



8th Sept 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

Welcome back, everyone! I hope that you all had a lovely summer break and are looking forward to another busy year, with lots of both learning and extra-curricular opportunities for our children. We extend a particularly warm welcome to our new Reception children and their families, especially those who are new to the school, as well as to our new children in other classes and to our new members of staff - welcome to High Firs!

Class Information Meetings,

BBQ & FHF AGM

Parents are invited to attend their child's **Class Information Meeting** on **Thursday 14th September**

* Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at 5.30pm * Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 at 6.00pm

These will be a chance for you to meet your child's new teacher(s) and to find out about the new curriculum and expectations for the year ahead.

This will be followed by our **Family BBQ and Friends of High Firs AGM**

All Welcome - we hope you can join us!

Assemblies

We look forward to welcoming parents & carers to the following class assemblies taking place this half-term:

**CLASS
ASSEMBLIES**

- **Year 1** - Weds 4th October at 10.15am.

This will be followed by an information meeting for Year 1 parents about phonics in Year 1.

- **Year 3** - Tues 10th October at 10.15am

- **Year 6** - Tues 17th at 10.15am.

This will be followed by an information meeting for Yr6 parents about the SATs.

You are also invited to join us for our Harvest Celebration on Wednesday 27th September at 10.15am, which will be followed by our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Meet our Family Support Worker

Hi. My name is Julia Yandle and I work as a Family Support Worker at High Firs; I am here one morning and one afternoon a week. I have worked in the community for many years supporting families with a variety of issues. These have included housing, financial matters, locating community services and strategies for children's behaviour. 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 and see if I can help in any way.



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School meals

Principals Catering are now providing our lunches. The Autumn Term menu will be sent home but you can also see a copy here: <http://www.principals-catering.com/about/>
Meals for KS2 children cost £2.20 each and must be paid for in advance (on the day at the latest) by cash to the office or via the website link above.

Breakfast Club

It is good to see so many of our children enjoying Breakfast Club! The charge for Breakfast Club is £2.50 per day, payable on the day or in advance.

Our Newsletter

We will continue to send home our weekly Newsletter every Friday, with lots of information to share, and hope that you will find it a useful resource as well as an interesting read! Copies of the Newsletter are also placed on the school website so you can log on if you lose a copy or if your child is absent and you want to catch up.



School Website

www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk



Don't forget that diary dates, letters and the Newsletter are all available on our website. Lots of dates for the new term have already been added so why not log on and take a look?



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 the playground equipment, in other areas of the playground or on our field.
- Only children in Yr6 are permitted to cycle to & from school, and only if they have successfully attended Kent Rider Safe Cycling training. We do not have facilities for children from other classes to store bikes / scooters on-site during the day. Any parents bringing up bikes / scooters etc for their child to ride home on are asked not to allow their children to do so until they are off the school site. Please remind your child to cycle / scoot with consideration for pedestrians and our neighbours.
- Children in Reception to Yr4 may only be collected by an adult (ie someone over 18).



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Individual Photographs

The children will have their individual and school sibling photographs taken on **Tuesday 19th September**. Any non-school siblings are invited to come into school for photographs between **8am and 8.40am**. Children who are absent on the day will be given the opportunity to have their individual photograph taken when the photographer returns later in the year. **Breakfast Club will be in Year 4 on Tues 19th.**



Swanley Library Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all our children who have been taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge at Swanley library. Don't forget the challenge closes on **Saturday 16th September**. We are so pleased that High Firs has been at the top of the leader board for the highest number of entrants from all the local schools throughout most of the holiday - what a fantastic achievement!

Postcards

Thank you to the children who sent us postcards over the school holiday - we have loved finding out where you have been! Thank you to - Joshua E, Mia C, Jack W, James H, Faye F, Evie B, Jalena L-H, Sunni L-H and Reuben B.



Starting High Firs...

Although the new academic year has only just started, we are already looking ahead to our new Reception children starting in September 2018! Parents with a child due to start school next year (children born 1.9.2013 to 31.8.2014+) are warmly invited to tour the school during one of the following sessions:

- * **Tuesday 31st October at 9.30am**
- * **Wednesday 8th November at 11am**
- * **Thursday 16th November at 5.30pm**



There will also be an informal meeting and play activity session for prospective parents & children on **Monday 11th December** from 2pm to 3pm. Please let the office know if you would like to attend a tour and / or the play afternoon. 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.

Class Newsletters The children are bringing home today their class newsletter for this term. These outline the curriculum areas they will be covering and give other information relevant to their class; we hope you find them useful. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns.



This week's Talk Topic is:

I enjoyed my first week in my new class because...



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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:

Uniform for Boys

Black or grey trousers - long or short (not sports shorts or tracksuit bottoms)
Gold sweatshirt/polo shirt with school logo
Grey socks (plain)

Uniform for Girls

Grey skirt/tunic *to the knee*
Gold sweatshirt/polo shirt with school logo
Gold cardigan
Black, grey or white **school style** socks *to the knee* or black/grey tights (plain)
Smart black or grey trousers.
Summer dresses in yellow or yellow & white in simple style.

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. 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; the only exception is for children in Yr6 in the summer term if a bag requires replacement.
Please ensure that all items are labelled.

Important Health Information - PLEASE REMEMBER!

Important
Information

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. ****



Fence

You may notice some changes to the front of the school over the next couple of weeks as we are having a new fence and gates installed. This will give extra security for our children & buildings and also enable us to use more of our school grounds during the school day.



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Helping at High Firs

Thank you to all those parents & adults who are also "coming back to school" in their capacity as volunteers, taking a variety of roles in supporting the school & our children; if you are already a helper we will be contacting you to confirm arrangements for the new term shortly. If you don't already help in school, could you join the team to.....

