



1 October 2021

High Firs Primary School

NEWSLETTER

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Visit our school website at www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk

Message from Mr Kilbride

Unfortunately, I am writing this to you from home following a positive outcome on a lateral flow test this morning. I am awaiting the outcome of a PCR test but it seems likely that I will now need to self-isolate for ten days. I currently have no symptoms and am planning to continue to work from home, being available and maintaining contact with school throughout; Miss Rennie will continue to be in school as normal. I am naturally very disappointed that this has happened but I know that you will appreciate the need to continue to follow the government guidance to reduce the spread of the virus.

I was really proud of our children this week as they stood up and performed in front of parents in our Harvest Assembly – in some cases for the first time in over 18 months and in other cases for the first time ever. They did brilliantly and I know they enjoyed your appreciation and applause if you were lucky enough to be in the audience.

We look forward to welcoming you in for a wide range of events over the rest of the academic year.

Meanwhile, following conversations with parents and my own observations, I write to appeal to you to act with kindness and consideration with your driving and parking when undertaking the school run. Walk to School Week this week has seen a great number of children walking in and perhaps some new habits could be formed, benefitting personal fitness and our environment, by parking a few roads away and walking into school on a more regular basis.



Harvest Assembly – Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Assembly – what a lovely occasion! It was so good to be able to welcome parents and visitors back into the school after such a long time away. Your kind donations of food meant there was a fantastic range of produce on display (arranged beautifully by our creative TA team) which we will be giving to Swanley Foodbank to distribute to those in need in our local community. Thank you also to the all our classes who contributed readings, poems or art work and a particular mention to our Reception children for doing so well in their very first whole school presentation assembly!

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning & Cake Sale



Thank you to everyone who came to our Coffee Morning following Harvest Assembly and the Cake Sale after school on Wednesday – we raised an amazing **£171.58** for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you also to all the staff and parents who donated delicious cakes for us to sell.

INSET days

Following discussion with our District schools group, we can now confirm our remaining INSET days for this academic year; see our calendar section further on in the Newsletter.

Parents Consultations

We are pleased to confirm that we will be able to return to in-school consultations for parents this term; these will be held by appointment on Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th October. Parents will be sent a text shortly for the online booking link to request their appointment.

HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	69	267	Luca, Kenzie, Eliza
CHESTNUT	93	287	Bella, Iyah, Amie S
OAK	102	296	Oliver, Francesca, Kyla
ASH	96	270	Akash, Maddie



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Register Rabbit

Congratulations to this week's winners of Register Rabbit for their excellent attendance:

YEAR 2

YEAR 3



Special Mentions

This week, our special mentions go to:

- Jaxon M & Lenny G – fantastic Mr Men characters
- Jonas C – super “Little Mr Nobody” story.
- Oliver M – working hard and trying his best.
- Millie B – excellent Maths work this week.
- Lily G & Hannah C – showing such enthusiasm in every lesson!
- Albert B & Holly P – fantastic efforts in Maths this week.
- Emanuela M – a brilliant poem and use of ink quill pen.
- Akshara K – fabulous newspaper report, listening carefully to advice.
- Elliot M – great work on Roman numerals!
- Eliza RW – superb Learning Log presentation and understanding of evacuees during WW2.
- Kaiden O – use of technical language about light sources and reflection.



Finally, well done to all our children who took part in Walk to School Week this week, despite some rainy weather!

In our classes this week

Reception – created their own Leaf Man using woodland materials.

Year 1 – learned to count on.

Year 2 – counted in groups of 2, 3, 5 and 10.

Year 3 – went digging for fossils!

Year 4 – found out about the life of Mahatma Gandhi.

Year 5 – have been practising their four-column addition.

Year 6 – learned about how we see and the structure of the eye.



Individual Photographs

The children will have their individual and school sibling photographs taken on **Tuesday 5th October**. Any non-school siblings are invited to come into school for photographs between **8am and 8.35am**. Children who are absent on the day will be given the opportunity to have their photograph taken when the photographer returns later in the year to take the class photos. **Breakfast Club will be in Year 5 on Tuesday 5th October.**

Voluntary Fund

Attached to the Newsletter this week is the envelope for payment of this term's Voluntary Fund payment. We greatly appreciate these donations which are used to support many of the extra activities undertaken in school by the children. The suggested payment is £2 per child or £5 per family.

Please return your donation by 15th October – thank you. You can also pay via our SchoolMoney app.

What is the Voluntary Fund used for? The termly voluntary fund money is used to pay for lots of different things! Essentially, it is used for expenses which we are not allowed to allocate to government funding but which we believe lead to a broader educational experience for our children or which support our community & families links. This also means we do not have to charge parents every time! Just a few examples of this spending are:

- Concert & performance costumes
- Refreshments for parents & visitors at school events – Nativities / Assemblies / class meetings etc
- Cookery ingredients
- Celebration of commemorative events – Whole School Jubilee Day party etc.
- Expenses for Open Evening & events
- Visitors in to school
- Additional resources for school visits

We believe that visits and these other experiences are a vital part of our children's education – thank you to all those parents who support us in this way.



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School Volunteers

Thank you to those parents who have already signed up to help out in school with reading or other activities.

If you would like to help please register on our website at:

<http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/helping-at-school/>

Helping at High Firs

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education

Registered Charity No. 1137633



A huge thank you to Stanhill Farm who have donated a delicious cake for the Friends of High Firs to raffle to raise funds for our school! Tickets will be on sale for 50p each outside school at 3.15pm on Wednesday and Thursday next week, and the draw done with the children during assembly on Friday 8th October.

Thank you for your support and good luck!



Next week in school

INSET DAYS 2022
No children in school

Tues 4 January
Fri 27 May
Mon 27 June

Tues 5 October	Individual Photographs (+ non-school siblings 8am – 8.35am) Breakfast Club in Year 5 Yr6 class assembly 2.15pm – parents & carers welcome
Weds 6 October	FHF Cake Raffle tickets on sale after school No Year 3 Games Club this week – collect 3.15pm
Thu 7 October	FHF Cake Raffle tickets on sale after school
Fri 8 October	FHF Cake Raffle drawn in children's assembly



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.

We are a **NUT FREE** school – this is **ALL TYPES OF NUTS**. Please can we therefore ask for the support of all our school families in ensuring that none of our children or visitors bring any nuts or nut-based products (eg: Nutella spread / Snickers / nutty cereal bars etc) into school. Thank you for your understanding and support in helping to ensure the safety & wellbeing of those members of our school community for whom these products pose a serious risk.



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