



3rd Oct 2025

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM MR KILBRIDE

A jam-packed newsletter this week so I shall merely mention things to look out for below!

Lots of Friends of High Firs news about meetings, recent and upcoming events.

Thank you for supporting our first Coffee Morning of the year Tuesday of this week. Another one follows hot on its heels next Tuesday 7th October with the focus being on ADHD.

See the news below regarding arrangements for Parent Consultations next week on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

We had our first Values assembly of the year today and we bring super news about our efforts with the WOW Walk to School challenge.

Please see the message regarding E-scooters, which has been sent to me by Kent Police, who want to clarify the legalities surrounding E-scooter use and Kent Police's enforcement obligations here concerned.

Parents Consultations

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school next week 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.

Please note –

- *Arrive 10 minutes prior to your appointment so you can view your child's books before your consultation.*
- *Enter and exit the school through the main entrance door only.*
For appointments before school, please sign in at the office and wait in the entrance. For appointments after school, please go to the hall to sign in and to wait.
- *Appointments are limited to 10 minutes.*

There have been no formal assessments since annual reports were issued in July but parents will have information relating to children's attainment and progress communicated verbally by their teachers.

Parents Consultations – supervision of pupils

Before school: any children attending before-school Parent Consultations must be pre-booked with our Breakfast Club provider. Supervision will be free of charge for a maximum of 15 minutes but any additional time will be charged as per the usual Breakfast Club rate. **Please let our office know in advance if you will be using this service.** If your child usually attends Breakfast Club then this does not apply – please attend as normal.

After school: children may come to the hall and will be supervised during the period of your appointment by our office staff. Registration or booking is not required and there is no charge.



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School Values Awards

Following the success of the School Values Awards over the past two years with pencils and then cups, we are now rewarding children who have shown excellence in any of our values with a keyring in our Values assembly once each month.

Well done to the first winners of the school year, listed below!



	Be safe	Be honest	Be your best	Be kind
R	Joshua A Archie WG Mabel	Bella M Nate Darcy B	Ciana George M Richie	Alice P Emilia M Hunter
1	Aston Ivy G Lady	Tevin Theo Harrison W	Frankie C Sazin Hayden	Nihaad George K Annriya
2	Florence Eva Ted	Jessica Elliott Jenson	Rania Drew Jeorge	Joel Hajarah Reggie
3	Aylen Bella B Brooke	Harrison F Marco Leo W	Charlotte Rose Penelope	Sophia M Frankie M Imogen
4	William Abhyank Willow	Iyah M Lowen Jonas	Maddy Joshua C Logan F	Jake Jaxon Luiza
5	Alan Natasha Edward S	Ellis Albsey Josh W	Sadie B Daisy B Oliver M	Annabelle Edy Emily
6	Hannah C Ellie Faye	Smilte Josue Iyah B	Lily G Maisie Omolayo	Daisy GS Mariana Isabella O Isaiah



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Parents and carers

Coffee Morning

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

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

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



Friends of High Firs Primary School Association Supporting Our Children's Education

We held our Annual General Meeting on Monday of this week and we began to make some dates for this year and we appointed a new Chair – Linda Clark and new Co-Vice Chairs – Laura Gallagher and Helena Baxter.

Please see the end of the newsletter for the minutes of the meeting.

A couple of key highlights include:

- Sponsored Bounce - Wednesday 29th October
- Break the Rules day – Friday 17th October

For both of the above upcoming events, detailed information is at end of newsletter – including ways you can offer your help at the Sponsored Bounce.

We are delighted to announce that last week's Bingo event raised a tremendous £345 – thank you to all who came along and supported – watch this space for news of further evening social events to come.



We are really proud to report that we sit top of all the schools in Kent who take part in the Living Streets WOW Walk to School challenge. And in the National League tables for all the schools using the WOW travel tracker, we sit at an incredibly impressive 22nd position out of 890 schools, with over 76% of our children regularly journeying to or from school by walking, cycling or scooting. This is a great boost to our pupils' health and wellbeing and to the environment around our school – thank you so much for your ongoing commitment in helping to make the school run as positive and enjoyable experience as possible for our children.

