



WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News



The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 12

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18th March 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

The time has come around again for our annual **Parent Survey** – a questionnaire was sent home with the eldest child of each family on Monday. **It is so important to hear your views!** We use the results to celebrate what we are doing well and to identify areas where we could be even better – I will give full feedback at a future Parent Forum meeting and in the newsletter! PLEASE take a moment to fill this in and return to school by **Thursday, 24th March**. Pupils in KS2 will also complete a survey in school, so we should get a good idea of how we are doing!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

SCIENCE WEEK

Thank you to Miss Brown for organising Science Week this week – it was a great success! The theme of 'FLIGHT' was chosen and the children have really enjoyed being fantastic Fairlands scientists. They had a visit from a flight expert at the beginning of the week, then investigated kites, parachutes and even carried out a variety of investigations on 'Experiment Day'.

Thank you so much if you attended the Kite Workshop week. The children have loved working with their parents to make super kites and even tested the kite's flying skills! The kites will be displayed in the lower hall and a winner will be announced next week.

We are holding an **exhibition in the upper hall at the end of school TODAY**, where the children will also be doing some scientific experiments – please come along and see what your children have been up to this week.

YEAR 5 EASTER JOURNEY

Year 5 visited Holy Trinity Church this week, where they took part in some Easter workshops.

EASTER HOLIDAY

Just a reminder that there is a long weekend for **Easter (Friday 25th to Monday 28th March)** and then we **return to school and finish at 2.15pm on Friday 1st April** for a two week break, **returning to school again on Tuesday 19th April**.

STREET DANCE 1ST APRIL – Rec to Yr 3

Please be aware that Street Dance will still take place on the last day of term (1st April). School finishes at 2.15pm that day – Street Dance will run from 2.15-3.15pm.

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

Year 1 children have recently spent time decorating one Easter Bonnet per class for a competition being held at Hobbycraft in Stevenage. Please visit Hobbycraft on the Roaring Meg Retail Park between 12th and 20th March and vote for a Bonnet. The winning Bonnet will receive £100 in vouchers to spend at the store. Thank you for your support.

WISEPAY

If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter today, but would be happy to change to paperless, please send us your email address and we will sign you up for the Wisepay communication system. You will then receive email alerts relevant to your child/children, including notification when letters have been uploaded to the website for you to view.

VOICEMAILS FROM SCHOOL

We often phone parents on their mobile and, when we cannot get through, leave a voicemail giving the reason for our call.

If you notice you have missed a call from the school, please check your voicemail *before* phoning us back. It may be that the message left is sufficient, and you do not need to return the call.

If we have asked you to call us back, the name of the person calling you will usually have been left in the message – we can then quickly put you through to that person, rather than putting you on hold whilst we try to find out who has called you. Thank you for your help with this.

FAMILY LIVES

If any parents have borrowed books from Sara Hassell, our Family Lives worker, please could we ask that you return them to school by the end of term. Thank you.

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING NURSERY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2016?

If your child was born between **1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013** you can now apply for a nursery place for the school year 2016-17.

The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **application deadline TODAY 18th March 2016.**

HOLIDAY IN TERM TIME

Just are reminder to parents/carers that the **school does not authorise holiday during term time**, except in very exceptional circumstances.

It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their child is in school. Ongoing unauthorised absence could lead to a Penalty Notice being issued to **each parent who has parental responsibility** for that child, which is a fine of £60 if paid within the first 21 days and £120 if paid after 21 days, but within 28 days of receipt of the notice. If the fine is not paid within 28 days parents could be prosecuted for their child's poor attendance.

Therefore, if you request holiday during term time, each parent we have on record as having parental responsibility for that child will receive an individual response to the request, along with any further correspondence relating their child's absence.

PARKING ON GRASS

Please can we remind parents not to park on the grass in the upper building car park. Thank you.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	w/c 29/02/16	w/c 07/03/16
ACORNS AM	94.4	92.2
ACORNS PM	65.3	81.3
CONKERS AM	95.8	90.5
CONKERS PM	95.7	80
ASH	97.7	94
BEECH	96.3	97.6
BIRCH	94.1	95.5
CHERRY	96.3	95
CHESTNUT	96.9	95.5
CEDAR	97.9	95.3
ELDER	98.6	98.2
ELM	94.8	91.9
FIR	95.4	94.6
HAZEL	96.6	94.2
HOLLY	98.6	99.3
HORNBEAM	98.7	93
LIME	97.7	97.1
LARCH	93.3	92.3
PINE	96.5	94.2
POPLAR	92.4	94.8
WALNUT	96.1	96.5
WILLOW	99.6	98.7

SPORT RELIEF

The Stevenage Sport Relief Mile is being held at Ridlins Track on **Sunday 20th March**. There are 1 mile, 3 mile and 6 mile options available. For more details of how to take part or go along and support the event visit www.sportrelief.com/Mile

EASTER ACTIVITIES

If you're look for ways to keep the children busy over the Easter holiday, why not book them on one of the organised activity sessions we have running at the school:

Skill 7 will be running football sessions from 4th to 6th April. Visit www.skill7.org for details.

Premier Sport will be running activities from 11th-15th April. For more details visit:

<http://sport.premier-education.com/courses-and-clubs/search?location=stevenage&hol=0&hol=1&eve=0&exc=0&family=>

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/16 (New dates in bold)

Tuesday 22 nd March 5.30 – 8.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Weds 23 rd March 3.30 – 6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thursday 24 th March 2.30pm Upper Hall	WILLOW Class Parent/Carer Assembly
Friday 25th March	Good Friday
Monday 28th March	Easter Monday
w/c Tues 29th March	Art Week
w/c Tues 29th March	Nursery Parent Consultations
Thursday 31st March	Year 2 WoW Day
Thursday 31 st March 2.30pm Upper Hall	BEECH Class Parent/Carer Assembly
Friday 1 st April	End of Spring Term 2 2.15pm finish
Weds 13 th and Thurs 14th April	Year 6 Easter School
Monday 18th April	INSET Day
Tuesday 19 th April	Start of Summer Term 1
Monday 2 nd May	Bank Holiday Monday
w/c 9 th May	Year 6 SATS
30 th May to 3 rd June	Whitsun Half Term
w/c 13 th June	Year 1 Phonics
Friday, 24th June	Sports Day
Fri 1 st & Mon 4 th July	INSET & Occasional Day
Friday 22 nd July	End of Summer Term 2: 2.15pm finish