



25th Nov 2016

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

I always enjoy taking the opportunity to be at the gate in the mornings to welcome the children in to school - it is so good to see so many of them coming in so happily. What also comes across are the lovely manners and caring attitude shown by most of our children, whether it is saying "good morning" to the staff outside or helping the little ones in with their belongings. Well done!

Children's Christmas Cards

We know that some of our children have already written their Christmas cards to their friends! Please could we ask that all the children follow the same arrangements:



- Cards to be brought into school from **Thursday 1st December** onwards only
- Please label envelopes with recipient's first name, surname and year group

- All cards to be put into the postbox outside Year 6 as the children arrive in the morning
- Cards will be distributed by our 'post elves' and then taken home to be opened

Thank you for your support - this will ensure that class time is not spent distributing cards and that they do not get lost around the school during the day.



Competition Time !!!

easyfundraising.org.uk

Don't forget to register & use this site when shopping online to raise funds for **FHF** at no extra cost to the buyer. The person who raises the most whilst using this site over Christmas will win a bottle of wine and some chocolates.



Christmas / Winter Card Competition

The children will be bringing home today a piece of coloured card so that everyone can take part in our annual competition to design a Christmas or Winter Card.

There are a few simple guidelines:

- All cards must be on a Christmas or Winter theme and using the piece of card you are given. Apart from that you can use whatever you like to make your card!
- Your card can be landscape or portrait
- Please do not write inside your card
- Write name and class on the back

Please bring your completed card to school on **Friday 2nd December**. All cards will then be displayed in the hall and around the school for the remainder of the term.



Performances

Please could we remind parents that no children under school-age should attend our Christmas performances and that admission is by ticket only. We do also ask that parents don't get out of their seats and move around during the performances in order to take photographs or to film, or to use flash photography, as all these can be very distracting for our children on the stage - we want them to be able to show you their very best acting and singing skills throughout! We promise there will be "photo opportunities" after every performance. Concerns have also been raised in the past by some parents that photographs are posted on Facebook showing children other than the postee's own; please could we ask that you do restrict publication of photographs on social media to your own children in order to respect the wishes of those parents who do not want their child's image to be published on the internet. Thank you for your support.

++ Please note that we can not admit anyone who has not ordered a ticket due to restrictions on numbers for health & safety reasons ++

Young Writers

Congratulations to the following children whose stories have been published in the "Ancient Adventures" story book -

Kaylem, Emily B, Emily D, Holly, Adeoluwa, Rory, Sophie C, Lucia, Yuri, Liam G, Lucy C, Harrison, Olivia W, Ella, Rachael, Jalena, Safiya, Freya and Bobie.



Walk to School Week

Walking to school is one of the easiest ways to improve your and your children's health. It's also free, great for the environment, and social. 90% of parents who walk their children to school recognise the journey's importance for them to socialise with their children. Over a third stated that the journey to school is where they find out the most about their child's life. (Info from www.livingstreets.co.uk)



We are also always keen to find ways in which to ease congestion in our local roads and to minimise the inconvenience of "the school run" to our neighbours. To support this, we are asking all our children to take part in this half-term's **WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK 28th Nov - 2nd Dec**

We are asking all families to try to walk to school every day next week - if you live too far away from school to walk all the way, you could park a few roads away from school and walk the last part instead; this will still count as walking to school! Each class will have a chart to record the children who have walked to school each day. There will be a house point for each child that walks each day and a certificate at the end of the week for children who have walked every day.

Walk to school with the staff! Members of our staff will be at various points around the local area to meet and walk to school with our families on the following dates -

Tuesday 29 th at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Charnock and Court Crescent.
Wednesday 30 th at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Pinks Hill and Cranleigh Drive (top junction).
Thursday 1 st at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Waylands and Pinks Hill.

Yr2 and Yr6 SATs

The information from the Yr2 & Yr6 SATs presentations to parents are on the relevant class pages of our website - useful if you missed the meeting or would like a reminder!



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Clubs

Due to the large number of other events in school over the coming weeks, our clubs are now winding down for the end of term. We hope that the children have enjoyed attending - look out for our new Spring Term clubs coming soon!

Club	Last session this term
Football	Monday 28 th Nov
French	Monday 28 th Nov
Table Games	Monday 28 th Nov
Country Dancing	Monday 28 th Nov
Speed Stacking	Tuesday 29 th Nov
Drama	Tuesday 29 th Nov
Netball	Tuesday 29 th Nov
Rugby	Thursday 1 st Dec
Library	Thursday 15 th Dec
Cookery	Has finished!

Netball

From Miss Allen - Congratulations to the Netball team who are making great progress each and every week at their after school club. They have been working really well as a team and celebrated a 5-2 win at St Bart's Primary School last week!



Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633w

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who sponsored the children to take part in the Sponsored Bounce last half-term.

Your kind donations raised an amazing **£1,521.49** for FHF.

Friday 2 nd December	Deadline for £3 payment & consent form for your child to see Santa	
Friday 2 nd December	Year 6 only – deadline to return permission slips to help at Christmas Bazaar	
Friday 2 nd December	Deadline for slip to offer help at the Bazaar	Please do come along to help if you can!
Friday 2 nd December	Christmas Jumper Day	All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on this day. For the enjoyment of doing so we hope you will be able to donate either a bottle or an item of Christmas confectionery that can be used for the tombola stall at the Bazaar. Someone from the Friends will be available near the school gate for you to hand your donations to, please do not take them to the office.

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. **

Important Information



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**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:

Mon 28 Nov
 Netball vs Crockenhill (away) 3.30pm

Tues 29 Nov
 WTSW: meet 8.40am at the corner of Charnock and Court Crescent.

Weds 30 Nov
 WTSW: meet 8.40am at the corner of Pinks Hill and Cranleigh Drive (top junction).

Thurs 1 Dec
 WTSW: meet 8.40am corner of Waylands and Pinks Hill.

Fri 2 Dec
 Deadline for Christmas Card entries
 Christmas Lunch day
 Christmas Jumper day - bottle or chocolate donations for FHF Fair



**TERM DATES
2016 - 2017**

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