



13th Sept 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

As ever, once into the swing of things, time starts to fly by as we have blinked and suddenly two whole weeks of term passed! All Reception children are in full-time and nearly all places are taken across each of our 7 year groups. Children have settled really well into new classes and routines and many interventions and clubs begin to start up next week. We asked for anyone who wishes to volunteer in school to get in touch last week. In the main, this is with reference to regular helpers in school – but we would really welcome hearing from anyone who has **plumbing skills** and/or **welding skills** to help us with a few jobs. For these trades, we are more than happy to pay for services – but we hope that someone may be able to lend us their expertise at a reduced rate, for the benefit that it would bring to school – freeing up further money to be spent on the children's education. Anyone who can help, please do get in touch via the school office.



Harvest Assembly and Macmillan Coffee Morning

All our parents & carers are invited to join us at **10.10am** on **Wednesday 25th September** for our Harvest Assembly. Our Harvest contributions this year will be donated to Swanley Foodbank. Please send your child into school with your donation on **Wednesday 25th September**; this should be **tinned or packeted food only**, please. Our assembly will be followed by refreshments & cakes for a donation in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support so we would welcome any cake donations too. We will sell any surplus at the end of the school day! We hope you can join us to enjoy our Harvest celebrations and to support these two very worthwhile causes.



Starting High Firs – Reception 2025

Although the new academic year has only just started, we are already looking ahead to our new Reception children starting in September 2025! Parents with a child due to start school next year (children born 1.9.2020 to 31.8.2021) are warmly invited to visit our school for a welcome meeting and tour during one of the following sessions:



- **Tuesday 5th November 2024 9.30am - 10.30am**
- **Wednesday 13th November 2024 11.00am - 12.00pm**
- **Monday 18th November 2024 5.30pm - 6.30pm**

There will also be a craft / play activity session for prospective parents & pre-school children on **Tuesday 3rd December at 2pm**. Please do also pass this information on to those friends or family who may be considering applying for a place at High Firs for their child. For more information on Reception admissions and to book to attend a tour and/or the Craft Afternoon, please use the form on our website at: <https://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/admissions>

Parentlink at Asda

There is a great opportunity this Autumn for parents to help raise money for school simply by shopping at Asda. If you register at the link below, all purchases made before November 30th will see money being given to school to buy resources for your children! So far £202.96 has been raised for us and there are 78 more days to go!

https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1z8LmtQbuURZg6KZwQAtdU5HxFX8ehJNVDP1rztd83uPD-fsu90i8_aem_M1jIXp4wiDNGmhyhcYcEBg



Achieving more together



WOW initiative

This year we are being supported by the Living Streets charity to reward children who travel to school in ways that are good for the environment and safety around our school site. Each month children can earn a badge if they have walked, cycled, scooted or used the park and stride to get to school. Children enter this data into a computer themselves in their classroom each day. Typically, sustainable journeys increase by 23% in all WOW schools and car journeys go down by 30% as children seek to find ways to journey to school that earn them a badge. Our baseline survey shows that 71% children already come to school in sustainable ways and 29% of children come by car at present. If we can have just half the average impact, that would make a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of pupils and to the environment around the school site too! I hope you are all up for the challenge – there are 12 badges to earn throughout the school year – more information in video below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=op0zWJw1Hs0>

Welly rack and more scooter pods

To further support walking to school and to help with changing from forest school, we have been funded to purchase a new welly rack. This now lives under cover behind the Year 2 classroom and we aim for children to continue walking on wet and rainy days – coming in wellies, changing under cover into shoes and hanging their wellies on the rack for the day. We look forward to seeing it in use on rainy mornings in future, where in the past, families may have taken the decision to drive instead.



Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education
Registered Charity No. 1137633

Notice of Annual General Meeting

to be held on Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm
All parents/guardians and staff are very welcome to attend – please come along!



I hereby give notice of the AGM of the Friends of High Firs Primary School to be held on Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm.

Agenda:

- Annual Report
- Accounts
- Election of committee members –
(... would you like to join us?)
- Appointments
- Future planning for 2024-25
- Any Other Business

**COMING HOME SOON –
SPONSOR FORMS FOR
THIS YEAR'S FHF
SPONSORED BOUNCE!**

In our classes this week

Reception – learned to recognise and write our names.
Year 1 – learned about what technology is.
Year 2 – created and described our own pirate characters.
Year 3 – investigated the properties of rocks.
Year 4 – researched the Tudor rose.
Year 5 – investigated air resistance.
Year 6 – learned how the map of Europe has changed since WW2.

**THIS WEEK'S
LEARNING**



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 –



- Whole Reception class for being so grown up and coming into school and having a super week.
- Lola F – super sitting and listening this week.
- Esme-Jayne W – always trying her best in everything she does and always having a smile when she comes into school.
- Harry H – for his excellent work in maths.
- Nicole M – for showing great confidence when reading aloud.
- Louisa C – excellent attitude to learning, working hard and being her best.
- Henry R-W – working really hard and showing a great attitude to his learning.
- Daisy B – for her for her fantastic home learning and always being her best – great attitude to learning Daisy – well done.
- Lewis C – for always listening and working diligently in every lesson.
- Josue P-V – for always working hard in maths.
- Smilte M – for always contributing her thoughts and ideas in class.
- Maisie K – making excellent progress in her reading.
- Michael C – for his amazing effort in swimming.
- Bethanie L – for her amazing effort in swimming.

Register Rabbit

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



YEAR 5 99.3%

YEAR R 98.5%

Our class attendance was:

Year 5 99.3%

Year R 98.5%

Year 2 98.4%

Year 1 98.1%

Year 6 97.3%

Year 3 96.9%

Year 4 96.9%



HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	117	117	Joshua C, Ellis A, Rakshana S
CHESTNUT	136	136	Julia R, Mason B
OAK	139	139	Grace R-H, Sabiha M
ASH	129	129	Florence F, Sadie B, Anastasia P



INSET DAYS

No children in school

6th January

30th June

21st July

22nd July

Coming up next week...

Activity clubs starting

Friday 20th September – Reception parents pop in and play at 2.15pm



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