



24th Jan 2025

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Message from Mr Kilbride

A really busy and varied week this week as we are all well ensconced into the Spring Term.

Many y6 children have been undertaking their Bikeability training this week and some continue next week as well. We hope to see more children with the confidence and skills to ride to school as the weather improves into Spring and Summer. Clubs are now underway for the term this week – it has been lovely to see such a great interest in the 14 clubs that are on offer this term. I am aware that many local schools charge for all of their clubs, so I remain very proud of the fact that we put on so many clubs for such a small school, all free of charge, except those provided by an outside provider.

Year 2 are now enjoying swimming lessons this term – they have made a really great start to this opportunity.

We are looking forward to having a new roof fitted at school over the summer holidays. The original 1975 roof is leaking in several places and was installed with no insulation – so there will be a double benefit for us after the summer holidays of a water-tight and well-insulated roof under which to educate our children. This is a Kent funded project that is long overdue, nonetheless we are very grateful to be beneficiaries.

Park and Stride parking has led to complaints from local residents this week. Unfortunately, as people continue to park in the car park for the flats or in the reserved bays for the houses, our staff bear the brunt of residents' upset and our ability to continue this service is put in jeopardy. Please can you make sure that you park with the utmost consideration for our neighbours – turning in the road and parking to drop against the kerb at the top end of Goldsel Road.

We look forward to a Y5/6 girls football cup match next Wednesday against Oakfield.

And finally, we have World of Work Week next week – several parents have volunteered their time to come into school and talk to the children about what they do – if you would like to make a last minute booking to take part, please click the link and we will try and squeeze you in - www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/worldofwork



Big Garden Birdwatch

We launched our school Big Garden Birdwatch in classes on Wednesday - this is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are doing. This is being done from 24th – 26th January and all our children are invited to take part using the tally chart further on in this Newsletter. Please return your completed chart to your class teacher by Friday 31st January.

How to take part

- 1 Get your free guide and stock up on supplies, with 20% off and free delivery on food and feeders at the RSPB shop.
- 2 Spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, between 24 and 26 January, and record the birds that land.
- 3 Tell us what you saw (even if that's nothing at all)! You can submit your results online or by post.



Choose an hour between 24 and 26 January



Only record the birds that land in your patch



Record the highest number of each bird species you see at any one time



Achieving more together

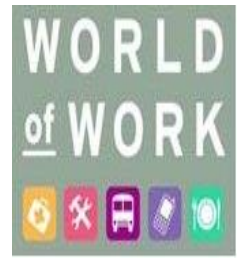


Wrap Around Care Ofsted news

Our Breakfast Club and After School Club provider, FOSC, was visited by Ofsted in December. We are delighted to share the report with you at the link below and we are equally delighted that the super quality provision that our children enjoy has been recognised in the Ofsted report. <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50266339>

World of Work Week

We are looking forward to our World of Work Week next week when we will be welcoming visitors into school to talk to the children about their jobs and finding out what the children would like to be when they are older – and what they might need to do to achieve this. There is a **bonus World of Work Week Learning Log task** for all our children this week which they can do instead of their usual set-tasks if they would like to –



Interview an adult that you know about their job.

You can ask what you like but you might want to find out...

What do you have to do for your job?

What skills do you need to be good at it?

What is the best thing about it?

What is hard about it?

Why did you choose to do it?

What qualifications and/or training you need to do it?

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education
Registered Charity No. 1137633

Spring Term discos coming up on Thursday 13th February.
Watch this space next week for further details.

Special Mentions

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



- Theo C – super progress in reading.
- Mia E – for her independent writing.
- Joel C – always trying his best in the classroom.
- Jenson G – making a brilliant effort with his diary entry about Lila.
- Harry W – for confident reading.
- Jamie W – fantastic learning in Maths, especially his reasoning skills.
- Jake B – great work investigating air resistance and writing his observations.
- Abhyank R – brilliant work in RE sharing his knowledge about some of the Hindu Gods and Goddesses.
- Danny B – working hard in Maths.
- Leo A – for working hard to improve his reading fluency.
- Demi B – improved focus in her learning; working hard in all areas.
- Cameron D – working really hard to improve his writing. w
- Beatrice G – persevering with and developing her long division skills.
- Isabella T – always working to a high standard in every lesson.

Register Rabbit

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



YEAR 1
YEAR 5

Our class attendance this week was:

Year 1 98.9%
Year R 97.8%
Year 5 95.2%
Year 2 94.8%
Year 4 94.1%
Year 6 94.1%
Year 3 90.7%



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HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	136	418	Lola F; Sofia M
CHESTNUT	149	317	Oscar F; Mason B
OAK	127	300	Isla W; Francesca F
ASH	162	435	Leo W; Agnish S

In our classes this week

- Reception – balanced objects using scales.
- Year 1 – used a map to find Africa.
- Year 2 – learned how to give change.
- Year 3 – created their own Anglo-Saxon villages.
- Year 4 – learned to code in Computing.
- Year 5 – wrote news reports about Ernest Brightstorm.
- Year 6 – learned about the colonisation of the Galapagos islands.



INSET DAYS

- 30th June
- 21st July
- 22nd July

Coming up next week...

World of Work Week

Wednesday 29th January

- Bikeability for Group B
- Year 5/6 girls' football match at Oakfield

Thursday 30th January

- Year 5 attendance & reading reward – own clothes day



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FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CHARLTON'S FIXTURES AT THE VALLEY

USE CODE: SCHOOLS-12967 | FOR FREE TICKETS






VS SHEFFIELD UNITED
SUNDAY, JAN 26TH
KO 2PM



VS BLACKBURN ROVERS
SUNDAY, FEB 2ND
KO 12PM

**SCAN HERE TO BOOK
YOUR TICKETS NOW!**



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

Parent information and support online sessions

- Understanding ADHD 4/2/2025 – 5:30 – 7:30pm
- Introduction to Autism 28/02/2025 12:30 – 2.30pm
- Understanding Anxiety 10//03/2025 5:30 – 7.30pm
- Sleep & Autism 27/03/2025 5.30 – 7.30pm
- Me & My Child: Understanding Resilience 9/04/2025 10.30am – 12.30pm

Visit www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/parentworkshops to book



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What did you see?

Can you find a way to make it easy for you to note down the highest number of each species that you see together at the same time? There is room below each bird's name for you to add your idea for doing this.



Your name



Woodpigeon



Blackbird



Carrion crow



House sparrow



Starling



Black-headed gull



Magpie



Blue tit



Robin



Feral pigeon



Great tit



Chaffinch

Did you notice anything in particular about the birds you saw? Differences in how they moved or what they were doing? Or perhaps you managed to see and identify a bird not shown here? If so, note these things in the space on the back or on a separate sheet. Scan code to find out more.



The RSPB is a registered charity in England & Wales 207070, in Scotland SC037654. Drawings by Mike Langman. 327-0044-23-24



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