and can be used to support all areas of maths. Specific maths equipment (e.g. clocks for time, thermometers, weights etc.) have not been included, as these will only be used in certain units.



Achieving more together



This year, Miss Allin and Mrs Ford have been participating in a 'Primary Teaching for Mastery' work group with the Kent and Medway Maths Hub. Among other training opportunities, this has included several visits to observe a maths specialist teaching at her school in Gravesend.

Primary Teaching for Mastery:

During the 2023/24 school year, Maths Hubs across England will be working with thousands of primary schools to continue the spread of teaching for mastery across England. The Teaching for Mastery Programme is a professional development opportunity designed to support teachers to develop best practice in maths in school.

Websites to support maths learning

Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots are two websites which we subscribe to in school. They are run by the same organisation, which means that logins are the same for both websites. All children in Years 1-6 have an account for these.

Numbots is particularly useful for children in Years 1, 2 and 3 to practise key skills such as number recognition, subitising and number bonds.



<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/32243>

Times Tables Rock Stars offers different ways to practise times tables. By the end of Year 4, children will have been taught all of their times tables in school (up to 12 x 12) but it's really important to keep practising them.



<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/32243>

Hit the button is a website which can be used to practise a variety of maths skills. It is free and does not require an account or login.

www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