In our classes this week

- Reception – created their families using pebbles
- Year 1 – learned about the continents in the world
- Year 2 – learned how to compare numbers in Maths
- Year 3 – discovered how bronze was made in the Bronze Age
- Year 4 – made pan flutes in science to investigate pitch
- Year 5 – have been measuring friction
- Year 6 – learned different ways of creating silhouettes in Art



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	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	157	465	Amal A; Aaron de N; Jessica B; Reyansh R; Lyla R; Ziggy G; Annabelle B; Edward S
CHESTNUT	179	497	Joel C; Iyah M
OAK	175	528	Sazin K; Charlie F; Isla W; Henry RW
ASH	208	598	Jenson G; Joshua W

Register Rabbit

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



YEAR 2

YEAR 5

Our class attendance this week was:

Year 2 98.5%

Year 5 98.5%

Year R 97.8%

Year 4 96.3%

Year 1 95.9%

Year 3 95.6%

Year 6 93.3%



INSET DAYS

27/10/2025

5/1/2026

22/5/2026

Coming up next week...

Please note information below for school clubs and FOSC After School Club – there are changes due to Parents Consultations.

If nothing is mentioned on a particular day, the clubs are running as usual.

Monday 6th October

Parents Consultations – by appointment

FOSC After School Club in Year 1

CLUBS CANCELLED TODAY: Puzzles (Year 1); Art (Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6); Choir (Yr 3, 4, 5 & 6); Netball (Yr 5 & 6)

Tuesday 7th October

9.00am - Parent/carer Coffee Morning (introduction to ADHD)

Wednesday 8th October

Parents Consultations – by appointment

FOSC After School Club in Year 1

Year 3/4 Football Tournament at Princes Park

Thursday 9th October

10.10 am - Year 6 Class Assembly

Parents Consultations – by appointment

FOSC After School Club in Year 1



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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.

BREAK THE RULES DAY

Friday 17th
October

50P
A RULE

FRIENDS OF HIGH FIRS ASSOCIATION

THE RULES

BREAK AS MANY RULES AS YOU LIKE!

- You must wear a yellow school jumper
- You must not wear trainers to school
- You must wear matching socks
- You must not have squash in your water bottle
- You must not have a tattoo
- You must use your school branded rucksack
- You must not have coloured or wacky hair
- You must only eat a healthy snack
- You must not paint your nails

No Nuts Please



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Supporting Our Children's Education
Registered Charity No. 1137633

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Deputy Chair: Laura Maulden
 Helena Baxter
Secretary: Rachel Lee
Treasurer: Armando Moreira
Safety Officer: Celina Mesquita
Other trustees: Jo Roper
 Amy Harrison
 Sam Officer



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Sponsored Bounce

Dear Parents/Guardians

Your child is invited to take part in a Sponsored Bounce on **Wednesday 29th October 2025**, during school hours.

At the end of the day, your child will bring home a certificate showing the number of bounces they managed to complete. Please help your child collect as many sponsors as possible!

Afterwards, collect the promised sponsor money and return the money and the form to school via your child by **Friday 7th November 2025**. If you are eligible for gift aid, please tick the appropriate box on the form and add your door number and post code so that we are able to claim extra on your donation.

In addition, we need volunteers to run the event. If you are able to spare some time, please scan the QR code to sign up! Your help will be greatly appreciated!



Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

In aid of my School, High Firs Primary School, I am participating in a Sponsored Bounce. I will try and do as many bounces as possible in 3 minutes (2 minutes for Reception and KS1). Please sponsor me.

<p>Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, we get an extra 25 pence from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further.</p> <p>This means that £100 can be turned into £125, just so long as donations are made through Gift Aid.</p> <p>Imagine what a difference that could make and it doesn't cost you a thing.</p> <p>To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year.</p>						<p>So just tick here to Gift Aid your donation. It's that simple</p> 
Name	Door No.	Post Code	Amount per Bounce	Amount Overall	Total	



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Kent Fire &
Rescue Service



Message from Kent Police, Fire and Rescue Service and from KCC

E-Scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It is not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it is illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces, such as pavements.

Enforcement

The police are obliged to take action against anyone who is caught repeatedly using an e-scooter illegally or in a way that causes a nuisance to others. In these circumstances, the police have the power to seize the e-scooter under Section 59 of the Police Reform Act/165 of the Road Traffic Act.

