

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

# Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 17

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

9<sup>th</sup> May 2008

## Dear Parents and Carers

Year 6 have been working very hard over the last few months towards their SATs, which they will be taking next week. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best.

I am very pleased to inform you that we have successfully appointed a fantastic new assistant headteacher, Miss Emma Verlander, who will be based in the Lower Building from September 2008. Miss Verlander has been working as a deputy headteacher for the last three years at a school in South Oxhey and I am sure is going to bring a wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm to the role.

**Robert Staples**  
Headteacher

### MATHS PROBLEM SOLVING EVENING

Last week we held a very successful Maths Evening, with many problem solving activities and games. It proved to be very popular and over 50 people came, despite the weather! The feedback forms were very positive and many people clearly enjoyed the experience. There have been requests for other such evenings and for an evening just for parents, where some of the approaches to mathematics teaching can be explained.

Our mathematics subject leader is on the case and next term we hope to have an evening which looks at approaches to calculations, combined with the issue of a guide for parents.

Our literacy subject leader is also looking to provide workshops on synthetic phonics, the new approach to the teaching of reading.

If you enjoyed the evening, or indeed, if you missed out, then please remember that there are many mathematics games in the Games Library and you can borrow these to use at home with your children to support their learning and have some fun! **The Games library is open on Tuesday after school and on Friday morning from 8.45 a.m.- 9.15 a.m. It is free!**

### MULTI-SKILLS SPORTS FESTIVAL

On Wednesday Reception and Year 5 had fun in the sun when they attendended a Multi-Skills Sports Festival at Barclay School. They had the opportunity to take part in 6 activities including lacrosse, rugby, football, cricket, athletics and rounders. Check out our website gallery to see how much fun we all had!

### SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

At the moment the School Council are still working on continuing discussions about markings in the school playground. They are also involved in the consultations for a bid for money to improve the outside area.

Also this week some representatives from the School Council took part in the selection process of the new assistant headteacher, preparing and asking their own questions.

We are still waiting for some promised sponsor money to come in. Our competition for the most sponsor money collected will close next week, on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May**, so if you wish to be considered for that please make sure that you send the money in by Tuesday. We will then decide if we have enough money to build our science garden with a pond.

### SUN AWARENESS!

Please apply plenty of **sun cream** to your child **before** school and send them in with a **sun hat**. Please also ensure that they bring a short-sleeved t-shirt with them for PE, and **not a vest top**.

**Asthma sufferers** should ensure they have their inhalers with them at all times, clearly labelled with their name and class.

Children who suffer from **hayfever** should remember to take their medicine before school and be encouraged not to play on the grass!

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Whilst we encourage parents not to take their children out of school for holidays during term time, we do appreciate that it is sometimes unavoidable. If this is the case, please ensure that you write to the headteacher, well in advance, asking for permission. Please be aware that you may be asked to come in and meet with him to discuss your request.

### FRIENDS OF FAIRLANDS' FAMILY FUN DAY

Please keep **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> July** free in your diary for the **Friends of Fairlands Family Fun Day**.

There will be lots of fun events going on throughout the day, including outside stalls and a BBQ.

There will also be a **Car Boot Sale** on the day - please contact Miss Franklin or the office if you would like to book (£5 per pitch).

### TESCO COMPUTERS FOR SCHOOLS & SAINSBURYS ACTIVE KIDS

Thank you for sending in your vouchers from these two schemes.

So far we have counted 8,800 Tesco vouchers, which we are planning to redeem for software to be used in the Foundation Stage, on the computer we claimed last year!

### DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> May	YEAR 6 SATS
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year 4 to Cuffley Camp
<b>Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>Year 6 Cycling Course</b>
Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET
Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Occasional Day's Holiday
Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 to Woburn
Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> June	SPORTS DAY
<b>Sunday, 13<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	<b>FAMILY FUN DAY</b>
Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> July 6.00pm	OPEN EVENING
Wednesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET Day
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 to Boreatton Park, Shropshire