

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 16

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

25th April 2008

Dear Parents and Carers

A huge well done is deserved by everyone throughout the school for improved attendance so far this half term! Most classes are achieving around 99% attendance, which is brilliant!

Please could I give some parents a gentle reminder that children should be wearing black school shoes or plimsolls in school. Trainers are not allowed to be worn inside during teaching time!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

GYMNASTICS FESTIVAL

Last Thursday, a group of 15 KS1 children took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Marriotts Gym Centre, where they all tried different types of gymnastics, i.e. rhythmic, acrobatics, trampoline, aerobics and other activities.

A VISIT FROM AN AUTHOR!

Last week the author Eamonn Reilly visited the school and talked to the children about his work. He talked to them about the key questions that he asks himself when he plans a story and then read from his books.

We have some copies of his books for sale. If you would like to purchase one, please return the order form sent home last week, with the exact money, or ask for a new order form from the office.

ATTENDANCE AWARD



Chestnut won the cup w/c 7th April and Cedar w/c 14th April, both with an impressive 99.2% attendance.

CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN WITH BARNARDOS

Thank you very much to all the KS2 children who donated money for Barnardo's - we raised a massive **£611.77**. The Barnardos Bear was won by Alice Hannaford (Hawthorn).

FRIENDS OF FAIRLANDS

The Friends of Fairlands have recently used funds raised to purchase a variety of musical instruments. The instruments will be used across the whole school to support the children in the music curriculum.

FAREWELL

Next Wednesday we say a fond farewell to Mrs Linford, who has been a Teaching Assistant at Fairlands School for the last 11 years! Mrs Linford is moving onto pastures new and we wish her the very best in her new job.

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

So far we have collected over £300 from the sponsored Easter egg and spoon race. We are still waiting for some of the sponsor money to come in. When we have collected it all, we will be announcing the winners.

We are also collecting opinions about the school's playground markings, to see if we can think of new ideas of things to have painted on the playground.

MATHEMATICS EVENING

Next **Tuesday, 29th April**, we will be holding a Maths Workshop in the KS1 Hall between **6.00 - 7.30pm**, to which all parents and children from Fairlands are invited.

The workshop will focus on Problem Solving Activities. The session is designed to be very "hands on" and we hope it will be an exciting and enjoyable evening for everybody. It will be a great opportunity for you to work with your child/children.

By now you should have received your invitation. Please complete and return the reply form so that we know approximate numbers to expect.

MOBILE NUMBER REMINDER

Just a reminder that the school's mobile number for reporting absence is now **07970 731154**.

FAMILY LEARNING CLASSES

Our classes are up and running again this term, led by Mrs Smith. This term we have a new English Language Tutor from North Herts College, Miss Anna Skora.

Classes are held **every Tuesday** in the KS2 Learning Room from **9-11am**, and are **FREE**. If you are an adult speaker of another language and wish to improve your English, you are very welcome. Languages spoken in the class at present are Bengali, Turkish, Chinese, Polish, Dutch, French and Telugu. We would love to make the list even longer!

Come and learn about school and life in this country, whilst learning English and making friends!

YOUNG FILMMAKERS TRAVEL BACK THROUGH TIME

During the Easter holiday Jade Staffell (Willow) took part in an Extended Schools Project, along with 10 other Year 6 & 7 students from Stevenage primary schools. The children made a film about the history of education from Tudor times to present day and visited the British Schools Museum in Hitchin. You can view the finished product at www.thecomet.net

GET INVOLVED AND VOLUNTEER IN HERTS!

Volunteering is a fun way to learn new skills, meet new people and put something back into the community. There is an amazing range of opportunities on offer across Hertfordshire where you can make a difference, so why not give it a try?

The best route into volunteering is through your local Volunteer Centre, where you can find information about all the exciting opportunities in your area. Volunteer Centres across the county advertise opportunities on the national volunteering database www.do-it.org.uk, or visit www.volunerringherts.org to find details of your nearest centre.

Whatever your background, interests, aspirations, there are hundreds of exciting volunteering opportunities waiting for you!

PRE-SCHOOL & NURSERY FOR TWO, THREE & FOUR YEAR OLDS

Is your child three or four years old? If so, you can get a free or funded place in a pre-school, a state nursery school or class, or a private nursery.

Is your child two years old? You may be able to get a free or funded place in pre-school or private nursery, depending on your income.

Going to pre-school or nursery can be an exciting time for your child, they can learn through play, experience new activities, get a good start to education, make new friends and, most of all, have fun!

It can also be useful to you, allowing you time to study, return to work, have more time with younger children or time to yourself whilst your child is out.

To find out more ask your health visitor, local pre-school or nursery for a leaflet or contact Young in Herts on 01438 737502 or 19823 471502 , younginherts@hertscc.gov.uk or www.hertsdirect.org/younginherts

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

Friday, 25 th April	Friends of Fairlands Quiz Night
Tuesday, 29 th April	Maths Workshop
Monday, 5 th May	Bank Holiday
Thursday, 8th May 9.00 : KS2	Parent Forum
Monday, 12 th to Friday, 16 th May	YEAR 6 SATS
Monday, 19 th – Friday, 23 rd May	Year 4 to Cuffley Camp
Monday, 26 th to Friday, 30 th May	Half Term
Monday, 2 nd June	INSET
Friday, 20 th June	Occasional Day's Holiday
Wednesday, 25th June	KS1 to Woburn
Friday, 27th June	SPORTS DAY
Wednesday, 16th July 6.00pm	OPEN EVENING
Wednesday, 23 rd July	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 1 st September	INSET Day
Monday, 8 th – Friday, 12 th September	Year 6 to Boreatton Park, Shropshire