



28th Feb 2025

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Email: office@high-firs.kent.sch.uk Website: www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Message from Mr Kilbride

Welcome back everyone – it has been a really busy start to the term with lots of children completing mid-term assessments this week and next, the results of which will be fed back to you at upcoming parent consultations.

Thank you so much to those of you who sent in submissions for our Safer Internet Day task relating to 'Too Good to be True.' We had a great assembly on Tuesday where super range of seemingly impossible images and videos were shared with the children. The focus this year has really helped raise awareness amongst the children of the concept of a 'scam' and as such, goes a long way to protecting them as they grow up in a digital world. If you still have images or videos to share, I reassured the children that they are not too late – anything sent in will still be shared in assemblies in upcoming weeks.

We have collected a huge amount of lost property this academic year. Names are always checked to help return items to children on a daily basis. The reason for so many items this year I think is twofold – firstly there are a number of items that have never been named and secondly, there are many items that have once had a name written in biro on the label or attached with a sticker – but the biro has now faded such that the name is no longer legible, or the stick has gone missing. If you have written on labels in pen, could I suggest that you check the labels at the beginning of each week to see if rewriting on the label may help. Once in lost property, with no name, we will hold items for a few weeks and put out for after school collection on two or three occasions, after which the clothes will then be recycled. I really hope that a renewed drive on naming all items will help us return more objects to rightful owners, saving our families a great deal of money and time.

Finally this week, please can I remind parents to park with consideration. I had a complaint this week from a neighbour who was unable to get off their driveway, due to parents dropping children off and blocking the driveways. We have done a huge amount of work with the local community to build good relations in recent years with initiatives encouraging children to come to school by means other car wherever possible, so I would greatly appreciate your support with helping in this respect.

Email contact

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the online form at

<https://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/contactphonenumberandemail> as we make preparations for our move from communicating with parents by text to our new email system being provided by Arbor. Most significantly, this will enable our communications to be received by all legal guardians who opt in, not just the "first contact" which is currently the case. Arbor will also be how you make Parent Consultation appointments in future and later in the school year, it will become the system we use to take payment for trips and events. Please therefore ensure that you complete email addresses for all legal guardians who would like to receive ongoing school communications on the online form by **9am on Monday 3rd March**.



The way we send messages is changing!

To continue receiving information from school, please make sure you have registered your email with us by 9am on Monday 3rd March.

**Please complete the online form at:
www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/contactphonenumberandemail**



Achieving more together



Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school on 17th March for consultation meetings with your child's teacher. The consultation meeting will offer the chance to discuss your child's progress and well-being, as well as to raise any concerns you may have and for teachers to let you know about your child's future targets. You will also be provided with any recent assessment data for your child and will have the opportunity for some time prior to your meeting to view your child's books.

In line with our move to using email for parent communication, Parent Consultations will now also be booked via the Arbor online system. We will be sending details of how to access bookings for this soon to everyone who has registered their email address so please make sure you have done this as per the information in the section above.

Staff News

We will be saying goodbye and good luck to Mrs O'Dwyer at the end of the Spring term as she leaves us to become the Deputy Manager of a preschool. Mrs O'Dwyer has been a valued member of our teaching team since 2017 and we wish her well as she moves on to take up this exciting new opportunity. In order to provide continuity for our Year 1 children we are pleased to confirm that Miss Rennie will be resuming her role from the Autumn Term from April for the remainder of the academic year – she is looking forward to returning to teach the class two days a week, alongside Miss Durrant, who will continue as per her current timetable.

**Staff
News**

Badge design competition 2025

WOW - the walk to school challenge



COMPETITION!

Design a WOW badge for 2025-2026.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to design a badge for the WOW competition. Miss Selby had an amazing 45 designs! Our entries have now been sent off to WOW and we will keep our fingers crossed that some of our designs will be chosen to become a badge next year.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

PARENT SURVEY

Parent Surveys

We would be very grateful if you could spare a few moments of your time to complete our parent survey – your responses will help us to

continue to improve both your and your child(ren)'s experiences of school. The surveys are available at:

<https://forms.office.com/e/sJBtBdPgZD>

Please complete and return by 4pm Friday 7th March. We will share the outcomes with you in a future edition of the Newsletter.

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633

**** FHF MEETING – MONDAY 3RD MARCH at 6.30pm ****

Everyone is welcome – please come along!



