

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 1

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

11th September 2009

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new school year – we have had an excellent start to the term, with the children looking extremely smart and showing a very positive attitude to a new year of learning.

On Wednesday, I was extremely pleased to attend this year's **Stevenage In Bloom** Awards at Knebworth Hall, where **Fairlands was announced as the WINNER of School of the Year!** The judges were very impressed with our new allotments and the way both children and staff have been enjoying growing fruit and vegetables. It was certainly a very proud moment for the school and is yet another demonstration of our wonderful school community working well together!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

THANK YOU!



My first THANK YOU of the year goes to **all the teachers and staff who worked so hard over the summer** to get the school ready for the first day.

We have had yet another summer of major refurbishment and now have sparkling new Year 5/6 classrooms and fantastic new outside classrooms in the whole of KS1. The Foundation Stage didn't escape the disruption either, as the whole of the Lower Building has been re-carpeted and presented with lovely new coat pegs.

Emptying out your classroom and putting it back together again takes a huge amount of time and energy, so thank you to everyone who has come in over the summer to make this happen so smoothly!

ATTENDANCE AWARD



Well done to **Hazel**, first winners of the award this school year, with a very impressive **99.6%** attendance last week.

PARENT COFFEE MORNING

Please come along to our **NEW Parents' Coffee Morning every Friday morning** in the **Learning Room**. Doors will be open from **8.50am to 10.30am** and you are most welcome to pop along at any time. The morning is run by parents for parents, as part of the work that Parentline Plus have been doing in the school. See the parents on the playground with Parentline Plus T-Shirts for more info!

SCHOOL DINNER MONEY

Just a reminder that school dinners have gone up slightly and now cost **£1.80 per day / £9.00 per week**.

MSA VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a Mid-day Supervisory Assistant (dinner lady) at Fairlands, starting asap (subject to CRB check). Please contact the school office for more details.

QUEST SEEKERS

We would like any children who received a certificate for taking part in the Stevenage Library Quest Seekers Challenge, to bring it to the school office by the end of September – your name will be noted and you will receive a prize from the Friends of Fairlands!

FRIENDS OF FAIRLANDS' AGM

The **Friends of Fairlands** will be meeting at **6.00pm** in the **Dining Hall** next **Monday** for their AGM. The 'Friends' would like to welcome anyone to the meeting who is interested in helping this very active group of parents/carers with their fundraising.

PARENT FORUM

The next Parent Forum will take place in the **Learning Room** at **9.05 on Thursday, 8th October**. Please come along and join Mr Staples and other parents / carers from the school for a coffee and a chat. This is a great opportunity to discuss your views of the school – good or bad!

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS

These sessions are held every week on **Tuesday mornings** from **9 – 11am**, in the Learning Room (upper building)

The classes are for all adult speakers of languages other than English, who wish to improve their English skills. They cater for all – from complete beginners to advanced learners.

Mrs Kate Trafford (SENCo) and Mrs Manjula Niven (ESOL tutor from N. Herts College) will run these relaxed and friendly classes together. They are completely free of charge and can lead to an appropriate ESOL qualification if required. All are welcome! Please see Mrs Trafford or ask at the office for further details.

MYTHS & MASKS FAMILY FUN

Hertfordshire Adults & Family Learning Services (HAFLS) are running this **fun family workshop at Fairlands**. You will have fun creating your own magical masks together, find out how masks are used and use your mask to create a magical myth.

The workshop will run in the Learning Room after school on **Wednesday, 23rd September** from **3.20 – 5.20pm**. **Please contact the school office to book your places.**

MORRISONS : LETS GROW

Following the fantastic success of our allotment this year, we are keen to keep growing!

Morrisons have launched their 'Lets Grow' scheme and there are three easy ways to collect vouchers.

- Customers receive 1 voucher for every £10 they spend.
- Some special products like Morrisons corn flakes, rice crackles and milk have extra vouchers printed on the packaging that can be cut out and collected.
- Look out for promotions on certain big brands in store that offer extra Let's Grow vouchers. The Let's Grow symbol will show up on the receipt which can be kept and used just like a voucher.

Please help us to collect vouchers and encourage your family and friends too, so that we can claim lots of gardening equipment to help us continue growing.

CALLING ALL REGISTERED CHILDMINDERS

Registered childminders should have received a '**Details of Registered Childminder Form**' from the Children's Information Service (CIS). Please ensure you send a copy of your completed form to the school office, for us to hand out to parents/carers looking for a childminder. Any forms which were received **before** today have now been discarded as they have not been updated.

Parents/carers – **if you are looking for a childminder**, please either contact the school office or phone the Children's Information Service on 01438 737502, email younginherts@hertscc.gov.uk or visit the website www.hertsdirect.org/younginherts

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010

Monday, 14 th to Friday 18 th September	Year 6 School Journey
Monday, 14 th September 6.00pm	Friends of Fairlands AGM
Wednesday, 23 rd Sept 3.20 – 5.20pm	Myths & Masks Family Fun Workshop
Monday, 5 th to Friday, 9 th October	Money Week
Thursday, 8 th October 9.05am	Parent Forum
Monday, 12 th October 3.30pm – 6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Tuesday, 13 th October 5.30pm – 8.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Tuesday, 5 th January	Return to school
Monday, 15 th February to Friday, 19 th February	Half Term
Thursday, 1 st April	Last day of term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 19 th April	INSET Day
Tuesday, 20 th April	Return to school
Monday, 3 rd May	Bank Holiday
Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS
Monday, 31 st May to Friday, 4 th June	Half Term
Monday, 7 th June	INSET Day
Thursday, 1 st July	INSET Day
Friday, 2 nd July	Occasional Day
Friday, 23 rd July	Last day of term : 2.15pm finish