

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 2

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

26th September 2008

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Welcome Meetings we have been holding – it is much appreciated when you make this effort to get involved with your child's learning!

The refurbishment works are coming along nicely in the Lower Building – Cedar class has almost been finished and we will be moving on to Cherry and Chestnut classes soon. The refurbishment of the new Pre-school will be starting during the October Half term. This will include creating a new entrance to the pre-school – actually, it will be reinstating the original entrance to the 'Infant' building as it was in the 1950's! This is all very exciting and I am sure you are looking forward, as I am, to Fairlands Pre-school opening in January 2009.

Robert Staples
Headteacher

YEAR 6 TRIP TO BOREATTON PARK

Year 6 had a fantastic time when they went away for the first time to Boreatton Park PGL Centre in Shropshire! It was brilliant to see the children enjoying themselves and meeting the challenge of taking part in activities like abseiling, kayaking and going down the second longest zip wire in Europe! Scary stuff! I have to say that the group represented Fairlands superbly – our group leader, Joey, was really sorry to see us go and enjoyed the children so much she has asked if she can come and work at the school later on in the year!

YEAR 3 MINI-OLYMPICS

Last Thursday, Year 3 took part in a fun-filled and exhausting morning of sport at Stevenage Leisure Centre to celebrate the handover of the Olympics from Beijing.

Students from Stevenage Secondary Schools and staff from Stevenage Sports Partnership organised a two hour round robin of activities that included athletics, rugby, football, tennis, hockey, canoeing, trampolining and team building. Our children were enthusiastic, well behaved and represented Fairlands well.

CRUCIAL CREW

Last week Year 6 went to Crucial Crew at Bowes Lyon House, where they took part in a range of group activities related to health and safety. The children were very well behaved and responded well to the activities. They all seemed to enjoy themselves and, hopefully, learned a lot.

STEVENAGE CREDIT UNION CHILDREN'S SAVING SCHEME

The staff and Governors of Fairlands are very pleased to announce the launch of the Stevenage Credit Union Children's Savings Scheme. Letters were sent home yesterday, telling you all about it. If you are interested, please **complete and return the reply slip to school by Tuesday, 30th September.**

The children will be able to save as little or as much as they wish on a weekly basis, every **Tuesday after school in the main KS2 hall.** The scheme will launch on **Tuesday 7th October 2008**, so look out for the posters around the school.

We believe that encouraging children to save from an early age will lead to better financial responsibility in later years. The scheme will be open to every child in the school. If any parent would like to know more about the Stevenage Credit Union, members of the Credit Union will be at the school every Tuesday.

SWIMMING STAR!

Congratulations to Natalie Redmond of Year 1 (Chestnut) who has achieved ASA Duckling Grade 3 in swimming!

ATTENDANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to Laburnum, who won the Attendance Award for w/c 8th September, with 98.1% attendance and to Hawthorn, who won it last week with 97.1%.

COME ALONG TO THE TOY LIBRARY

Do you look after a child aged 0-5? Do they quickly get bored with their toys? Why not come along to the Bridge Road Toy Library, **held at Fairlands School on Monday mornings between 9.15am and 12.00** in the **KS2 Learning Room**, and borrow something new for them to play with. Many of the toys available are brand new!

Membership for a year is just £2.50 per family - toys can then be taken home for a weekly fee ranging from 20p to £1.00 - much cheaper than buying something new!

A FREE ACTIVITY AFTERNOON

Bridge Road Children's Centre are running a **FREE** activity afternoon for children aged 0-5 and their parents/carers **at Fairlands, on Monday, 29th September, between 12.30pm and 2.30pm in the KS2 hall**. Come along to join in fun craft and play activities. Each parent/carer will be responsible for the children in their care at all times.

FRIENDS OF FAIRLANDS

The Friends of Fairlands are holding their AGM on **Monday, 29th September at 5.30pm** in the Dining Hall. All parents/carers are welcome to come along and find out about the work the Friends are doing at Fairlands - all new members will be made very welcome.

PARENT / TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Parent / Teacher Consultations will be taking place on **Monday, 13th October (3.30 - 6.00pm) and Wednesday, 15th October (5.30 - 8.00pm)**. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss with them how your child is progressing so far this year.

Appointment boards will be available in the Upper Building entrance area from **Monday, 6th October**. Please come in and sign up.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

This year's Walk to School Week takes place from Monday 6th - Friday, 10th October, so why not leave the car at home for the week and join in this national activity!

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN 2009-10?

If your child was born between 1st September 2004 and 31st August 2005 please apply now for a primary reception place for the school year 2009-2010. Information has already been sent out to parents. If you have not received this please telephone 01438 737500 (01923 471500 for 01923 callers) between 8am & 8pm from Mon - Fri & 9am - 4pm on Saturday. The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **Application deadline 16th October 2008.**

Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line will be able to come into school on **Tuesday, 14th October between 9.00am and 12.00pm** and use the school's computers in the ICT suit (KS2 building). A member of staff will be available to help! If you cannot make this date, please contact Mrs Dunthorne in the office, who will be happy to make an alternate appointment with you.

HERTFORDSHIRE JUNIOR DANCE COMPANY AUDITIONS

Dance in Herts are holding auditions for the HJDC Shift:North, for children aged between 8 - 11. There is one open audition: **Tuesday, 14th October, 4.15 - 5.45pm at The Knights Templar Sports Centre, Baldock**. Auditions are free of charge, but all interested pupils **must** complete and return an application form by **Tuesday, 7th October**. Application forms are available from the school office. For more details call Dance in Herts on 020 8953 3681.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009

Monday, 29 th Sept 12.30 - 2.30pm	Free Activity Afternoon for 0-5 year olds
Monday, 29 th Sept 5.30pm : Dining Hall	Friends of Fairlands' AGM
Monday, 6 th Oct KS2 Main Entrance	Appointment boards out
Tuesday, 7 th October KS2 hall - 3.15pm	Launch of Credit Union Savings Scheme
Monday, 13 th October 3.30 - 6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Tuesday, 14 th October 9.00am - 12.00pm	On-line Application Session
Wednesday, 15 th Oct 5.30 - 8.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thursday, 16 th October 9.05am	Parent Forum
Mon 27 th - Fri 31 st Oct	Half Term