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MARCH is Reading Month

A day isn't enough to celebrate reading so we need a little more...!

Tuesday 18th
March

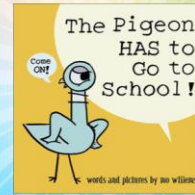
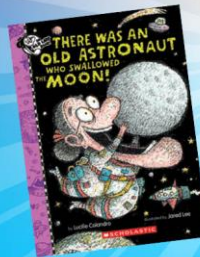
DRESS UP AS
YOUR FAVOURITE
BOOK
CHARACTER



or wear your pyjamas
for some bedtime reading!

14th, 17th, 18th & 19th March

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!



“Reading is a passport to countless adventures!”

EXTREME READING COMPETITION

Get someone to take a photo of you reading a favourite book in an unusual way or place. (Make sure it's safe!) Either print your photo and bring it in or email it to your teacher using your class email address.

Deadline for entries is Monday 10th March - entries will then be on display at the Book Fair.

With a prize for a
winner in each class!



Please note: We are NOT dressing up for World Book Day on Thursday 6th March!



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HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	150	150	Miraculous K, Harrison F
CHESTNUT	178	178	Ellie R, Rania C
OAK	133	133	Jamie W, Lily G
ASH	168	168	Henley S, Leo W, Daisy GS

Special Mentions

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

- Ivy G – super independent writing.
- Arthur F – fantastic doubling in maths.
- Molly Z – for being a kind and caring friend.
- Lyla R – for making a fantastic effort to improve her listening in the classroom this week.
- Orla H – a fantastic week in school!
- Aylen AG – excellent effort in Maths.
- Kaya O – brilliant work about light in Science.
- Willow W – being her best all week!
- All of Year 4 – for their fabulous assembly.
- Elias M – for showing excellent progress in reading and spelling.
- Morgan W – excellent work on fractions this week.
- Josue PV – great focus in all lessons this week.
- Grace F – trying hard in Maths and making good progress.
- Jacob G – his contribution to whole class discussions.



Register Rabbit

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



YEAR R
YEAR 6

Our class attendance this week was:

Yr6 – 98.5%
Yr5 – 97.8%
Rec – 97.8%
Yr4 – 97.5%
Yr1 – 93.5%
Yr2 – 95.2%
Yr3 – 91.5%

In our classes this week

Reception – found doubles.

Year 1 – compared Swanley and Kenya.

Year 2 – learned about the history of space travel.

Year 3 – wrote letters to Professor Brownstone from our new book "Arthur and the Golden Rope".

Year 4 – learned about fractions.

Year 5 – learned about evaporation.

Year 6 – learned to play basketball.

THIS WEEK'S
LEARNING



Coming up next week...

Monday 3rd March

Secondary school allocations to Year 6
6.30pm – FHF Meeting

Tuesday 4th March

Visit to Avery Froggnal House

Thursday 6th March

10.10am – Year 3 Class Assembly

INSET DAYS

30th June
21st July
22nd July



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#Stay Safe
Get Active

Got to drive?

Park and stride!

Sign up to join us at -
<https://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/park-stride/>

No Parking

Think before you stop.
Choose a safe spot...

... and please show consideration to our neighbours.

Autism & ADHD
Parent Support UK CIC

**Autism & ADHD
PARENT
SUPPORT GROUP**

Come join us at either group, build friendships, get support and be around people who understand.

- ✓ No referral or booking required
- ✓ Friendly welcoming group
- ✓ Free to attend

Northview Hall, 92 Northview,
Swanley Kent BR8 7BQ

<https://aaps-uk.org>
contact@autismadhdparentsupport.co.uk

MONDAYS
(TERM-TIME)
9.30-11.30AM

OR

1ST WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
6-8PM

FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**CHARLTON'S
FIXTURES AT THE VALLEY**

USE CODE: SCHOOLS-12967 | FOR FREE TICKETS

**LONDON CITY
LIONESSES**

SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND | KO 2PM
AT THE VALLEY, SE7 8BL

UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

SCAN HERE TO BOOK
YOUR TICKETS NOW!



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Parent information and support online sessions



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

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

pancake Day
craft afternoon

Word - Searches

Learn about the origins of Shrove Tuesday

Colouring

Make and eat pancakes!

Tuesday 4th March
3:30-4:30pm
St Mary's Church Swanley



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