



9TH JANUARY 2026

HIGH FIRS PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

COURT CRESCENT, SWANLEY, KENT BR8 8NR TEL: 01322 669721
EMAIL: OFFICE@HIGH-FIRS.KENT.SCH.UK WEBSITE: WWW.HIGH-FIRS.KENT.SCH.UK

MESSAGE FROM MR KILBRIDE

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you are well-rested after the Christmas break. Children have come back into school and settled very well this week. I look forward to the Spring Term every year, because children always make great progress in their learning this term, now that they are well settled into classes.

We are trialing a new newsletter format. This one still emulates a newspaper-type leaflet, but in a more modern style. We are creating it in Canva and the interface is much easier to use! In Term 4, we will trial using Sway - a Microsoft tool that produces a newsletter designed more for digital scrolling. After a term each of these two contrasting styles, we will ask for your views on which you prefer moving forwards.

We have moved our school day around this January so that all assemblies happen first thing in the morning. We have done this to make a clearer slot for some 'Keep Up' interventions to take place - mostly in maths. Staff are now coming to fewer assemblies, and instead they are leading small group activities to help children have another go at something they found tricky from the previous day's maths lesson or giving them a 'heads up' about something that is coming up later that day/week. The groups will change daily, based on what teachers are seeing in lessons. After several years of rapid improvements in reading provision and outcomes across the school, we are turning our attention more to maths this year, to ensure that our teaching and systems for helping the children fill gaps if they have fallen behind, are as robust and effective as they are in reading.

SCHOOL CLUBS

We are pleased to let you know that once again we have a range of exciting clubs for the children to join this term. Please visit <https://forms.office.com/e/YAhze7HIW3> for details and to sign up. The deadline to complete applications is 12pm on Monday 12th January.

Clubs will begin w/b Monday 19th January. You will be notified prior to this date by the member of staff running the club if your child has been offered a place and any other arrangements.

If you have any queries, please contact the member of staff running the club.



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who sent cards and gifts to our staff at Christmas; your kindness and generosity in thinking of us was very much appreciated.



SCHOOL VALUES

Well done to the children who received a keyring in assembly this week in recognition of their efforts in demonstrating their commitment to a particular School Value.

	Be safe	Be honest	Be your best	Be kind
R	Amal Erin Aaron	George M Esmee P Archie	Joshua A Darcy B Sienna-Rose	Nate Finley B Esmee E
1	Charles George K Ella	Mia Oscar F Ela	Sadie J Nihaad George P	Ayah Noah M Frankie C
2	Jessica Charlie Lola	Esme B Frankie B Billy	Florence Hajarah Ziggy	Ted Mikayla Reyansh
3	Emma Harry H Orla	Rose Harry W Nicole	Bella Frankie M Isabella W	George N Marco Harrison F
4	Jake Henry T Albert	Joshua C Jaxon Teddy M	Sabiha Francesca Anastasia	Jasmine Willow Louisa
5	Ellis Ruby Joshua I	Millie Beatrice Elias	Lewis Ivy C Natasha	Sadie B Lennie Chloe
6	Lottie Cameron Morgan W	Hannah C Daisy GS Omolade	Mariana Selena Josue	Lily Sadiya Omolayo

FRIENDS OF HIGH FIRS PRIMARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

**SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1137633**

**Happy New Year from the
Friends of High Firs!**

We are kicking the year off with a donation of unwanted gifts and Christmas wrapping paper on **Monday 12th January** at drop off. These donations will go towards events for the rest of the year so thank you in advance. In recognition of the children's support and efforts in bringing in these items, they can wear "cosy clothes" to school for the day. Please see Mr Kilbride's email of 9th January for more information.

We are also really excited to confirm we have now booked another Silent Disco for the evening of **Thursday 12th February** so please do pop the date on your diary and more details will follow later on in the term.

Cosy Clothes Day



Bring a donation of wrapping paper and/or unwanted gift(s) and wear your cosy clothes to school as a thank you! (No slippers please)

SHOW & SHARE

CLASS SHOW AND SHARE

This term we are branching out from the usual class assemblies to have 'Show & Share' sessions instead. Essentially, parents are invited to come into class for the end of the afternoon to celebrate children's learning for the term up to that point. Dates and times as follows:

Thursday 12th Feb - **Y1** - 2.30

Friday 27th Feb - **Y3** - 2.40

Thursday 5th Mar - **Y6** - 2.40

Thursday 12th Mar - **YR** - 2.40

Thursday 26th Mar - **Y4** - 2.40

Friday 27th Mar - **Y5** - 2.40

Monday 30th Mar - **Y2** - 2.40

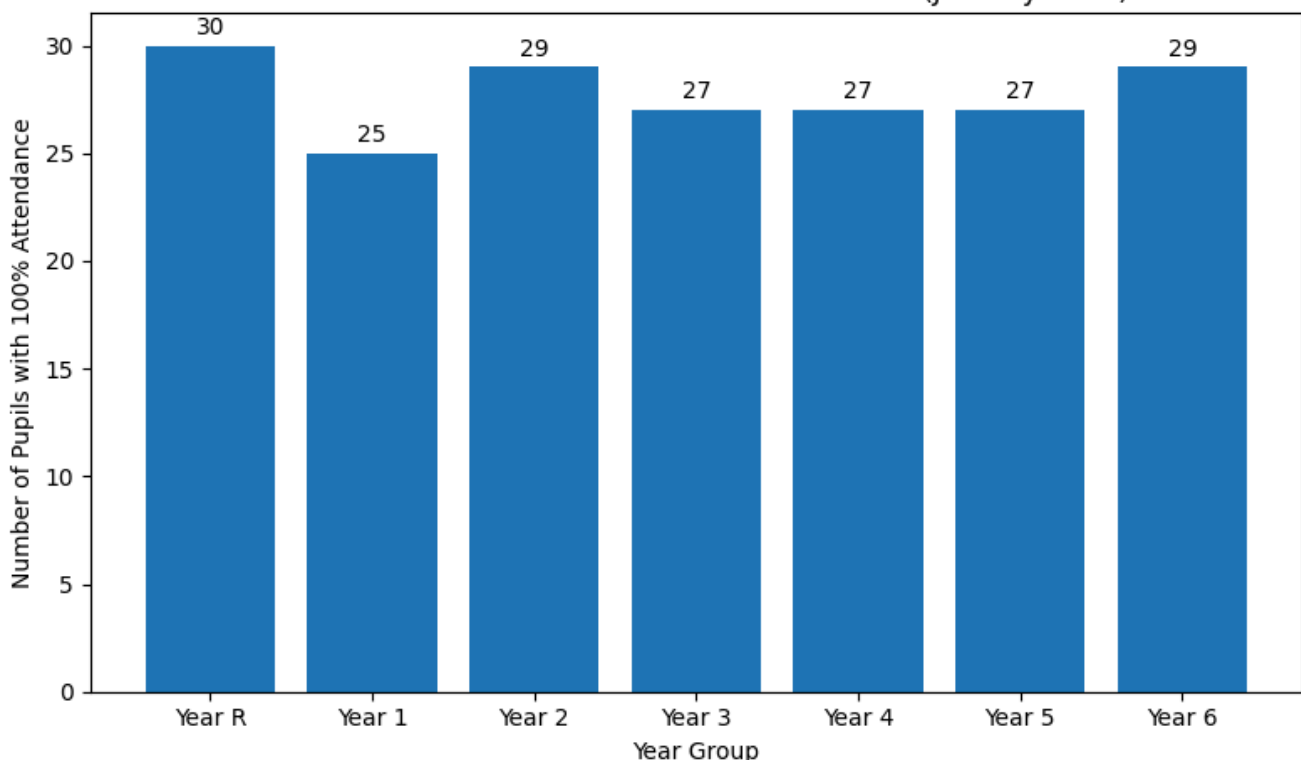


ATTENDANCE COINS

After the October half term break, 193 children were in school every day for the first week back,

The news now is that after the Christmas break, **194** children have attended school for every day this week and each of them will be given a coin token as a reward for this. Well done to everyone for beating last term's number - but the elusive 200 mark is still there to be reached in February!

100% Attendance - First Week After Christmas (January 2026)



THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS



	This Week	Term Total
BEECH	62	62
CHESTNUT	47	47
OAK	61	61
ASH	39	39

	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	Arthur H; Millie B
CHESTNUT	Arthur F; Leo A; Elias M; Tiana D; Thomas H
OAK	Theo C; Noah M; Mikayla I; Oliver M; Joshua I
ASH	Francis H; Alan AG

CLASS ATTENDANCE



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

YEAR R
YEAR 5

Our class attendance this week was:

Year R 100%
Year 5 99.4%
Year 3 98.3%
Year 6 97.8%
Year 2 96.7%
Year 4 94.5%
Year 1 88.9%

THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

NEWS FROM OUR CLASSES

Reception – have been describing superheroes.

Year 1 – discovered how fossils are made.

Year 2 – learned about the continent of Antarctica.

Year 3 – have been multiplying by 3.

Year 4 – learned how to play the recorder.

Year 5 – started their new class book “Brightstorm”.

Year 6 – learned about ratio.

WORLD OF WORK WEEK 2026

As part of our commitment to supporting the children’s understanding of economic well-being and the wider world, we are holding our annual “World of Work Week” during the week beginning 26th January.

We hope to welcome a number of visitors into school to support this and would be very pleased to hear from any of our parents or friends who may be willing to share with the children information about their job or place of work. If you can help, please do let us know using the form at www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/worldofwork by Friday 16th January.



UPCOMING EVENTS!

INSET DAY
22nd May 2026

DIARY DATES FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 12th January

Children to wear cosy clothes – in exchange for donating unwanted gifts and Christmas wrapping paper

12.00pm - signup for activity clubs closes

Tuesday 13th January

First Forest School day for Year 3

Wednesday 14th January

Yr2 start swimming lessons - collect from White Oak

PARENT CONSULTATION DATES

Parent Consultation meetings will take place before and after school on Monday 16th, Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March. Appointment slots will go live on Arbor in early March and depending on class teacher availability, slots are usually in the 8.00-8.30am and 3.00-6.15pm windows.

ALL DAY BREAKFAST

THURSDAY
15TH JANUARY 2026

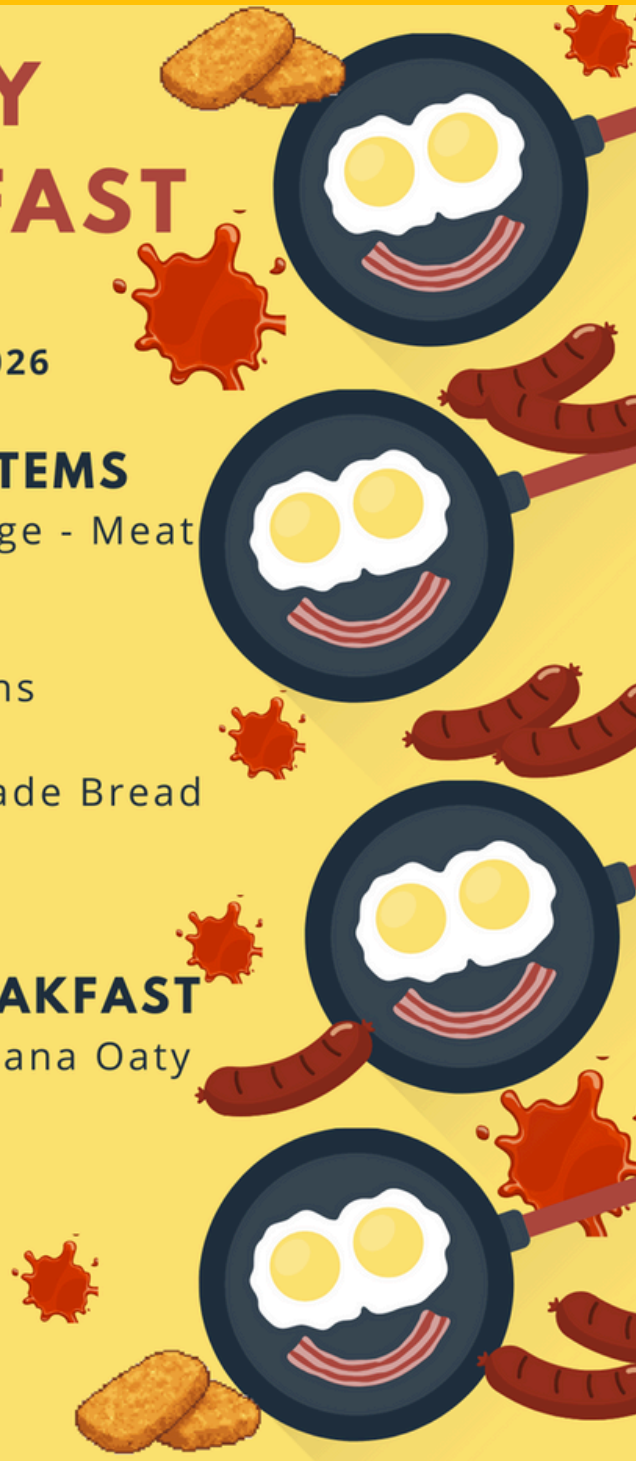
BREAKFAST ITEMS

Chipolata Sausage - Meat
or Veggie
Omelette
Mini Hash Browns
Baked Beans
Slice of Homemade Bread

DESSERT BREAKFAST

Chocolate & Banana Oaty
Square
or
Yoghurt
Or
Fresh Fruit

caterlink
feeding the imagination



**Stay Safe
Get Active**

Got to drive?

Park and stride!

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

The banner features a blue and yellow color scheme. At the top left is a blue shield with a white border containing the text '#Stay Safe Get Active' and icons of a person walking, a person on a bicycle, and a person on a wheelchair. To the right is a white speech bubble with an orange border containing the text 'Got to drive?'. Below this is a yellow banner with a blue border containing the text 'Park and stride!' and icons of a blue car and three people walking. At the bottom is a dark blue banner with white text.

No Parking

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

... and please show consideration
to our neighbours.

The illustration shows a blue car parked on a street in front of a school building. A red 'No Parking' sign is on the car. A yellow 'No stopping' sign is on the street. A sign on the school says 'My school'. A family of four is walking towards the school. The sky is blue with a yellow sun and white clouds.