



2nd Sept 2022

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Court Crescent, Swanley, Kent BR8 8NR Tel: 01322 669721 Fax: 01322 615997
Visit our school website at www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Message from Mr Kilbride

Welcome back to school. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer holidays and are raring to go for the new school year. Many 'elves' have been at work over the summer doing a tremendous job to redevelop and then clear up and prepare the school site for opening today. It has been lovely seeing everyone come in today, spotting things that have changed, things that are the same and talking about new things they are looking forward to.

Tilly is coming in on Monday for her first day in school – one of the children asked me today what breed she is – she is an 18 month-old border collie. She will be assessed and she and handling members of staff will be trained by the people at the Dog Mentoring Company all day on Monday. We will also be training the children in how to respond to Tilly appropriately.

Look out for our Meet the Teacher slots below – all happening next week. They were very well attended last year, so I hope that many of you can come again as an introduction to a new year group. If you cannot make the appointment, we will share the slides with you afterwards.

School meals

Meals for KS2 children cost £2.33 each and must be paid for in advance (on the day at the latest)



by cash to the office or via the website link:
<https://www.principals-catering.com/>

Staff News

We are pleased to welcome Miss Adams to our teaching team as our Year 3 teacher. Miss Robinson is now joining us full-time as a TA after undertaking her placement here last year. Miss Pepper has let us know over the summer that she will now be undertaking a teacher training course and so will not be returning this term; we wish her good luck with her new venture.



Meet the Teacher sessions

These sessions will last for approximately 30 minutes and will enable you to put faces to names and get a better understanding of some of the routines and curriculum areas for the year ahead in each particular class. Reception parents do not have a session due to the other starting school events already in place (see below).

	9.00-9.30am	2.30-3.00pm
Monday 5th September	Year 6	Year 5
Tuesday 6th September	Year 3	Year 4
Wednesday 7th September	Year 2	Year 1



Current Covid Guidance

Current NHS guidance for Covid is as follows:

If your child tests positive for Covid-19 they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days; this period starts from the day after they did the test. Children and young people tend to be infectious to others for less time than adults. If they're well and do not have a temperature after 3 days, there's a much lower risk that they'll pass on COVID-19 to others. They can therefore return to school after this period if they feel well enough (ie on the fifth day from testing. So, if your child has a positive test on a Monday they can return to school on Friday).

If your child feels unwell with Covid symptoms but does not have a positive test they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel better.

COVID-19
Update



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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 19th 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 19th 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

Class emails

Class emails are available for you to use to contact your child's teacher. These are monitored regularly but please bear in mind that our teachers have a full-day teaching commitment and so they may not be checked at set times or seen before school each day so the contact book is a better method of communication if your message is time-restricted. Due to safeguarding measures emails should only be sent from a parent's email address rather than the child's own if they have one. Our class email addresses are:

Reception – reception@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 1 – yearone@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 2 – yeartwo@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 3 – yearthree@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 4 – yearfour@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 5 – yearfive@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Year 6 – yearsix@high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Please continue to use the office email office@high-firs.kent.sch.uk for any admin queries.

School Clubs

We are looking forward to running a range of school activity clubs at lunchtime / after school once again. These will be posted soon on our website at <http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/clubs/>
Don't worry – we will text to let you know they have been uploaded!

If your child would like to join a particular club, please sign up using the form on this website page by **Wednesday 8th September**. You will be notified if your child has been offered a place and the starting date for your particular club, along with any other arrangements. Children are

expected to commit to attending every week their club is scheduled to run. Where clubs are oversubscribed then we may have to limit the number of weeks in which a group of children attend so that we can have two or more groups.

Some clubs will change next term for different classes so we hope that over the year there will be something for everyone! In a small school, there are only so many clubs we can accommodate at once (both in terms of staffing and room in school) and we also have to take into consideration "wear and tear" and health & safety in terms of our facilities – particularly use & maintenance of the field. Staff give up their time to run clubs and these therefore reflect their own interests and areas of particular skill which they are choosing to share.

In some circumstances, particularly in the case of inclement weather or other school commitments, we may have to cancel a club session. In this event we will contact you by text and/or the Newsletter as soon as we are able to. However, please assume that clubs are running every week unless you are notified otherwise.



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Health & Safety

Please may we remind you that:

- We ask parents and children to park and to walk around the local area with consideration for both our neighbours and other families. Please do not block our neighbours' drives when parking or stop on the yellow / zig zag lines.
- The school car park is for staff and visitors' use only at all times of the day; please do not park or drop off in the school's car park.
- All children, including younger siblings, should be closely supervised when on the school site after school and at events. Please do not allow your children to play on any playground equipment, in other areas of the playground or on our field.
- Children in Reception to Yr4 may only be collected by an adult (ie someone over 18).

Uniform

Thank you to all those families who ensure that their children attend school in the correct uniform; it has been lovely to see all the children coming back to school so neat and tidy. Please may we remind you of the following requirements for uniform:

Smart black or grey trousers – long or short (not sports shorts or tracksuit bottoms)

Grey skirt/tunic *to the knee*

Summer dresses in yellow or yellow & white in simple style.

Gold sweatshirt/polo shirt

Gold cardigan

Black, grey or white **school style** socks *to the knee* or black/grey tights (plain)

Footwear

All children should wear black or grey sensible, flat-heeled shoes/sandals that are secure to the foot. Open-toed shoes are not appropriate. Trainers or sports shoes are not suitable for school day wear and are not part of the school uniform.

Jewellery

Jewellery may not be worn at school. If your child has pierced ears, small stud earrings may be worn at your own risk. However, on PE days, we ask that earrings are not worn. Children may wear watches to school, however, 'smart' watches that can send and receive text messages and can take photographs are not permitted. Please discuss with the school if there is any jewellery you would like your child to wear regarding religious observance.

Hair

Hair that is long enough should be securely tied back during the school day. Hair bands and over-bands should be plain 'school type' bands in yellow or black, without decoration.

PE Kit

White round-neck t-shirt *no logos*

Black shorts *no logos*

Dark coloured tracksuit bottoms *no logos*

Plimsolls – (KS1 & KS2)

Trainers (for outdoor PE use in KS2 only)

Bags

Bags are part of our uniform and therefore only school-issued bags should be used throughout KS1 and KS2.

Please ensure that all items are labelled.

School Office

Please remember that letters and dinner money can be handed in via your child and do not need to be brought directly to the school office. Similarly, your child's contact book can also be used to request appointments with staff or passing on of other general information, rather than this going via the office. Thank you.



We have a vacancy for a 

Midday Supervisor

 5 days a week
12pm - 1pm
£10 per hour

More details & application information -
www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/staff-vacancies/



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INSET DAYS

No children in school

Thurs 1st Sept 2022

Mon 31st Oct 2022

Tues 3rd Jan 2023

Fri 26th May 2023

Coming up next week...

Monday 5th September

9am: Meet the Teacher - Year 6

2.30pm: Meet the Teacher - Year 5

Tuesday 6th September

9am: Meet the Teacher - Year 3

2.30pm: Meet the Teacher - Year 4

Wednesday 7th September

9am: Meet the Teacher - Year 2

9.15am: Reception start school

9.15am: Reception parents "Tea & Tissues" in hall

12pm: Reception collection

2.30pm: Meet the Teacher - Year 1

5pm: Deadline for Club slips

Thursday 8th September

Year 6 Kent 11+ Tests

12pm: Reception collection

Friday 9th September

1.30pm: Reception collection



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