



7th Feb 2025

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM MR KILBRIDE

Despite the bitter winds and hail of today, there are signs of Spring on the way. Snowdrops and crocuses have come out in my garden at home, the mornings and evenings are getting a little lighter and when the sun is out during the day, it is just beginning to carry some warmth once again. Matching the progress of the seasons, we see our children's learning moving on impressively this term, as I anticipated just after Christmas.

This week in school we have all been thinking about our Memory Joggers. This is where we are asking children questions to check for understanding of prior knowledge. Sometimes this will relate to content from the previous lesson or week, but sometimes from the previous term or even the previous school year. This is all part of our drive to actively build links for children in their learning – to help them retain new content and commit knowledge to long term memory. A wealth of research shows that the more children are asked to recall prior learning, the better they retain it – and creating more opportunities to do this through memory joggers is beginning to show us children being able to talk with increased confidence and accuracy of vocabulary than we had seen before.

Classes are doing a great job with Accelerated Reader this year – several KS2 classes have had rewards already for reaching their class word and quiz target. Next week Year 2 and Year 4 both have own clothes days with other activities to look forward to – see the dates below.

Finally, next Friday we have a friendly football match against Crockenhill for our Year 5 and Year 6 children. We are hosting this time, so please do come along and support our children in what will be a little round robin tournament between two teams from each school.

Badge design competition 2025

WOW - the walk to school challenge

WALK with JOY

COMPETITION!

Design a WOW badge for 2025-2026.

The theme for next year is "Joy". If you would like to enter, use the design sheet later on in the Newsletter and return to Miss Selby by **Monday 24th February**. If one of our children wins, they will have their design made into a badge for next year's WOW and the school could also win up to £500 of free resources. Good luck!

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633

Sorry – the discos planned for next week will not be going ahead.

We will let you know the rescheduled date soon!



Achieving more together



Values sticker awards

Well done to all of this month's winners of a Values sticker in today's assembly – we are hoping to be able to award our first Values Cups next month for children who will have then received all four stickers.

| | Be kind | Be your best | Be honest | Be safe |
|---|--|--|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| R | Ela O Arthur Fu | Oscar F Arthur H George P | Mia Tevin Frankie C | Hayden Harrison W Theo |
| 1 | Molly George Meadow | Madeleine Elliott Mikayla | Joel Eva Jessica | Esme B Drew Isla |
| 2 | Sophia Marco Imogen | Logan G Leo W Harry H | Aylen Alice Rose | Freya S Mikey Oscar P |
| 3 | Jake Francesca Teddy M | Jonas Sofia Luiza-Maria P | Lowen Louisa C Maddy | Iyah M Joshua C Sabiha |
| 4 | Elias Henry F Beatrice J Luca | Ruby Lewis Emily Edy | Edward S Sadie B Ivy | Morgan J Alan Joshua W |
| 5 | Evie Logan TG Daisy GS | Lottie Cameron Scarlett Morgan W | Poppy C Hannah Josue | Mariana Lily G Maisie |
| 6 | Harrison C Alyah Lily L | Hashmin Beatrice G Laquisha Daisy W | Albert B Karina Sid | Honey Blou Poppy G |

HOUSE POINTS

| | This Week | Term Total | Top Scorers this week |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|--|
| BEECH | 211 | 739 | Charles L, Nicole M, Freya S, Lyla R, Jessica B, Emelia S, Rakshanaa A |
| CHESTNUT | 246 | 686 | Harry H, Faye R |
| OAK | 197 | 497 | Isla W, Lily L |
| ASH | 200 | 752 | Leo W, Daisy GS |



INSET DAYS

30th June
21st July
22nd July

Coming up next week....

Wednesday 12th February – Year 4 – Reading reward day – own clothes and bring a board game
Thursday 13th February – Year 5 Class Assembly at 10.10am
Friday 14th February – Year 2 – Reading reward day – own clothes and film

Friday 14th February – Football match vs Crockenhill at High Firs 3.15pm



Achieving more together



In our classes this week

Reception – acted out the events from their class book “Supertato”!

Year 1 – moved like gymnasts.

Year 2 – learned about the Qur’an and why it is important to Muslims.

Year 3 – went on a Sutton Hoo Treasure Hunt!

Year 4 – learned how to use repeat patterns to make shapes in computing.

Year 5 – learned how mountains are formed.

Year 6 – used algebraic expressions and formulae.



Register Rabbit

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

YEAR R

YEAR 5



Our class attendance this week was:

Rec – 99.3%

Year 5 – 97.8%

Year 6 – 96.7%

Year 1 – 96.2%

Year 2 – 94.5%

Year 4 – 93.7%

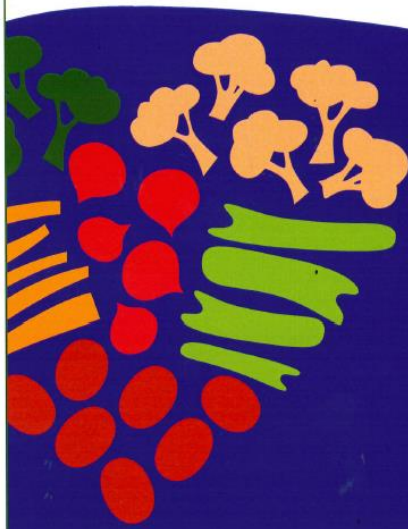
Year 3 – 92.2%



Achieving more together



More than just
a foodbank



Opening:
Mon 10-3pm
Thurs 10-3pm
Sat 10-12pm



Please scan to
donate today

✉ communitycupboardswanley@gmail.com

📌 @thecommunitycupboard19

🐦 TheCommunityCu1

📷 thecommunitycupboard

☎ 07871 781624



The Community Cupboard,
St Mary's Road
Swanley,
BR8 7BU

CHARITY REGISTRATION: 1185331

Parent information and support online sessions



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

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



Achieving more together





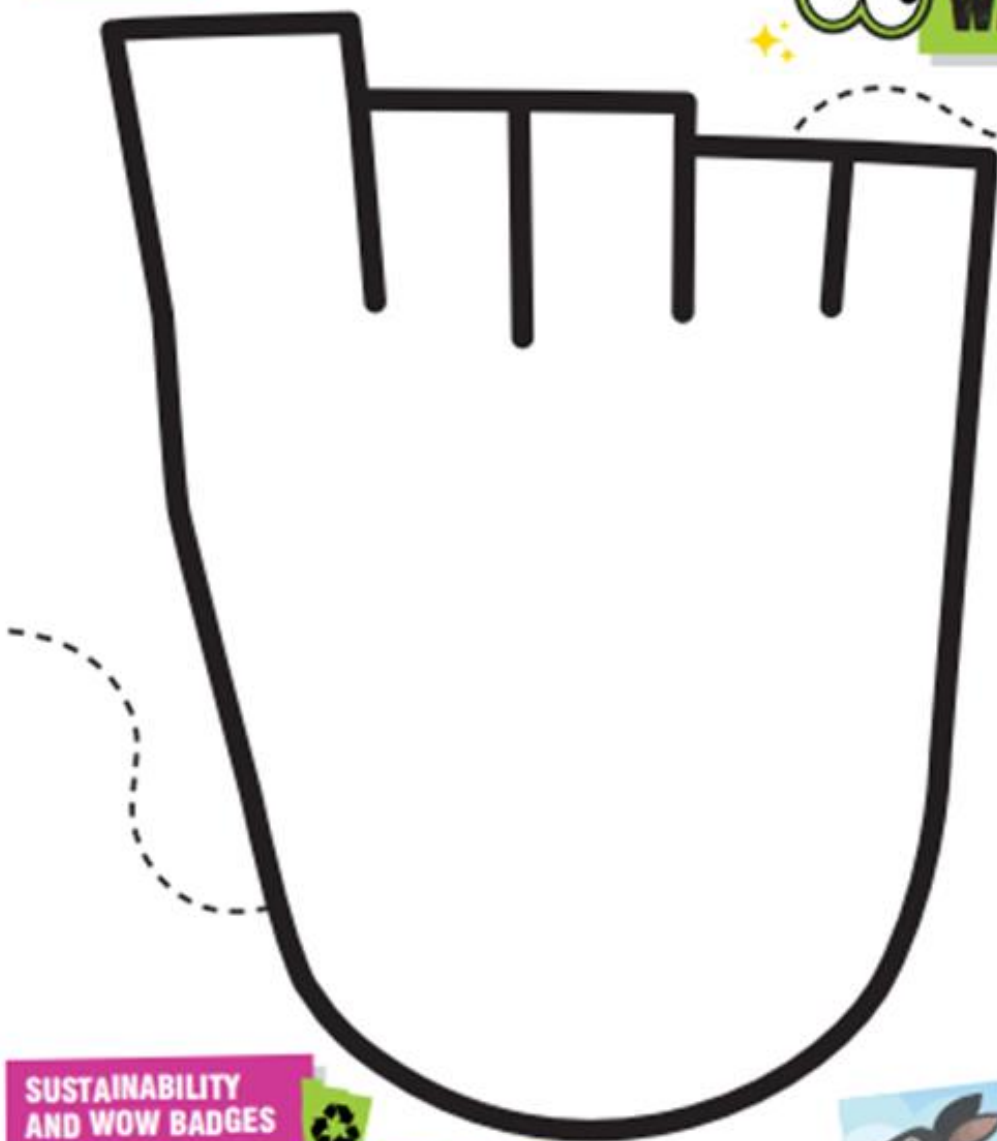
LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL

Badge design competition 2025

WOW - the walk to school challenge



WALK with JOY



WHAT SHOULD YOU DRAW?

What makes you feel happy? Is it seeing a bright, colourful flower or going on an exciting outdoor adventure? Maybe it's the wagging tail of your pet, eating your favourite yummy snack or playing your favourite game? Does hearing a funny joke make you giggle or does a big hug from someone you love make your heart feel warm? Whatever makes you happy, grab your crayons or pencils and draw it!

EXAMPLES MAY INCLUDE:

- Wildlife or pets e.g. robin, dog
- Local buildings/landmarks e.g. library, statue
- Hobbies e.g. football, painting
- A familiar smell e.g. food, nature

WHATEVER BRINGS YOU JOY, DRAW IT!



SUSTAINABILITY AND WOW BADGES



Our WOW badges are made in the UK from repurposed plastic material, including old fridge trays, plastic plates and off-cuts of yoghurt pot material. WOW badges can also be recycled. Find out more: livingstreets.org.uk/recycling



PUPILS

| | |
|-------------|------|
| Pupil name: | Age: |
|-------------|------|

What did you draw? Why does it bring you joy?

TEACHERS

School email:

School name and address:

Local authority: