



13th Jan 2017

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 Turtle

Thank you to everyone for their understanding and patience with the snow this morning! I am very grateful to all the members of staff who managed to get in - most by different transport methods than usual - and to our premises staff for ensuring the safety of our site. We do however continue to share our concerns about the local roads and paths with both Sevenoaks Council and the Area Education Officer as we are very aware of how hazardous they are. Thank you also for your cooperation regarding the school lunches this morning; unfortunately the local school where our meals kitchen is based made the decision to close today and the catering company were unable to advise us until late this morning whether or not they would still be able to provide meals - thank you to parents who were able to provide a packed lunch and to the catering staff at Orchards Academy for stepping in. Finally, I would like to mention two of our parents, Mrs Ellis & Mrs Almeida, who showed amazing community spirit this morning and who were out in the very early morning gritting the entirety of Court Crescent, both the road and paths, in order to make our local area that much safer - thank you.

In our classes this week

Reception - met The Gruffalo!

Year 1 - learned how the Great Fire of London started.

Year 2 - have been measuring 1 litre

Year 3 - explored different types of rocks.

Year 4 - wrote and edited stories

Year 5 - journeyed through the wardrobe to Narnia.

Year 6 - learned how to make changes to music using the computer

From Year 5

The children in the Narnia stories have the surname

Pevensie, which isn't really a surname at all - although Pevensey is a place by the sea near Eastbourne...



Voluntary Fund

Attached to the Newsletter this week is the envelope for payment of this term's Voluntary Fund payment. We greatly appreciate these donations which are used to support many of the extra activities undertaken in school by the children. The suggested payment is £2 per child or £5 per family.

Please return your donation by **20th January** - thank you.

What is the Voluntary Fund used for? The termly voluntary fund money is used to pay for lots of different things! Essentially, it is used for expenses which we are not allowed to allocate to government funding but which we believe lead to a broader educational experience for our children or which support our community & families links. This also means we do not have to charge parents every time! Just a few examples of this spending are:

- Concert & performance costumes
- Contribution to new sun hats per child
- Refreshments for parents & visitors at school events - Nativities / Assemblies / class meetings etc
- Cookery ingredients
- Celebration of commemorative events - Whole School Jubilee Day party etc.
- Expenses for Open Evening & events such as the SATs BBQ
- Visitors in to school
- Additional resources for school visits

We believe that visits and these other experiences are a vital part of our children's education - thank you to all those parents who support us in this way.



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Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who supported our events in the Autumn Term. These raised a fantastic total profit of **£4585.64** which will all be used to provide activities and resources for the children at High Firs – we have already spent £3,872.57 of this funding on new interactive whiteboards for classes, ice creams at the pantomime, play equipment and a new role play area.

SEPTEMBER AGM SOCIAL EVENT	£85.29
EASY FUND RAISING	£34.13
SPONSORED BOUNCE	£1,531.49
ICE SKATING	£275.00
ORCHARD THEATRE PANTOMIME	£192.00
CALENDARS	£161.25
SANTA'S VISIT **	£580.02
CHRISTMAS CARDS	£151.25
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR	£1,026.52
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING	£297.98
SECRETS ROOM	£250.71
TOTAL	£4,585.64

THANK YOU!

** presents bought in 2015/16 year

Important Health Information - PLEASE REMEMBER!



Please remember to **let the school know immediately** if you suspect your child has any of the following (even if it has not been confirmed): **measles, chicken pox or shingles**. It is also important to let us know if your child has been exposed to these illnesses (eg through a friend at a club or a family member) but has not shown the symptoms themselves. Please also let us know if your child has also been in contact with any other infectious diseases.



** Please note we are a **PEANUT-FREE** school; please do not send in peanut-based products. **

INSET DAYS 2016-2017

- No children in school
- 1 - Mon 5 September
- 2 - Tues 3 January
- 3 - Weds 4 January
- 4 - TBC
- 5 - TBC

Coming up next week:

Clubs start from Monday 16th.

Fri 20 Jan Schools' Unity Service 10am at The Holy Apostles



This week's Talk Topic is:

What could you use the snow to make a statue of?



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TERM DATES 2016 - 2017

September 2016							October 2016							November 2016													
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S							
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27							
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30											
							31																				
December 2016							January 2017							February 2017							March 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		30	31						27	28						27	28	29	30	31		
April 2017							May 2017							June 2017							July 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

These dates do not include the five additional INSET dates set by the school - these will be notified separately.

Don't forget that our school website has lots of further up-to-date information, including letters and dates. There are also pages for each class and lots of photographs to look at.

www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk



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