



22 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

In many ways I am sitting here wondering where on earth this term has gone, and looking at it from another angle, I feel like I have been at High Firs for years! Your children have been a credit to you this half term - they are so engaged with everything they do in school. This was embodied by two situations that I came across this week - one child had watched the Y6 class assembly and was so interested in their learning about World War II that they have chosen their own reading book to be about this topic so they could find out more! Another child was explaining to me that their fantastic word choices in their writing come from all the reading they are doing - sometimes six books a week! Whenever this child reads, they keep a notebook next to them and jot down any new words or words of interest that they stumble across! Two great examples of children at High Firs driving their own learning onto greater heights. None of this comes without inspiring teaching and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the great team of staff we have at High Firs for their terrific dedication and inspiration across this term - they really have been a joy to work with. I hope you all enjoy a lovely half term break and that you stay safe and return to school on Monday 1st November feeling refreshed and ready to go again!



Gardening & Grounds

Thank you to those parents and children who came along last Saturday morning to help Mr Kilbride, Miss Rennie and Mrs Barnett with painting the Reception fence and laying the bark in our Quiet Area.

Covid Tests

We have had a number of cases this week where household members have received positive Covid tests but our pupils in the same household remain negative and so are able to continue attending school. Thank you to all these families for their diligence in ensuring that their households are quickly PCR tested and that non-positive members of the family continue to take regular lateral flow tests to ensure that we can continue to keep actual cases in our school at a low level.

School Tours for Reception September 2022 starters

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective Reception 2022 parents and children to visit our school to attend a welcome meeting with Mr Kilbride, tour the school and to meet pupils and staff on -

- Tuesday 2nd November at 9.30am
- Monday 8th November at 11am
- Monday 15th November at 5.30pm

We will also be holding a pre-school Craft Afternoon on Tuesday 30th November at 2pm which will give parents and children the opportunity to visit the school to enjoy some craft activities together with some of our school staff. Please visit <http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/admissions-transfer-to-secondary-school/> to book your place on the tour and/or Craft Afternoon or for further information.



Achieving more together





Reconnect Rainbow Challenge

The “My Reconnect Rainbow Challenge” is a chance to rediscover some of the activities we have missed over the last 18 months! The challenge is designed to remind us of all the great things in our lives: family, friends, health, opportunities to learn new things, our communities, sports ... and most of all, a bright future. Visit <https://www.kentschoolgames.com/resources/process/download/27326> for lots of activities to do over half term.

Clubs after half-term

Due to the dark nights drawing in after half-term please could we ask that arrangements are made for children in Year 5 & 6 who are attending after-school clubs to be collected at 4.15pm rather than being given permission to walk home unsupervised.

Poppy Appeal

As well as paper poppies, a variety of other items will also be available in school from Monday 1st November in return for the children’s donations towards this year’s British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile cause.



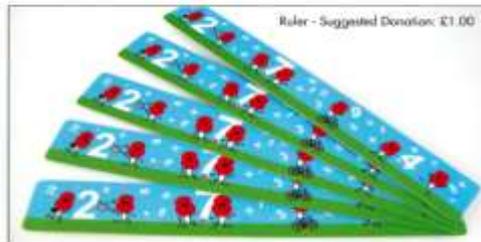
Wristband - Suggested Donation: 50p



Reflector - Suggested Donation: 50p



Pencil - Suggested Donation: 50p



Ruler - Suggested Donation: £1.00



Snap Band - Suggested Donation: £1.00

December dates

We know parents like to get the dates for our Christmas events in their diaries! We are now making final arrangements for these and will update you with confirmed information as soon as possible.

Year 6 Parents applying for Secondary School places in Kent

Applications for Year 6 children moving to secondary school in 2022 opened on 1st September 2021 and close at midnight on 1 November 2021. Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions for more information and ensure that you complete your application by the deadline.



Farewells

We will be saying goodbye and good luck to Mr Webb as he leaves our Breakfast Club, After School Club and Midday teams next month. We wish him well in his new ventures. After many years at High Firs, Mrs Rumsey will also be leaving us at the end of the Autumn Term; we will miss her but wish her all the very best for her very well-deserved retirement!



