



2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

# High Firs Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

ONLINE SNOW EDITION

Court Crescent, Swanley, Kent BR8 8NR Tel: 01322 669721 Fax: 01322 615997

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



### Message from Mr Turtle

I hope that you are all keeping safe and warm. As you know we try to issue the Newsletter every Friday during term-time and we are not going to let the snow stop us! Have a good weekend and we will hopefully see you all on Monday as normal...



### Snow Closure

Thank you all for your understanding with the changes to normal arrangements this week due to the severe weather; we tried to keep you updated as quickly and effectively as we could. School closure is a last resort and unfortunately we saw no alternative in consideration of the weather alerts and treacherous conditions on local roads & pathways; the lack of public transport on some days also meant our staff who live further afield were unable to get to and from school by alternative methods if they could not travel safely by car. We know that families often find it easier to have a definite decision on closure rather than the "will they / won't they" of opening the school and then having to make the decision to go home early.

We have continued to be in contact with Highways regarding the gritting of roads & paths on the High Firs estate in order to ensure that families and staff can travel safely to the school site - although a team did come out on Tuesday following a number of calls from our office, their response was that access to the school is not a priority and that it is actually the responsibility of all the local residents to grit their own areas of path and road in order to keep the estate up and running! We obviously do not intend to put this expectation on our neighbours and it is particularly frustrating that we can not get to school safely when our staff worked so hard to keep our own site safe and accessible on Monday & Tuesday

**We hope to be able to open as normal on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March - we will confirm arrangements by text as soon as possible.**

### Date Changes

Due to the recent weather conditions please note the following changes to upcoming published events / deadlines:

**Please return the following on MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH:**

- \* Quiz Night ticket requests / payments
- \* Parent Consultation appointment requests
- \* Voluntary Fund Payment



**FHF EGM** - we hope that this will still be able to go ahead on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March. If not, it will be rescheduled to Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**Year 2 Class Assembly** - has been rescheduled (from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March) to Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm

### School Text System

Our school text system has been essential this week in keeping everyone updated! From next week, you will notice an additional code hyperlink in your messages; this is a new security measure which has been added by the provider so that if you click on the code it confirms that the text is definitely an authentic one sent to you by the school.



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# Book Week

## World Book Day Celebrations

As you may know, yesterday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, was World Book Day. In celebration of this (and not being content with just a day to celebrate!) there are some exciting events and opportunities for our children during our upcoming **BOOK WEEK** starting **12<sup>th</sup> March**:

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March FHF BOOK SWAP

This will be held during the school day - bring an old book to donate and for a 50p donation you can take a 'new' one home. Parents and siblings are also invited to purchase books after school.



### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March BOOK FAIR



After school every day to 3.45pm Your World Book Day voucher and RRAH voucher will be valid at this event. There will also be a special assembly to show the children some of the books available to purchase.

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March DRESS AS A BOOK CHARACTER DAY

Children can come to school dressed as a favourite Book Character! There is no cost to take part but don't forget to bring the book if you have it.



**World Book Day Vouchers** will be coming home soon. This voucher is worth £1 off the purchase of any new children's book at participating stores and will also be valid at our Book Fair if you want to save it. The children who took part every day in **Resolution Read at Home** also have a £1.00 voucher to spend.



**This week's Talk Topic is:**  
**My best thing to do in the snow is ...**

Important Information

### 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. \*\*



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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 - Fri 25 May  
5 - Mon 2 July

**Coming up next week:**

Mon 5 March	FHF - EGM 7.15pm for 7.30pm start (in Yr6) Deadline for: Quiz Night ticket requests / payments Voluntary fund payments Parents' Consultation requests
Thurs 8 March	District High Fives Netball - 1.15pm at Hextable Primary
Sat 10 March	FHF Quiz Night 7.30pm

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)



**Friends of High Firs Quiz Night**  
**DEADLINE - 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

I would like ..... tickets for the Friends of High Firs Quiz Night on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

*Please note below if you have others you wish to sit with but are not purchasing tickets for them:*

I enclose £..... (cheques made payable to *Friends of High Firs*)

Signed .....

Date .....

Name of child

.....

Class .....



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# Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633

## Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting To be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm

**\*\* WEATHER DEPENDENT! \*\***

**Will be confirmed by text on Monday – alternative date: 19<sup>th</sup> March**

**All parents, carers and staff are invited and encouraged to attend**



A new Chairman and Deputy Chairman must be appointed at the upcoming EGM in order for the FHF to continue to offer its fantastic opportunities for our children. Following the end of roles for our Chair and Deputy Chair, the opportunity has therefore arisen for others to get involved at school in new ways and to take on these positions; both Christine and Sarah are happy to continue to support new Trustees through the first few months so you can make the most of their expertise! You will also have the support of the school and the other members of FHF.

**The President & Trustees of the Friends of High Firs Primary School Association hereby give notice of an EGM of the Friends of High Firs Primary School to be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.**

**Agenda:**

- *Welcome & Review*
- *Election of Chair & Deputy Chair*
- *General Business*

Everyone is welcome and we can promise you tea and biscuits! Please come along and give your support to the Friends – everyone has a part to play in this very important part of school life, which provides a large amount of support for your child – not to mention lots of fun opportunities both for the children and the adults who help! If you have any queries, please do speak to a member of FHF.

TERM DATES 2017-18	September 2017	October 2017	November 2017
<b>These do not include INSET dates which are set separately.</b>	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
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	March 2018	April 2018	May 2018
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June 2018	July 2018		
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