



23rd July 2024

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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

Message from Mr Kilbride

What a great year it has been in school. Your children have worked so hard for their achievements this year and it has been lovely this week to read all of the very kind and generous comments you have made in response to receiving your child's report.

This year our work with your children received validation in the form of a really positive Ofsted report and we are very proud to say that we think the school continues to grow and improve every day. The academic results and the pupils' engagement with the school values demonstrate this, as almost every visitor who comes into the building is minded to leave commenting on the great behaviour and attitudes of our children.

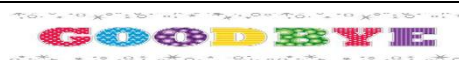
As with every end of year, this week has seen the culmination and celebration of pupil endeavours across the school. Yesterday morning Y6 had us all in reflective mood, as we joined their recollections of the past seven years and bid them farewell and good luck for their next steps into secondary education. They have been a fabulous year group of memorable and engaged children who have been great role models for our younger pupils to aspire to. The memories they leave behind are equally taken with them on their journeys, creating a connection with High Firs Primary School that will always be there.

I wish you a lovely summer holidays – may they bring relaxation, fun and happiness in equal measure. Stay safe everybody and we look forward to welcoming you all back again on Tuesday 3rd September.



We hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday!

The Autumn Term starts on Tuesday 3rd Sept (Yrs 1-6) or Thursday 5th Sept (Rec).



Year 6 Leavers

It was lovely to welcome our Year 6 parents and families into school yesterday for the children's Leavers Assembly. They have been a fantastic class throughout their time at High Firs. We wish them all the very best as they leave for their secondary schools; we are sure that they will all continue to do well and wish them every success for the future. Keep in touch!



CONGRATULATIONS CHESTNUT HOUSE POINT CHAMPIONS 2023-24

The final totals were:

CHESTNUT – 4967

ASH – 4622

BEECH – 4389

OAK – 4335

This week's top scorers were...

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| BEECH | Jessica YR; Emelia and Rakshanaa Y4 |
| CHESTNUT | Bobbi and Esme-Jayne YR; Thomas Y4 |
| OAK | Charlie and Tallulah YR; Smilte Y4 |
| ASH | Florence and Eva YR; Maisie Y4 |



Achieving more together



Attendance Awards

We have been really pleased with our attendance this year.

Many of our children have maintained excellent attendance records over both the Summer term and the academic year, and this was recognised in assembly last week with the presentation of certificates to all children achieving 98%, 99% and 100% attendance. We also celebrated our class attendance; percentages are shown on the right.

Please note that new government attendance requirements come into force from mid-August. These can be viewed here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_applies_from_19_August_2024_.pdf

Summer Term 2024

Year 1 – 96.7%
Year 6 – 96.5%
Year 5 – 96.5%
Year 4 – 96.3%
Year 3 – 95.3%
Year 2 – 94.9%
Reception – 94.4%

Academic Year 2023-24

Year 6 – 96.9%
Year 4 – 96.5%
Year 5 – 95.8%
Year 3 – 94.9%
Year 1 – 94.6%
Year 2 – 94.4%
Reception – 92.9%

Community Awards

Each year, Community Awards are presented to Year 6 Leavers who have shown a great commitment to the school community throughout their time at High Firs. We were delighted to present this year's awards to: **Jack M, Jessica, Aayden, Teddy, Bobby, Harrison and Jack B.**



Yr6 Outstanding Attendance

A great five of our Year 6 children – **Ella, Jessica, Sienna, Harry and Sam** – received Outstanding Attendance Awards for their amazing 98% and 99% attendance during their time at High Firs; an incredible achievement, well done.



Sports Shield

On his retirement, Mr Turtle gifted a sports shield to the school which is to be presented to the pupil or pupils each year who show outstanding commitment, effort, sportsmanship & enthusiasm in sports. This year we were delighted to present this to **Ella**.



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

Thank you to everyone who has given great service and support in fundraising and offering lots of fun events & opportunities for the school community over the course of this last year. From speed bouncing and the Christmas Fayre to bingo, ice pops and the Fun Day – our lives are enriched by your volunteering efforts with the experiences that you provide and the money that you raise. **THANK YOU.**



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Special Mentions

Well done to all of our children whose effort and achievement across the whole academic year received a Special Mention and certificate from their teacher in assembly today – these children also had the honour of attending Golden Tea with Mr Kilbride!

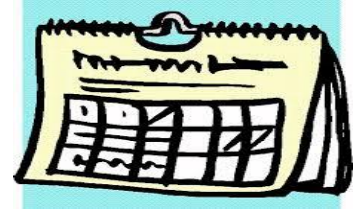


- Ziggy G – his amazing development in all areas of his learning and independence. Ziggy is an inquisitive and eager learner!
- Eva O – her love of learning which has shone throughout the year. Eva is kind and polite and strives to be her best.
- Brooke B – her hard work and determination. Brooke has really improved her reading and writing this term.
- Harry H – becoming a confident member of the class. Harry has worked hard and made fantastic progress in phonics.
- Albert T – trying hard all year with his learning and for his excellent progress in reading and phonics.
- Joshua C – always being his best and for his wonderful attitude to learning.
- Edward S – quiet and consistent progress throughout the term and always showing he has the school values in mind.
- Ellis A – consistent progress throughout the term and always having an enthusiastic mindset.
- Ellie R – consistently demonstrating a high level of dedication in all lessons and areas of the curriculum.
- Mariana G-S – consistently demonstrating a high level of dedication in all lessons and areas of the curriculum.
- Lily L – approaching all learning with a positive attitude and trying her best in everything. She upholds the school values at all times.
- Karina C – working hard in everything she does and driving to improve every day. She upholds the school values at all times.
- Alan Z – a fantastic year in Year 6 – he is hard-working, respectful and a brilliant friend to others.
- Elijah B – showing a maturing attitude towards his learning and trying his best across the curriculum.

INSET days 2024-2025

Please be advised that school will be closed to pupils due to INSET days on:

- 2nd September 2024
- 6th January 2025
- 30th June 2025
- 21st July 2025
- 22nd July 2025



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