



10th May 2024

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Court Crescent, Swanley, Kent BR8 8NR Tel: 01322 669721

Email: office@high-firs.kent.sch.uk Website: www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Message from Mr Kilbride

What a wonderful week our children have had exploring and playing with their new “treasures” on the playground! It has been so lovely to see so many of the children playing together so cooperatively and imaginatively – helped, of course, by the arrival at last of the sunshine. Thank you very much to all the parents who have made donations of items we can play with. It’s not too late so if you do have any of the things on our list please do bring them into school for us to use. Thank you.

- large cardboard boxes
- large cardboard tubes (for mailing posters / carpet inners etc – not kitchen rolls!)
- bedsheets / curtains
- cable reels
- “Umbrella fold” buggies (real ones not for dolls!)
- crutches / zimmer frames
- tarps / ground sheets
- dressing up / hats – child or adult!
- drainpipes / guttering
- suitcases
- crates
- mixing bowls / jugs / sieves (plastic or metal, please – no china or glass)
- saucepans / frying pans
- Kitchen utensils – large spoons / ladles / spatulas etc (no knives or forks!)
- old household phones (not mobiles)
- wallpaper
- large plastic bottles
- small paddling pools / sandpits
- Tuff trays
- Astroturf

CANCELLED

Park and Stride

Following a risk assessment of the roadworks at our Goldsel Road / Discovery Drive drop-off and collection point we have made the decision that Park and Stride will be cancelled until after half-term.



In our classes this week

- Reception – have been counting in 10s.
- Year 1 – found halves in maths.
- Year 2 – learned to use the index in an atlas to find places in the UK.
- Year 3 – learned about the human skeleton.
- Year 4 – enjoyed their trip to Horniman’s Museum.
- Year 5 – researched Greek mythological creatures.
- Year 6 – have written setting descriptions of the rainforest.



HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	177	656	Lola F, Ethan VP
CHESTNUT	182	735	Bobbi H, Thomas H
OAK	159	656	Henry RW, Elijah B, Smilte M
ASH	172	721	Eva O, Baraa R



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 –

- Ziggy G – his independent writing.
- Esme-Jayne W – her independent writing.
- Aaron B – a super effort with his learning this week.
- Bella B – a great first week in Year 1!
- Stanley W – for his persuasive advert to sell a dragon fruit
- Henry RW – his great focus and working in phonics
- Morgan J – effort in writing lessons this week.
- Alan G – using the bar model to solve fraction questions.
- Sadie B – great improvements and upgrading of her writing.
- Clark R-W – improved effort in Reading comprehension.
- Year 4 – showing fabulous patience, excellent behaviour and wonderful engagement in learning during their visit to the Horniman Museum.
- Ethan PV – a brilliant piece of learning comparing Greece and the UK.
- Izzy T – a brilliant piece of learning comparing Greece and the UK.
- Elijah B – an excellent setting description of the rainforest.
- Jack M – a fantastic start to his perspective drawing in art.
- Ella V – great geography work explaining the layers of a rainforest.



Register Rabbit

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

YEAR 2

YEAR 6

Our class totals were:

Rec – 94.8%

Year 3 – 95.4%

Year 4 – 96.2%

Year 1 – 96.7%

Year 5 – 98.1%

Year 6 – 99.5%

Year 2 – 100%



Coming up next week...

Park and Stride cancelled all week

INSET DAYS

Fri 24th May 2024

Mon 1st July 2024

Monday 13th May

Yr6 Breakfast Club & SATs

Tuesday 14th May

Yr6 Breakfast Club & SATs

Wednesday 15th May

Yr6 Breakfast Club & SATs

Thursday 16th May

Yr6 Breakfast Club & SATs

Yr3 Class Assembly – 2.30pm

Friday 17th May

FHF Family Bingo – 6pm



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Spring 2024

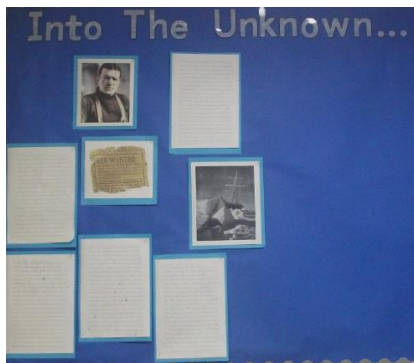
High Firs Primary School

FOCUS ON: History

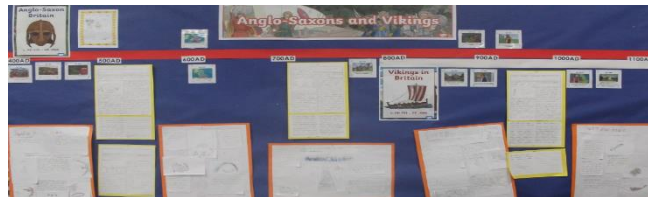
Reception our youngest children in school start learning History by talking and finding out about themselves and their families.

Year 1 enjoyed their castle topic! They can identify the features of medieval castles and know who might have lived there. They have learned who William the Conqueror was and why he was important.

Year 2 have explored Antarctica with Ernest Shackleton. They have used different sources to find out about him and his journey and looked at what makes his achievements and discoveries so significant. They know the key events of his journey.



Year 3 have enjoyed learning about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. They have found out about how they came to England, life in an Anglo-Saxon village and different Gods. They have also investigated different artefacts such as buckles and rings to find out more about life in these times. We linked to our English learning to write newspaper reports about the exciting discoveries of Edith Pretty and Basil Brown at Sutton Hoo.



Year 4 travelled back to Tudor times. They know the names of key Tudors and how the dynasty began. They understand the features of rich and poor people in Tudor times and are able to contrast life then with now. Year 4 also enjoyed travelling around the world with the Tudor explorers and know what life was like on board.

Year 5 have learned about life for children in Victorian times including the jobs they did, what school was like and the games that they played. They have used old photographs and maps from the past to find out what it was like to live in Swanley 150 years ago and traced the lives of a Victorian family who lived in Swanley village using census records dating from 1851 to 1901. *Do you know where this is in Swanley? You can still see part of it today...*



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Year 6 were evacuees for the day as part of their World War 2 topic last term; they know when, where and why children were evacuated. Through their lessons they are able to explain why World War II began and order events from early World War II on a timeline; they know the key countries and players in key events. They know what rationing was and can identify the role of women in the war effort.

Key focusses – we have three key areas for our History teaching and learning in 2023-2024:

KNOWLEDGE –

- key facts (places / people / dates)
- key vocabulary

SKILLS –

- use evidence – identify, select and use a range of sources to draw conclusions; evaluate these sources and conclusions
- historical enquiry – answer questions and reflect critically on answers
- communicate about the past – present findings and understanding in a number of ways.

CONCEPTS - “History’s Big Ideas”–

- time, change & chronology – creating a sense of time & period, sequence, what changed and when, what continues, what might be seen as progress.
- reasons & results – how can we explain why things happened in history? How did people make a difference and what was the result?
- interpretation – how and why does information about the past differ? Do we all understand it in the same way? How do we show what the past was like?
- historical evidence – what do we use to find out about the past? How can we use sources to produce the “best history” we can? What are the problems of using sources?
- significance – how do we choose what in history is most important?



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