

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 5

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

14th November 2008

Dear Parents and Carers

An enormous **THANK YOU** to all the children who came in dressed in their bright colours today! We are still counting up how much money was made but I am sure that it will be greatly appreciated by the 'Children In Need' Fund. Thank you as well to Mrs Hurren for organising the day and all the fun competitions on behalf of the Friends of Fairlands!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

KS1 TRIP TO BEDFORD MUSEUM

On Tuesday, 4th November, Key Stage 1 visited the Bedford Museum. Each class attended three workshops, where they found out about toys in the past.

The children were able to handle and play with replica toys from the past and were also able to see how a museum is laid out and how the exhibits are labelled.

The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have learnt a lot. They have continued to work on their project in school and are setting up their own role play areas connected to this topic. A special thank you to all those parents who came on the trip and were able to help the children with their learning.

HALLOWEEN DISCO/PARTY

The Friends of Fairlands' Halloween Disco / Party was a great success and raised £180 towards school funds. Thank you to the Friends for organising the event and to everyone who helped out on the evening.

ATTENDANCE AWARD



Congratulations to Lime for winning the award with 97.9% attendance w/c 3rd November.

BOOK FAIR

Thank you to those of you who supported this week's Book Fair. The sales made at the fair have enabled the school to claim £150 of free books.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

I am sorry to have to tell you that we have had several incidents of anti-social behaviour in the public footpath that separates our two sites. Often there is debris such as broken bottles littering the path and this year we have had a few occasions where we have had to report to the police that individuals have been seen in the path behaving in an anti-social manner, mainly related to drink and drug abuse.

We take the safety of the children very seriously and I would like to reassure parents that children are always supervised when they move between the two sites, at times such as lunchtime.

If you become aware of any such anti-social behaviour, or notice evidence that it has been occurring such as needles or bottles etc, **please inform the office immediately** and we will arrange to have it removed safely. Please do not touch anything yourselves and make sure your child knows not to pick up anything unusual.

We will be maintaining a record of all such incidents and your help is greatly appreciated.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

If your child is too unwell to come to school, please ensure you **always contact us**; on the first day of absence, preferably before 10am.

You can contact us by phone on 01438-351053, text to 07970 731154 or by email at admin@fairlands.herts.sch.uk

If your child is **sick** or has **diarrhoea**, please ensure they do not return to school for 24 hours after the last bout – this reduces the risk of the illness spreading to the rest of their class!

DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

There are still a large number of Data Collection Sheets that haven't been returned to school. If you haven't already done so, please check and return your forms to school as soon as possible - it is very important that we have the correct contact / medical information on record for your child.

PARENT FORUM

Thank you to all those parents who came along to the last Forum, enabling us to have a very productive meeting.

The next Parent Forum is at **9.05 am on Thursday, 27th November**, where I am hoping we will be joined by Simon Speller, the Transport Portfolio Holder to discuss safer routes to school and... parking!

THE STEVENAGE CREDIT UNION 'YOUNG SAVERS CLUB'

The 'Young Savers Club' is run at Fairlands in the upper hall every Tuesday at 3.15pm. This is a fantastic way to encourage your child to start saving - anything from a few pence to a pound a week. Come along on Tuesday and find out more!

MAKING CHILDREN SAFER ON THE ROADS

Children become less visible and more at risk on the road as the days become shorter and weather conditions become more treacherous. As part of the annual Be Safe Be Seen campaign, aimed at preventing these accidents, 5,000 school children across Hertfordshire will be given special road safety scratch cards and hi-visibility armbands.

With the nights drawing in, as drivers are advised to use their lights, slow down and look out for pedestrians and cyclists, children are being urged to wear bright and fluorescent clothing during the day, reflective clothing at night and take extra care near roads.

The armbands and scratch cards are being given out at the following venues:

Cineworld & Monkey Business, Stevenage
Hertbeat FM offices, Knebworth
Kingshott School & Pirton School, Hitchin
The Odeon, Hatfield
Funky Joe's, Welwyn

The Be Safe Be Seen campaign issues the following advice to parents and children:

Make sure you can be easily seen, especially at night, on dark days and in bad weather.

Bright or fluorescent clothes show up best by day, especially in dull or misty weather.

By night, reflective material is best and shows up in car headlights - fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark. Reflective tape can be put on clothing, school bags and equipment.

It is against the law to cycle at night without a white front light, a red back light and a red reflector at the back, so make sure all bikes are properly equipped and working.

Cross the road at the safest place possible. e.g. zebra, pelican, puffin and patrolled crossings.

Use the Green Cross Code: Stop, Look, Listen.

If you are out at night, choose routes that are well-lit by streetlights and cross at well-lit places.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009	
Tuesday, 18th November 9.00am	Nursery to Reception Parents Meeting
Wednesday, 19th November 9.15am	New to Nursery Parents Meeting
Friday, 21st November	No Gym Club
Thursday, 27th Nov 9.05am	Parent Forum
Wednesday, 3rd Dec	Christmas Post box Out
Saturday, 6 th December 11am - 2pm	Friends of Fairlands Christmas Fayre
Wednesday, 10th Dec : 10.30am & 6pm	KS1 Christmas Performance
Thursday, 11th Dec : 2pm	KS1 Christmas Performance
Friday, 12th December	No Gym Club
Tuesday, 16th December	Christmas Party Lunch
Weds, 17th December 9.30am : Years 5 & 6 11.30am : Years 3 & 4	Carol Concerts at Holy Trinity Church
Thursday, 18th Dec - pm	KS1 Christmas Parties & KS2 Talent Show
Friday, 19 th December	Last Day of Term 2.15 finish
Monday, 5 th January, 2009	INSET Day
Tuesday, 6 th January, 2009	Return to School