



WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News



The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 17

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20th June 2014

Dear Parents and Carers

Last week, I conducted a 'learning walk' to evaluate the quality of the learning environment and I was so impressed by the high quality of provision across the whole school. We have been focusing on ensuring that the displays around the school give effective feedback to the children about their learning, and it was good to see many examples of success criteria being communicated clearly to children, so that they know 'why' pieces of work are being celebrated as good examples. The staff and children are working so hard to make sure that displays and classrooms are of such a high quality –well done to everybody!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

YEARS 4, 5 & 6 ATHLETICS

Last Thursday, a team of Year 4, 5 and 6 children competed in this year's Stevenage Schools Primary Athletics Festival at Ridlins. They all had a great time and did very well, with Kadija Jalloh (Larch Class) coming 1st in the 50m running heats and 4th in the final.

ART WEEK AT FAIRLANDS

Art week was a huge success last week! There wasn't an inch of the school that didn't have creativity oozing out of it! We've doodled, painted, modelled, sculpted, wove, wrapped and collated.

The lower building had an extravaganza of all things arty on Friday when over 120 adults came to take part in a range of creative activities with their children. There was weaving, still life sketching, doodling, watercolours, colour mixing and creating natural sculptures to name but a few activities. It was fantastic to see the children demonstrate their artistic knowledge and the adults unleash their inner artist! A big well done to all involved and thank you to everyone who worked so hard to set it up.

Thanks also to all those who came to weave a wish after school each day. May your wishes all come true!

Look out for our **Art Exhibition** coming very soon at our **Open Afternoon (2.30–4.30pm on Wednesday 2nd July)** where you will be able to view and buy some of the children's work produced during art week.

YEAR 2 TO TRIP TO SHEPRETH WILDLIFE PARK

Yesterday, Year 2 visit Shepreth Wildlife Park. We had a great time seeing a wide variety of animals and staff gave us a talk on animals from Australia, especially for our topic. We all learnt something new and we even got to handle some of the animals. Thank you to all our parent helpers.

SPORTS DAY

Just a reminder that, weather allowing, our Sports Day will take place next **Tuesday morning, 24th June**. We hope to see as many parents/carers as possible coming along to support the children for this event and then joining us for our picnic between 12.15 and 12.45pm on the top running field.

OH I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE

Year 1 are off to Clacton for the day on **Tuesday 1st July**. We are looking forward to spending the day on the beach and on the pier. We are keeping our fingers crossed the sun will be shining! There will be a meeting about the trip for all Year 1 parents and carers on **Monday 23rd June at 3.00pm** in the Lower Hall.

SAINSBURYS ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

We have decided to spend this year's vouchers on Cooking Equipment for the school, and are only 200 short of the number needed to get everything we would like! Please keep sending them in! Thank you.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	w/c 2/6	w/c 9/6
ASH	99.7	95.5
BEECH	96.7	93
BIRCH	93.8	96.2
CEDAR	95.7	95.3
CHERRY	98	94
CHESTNUT	99	93.7
ELDER	95.7	97
ELM	96.4	95
HAZEL	96.2	95.5
HORNBEAM	98.6	94.5
LARCH	94.8	95.7
LIME	98.3	89.6
PINE	96.2	95.8
POPLAR	97.7	96.5
WALNUT	93.5	98.3
WILLOW	94.3	90.4

FATHERS DAY PRESENT ROOM

Thank you to the Fairlands Faces for organising last week's Fathers' Day Present room – they raised £220 towards school funds.

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

There have been a few occasions recently when parents have left a message on the answerphone, or sent a text, informing us that their child is unwell but, on return to school, the child has told their teacher a completely different reason, i.e holiday, day trip out. Please do not put children in this awkward position – it is much better to be honest and up front with us in the first place and request leave of absence.

SCHOOL CAR PARKS

Please can I ask parents to make full use of the parent car parks at the start and end of the school day. We have had complaints from local residents saying that parents are choosing to park on the road, even though there are still plenty of spaces available in the car parks.

I also need to take this opportunity to ask parents not to use the staff car parks for dropping off and collecting children. Thank you for your help and consideration in this matter.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank **Sainsbury's at Corey's Mill**, who have kindly donated bottled water for our Sports Day next week, and **Wicks and Stevenage Garden Centre**, who have donated compost and topsoil for the Year 6 planters and Foundation Stage.

WELL DONE

Congratulations to Alfie and Ben James (Pine and Hornbeam), who have both gained their yellow belt in karate.

Well done also to Carolanne Sewel, Hazel class, who successfully passed her kickboxing grading on the 7th June, which included a technical freeform routine. Carolanne is now a much loved purple belt with KR kickboxing.

Ezekiel Kalra, Hazel class, also deserves a well done for attaining the rank of 8th Kyu at the examination of the English Shotokan Karate Association.

FAMILY LIVES WORKSHOPS

Sara Hassell, our Family Livers Worker, is running two **FREE workshops** in the **Family Room** on **Tuesday mornings, 9.15 – 11.15am** in the lead up to the Summer holiday. The first, which runs for **3 weeks commencing Tuesday 1st July** is **Helping Your Child be a Skilfull Learner** – find out how to help your child problem solve, be persistent and stay positive while they learn. On the final week of term, on **Tuesday 22nd July**, Sara will be running a single workshop called **Surviving the Summer Holiday**.

To book your place on either workshop please text or ring Sara Hassell 07805 523480

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14 (New dates shown in bold)

Tuesday 24 th June	Sports Day
Tues 24 th June 5.00pm Lower Hall	New to Nursery Parents Meeting
Friday 27 th June	INSET Day
Monday 30 th June	OCCASIONAL DAY
Tuesday 1 st July	Year 1 to Clacton
Tuesday 1st July x 3 weeks – 9.15 – 1.15am	Helping Your Child be a Skilfull Learner
Weds 2 nd July 2.30 – 4.30pm	Open Afternoon
Monday 7 th July	New to Year 5 Parents Meeting : 5.00pm
Tuesday 8 th July	New to Year 4 Parents Meeting : 5.00pm New to Year 3 Parents Meeting : 5.30pm
Weds 9 th July	New to Year 1 Parents Meeting : 5.00pm New to Year 2 Parents Meeting : 5.30pm
Thurs 10 th July	New to Year 6 Parents Meeting : 5.00pm
Thurs 10 th July	Year 6 to Secondary Schools
Friday 11 th July	EYFS Beach Party
Friday 11 th July	End of Year Reports Out
Tues 15 th July	Year 3 to British Museum
Tues 15 th July	Year 6 Performance 2.30pm
Weds 16 th July	Year 6 Performance 6.30pm
Friday 18th July	Reception to Natural History Museum, Tring
Tuesday 22nd July 9.15 – 11.15am	Family Lives Workshop: Surviving the Summer Holiday
Weds 23 rd July	End of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday 1 st & Tues 2 nd Sept	INSET DAYS
Wed 3 rd September	Start of Autumn Term

DON'T FORGET

SCHOOL IS CLOSED

FRIDAY 27TH AND MONDAY 30TH JUNE