



WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

# Fairlands News



The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 9

[www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk](http://www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> January 2014

## Dear Parents and Carers

We have just introduced a new approach to developing the spiritual, moral, social and cultural education of the children at Fairlands. It is called 'Values Education' and builds on the previous work we did using SEAL (Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning). Please watch the video on the school website to find out what it is all about! The first Value we are going to be thinking about in January is POLITENESS. Look out for more information each week on our blogs and on homework flyers.

**Robert Staples**  
Headteacher

### PARKING IN POUND AVENUE

Keith Smith, our Chair of Governors, recently had a meeting with Mr Stephen McPartland, the Local MP responsible for the Old town ward of Stevenage. Together with Mr Staples they discussed the problems the school community, and our neighbours, have with parking and the tight driving conditions experienced every day outside school. Mr McPartland was very helpful and informative. As a result, there have been two major changes to Pound Avenue; The lines and zig-zags outside the school have been repainted - these are there to show an area that is not allowed to be stopped on or parked across, as it reduces the visibility for other road users and pedestrians. Secondly, we now have regular visits from local Community Support Officers at the key times of the day, who are there to help with the traffic build up and advise the road users of safe practice (Hopefully they won't issue too many fines !!!).

This visit was a very important step for the school and the local community, as safety of the children, parents and staff is of paramount importance and safe use of the roads around the school plays a key part of this.

Look out for a picture of the school with Mr McPartland in the local Newspaper soon !!

### PARENT FORUM

The next Parent Forum will be held next **Wednesday, 22<sup>th</sup> January, 9.00-10.00am** in the Upper Building. Parents/Carers are invited to come along for coffee and a chat with the headteacher. This is a great opportunity to discuss your thoughts about the school, good or bad. As well as introducing parents to Values Education, we will be discussing 'the problem of headlice!'

### SMOKERS - PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE

We cannot tell parents not to smoke by the school gates in the alleyway between our two buildings, as this area is not on school property, however, please could I ask you to be considerate of the children, and indeed other parents, who are using this busy entrance area. Thank you.

### SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA

If your child is unwell with sickness and/or diarrhoea, please ensure you keep them off school for 24 hours after the last bout of illness, to prevent them passing it onto other children.

### CALLING ALL DADS

Fairlands' Fathers invite Dads to come along and have a coffee and chat in the Family Room, **every Friday starting at 9.00am and running through to 11.30am**. There's no agenda, it's just a chance for the Dads to compare notes with other Dads! Babies and toddlers welcome.

### TEENBOUNDRIES

All Year 6 parents are invited to come along to a FREE, three week workshop, run by Sara Hassell, to help you support your children's healthy relationships. **Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January, 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00-11.00am**. Please contact the school office to book your place.

### ASD & COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES SUPPORT GROUP

Our Autism Support Group, run by Sara Hassell (our Family Lives Worker), meets on the **first Wednesday of every month (first meeting Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February), in the Family Room from 1.00 - 3.00pm**. Take the opportunity to share top tips with others, discuss strategies, gain advice and be signposted to organisations and resources that might help. Please text Sara on 07805 523480 if you would like to join us. Babies & toddlers welcome.

### SORTING OUT ARGUMENTS IN THE FAMILY

Would you like help with sibling rivalry and learn skills to mediate within your family? Sara Hassell is running a new parenting group in the Family Room, with free crèche, commencing **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 9.00 - 11.15am** for 7 sessions.

### ATTENDANCE AWARD

	w/c 16/12	w/c 6/1
ASH	86.3	97
BEECH	93.4	95.7
BIRCH	91.9	97.8
CEDAR	89.7	94.2
CHERRY	93.7	94.9
CHESTNUT	92.6	94
ELDER	93.3	93.3
ELM	90.3	93.7
<b>HAZEL</b>	93.2	<b>98.7</b>
HORNBEAM	91.4	92.2
LARCH	91.6	96.5
LIME	93.8	93.5
PINE	93.2	98.5
POPLAR	90.4	97.2
WALNUT	98.1	98.4
<b>WHITEBEAM</b>	<b>100</b>	98.4
WILLOW	92.9	97.8

Congratulations to **Whitebeam Class** for **100% attendance** on the last week of the Autumn term.

### HELP US WITH HEADLICE

Headlice in school is an on-going problem, but if everyone takes note of the preventative measures, then the problem should be dramatically reduced. The local Health Authority recommends the following preventative method and suggests that parents should take the responsibility of checking their child's and their own hair regularly.

**The wet-combing method is the recommended preventative method and head lice may be cleared over a two-week period:**

- Wash the hair in the normal way with an ordinary shampoo.
- Using lots of hair conditioner and while the hair is very wet, comb through the hair from the roots with a fine tooth comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots with every stroke, and do this over a pale surface, such as a paper towel or the bath.
- Clear the comb of lice between each stroke.
- Wet lice find it difficult to escape, and hair, which is slippery from conditioner, makes it hard for them to keep a grip – so removal with the comb is easier.
- If you find any lice, then repeat this routine every 3-4 days for 2 weeks, so that any lice emerging from the eggs are removed before they can spread.

Please be aware, if we notice your child is clearly uncomfortable due to headlice, we will contact you and ask you to come and collect him/her to treat the condition. We would not expect a child to be absent for a whole day for the treatment of headlice when the above method is used.

### WELL DONE

Congratulations to Carolanne Sewell (Hazel class) for successfully passing her British Gymnastics Level 8 Proficiency Award with Stevenage Sports and Acrobatics Club.

### SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL 2014

If you would like to nominate our School Crossing Patrol, Mrs Barbara Poole-Taberner for this award, email [school.crossingpatrols@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:school.crossingpatrols@hertfordshire.gov.uk) go on-line at [www.hertsdirect.org/schooltravel](http://www.hertsdirect.org/schooltravel), or collect a form from the office, giving a reason why you think she should win this award and why she is so special! Nominations should be received by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

### DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14

Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan 9.00 - 10.00am	Parent Forum
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2.45pm	Year 6 Parents' Class Assembly
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2.45pm	Year 5 Parents' Class Assembly
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan, 7 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 9.00-11.00am	Teenboundaries Workshops for Yr 6 Parents
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1.00 - 3.00pm	Autism Support Group
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2.45pm	Year 4 Parents' Class Assembly
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2.45pm	Year 3 Parents' Class Assembly
17 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Half Term
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET DAY
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 9.00 - 9.30am	Years 2 - 6 Shared Reading
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> March 1.00 - 3.00pm	Autism Support Group
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2.45pm	Year 2 Parents' Class Assembly
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 5.30 - 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Weds 12 <sup>th</sup> March 3.30 - 6.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2.45pm - Upper Hall	Year 1 Parents' Class Assembly
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm - Upper Hall	Reception Parents' Class Assembly
Weds 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 1.00 - 3.00pm	Autism Support Group
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	End of Spring Term : <b>2.15pm finish</b>