



26th Sept 2025

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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

Message from Mr Kilbride

Lots to report today so I will try to be brief.

New policy regarding drop off and pick to announce – from now on, we are happy for children to be dropped or collected by any person **over 16** that parents have named on their collections list. This is a change from our previous policy which was to require over 18 year olds only. Please complete a new collection arrangements form if you would like to change your child's collection details: <https://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/collection-arrangements>

See below the brief information about parent consultation meetings coming up. You can book appointments on Arbor from next Tuesday.

It was lovely to share in our annual harvest celebrations this week – the hall was packed and had a vibrant atmosphere as children shared information about food miles with the school community. The singing this year was particularly special – there really is nothing like a hall full of primary school children singing their hearts out!

See news of our football teams below too.

Next week we look forward to the first of this year's Coffee Mornings on Tuesday – the theme for this one being an Introduction to Autism. Whether you are new to autism or not, there will be loads of practical tips and information shared about understanding and helping children with autism to thrive.

I look forward to bringing you news of the money raised at this year's Bingo evening that takes place tonight. Thank you to the FHF for organising.

Also please come and support our FHF AGM on Monday evening at 7.30pm.

Parent Consultations

Your first opportunity to book a parent consultation meeting with your child's teacher is coming up.

Consultations will be before and after school on Monday 6th, Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th October.

Exact appointment slots will be released for you to book on Arbor next Tuesday.

Dartford Schools FA football tournaments

Well done to our Y5/6 boys and girls who took part in the Dartford Schools football tournament this week. The boys showed real progression from their performances last week – they drew two games 1-1, lost three games 1-0 and one game ended up 3-1 with the concession of two last minute goals. The girls managed one win, and several narrow losses and one bigger defeat. Both teams played very well and were really competitive. All children behaved impeccably and were a real credit to the school. Well done, everyone! Watch this space for more news about sports teams in action.



Achieving more together





Harvest Assembly – Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Assembly – it was a lovely occasion of shared thanks and thoughtfulness. Your kind donations of food meant there was a fantastic range of produce on display, which have been donated to Swanley Foodbank and The Community Cupboard to distribute to those in need in our local community. Thank you also to the all our classes who contributed art work and children for reading, with a particular mention to our Reception children for doing so well in their very first whole school assembly!

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning & Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who came to our Coffee Morning following Harvest Assembly and the Cake Sale after school on Thursday – we raised an amazing **£138.20** for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you also to the staff and parents who donated delicious cakes for us to sell.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING



We raised...

Black History Month

As part of our ongoing learning, all classes will be covering Black History Month in October in both lessons and assemblies – our focus this year will be “Standing Firm in Power and Pride”. Once again, we would like to include relevant personal stories, personal heroes and book recommendations from our High Firs families. As an additional option to their “Learning Log” tasks during October all children are therefore invited to bring in information, prepare a talk, make a poster or anything else appropriate that they can share with their class and/or which we might be able to display to support this.



Safeguarding concerns – how to contact us

Safeguarding our pupils is everybody’s responsibility and all those directly connected (staff, volunteers, governors, leaders, parents, families, and learners) are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for our children and have an essential role to play in making our community safe and secure. We have Designated Safeguarding Leaders who have responsibility for the day-to-day oversight of safeguarding and child protection systems (including online safety) in school – these are currently Mr Kilbride, Miss Rennie, Miss Allin & Miss Selby. If you have any safeguarding concerns, you can make an appointment with one of our DSLs to discuss these. Alternatively, we have a dedicated form on our website at <https://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/safeguarding/> or you can email safeguarding@high-firs.kent.sch.uk Any concerns sent by the website or email will go directly to our DSLs; please provide as much information as you can so that we have a full understanding of the circumstances. We will respond as promptly as we can; however, if you believe that a child is in immediate danger you should always call the police immediately on 999.

