

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 12

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20th March 2009

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all parents who attended the consultations last week. I am pleased to report that we had the highest attendance that we have seen in the last few years. It is so important that parents are involved in the education of their children, so I am thrilled to see this response.

Thank you also for all the funds raised today through non-school uniform day. This money is going to be used to buy equipment, plants and seeds for our new class allotment patches. We are really excited to see what the children will be growing over the next few months!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING WEEK

Our Science and Engineering Week was a great success. Years 1 & 2 enjoyed a Circus Workshop, Years 3 & 4 took part in space themed scientific experiments in a workshop called Moondust on my Socks and years 5/6 especially enjoyed their chemistry workshop, Exploring Materials.

Over 100 family members attended our Engineering Challenge of building a tower using newspaper and cellotape (including some Grandparents from Stoke!). Congratulations to the winning group, which consisted of Brooke Logan and Rahika Chamdal and their mums and Marley Heath and Jay Scrivener, all from Hornbeam Class.

Every child built a flower from 4 sheets of recycled A4 paper, without the use of glue. Many DT skills were used of twisting, folding, bending, cutting and joining. The winners were Faiz Ali (Cedar) for KS1 and a group entry by Lily Winters, Liam McLoughlin, Amy Gabbitas and Jamine Young (Lime) for KS2.

Thank you to Miss Studman for organising the week, and to all the parents/carers, families who came in to help.

THANK YOU!



A special thank you this week goes to **Mrs Dorothy Ansell and her husband**, who have kindly donated 20 sets of garden forks and trowels for our new allotments.

This is so kind of them and I am sure all the children will really enjoy using them to grow their own fruit and vegetables.

ATTENDANCE AWARD



Congratulations to Beech (Reception), who won the award w/c 2nd March with 96.7% and to Laburnum (Year 6) for winning it w/c 9th March with 97.2%.

COMIC RELIEF

Thank you to all the children and staff who dressed up in their funny outfits last Friday for Red Nose Day. We raised an amazing £306 for Comic Relief. Thank you to Mrs Hurren for organising the event and counting all the money!

GOOD LUCK

This week we say good luck to Mrs Marlow as she goes on maternity leave. We will let you know as soon as we have any news of her new arrival!

SCHOOL SAFETY

Please could I remind parent/carers **no dogs are allowed on the school grounds** (other than guide dogs), as it is a County Council requirement that we have no dogs on site. Could we also ask that you do not leave them tied up on the footpath between the two buildings at times when there are so many pedestrians using this area.

I would also like to remind parents **not to smoke in the school grounds where the children can see you.**

Thank you for your co-operation with these matters.

DO YOU WORK FOR BARCLAYS BANK?

Barclays Bank operate a scheme known as 'Matched Fundraising' whereby for every pound one of their employees raises for a selected charity, Barclays will also donate a pound, up to £750.

The Friends of Fairlands would like to ask if any parent/carer, or someone they know, works for Barclays Bank and might be willing to help run a stall at our Summer Fayre on **Sunday, 12th July**, so that we can take advantage of this fantastic scheme.

Please let Max Franklin or the office know if you can help.

BRIDGE ROAD CHILDREN'S CENTRE TOY LIBRARY

Do you have or do you look after children aged 0 – 5? Do they get bored with their toys? Do you realise they could have a new toy every week?

Why not come along to The Bridge Road Toy Library, which is **held in the Upper Building at Fairlands School on Monday mornings between 9.15am and 12.00.**

Many of the toys for loan 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!

NESTLE BOX TOPS FOR SCHOOLS

We need to send our collection of Box Tops off early next week – please have a look in your cupboards, kitchen drawers, etc and cut out and send in any tokens you can find by next Wednesday. Ask your family and friends too!

WAITROSE EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Waitrose Stevenage is inviting pupils to take part in their Easter Colouring Competition. Entry forms are available at the Welcome Desk in Waitrose Stevenage. Entries must be returned, in person, to the Welcome Desk by 30th March.

There are three age categories: Two to four years, five to seven years and eight to eleven years. Each category has three prizes: First prize - a large Easter egg, Second prize - a medium Easter egg and Third prize - a small Easter egg.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009

Tuesday, 24 th March 6.00 – 7.15pm	Early Reading Evening
Wednesday, 25 th March 6.00pm	Cuffley Camp Meeting for Parents & Pupils
Thursday, 2 nd April KS1 : 4.00 – 5.00pm KS2 : 5.45 – 7.00pm	Friends of Fairlands' Easter Disco
Friday, 3 rd April	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 6 th April to Friday, 17 th April	Easter Holiday
Monday, 20 th April	INSET
Tuesday, 21 st April	Return to school
Monday, 25 th to Friday 29 th May	Half Term
Friday, 17 th July	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm Finish
Wednesday, 2 nd Sept	INSET Day
Thursday, 3 rd September	Return to School