



7.9.18

# 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](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Our Family BBQ will be open until 7pm**

**Friends of High Firs AGM at 7pm**

**All Welcome - we hope you can join us!**

## Assemblies

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

- Year 6 - Weds 10<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15am - followed by Yr6 SATs meeting
- Year 5 - Tues 16<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15am
- Year 4 - Tues 6<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm
- Year 3 - Weds 14<sup>th</sup> November at 10.15am
- Year 2 - Weds 21 November at 10.15am - followed by Yr2 SATs meeting
- Year 1 - Weds 28<sup>th</sup> November at 10.15am - followed by 10.45am Phonics meeting for all Rec/Yr1/Yr2 parents
- Reception - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 2.15pm - a sharing session followed by "Pop in and Play"

**CLASS  
ASSEMBLIES**

You are also invited to join us for the following assemblies for parents of children in all classes:

- Harvest Celebration - Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 10.15am - followed by our Macmillan Coffee Morning.
- Remembrance - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.40am



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### 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.



### School meals

Principals Catering are continue to provide our lunches. The Autumn Term menu was sent home at the end of last term. 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](http://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?



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## 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).



## 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 soon!

## 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 Lewis W, Evie B, Amy T, Evie T, Lucy E, Joshua E, Freya E, Grace E, Amelia B, Samuel W, Jack W, Isla S, Bradley S & Summer S. We even had some postcards from children who have left the school... and Miss Rennie! Thank you, everyone.



## 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 2019! Parents with a child due to start school next year (children born 1.9.2014 to 31.8.2015) are warmly invited to tour the school during one of the following sessions:



- \* **Wednesday 31st October at 11am**
- \* **Tuesday 6th November at 9.30am**
- \* **Thursday 15th November at 5.30pm**

There will also be a play activity session for prospective parents & children on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



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**This week's Talk Topic is:**

**I am looking forward to the new school year because...**

### **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. \*\***



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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.

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**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, including Safeguarding requirements.

Signed .....

Date .....



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# 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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

Chris Tiller, Chair

### Coming up

NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK

Mon 10 to Thurs 13 Sept Reception staying for lunch – collect 1.15pm

Tues 11 September Deadline for club place requests

Thurs 13 September Curriculum Open Evening -  
Rec/Yr1/Yr2 Class Information Meetings - 5.30pm  
Yr3/Yr4/Yr5/Yr6 Class Information Meetings - 6pm  
BBQ – to 7pm  
FHF AGM - 7pm

Fri 14 September Reception pop in and play for parents - 2.15pm  
Reception – collect 3.15pm



#### INSET DAYS

No children in school

1: Mon 3 Sept 2018

2: Thurs 3 Jan 2019

3: Fri 4 Jan 2019

4: TBC

5: TBC



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# TERM DATES 2018 - 2019

This does **NOT** include INSET days which are issued separately.

August 2018							September 2018							October 2018							November 2018							
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	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			

December 2018							January 2019							February 2019							March 2019						
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					1	2	3					1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
31																											

April 2019							May 2019							June 2019							July 2019							
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	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					

 **easyfundraising.org.uk**  
feel good shopping

Think  
**shopping,**  
think **easyfundraising**



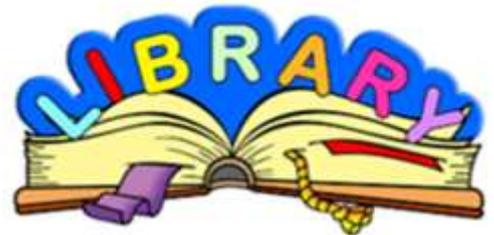
Help **THE FRIENDS OF HIGH FIRS** raise money every time you shop by using [easyfundraising.org.uk/fohighfirs](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/fohighfirs)

### Simply...

-  **1. Join**  
Head to [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org.uk), search for us to start raising.
-  **2. Shop**  
There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.
-  **3. Raise**  
After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost whatsoever!

