

# High Firs Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

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Visit our school website at [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)



1926 - 2022

9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022

### Message from Mr Kilbride

With a great sense of occasion, we celebrated the Queen's life in assembly this morning. We looked at pictures from across the last 96 years, particularly at images of the young Princess Elizabeth when she was a primary school aged child. We discussed the line of succession and some anticipated changes in titles for the new King and the new heir to the throne. We discussed that there will be a state funeral where people from all around the world will gather to say their farewells to Queen Elizabeth II.

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September we have a really important Friends of High Firs (FHF) AGM, because several committee roles have been vacated by parents whose children have now left. Without a good turnout and some willing volunteers, there is a very real risk that the FHF may fold or have to significantly limit the fantastic work that they do. School absolutely relies upon the £8-10,000 raised by the Friends each year and your children's education would be much the poorer without it. In addition to raising money for school equipment, the Friends buy bookbags, teddies and hats for every child as they begin Reception; they subsidise trips in each class to the tune of £100; they buy ice creams for pantomime visits; they buy the much coveted Y6 leavers' book and much, much more.

From Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September, we are happy for children to store bikes and scooters in school that they have used for their school run. The new racks currently have capacity for 17 bikes and 10 scooters – with a further scooter pod to follow offering another 10 spaces. Children up to Y4 will of course be travelling in with an adult. For children in Y5 and Y6, we would recommend that parents only allow them to ride on the road once they have completed their Bikeability training, taken in the Autumn Term of Y6 each year.

### Starting High Firs – Reception 2023

Although the new academic year has only just started, we are already looking ahead to our new Reception children starting in September 2023! Parents with a child due to start school next year (children born 1.9.2018 to 31.8.2019) are warmly invited to visit our school for a welcome meeting and tour during one of the following sessions:

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 9.30am**

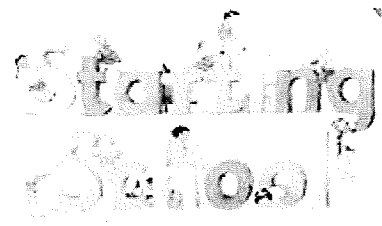
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 11am**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm**

There will also be a craft / play activity session for prospective parents & pre-school children on **2nd December at 2pm**. Please do also pass this information on to those friends or family who may be considering applying for a place at High Firs for their child.

To attend a tour and/or the Craft Afternoon, please book using the form on our website at:

<http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/admissions-transfer-to-secondary-school/>



### Class information on website

We hope that those parents who were able to attend this week's "Meet the Teacher" meetings found the sessions useful. A copy of the presentations from the meetings will be put on the class pages of the website over the next few days for your information. On the class pages you will also be able to find copies of the class curriculum newsletters and Learning Logs for this term, as well as any other information shared by your class teacher. To access, visit [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk) and click on the "Classes" tab.

### Assemblies

We look forward to welcoming parents to the following class assemblies taking place this term:

- Year 4 class assembly Wed 5<sup>th</sup> October at 10.10am
- Year 5 class assembly Wed 12<sup>th</sup> October at 10.10am
- Year 6 class assembly Wed 19<sup>th</sup> October at 10.10am
- Year 3 class assembly Wed 9<sup>th</sup> November at 10.10am
- Year 2 class assembly Wed 16<sup>th</sup> November at 10.10am
- Year 1 class assembly Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 10.10am

You are also invited to join us for the following assemblies for parents of children in all classes:

Harvest Assembly Wed 28<sup>th</sup> September at 10.10am

Remembrance Day Assembly Fri 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.40am



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### Meet our Family Support Worker

Hello! My name is Julia Yandle and I work as a Family Support Worker at High Firs; I am here in school one morning a week and am available by telephone at other times. I have worked in the community with parents and children for many years supporting families with a variety of issues which can cause you stress and difficulties. This could be concerning housing, finance, any challenging behaviour from your children or significant changes which may have taken place in your family. If you have concerns regarding an issue like these which are affecting your family and would like to discuss it further please do feel able to contact me on 07983 000493 or via the school office. I would be happy to meet or to talk to you on the phone and see if I can help in any way.



### Recycle your crisp packets!

As you may be aware, we have been collecting



Crisp Packet Recycling



empty crisp packets in school. The bins have been provided by Dartford Football Club Community Programme as they are working with the Crisp Packet Project CIC to turn empty crisp packets into survival blankets and sleeping bags. We are now going to start putting one of the bins by the gate each morning. If you have any crisp packets that you have collected at home, please add them to our collection.

### School Volunteers needed!

We welcome parents and adults from the local community to undertake a variety of roles in supporting the school & our children.

Could you help in school by –

- hearing children read?
- playing games with small groups?
- sharing a skill – gardening / sewing / painting / cooking / music?
- talking about or share your job or hobby?
- looking after the books in our school library?
- tidying our outdoor environment?
- helping at or running a lunchtime or after-school club?
- offering specialist skills
- ..... anything else?

It would be great to hear from any parents, grandparents or family friends who would like to come and share their skills with the children in school. It doesn't matter how often or for how long – once a week, once a month or even just once. Please note that the school is required to undertake and receive a satisfactory DBS (Police) check on all adult volunteers undertaking voluntary work with the children in school. All volunteers will also receive and need to agree to the School's "Volunteers in School" policy, including safeguarding requirements.

If you can help then please complete the form at <https://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/helping-at-school/> and we will be in touch soon.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

### In our classes this week

Reception – have been busy making new friends and learning to share

Year 1 – learned about different types of weather.

Year 2 – found out about Queen Victoria.

Year 3 – learned about the Stone Age and Iron Age.

Year 4 – made their own Tudor timeline.

Year 5 – practised their place value.

Year 6 – are enjoying their new book, "Goodnight Mr Tom".



### INSET DAYS

#### No children in school

Mon 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2022

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Coming up next week...

Clubs are now running, apart from Choir which starts 19<sup>th</sup> Sept.

#### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Reception staying all day – collect 3.15pm

#### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Yr6 Swimming starts



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### Special Mentions

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

- ALL of our Reception children for their amazing, happy, start to school and being so kind to all their new friends.
- Iyah M – a really positive start to Yr1.
- Jake B – working hard in English & Maths.
- Lennie J – his hard work in his first week in Yr2.
- Leo A – great work in Maths this week.
- Faye R – amazing home learning about the Stone Age.
- Lilia G – always trying her best and working hard in Maths.
- Holly P – working hard with her reading.
- Laquisha MD – working hard all work.
- Ronnie R & Jessica T – a fantastic first week in Year 5.
- Chanelle M – her fantastic piece of writing about the Phoney War
- Evie B – brilliant maths work this week.

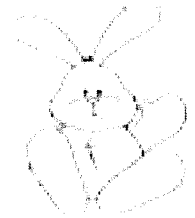


### Register Rabbit

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

YEAR 1

YEAR 6



## Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

to be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm

*All parents/guardians and staff are very welcome to attend – please come along!*

I hereby give notice of the AGM of the Friends of High Firs Primary School to be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.

Agenda:

- Annual Report
- Accounts
- Election of committee members - (... would you like to join us?)
- Appointments
- Future planning for 2022-23
- Any Other Business



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