



24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017

# High Firs Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

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Visit our school website at [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)

## Message from Mr Turtle

It is incredible to think that it is now a year since we started to clear our woodland area to use as an outdoor classroom. This is now well established and used as part of our curriculum - particularly for our younger classes - and the children always enjoy and benefit from their time there. We will continue to seek ways in which we can use the outdoor environment, whatever the weather!

## 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](http://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 **WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK 27<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December**

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 28 <sup>th</sup> at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Pinks Hill and Cranleigh Drive (top junction).
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Charnock and Court Crescent.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> at 8.40am	Meet us on the corner of Waylands and Pinks Hill.



## 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 by **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November**. All cards will then be displayed in the hall and around the school for the remainder of the term.



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### 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 **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 in December before we break up will win a prize ☺

### 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 or other social media 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 ++**

### 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!

<i>Club</i>	<i>Last session this term</i>		<i>Club</i>	<i>Last session this term</i>
Football	No more this term		Table Games	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December
Cookery	No more this term		Woodland	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December
French	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November		Recorders	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December
Netball	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November		Construction	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December
Gym	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November		Computing	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December
Golf	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November			

### Thank you

We are always proud of how the High Firs community helps others and we are pleased to pass on the thanks of one of our visitors who took a tumble earlier this week - thank you to everyone who stopped to help.



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### Online safety

Your child will be bringing home the latest edition of the 'Digital Parenting' magazine today, which offers parents and carers information and advice about the online safety. You can find previous editions and further advice on their website: <https://parentzone.org.uk/digital-parenting-online-safety-magazine-archive>

### In our classes this week

- Reception - are finding out about different woodland animals.
- Year 1 - made 2d shape pictures.
- Year 2 - found out about waterproofing to make sure Paddington's sandwiches did not get soggy in the rain!
- Year 3 - wrote stories about the "Dreamgiver".
- Year 4 - have enjoyed their topic about the "Titanic".
- Year 5 - learned about different kinds of graphs.
- Year 6 - wrote diaries in character as Flossie Albright.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
A fact from one of our classes this week

From Year 2 -  
Paddington Bear travelled from darkest Peru to London - that's about 10,000km.

## Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education  
Registered Charity No. 1137633

### CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN! A handy guide to all your FHF events...

#### Coming up next week:

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Deadline for £3 payment & consent form for your child to see Santa
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Deadline for slip to offer help at the Bazaar

#### 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 2017-2018

No children in school

- 1 - Mon 4 September
- 2 - Thurs 4 Jan
- 3 - Fri 5 Jan
- 4 - Fri 25 May
- 5 - Mon 2 July

#### Coming up next week:

##### Mon 27 November

Walk to School Week  
Football vs Wilmington - leave 2.30pm

##### Tues 28 November

8.40am WTSW - corner of Pinks Hill and Cranleigh Drive (top junction).

##### Weds 29 November

Yr6 Height & Weight checks  
8.40am WTSW - corner of Charnock and Court Crescent.

##### Thurs 30 November

8.40AM WTSW - corner of Waylands and Pinks Hill.  
Deadline for Card Competition

##### Fri 1 December

WTSW ends



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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](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)

<b>TERM DATES 2017-18</b>							<b>September 2017</b>							<b>October 2017</b>							<b>November 2017</b>													
<b>These do not include INSET dates which are set separately.</b>							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	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
							11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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							25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				27	28	29	30			
<b>December 2017</b>							<b>January 2018</b>							<b>February 2018</b>							<b>March 2018</b>													
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31								
<b>April 2018</b>							<b>May 2018</b>							<b>June 2018</b>							<b>July 2018</b>													
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							
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