



23rd May 2024

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Message from Mr Kilbride

I can scarcely believe that we have reached the end of Term 5 already and that the formalities relating to the end of the academic year are once again very near or upon us.

The weather has been very disappointing so far this summer term, resulting in curtailed cricket sessions, cancelled cross country (twice) and some unseasonal mud pies in forest school! I hope that with a break of a week, we can look forward to fine weather in Term 6. Please keep your eye on the weather throughout the term, as raincoats provided helps us in keeping the children active at playtime and lunchtime, if the rain is only light – but equally, a bout of hot weather will be made more manageable with the provision of hats and sun cream.

In between the showers, we managed to fit in inter-house cricket competitions across the school this week with the results as follows:

KS1	KS2
Beech – 279	Oak - 79
Chestnut – 241	Beech - 73
Oak – 226	Chestnut - 66
Ash – 225	Ash - 55

Our second SEN coffee morning took place on Tuesday morning, with a focus on Speech and Language. A further morning is to be held after half term and is a great opportunity to come together and share experiences, whatever the focus of the presented session.

Thank you to the parents who came to the recent Writing Open Morning and took the time to give us their feedback. Comments received about the event included:

"Thank you for having us again. Really informative. Was really impressed with the range of vocabulary I heard used by the children in the classes."

"Really enjoyed the writing open morning - was helpful to hear about how writing is taught to the children and also the changes being made to help improve performance in writing."

Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 3rd June for Term 6.

Music assembly – Parents of all of Year 5 and children in Year 6 who are learning an instrument with Mrs Jarvis are invited to join us for a music performance assembly on 19th June at 10.10am.

Yr5&6 Isle of Wight & Activity Week assembly – due to the General Election being announced for Thursday 4th July we will be rescheduling the Yr5&6 Isle of Wight & Activity Week assembly planned for this date. We will let you know the new date asap.

Reminder – our other class assemblies will be on:

Year 4 – Thursday 6th June at 2.30pm

Reception Sharing Time – Friday 7th June at 2.15pm

Year 1 – Thursday 20th June at 10.10am

Year 6 Leavers Assembly info will be confirmed asap.

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

Thank you to everyone came along and supported our Bingo Evening last Friday – we raised £286.



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General Election – 4th July

School will remain open on the General Election on 4th July.



Park and stride update

The roadworks that have caused the recent cancellation of the Park & Stride are due to finish at the end of May. We therefore anticipate that we will be back to “business as usual” from after half term.

Year 1 and Year 4 assessments

Our children in Year 1 and Year 4 will be taking statutory assessments at the start of next half-term.

More information on these can be found at:

Year 1 Phonics Screening

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/phonics-screening-check-information-for-parents>

Year 4 Multiplication Check

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

If you have any further queries please contact your child’s teacher.

Resources for parents of children with SEN

We have come across a couple of very useful websites this week for parents of children with SEN –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/c5vpkq13gpvt>

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs>



INSET DAYS

Fri 24th May 2024

Mon 1st July 2024

Coming up...

Friday 24th May

INSET day: staff only in school

Monday 27th – Friday 31st May

Half Term holiday

Thursday 6th June

Yr2 visit to Hemsley

10.30am – D-Day Memorial Service at War Memorial

2.30pm – Year 4 Class Assembly

Friday 7th June

2.15pm – Reception sharing time with parents

**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...

**Monday 17th
June at 9am**

There will be coffee and chat, along with the chance to ask any questions you may have about our provision. We will also be welcoming our Educational Psychologist, Dr Sam Smith, to join us and share some ideas for supporting your child.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!



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High Firs Primary School

FOCUS ON: Music

Welcome to the Music newsletter!

The aim of the newsletter is to provide you with:

- ❖ The latest information about how music is taught.
- ❖ Extra-Curricular musical activities.

At the beginning of the year, the new Music Express scheme of music was purchased and shared with all the staff; the aim being to improve the planning and teaching of music across the school.

A new resource for supporting music for assemblies and productions was purchased. The children are enjoying learning some new songs as well as singing their older favourite ones.

In addition to this, we employ a peripatetic teacher, who provides specialist teaching for Year 5 children who can opt to play either the clarinet or the flute.

Feedback from the children has been positive with many saying how much they have enjoyed their music lessons so far this year.

We have also produced a new skills, knowledge and progression document for music, to ensure children gain the relevant skills and knowledge for their year group and that this progresses as they move through the school (available on the school website).



Extra-Curricular Activities

Choir Club has been offered as an after-school club.

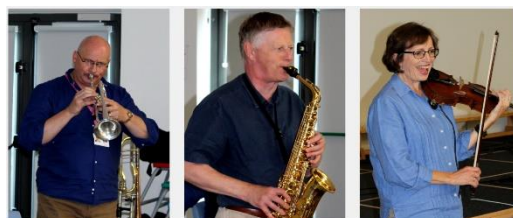
Children have taken part in Young Voices choir at the O2 Arena London.

Recorder Club has been offered as an after-school club

Children from Years 5, 6 and Recorder Club have taken part in a Music Experience Day at Benenden School.

Children from across the school have been given the opportunity to take part in Rock Steady band groups.

Future Event: In June this year we will be inviting the Kent Music Road Show into school to deliver a 'Bach To the Future' musical experience.



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