



WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News



The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 10

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

7th February 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to see how children, parents and staff have engaged with our new approach to Values Education! As you know, we have been focusing on the value of Politeness during January and the children have been demonstrating lots of polite behaviour around the school. I don't think I have ever had so many doors held open for me or polite enquiries about my daily wellbeing! We are now looking forward to great things with our focus value for February, which is KINDNESS!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

SPORTS LEADERS

In January, Emily Day and Mackenzie Mitchell, both Year 6, successfully completed two days of training to be Sports Leaders. They are now skilled in four new adapted sports called Polybat, New Age Kurling, Sportshall Athletics and Table Cricket!

Here is what their coach had to say: "Mackenzie was a real star yesterday. He answered difficult questions and asked sensible questions". "Emily shone today and really stepped up as a leader." Well done indeed to both of them and for making the school proud.

GUNG HEY FAT CHOY!

On Tuesday the Foundation Stage celebrated the festival of Chinese New Year. The children learnt about many traditions and customs. They spent the day taking part in a series of fun activities including performing a dragon dance, writing symbols and using chopsticks. Come and see a display of work in the lower hall.

RECEPTION WoW DAY

Yesterday Reception celebrated the end of their work on 'Magical Worlds.' Dressed in a wide array of fantastic costumes (including witches, wizards, fairies and dragons) they attempted some challenges set by Frederick Van Winkle, the world's leading fairy finder. Over the course of the day the fearless warriors escaped from a dragon, made an exploding potion and read fairy letters. They were rewarded with a glimpse of an exclusive piece of film footage showing fairies flying around the school grounds! Well done Reception!

YEAR 4 WoW DAY

Year 4 had their 'George's Marvellous Medicine Mad Science Wow Day' today. The children came to school dressed as mad scientists or their favourite Roald Dahl character and performed a series of marvellous experiments.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	w/c 13/1	w/c 20/1
ASH	97.3	87.7
BEECH	95.5	92.5
BIRCH	93.2	94.3
CEDAR	95.3	95.7
CHERRY	96.7	96.4
CHESTNUT	95.9	93.9
ELDER	96.3	96.7
ELM	92.3	94.3
HAZEL	97.1	93.7
HORNBEAM	97.2	95.5
LARCH	96.4	96.8
LIME	98.4	95.6
PINE	95.2	94.2
POPLAR	93.7	94.8
WALNUT	95.6	93.1
WHITEBEAM	93.7	98.7
WILLOW	97.6	92.9

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING NURSERY SCHOOL IN 2014/15?

If your child was born between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011 you can apply for a nursery place for the school year 2013-14 from **Monday 10th February**.

The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **application deadline 21st March 2014**. Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line are welcome to come into the office and use a computer. If you would like help with your application, please contact the office first to arrange a convenient time.

NFER PARENT SURVEY

We will shortly be carrying out our annual parent survey, when we asked parents/carers to fill out a questionnaire for the eldest child who attends Fairlands Primary. These will be sent home after half term. We are very interested in hearing your views about the school - every completed questionnaire returned to school will be entered into a draw to **win a £10 M&S voucher** (one entry per family).

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Letters will be sent out the week after half term inviting you to make an appointment to meet your child's teacher to discuss their progress so far this year. Consultations will take place on Tuesday 11th March (5.30 – 8.00pm) and Wednesday 12th March (3.30 – 6.00pm). Please ensure you send your request slip back to school promptly so that an appointment can be made for 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.

THREADWORMS

We have had a reported case of threadworms. These are small, white, thread-like worms a few mm long that live in the human gut and can be common in schools. The risk of threadworm can be reduced by ensuring high standards of personal hygiene – please encourage your child to regularly wash their hands with soap and water, particularly after going to the toilet and before eating. Please check your child for symptoms and treat them if necessary. Your child does not need to stay away from school with this condition.

A fact sheet can be downloaded from the school website www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk or a paper copy is available from the leaflet stand in the upper building foyer.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS

Sainsbury's have now launched this year's Active Kids voucher scheme. Vouchers can now be collected from all Sainsbury's stores, petrol stations and with online grocery deliveries up to Tuesday 20th May. Please ask all your family and friends to help us by collecting as many vouchers as possible and sending them into school.

STEVENAGE FC – MATCH DAY TICKETS

Family Lives has a number of **FREE TICKETS** for the Stevenage FC home match versus Port Vale FC, at the Lamex Stadium on **Saturday 29th March, 2014 - kick-off at 3 pm.**

If you have or are currently working with Sara Hassell at Fairlands Primary School, you and members of your immediate family, if interested, are eligible to apply on a first-come-first-served basis.

Applications should be made to Sara by text or email, or contact should be made with the school office along with your details, by no later than **Friday 14th February.**

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to Layla Drummond and Sammy Hawkins (both in Lime Class) who auditioned for and were awarded scholarships with Top Hat Stage School. We look forward to seeing their names in lights!

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Hertfordshire County Council is running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2015/16 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups.

The proposed changes are to amend the admission arrangements for coeducational community secondary schools, removing the current Rule 6 and to reduce the published admission numbers (PANs) for the following schools:

- Fearnhill School, Letchworth
- Barnwell School, Stevenage
- Prae Wood School, St Albans
- Wilshere Dacre Junior, Hitchin

The consultation period runs until 28 February 14. Please visit www.hertsdirect.org/admissions2015 for more information and to respond online.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14 (New dates shown in bold)	
Tuesday 11 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 th Feb	Year 3 Superhero WoW Day
Thurs 13 th Feb 2.45pm	Year 3 Parents' Class Assembly
17 th to 21 st Feb	Half Term
Monday 24 th Feb	INSET DAY School Closed
Thurs 27 th Feb 2.45pm	Year 2 Parents' Class Assembly
Friday 28 th Feb 9.00 – 9.30am	Years 2 – 6 Shared Reading
Weds 5 th March 1.00 – 3.00pm	Autism Support Group
Tuesday 11 th March 5.30 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Weds 12 th March 3.30 – 6.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Thurs 13 th March 2.45pm - Upper Hall	Year 1 Parents' Class Assembly
Thurs 20 th March 2.30pm – Upper Hall	Reception Parents' Class Assembly
Weds 2 nd April 1.00 – 3.00pm	Autism Support Group
Friday 4 th April	End of Spring Term : 2.15pm finish
Tuesday 22 nd April	Start of Summer Term