You risk a £300 fine, six penalty points endorsed on your driving licence and the E-Scooter being seized. If you do not currently hold a driving licence at the time of the offence, you may be prosecuted and may have to go to court, whereby the fine can increase and your ability to obtain a driving licence in the future may be affected. If you purchase an E-Scooter, it can only be used on private land with the landowner's consent.

Fire Safety

Kent Fire and Rescue Service always advises people to use, charge and store lithium-ion batteries safely and responsibly to help reduce the risk of a fire.

Lithium-ion batteries, or li-ion batteries (sometimes called LIBs) are found in many household items, including mobile phones, laptops, e-bikes, e-scooters, vaping devices, and vacuums.

If used or stored incorrectly, there is a risk these batteries could ignite or start a fire.

To help avoid an emergency, remember to:

- Buy electrical items from a reputable retailer
- Follow the manufacturer's guidance on charging and storing
- Only charge during the day when you are at home, and on a non-flammable surface
- Always unplug after use or when charged
- Avoid storing, using or charging batteries at very high or low temperatures
- Protect batteries from being damaged, such as being crushed, punctured, or immersed in water. If a battery has been damaged, don't use it.

And make sure to register electrical items at www.registermyappliance.org.uk/ .

Additional information

For further detailed information regarding e-scooters please visit GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/powered-transporters/information-sheet-guidance-on-powered-transporters>



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The Government is currently trialling the use of approved rental e-scooters as environmentally friendly modes of transport in some specific locations in the UK (find out more here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/e-scooter-trials-guidance-for-users>).



Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent
Police**

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety



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Minutes – Friends of High Firs AGM

Monday 29th September 2025, 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Venue – Virtual, Teams

Item	Subject
1.	Welcome – the meeting commenced at 7.30pm
2.	Apologies Carol R, Jodie S Attendees Andrew K, Rachel L, Sam O, Sam T, Linda C, Katie D, Amy H, Helena B, Celina M, Armando M, Jo R, Sarah S, Nikki H, Cat E, Kodanda R K, Thomas A, Zarmina J, Ashma B, Carolyn D
3.	Annual review and statement of accounts Closing balance August 2025 was £7602. 07 Accounts have been sent for review – an EGM will need to held once accounts have been verified and audited. Possibility that Cat can take over auditing accounts – to find out what qualifications are needed to fulfil role
4.	Annual review of events Multiple ice cream/sweet sales after school Sponsored bounce Panto at the Orchard West Christmas Bazaar Secrets + Father Christmas visit Christmas cards Ice skating Pyjama day Break the rules Silent Disco Summer Fun Day Bingo night 2 nd hand uniform sales Christmas Jumper sale



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	Made an aim to raise £5000 towards electronics – currently at £3235. This includes the £345.50 raised from the recent Bingo night.
5.	<p>Election of Executive Committee Members and Trustees Thank you to everyone who served as committee members Particular thanks to Sam O for all she has done in her role as Chair, Sam T for her help in role as Deputy Chair and Theresa K for all her help as Treasurer.</p> <p>Following nominations the following have been nominated as Executive Committee Members in 2025 – 2026:</p> <p>Chair – Linda C Deputy Chair – Laura M and Helena B Secretary –Rachel L Treasurer – Armando M Health & Safety Officer – Celina M Other Trustees – Jo R, Amy H, Sam O</p>
6.	<p>Appointment of class representatives for the school year Thank you once again to all our class and staff volunteers.</p> <p>Staff Rep – Miss C Rennie Year R – Lauren G Year 1 – Cat E, Celina M Year 2 – Nikki H, Sarah J, Helena B, Laura M Year 3 – Rachel L, Clare S, Theresa K Year 4 – Sarah S, Jodie S Year 5 – Georgie B Year 6 – Kerry C, Jo R</p> <p>More class reps are always welcome so please do let us know! We especially need more for Reception and Year 5</p>
7.	<p>The honorary title of President of the association Mr. Kilbride happy to continue in this role</p>
8.	<p>Any other business Sponsored bounce – Wednesday 29th October. Online form to request for helpers, but paper copy for sponsorship form for all the children to bring home Ice Skating – Sam O is in communication with Bluewater regarding booking this Break the rules – Friday October 17th. 50p per rule, no restriction on number of rules they can break</p>
9.	<p>The date of the next meeting Monday 13th October 7.30pm, in school EGM 3rd November</p>



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