- hear children read?
- play games with small groups?
- share a skill - gardening / sewing / painting / cooking / music?
- talk about or share your job or hobby?
- look after the books in our school library?
- tidy our outdoor environment?
- help at or run a lunchtime or after-school club?
- offer maintenance skills?
- help in any other way?

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! If you would like to offer your help, please complete & return the form in this Newsletter and we will be in touch with you shortly. Thank you.

HELPING AT HIGH FIRS

Please return to School Office

My name is

I can be contacted via in Year

I would like to help with / offer the following:

Preferred days & times:

I understand that the school is required to undertake a 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.

Signed

Date

TERM DATES 2017-18						
These do not include INSET dates which are set separately.						
September 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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	
October 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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					
November 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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
January 2018						
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				
February 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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	
April 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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						
May 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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			
June 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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	
July 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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					



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INSET DAYS

2017-2018

No children in school

1 - Mon 4 September

2 - Thurs 4 Jan

3 - Fri 5 Jan

4 - TBC

5 - TBC

Coming up next week:

CLUBS START THIS WEEK - please see return slips for information.

Mon 11 to Thurs 14 Sept

Reception staying for lunch; collect at 1.15pm.

Thurs 14 September

5.30pm - Class Curriculum Meetings: Reception, Yr1 & Yr2

6pm - Class Curriculum Meetings: Yr3, Yr4, Yr5, Yr6

6pm to 7pm - FHF BBQ and Social Event

7pm - FHF AGM

Fri 15 September

Reception parents' pop in and play 2.15pm

Reception staying all day - finish 3.15pm



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 Thursday 14th September at 7pm

(following Class Curriculum Meetings)

All parents/guardians and staff are encouraged to attend

I hereby give notice of the AGM of the Friends of High Firs Primary School to be held on 14th September 2017.

An overview of the AGM's Agenda is set-out below

- FHF's accounts for previous financial year
- The events taken place so far
- Election of committee members - (... *would you like to join us ?*)
- Appointments
- Any other business

The Friends' AGM will commence at 7pm following the class information meeting held by each teacher and the social evening. We anticipate that the AGM should last approximately 10 minutes. Please add this date to your diaries now so that you don't miss out on a social event.

Regards

Christine Munday, Chair



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Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education
Registered Charity No. 1137633

President: Mr C Turtle
Chairman: Christine Munday
Deputy Chair: Sarah Jones
Secretary: Jo Almeida
Treasurer: Charlotte Tiller
Safety Officer: Brian Bunning
Other Trustees: Lisa Ellis
Jane Croxton
Sam Officer



Court Crescent
Swanley
Kent
BR8 8NR

July 2017

Dear Parents and Staff

Social Evening with BBQ and Beer Tent, incorporating the Friends' Annual General Meeting (AGM)

You and your children are invited to a social evening on Thursday 14th September 2017 - a great chance to have a drink and something to eat whilst catching up with your friends and making new ones. The AGM will commence at 7 pm following the class curriculum meetings and social evening. The Friends' AGM should last approximately 10 minutes.

The Friends of High Firs plays a vital part in the school community and all parents and staff are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to hear and see how the funds you have helped to raise have been used for the benefit of the children at our school.

The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the Friend's Committee to represent the association throughout the forthcoming academic year. **We need your nominations otherwise we will not have a Committee!** Nominations should be sent in advance of the AGM for the positions of Chair, Deputy-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, and ordinary committee members. You may wish to check whether existing committee members are willing to stand again (please note that some members wish to let others have a go this year) and if so please nominate them. Please do chat amongst friends and nominate those who you feel will do a good job! If you would like any further information about what is involved in being a Committee Member, please speak to one of us! As The Friends is a registered charity all committee members automatically become Trustees of the Charity.

We also invite you to come forward to be a class representative. Last year we had at least two class representatives per class. If you are interested in becoming a class representative please speak to one of the names listed over to find out more about what is involved. If you are happy to continue to be a class representative (and I do hope you are) then please complete and return the attached slip **by Tuesday 12th September 2017**.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 14th September 2017.

Regards

Christine Munday
Chair



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2016-17 Current Members/Trustees

Chair: Christine Munday
Deputy Chair: Sarah Jones
Secretary: Jo Almeida
Treasurer: Charlotte Tiller
Safety Officer: Brian Bunning
Committee Members: Lisa Ellis, Sam Officer and Jane Croxton

Class Representatives for school year September 2016 - July 2017

Reception Lisa Ellis and Rachel Baynton
Year 1 Lisa Spokes and Lulu Robertson
Year 2 Martina Baldwinson and Catherine Baylis
Year 3 Charlotte Tiller and Jo Almeida
Year 4 Minal Patel and Kerry Cattermole
Year 5 Donna Burke and Sharon Kennedy
Year 6 Letife Mehmet and Sally Cue

NOMINATION FOR OFFICER/MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS COMMITTEE SEPT 2017-SEPT 2018

Nominee: (Please Print Name)

For position of: Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary/Treasurer/Safety Officer/Ordinary Committee Member
[Please circle one position]

Proposer: (Please Sign) Seconder: (Please Sign)

..... Date: (Please Print Name) Date: (Please Print name)

I agree to my nomination for the position of
(Remember to get the person you are nominating to agree and sign here)

Signed: Date:

Please complete and return this form to school in an envelope by Tuesday 12th September 2017.

NOMINATION FOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES SEPT 2017 – JULY 2018

I wish to stand as a class representative.

Name: _____

Class: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email address: _____

Please complete and return this form to school by Tuesday 12th September 2017.



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