Achieving more together



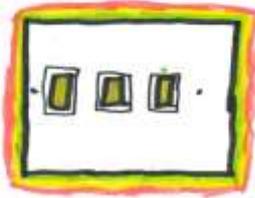


Eco Club

Our Eco Club meet every Wednesday and are busy thinking of lots of ways they can help improve our environment. They

wanted to share some of their ideas with the school community of how you can help too. So, this week's top tip is...

TURN OFF



the lights
when you're
not in the
room

Walk with Amal

Our children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have been following the journey of Amal, a 3.5 metre tall puppet of a young girl who is travelling over 8,000km from Syria to Manchester to raise awareness of the plight of child refugees. Amal arrived in Britain this week and there are lots of opportunities for you over the coming weekend to see her in London before she makes the last leg of her journey to finally reach her destination –

Saturday 23rd October

10am - St Paul's Cathedral
1pm - Shakespeare's Globe
4pm - Southbank Centre
5.45pm - The National Theatre
7pm - Somerset House

Sunday 24th October

11am – Victoria & Albert Museum
4pm – Trafalgar Square
7pm – The Roundhouse, Camden

Monday 25th October

2pm – Westminster Cathedral



Many of these events are free or you can see Amal as she arrives. Visit <https://www.walkwithamal.org/> for more information. Please do send us your photos if you do go to see her – we would love to see them!

Special Mentions

This week, our special mentions go to:

- Mason T – super shape hunting!
- Sabiha M – reading her CVC words.
- Emily S – lovely handwriting and using adjectives in English.
- Edward S – using his knowledge of number bonds to solve problems.
- Ellie R – a detailed and informative poster about the Blue Whale.
- Demi B – her enthusiasm for all areas of learning and the curriculum.
- Daisy W – always making the right choices and working hard.
- Amy V – always challenging herself in Maths.
- Jessica T – fantastic facts about Sir Francis Drake, beautifully presented.
- Sam W – well-presented “wow” facts about conkers.
- Beau B – a lovely repeating pattern design inspired by the work of William Morris.
- Kyla T – her fantastic effort with long division.
- Veda T – her creative periscope made from Lego.
- Alec G – his brilliant Blitz setting description.



Register Rabbit

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

RECEPTION
YEAR 6



Achieving more together



In our classes this week

Reception – learned to use scales to weigh objects.
 Year 1 – created their own dragons' eggs.
 Year 2 – made information posters about the blue whale.
 Year 3 – learned about Holy Communion.
 Year 4 – found out about what it is like to be a Hindu in Britain today.
 Year 5 – made Victorian rag rugs.
 Year 6 – learned about refraction.



Breakfast Club & After School Club

Thank you all for your patience with our website issues over the past week, which have now been resolved. This means that bookings are now available for the second half of the Autumn term for Breakfast Club and After School Club – please visit <http://high-firs.kent.sch.uk/breakfast-club-after-school-provision/>



HOUSE POINTS

	This Week	Term Total	Top Scorers this week
BEECH	76	610	Kenzie E, Ethan P, Harrison A
CHESTNUT	70	602	Leo A, Elias M, Bella W, Bradley S, Grace F
OAK	78	640	Eleanor A, Daisy W
ASH	94	545	Athena M, Poppy G

Friends of High Firs Primary School Association

Supporting Our Children's Education
 Registered Charity No. 1137633



A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE CHRISTMAS / WINTER CARDS DESIGNED BY YOUR CHILD – AND RAISE FUNDS FOR FHF AT THE SAME TIME!

All the children have designed a Christmas or Winter Card, which they should have brought home this week! If you would like to purchase cards made from this design they cost £5.00 per 12 cards; £1.00 of which will be donated to FHF. To place your order, please complete the form on the reverse of the proof and return to school with payment (cash or cheque to "Friends of High Firs") by **Wednesday 3rd November**. *Please return the proof in the plastic wallet provided to ensure it does not become damaged; please do not fold the proof. Please place money in a separate sealed envelope.*

INSET DAYS

No children in school
 Tues 4 Jan 2022
 Fri 27 May 2022
 Mon 27 June 2022



Coming up...

Mon 25 to Fri 29 October

Half Term holiday

Tues 2 November

Reception 2022 Meeting & Tours 9.30am



Job Opportunities

JOIN OUR TEAM

We have vacancies for -
 Breakfast Club Supervisor
 After School Club Supervisor
 Office Administrator

Visit www.high-firs.kent.sch.uk/staff-vacancies/
 for more information



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