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

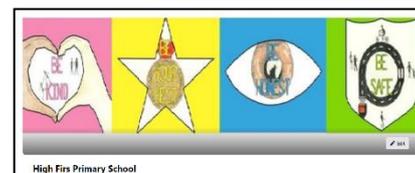
How to contact us if you are concerned

Facebook

Are you a member of our school Facebook page? We use it to share “good news” alongside our text service and Newsletter updates. You can request to join the group using the QR code shown here or by searching for the group “High Firs Primary School”. There are a few similar group names so the one you are looking for is the one with our school values banner, shown in the picture here.

To ensure the page runs in a safe way for all of our school community, please note the following:

- Membership will be restricted to those 12+ who are known school contacts. Identifying information will be requested on application to join and will be checked by our administrators before admission to the group.
- Members will be removed when the associated child is no longer a pupil.
- Information and photographs posted on the site must not be shared, downloaded or forwarded.
- Failure of Members to agree and abide to the above conditions, or other conduct concerns, may result in removal from the group.



Achieving more together



Walk to School

As you know, our school takes part in Living Streets' WOW – walk to school challenge. This term, we're getting involved in their autumn #WOWTopTen challenge. The more pupils walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride to school throughout October the better our chance of topping the local and national leaderboards. We are currently in 33rd place in England and in **1st place in Kent!** So, let's travel actively to school this October to try and climb the national leaderboard (and maintain our first place in Kent!)



1 **HIGH FIRS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

67.6% ①

Special Mentions

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

- River F – an amazing self-portrait using different materials.
- Richie L – his effort with his letter formation.
- Frankie C – trying hard in his phonics every day this week.
- Nihaad D – being kind polite & helpful
- Charlotte G – her beautiful cursive handwriting.
- Jessica B – her excellent effort in maths.
- Joel C – his great description in history.
- Hannah N – her fantastic Stone Age Boy story.
- Jasmine C – her fantastic description of the Iron Man.
- Henry T – his excellent writing linked to the Iron Man.
- Ruby A – excellent explanations in Science this week.
- Tiana D – working really hard on her writing this week.
- Faye R – excellent explanations in maths to do with the divisibility rules & prime numbers.
- Evie T – excellent explanations in maths to do with the divisibility rules & prime numbers.



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 5 98.5%
Year 2 98.5%
Year 6 98.1%
Year 4 97.8%
Year 3 97.4%
Year R 94.1%

In our classes this week

Reception – learned the rules of Forest School
Year 1 – practiced using the trackpad & the chrome books
Year 2 – explored the properties of materials
Year 3 – learned about soils by making 'dirt pudding'
Year 4 – drew portraits of Henry VIII's wives
Year 5 – added & subtracted numbers with more than 4 digits
Year 6 – learned about the Blitz



Achieving more together





HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	119	308	Tevin A; Ellis A
CHESTNUT	108	318	Dj M; Daisy B
OAK	133	353	Isla W; Ruby A; Joshua I; Jack W
ASH	144	390	Henley S; Sadie B



Coming up next week...

Monday 29th September

7.30pm FHF Annual General Meeting – everyone welcome!

Tuesday 30th September

9.00am - Parents/carers coffee morning: introduction to Autism

INSET DAYS

No children in school

27/10/2025

5/1/2026

22/5/2026



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Parents and carers

Coffee Morning

Everyone is welcome - please come along for coffee and chat!

Tues 30th Sept (9am) - Introduction to Autism

Tues 7th Oct (9am) - Introduction to ADHD

We will be looking at identification, sharing strategies and updating on further support available.



CARNIVAL Festival Menu

THURSDAY 2ND
OCTOBER 2025

CRISPY COATED CHICKEN
OR
VEGGIE DIPPERS
CHIPS
BAKED BEANS
PEAS
TOMATO KETCHUP

MINI DOUGHNUTS & FRUIT

Also available: Jacket Potato & Fillings,
Homemade Bread, Salad, Yoghurt & Fruit



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