Join, shop and raise here:  
[easyfundraising.org.uk/fohighfirs](http://easyfundraising.org.uk/fohighfirs)



The school library is open  
to borrow a book on  
**THURSDAYS 3.20pm – 3.40pm**  
**All classes welcome!**



High Firs Primary School  
currently has a vacancy for:

**CLERK TO THE  
GOVERNING BODY**

120 hours per annum @ £12 per hour  
More information & application details:  
[www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)



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# Clubs - Autumn 2018

Once again, we have an exciting variety of clubs for the children to join this term and these are listed in the table below; thank you to all those staff who are offering these opportunities for the children.

**How to join** If your child would like to join a particular club, please return a club slip by **TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**. You will then be notified if they have been offered a place and the starting date for your particular club. Children are expected to commit to attending every week their club is scheduled to run. Where clubs are oversubscribed then we may have to limit the number of weeks in which a group of children attend so that we can have two or more groups.

**Cancelling Clubs** In some circumstances, particularly in the case of inclement weather or other school commitments, we may have to cancel a club session. In this event we will contact you by text and/or the Newsletter as soon as we are able to. However, please assume that clubs are running every week unless you are notified otherwise.

**PE Clubs** All children from Reception upwards are used to the routines of changing for PE. If your child is attending a PE club, please do not worry about coming to school to get them changed into their kit for their club as they will be supervised to change into and out of their kit by staff - just make sure their kit is in school! We also ask that parents do not stay on site during outdoor clubs.

**Collection after clubs** All children will be dismissed after clubs by the pedestrian gate; please wait there to collect your child. Normal school dismissal procedures apply - please let your club staff know if someone else will be collecting your child or if they have permission to walk home (Yr5/6 only).

**Why do clubs change each term?** We want our children to be able to try lots of different opportunities so the clubs offered will change over the course of the year. In a small school, there are only so many clubs we can accommodate at once (both in terms of staffing and room in school) and we also have to take into consideration "wear and tear" and health & safety in terms of our facilities - particularly use & maintenance of the field. Staff give up their time to run clubs and these therefore reflect their own interests and areas of particular skill which they are choosing to share. Clubs run by the school have priority over any run by outside agencies.

CLUB	DAY	TIME	STAFF	VENUE	Year	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Dance	Thursdays	3.15pm-4.05pm	Mrs Verge	Hall	3	
French	Mondays 17, 24 Sept 8, 15, 29 Oct 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov 3 Dec	3.15pm-3.50pm	Mrs Ives	Meeting Room	3, 4, 5 & 6	£2.50 per session (outside provider charge). Children will need to commit to attending all 10 sessions this term; no refund of payments for non-attendance or non-continuers. The club is open to children who have attended before and also to new-comers. <b>Enclose cheque for £12.50 payable to "Le Petit Lapin Bleu Limited" with request to join slip for Sept &amp; Oct dates. £12.50 for Nov &amp; Dec due by 12<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>
Cookery	Mondays Dates TBC depending on numbers	3.15pm-4.15pm	Mrs Drewett & Miss Rennie	Staff Room	6	
Recorders	Mondays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Mrs Payne	Yr3 Classroom	4	
Football	Mondays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Mr Turtle	Field / PG / Hall	5&6	
Computing	Wednesdays	12.45pm - 1.15pm	Mrs Ford	ICT Suite	3	
Dough Disco	Wednesdays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Miss Durrant	Yr1 Classroom	1 & 2	Lots of fun activities with dough and other manipulatives - with music!
Construction	Tuesdays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Miss Watson	Yr2 classroom	1	
Table Top Games	Mondays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Mrs McCabe	Yr4 classroom	2	
Netball	Tuesdays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Miss Allin	PG / Hall	5&6	
Woodland	Tuesdays	3.15pm-4.15pm	Miss Allen	Woodland	4	Please bring wellies and outdoor wear to change into!



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**REQUEST TO JOIN CLUB**

**Return to school by Tues 11 September**

Club .....

Name of Child ..... Year .....

I give my child permission to attend the above club.

My emergency contact number at this time will be .....

\*\* My child will be collected at the end of the club by .....

OR

\*\* I give permission for my child to walk home unsupervised at the end of the club (Yrs 5&6 only)

Signed .....

Date .....

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