



3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2021

# High Firs Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

Court Crescent, Swanley, Kent BR8 8NR 01322 669721 office@high-firs.kent.sch.uk  
Visit our school website at [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk)

## Message from Mr Kilbride

Welcome back to school for an exciting Autumn term ahead! I was overwhelmed this morning with how friendly and polite your children were in greeting me as they came into school – a really lovely, warm welcome indeed.

I look forward to getting to know all of our families over the coming days and weeks. I will be available at the school gate before and after school on most days – please do come and speak to me if there is anything you would like to pass on or anything upon which you are seeking some clarification – I will be more than happy to talk with you.



## Meet The Teacher sessions

We are looking forward to welcoming parents to school for class “Meet the Teacher” sessions on:

Year 1 – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

Year 2 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm

Year 3 – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm

Year 5 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

Year 6 – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 9am



## Breakfast Club and After School Club

Don't forget to book your Breakfast Club and After School Club places as soon as possible at

<http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/breakfast-club-after-school-provision/>

If you are paying for BC or ASC by our SchoolMoney app, then please ensure that you also **indicate the date(s)** which you are paying for when you make your payment.

## Updated Covid Guidance

### IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 -

Self-isolate straight away and take a PCR test (book at [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)) as soon as possible, if you have any of the following symptoms:

- Persistent / dry cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste or smell

You should self-isolate until the results are received and continue to do so if they are positive. If you test positive, your self-isolation is for 10 days, starting from the day your symptoms started (or the day you took the test, if you did not have symptoms).

### IF SOMEONE YOU LIVE WITH HAS SYMPTOMS OR HAS TESTED POSITIVE BUT YOU DO NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS –

You NO LONGER need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years 6 months old (even if you are identified as a close contact by NHS track & trace)
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

If any of the above apply, you can continue to attend school **AND YOU SHOULD -**

- take a PCR test yourself (book at [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)) as soon as possible

COVID-19  
Update



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- limit contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19

Please do continue to let us know if pupils or families are undertaking self-isolation, are being tested or have been identified as close contacts so we can continue to evaluate our provision and risk assessments.



#### Staff News

We are pleased to welcome Miss Johnson and Miss Rekestiene to our TA team and Miss Mewes to our premises team. It has been great to welcome Miss Durrant and Mrs O'Dwyer back to school this week following their maternity leave. Mrs Daniels will very sadly be leaving us next week after many years at High Firs; we will miss her very much and send her off with our very best wishes and thanks.

#### School Clubs

We are pleased to be able to return to running our range of school activity clubs at lunchtime / after school now that restrictions have lifted. This term we are offering:

Year 1 – Woodland Club

Year 2 – Arts & Crafts and Gym

Year 3 – Choir, Table Top Games, Football and French

Year 4 – Choir, Eco-Science, Football and French

Year 5 – Computing, Table Top Games, Football and French

Year 6 – Football, Table Top Games, and French



Some clubs will change next term for different classes so we hope that over the year there will be something for everyone! 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.

If your child would like to join a particular club, please sign up at <http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/clubs/> by **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September**. You will be notified if your child has been offered a place and the starting date for your particular club, along with any other arrangements. 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.

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.



#### School meals

Meals for KS2 children cost £2.30 each and must be paid for in advance (on the day at the latest) by cash to the office or via the website link: <https://www.principals-catering.com/>

#### 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 at [www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk](http://www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk) so you can log on if you lose a copy or if your child is absent and you want to catch up.



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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).

## **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:

Smart black or grey trousers – long or short (not sports shorts or tracksuit bottoms)

Grey skirt/tunic *to the knee*

Summer dresses in yellow or yellow & white in simple style.

Gold sweatshirt/polo shirt

Gold cardigan

Black, grey or white **school style** socks *to the knee* or black/grey tights (plain)

## **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, however, 'smart' watches that can send and receive text messages and can take photographs are not permitted. 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.

Please ensure that all items are labelled.



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## School Office

Please remember that letters and dinner money can be handed in via your child and do not need to be brought directly to the school office. Similarly, your child's contact book can also be used to request appointments with staff or passing on of other general information, rather than this going via the office. Thank you.



### Next week in school

Mon 6 September	Yr5 Meet the Teacher 9am Yr2 Meet the Teacher 2.30pm Reception Home visits by appointment
Tues 7 September	Yr1 Meet the Teacher 9am Yr4 Meet the Teacher 2.30pm Reception Home visits by appointment
Weds 8 September	Reception Teddy Bear's Picnic 2pm – 3pm Yr6 Meet the Teacher 9am Yr3 Meet the Teacher 2.30pm
Thurs 9 September	Yr6 Kent Selection Tests
Fri 10 September	Reception's First Day - 12pm pickup Reception parents' Tea & Tissues in hall to 10am

Also coming next week – lots of diary dates for the new term ahead!

## 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 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm

***All parents/guardians and staff are very welcome to attend – please come along!***

I hereby give notice of the AGM of the Friends of High Firs Primary School to be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm.

#### Agenda:

- Annual Report
- Accounts
- Election of committee members - (... would you like to join us ?)
- Appointments
- Future planning for 2021-22
- Any Other Business



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# Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

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## THE ORCHARD THEATRE DARTFORD 2021 CHRISTMAS PANTOMINE – JACK AND THE BEANSTALK



Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

Christmas is still a long way off, but once again the Friends of High Firs are offering you the opportunity to treat the family to a great Christmas production at a discounted rate – not only are the tickets cheaper than on general sale but it also includes a donation to benefit FHF.

This year we have booked tickets for **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 at 5 p.m. at The Orchard Theatre** for "Jack and the Beanstalk". Seating is in the stalls in rows G, H, J, K and L. With our discount the cost to you will stay the same as last time at £18 per person which will also include a free ice cream.

As before, all children need to be accompanied by their parent(s) or carer adult and families need to make their own travel arrangements to and from the theatre – this is NOT a school-supervised trip!

If you wish to purchase tickets for this event, please complete the order form below enclosing £18 payment for each ticket required. Please make any cheques payable to "Friends of High Firs".

Please complete the slip and return it to the school in an envelope clearly marked "Friends Panto" by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September** enclosing your payment.

Tickets are non-refundable and non-returnable as in previous years.

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**FRIENDS OF HIGH FIRS – PANTOMINE TRIP – THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER AT 5PM**  
*Return with payment to school by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September.*

No. of Adult Tickets Required ..... @£18.00      No. of Child Tickets Required ..... @ £18.00

Total £ enclosed ..... cash / cheque payable to "Friends of High Firs"

Name: ..... Contact No: .....

Child's Name and Class: .....

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Amount Enclosed: ..... Cash: ..... Cheque: ..... Cheque Date: .....



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