

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 9

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

21st January 2011

Dear Parents and Carers

You may have heard in the news this week that the government is launching yet another review of the curriculum, this time with a focus on the facts and knowledge that children should memorise, such as dates from British history and placing countries on maps....! Sounds fun...

I am pleased to tell you that our own review and development of our curriculum continues to go from strength to strength – focusing on the key skills that children need to become successful life-long learners. Parents consistently tell me that they have noticed their child is more engaged and interested in their work at school and they are keen to continue that work at home. This is fantastic and I would like to reassure you that any developments proposed by the government will be carefully considered alongside and woven into the energetic, inspiring curriculum we have now designed at Fairlands!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

THANK YOU!



Thank you this week goes to **all parents that have responded to the consultation about the expansion of Fairlands!**

It is so important that you air your views about this proposed expansion. **There is still time** – please click on the links from our school website, or get a paper copy of the consultation form from the office.

It only takes 5 minutes to fill in. **HAVE YOUR SAY!!**

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	% CLASS ATTENDANCE	
	w/c 3 rd Jan	w/c 10 th Jan
ASH	97.6	93.1
BEECH	93.3	91.3
CHERRY	97	90.7
CHESTNUT	98.3	92
ELDER	97.7	93.5
ELM	99.2	96.7
HAZEL	96	96.4
HORNBEAM	98	94
LIME	98.3	95
LARCH	98.9	95.8
PINE	98.3	95
POPLAR	95.6	89.4
WILLOW	99.4	93.2

YEAR 2 VISIT LOCAL GARAGE

Last Friday, Year 2 visited Pound Avenue Garage, where staff showed the children how they work on cars and allowed them to look around the showroom and find out more for their topic of 'Ramps and Round Things'.

WIN A £25 ASDA VOUCHER!

We are building a database of our **parents who have children aged under 5**. A letter was sent home this week asking for this information – anyone who completes and returns the slip to school by **Friday, 28th January** will be included in a draw to win a **£25 Asda voucher**. You can also download a letter from the website or ask for a paper copy at the office.

FAIRLANDS FATHERS

Fairlands Fathers meet once a month, giving dads a chance to meet and talk to other fathers, share experiences and the opportunity to get advice from other dads on parenting issues. Their next meeting will be held on **Monday, 31st January, 7.30-9.30pm** in the **Lower Building**. For more information, please visit <http://www.fairlands-fathers.co.uk>
No commitment, no hidden agenda, no cost - Just dads meeting once a month. We look forward to welcoming you.

PARENT FOCUS GROUP

Could you help complete an online questionnaire for the Family Services Directory?

The FSD need approx **5 adults to come into school one evening this month** and help answer questions and use a PC. A member of the FSD will be there to conduct the session. Places are limited to max 5, refreshments will be available and **you will be offered a Gift Voucher for your time**. If you think you can help please give your name and contact telephone number to the school office.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Parent Governor Nomination forms will be sent home **next Monday** – please look out for this and take some time to consider nominating yourself. Being a parent governor is a great way to be more involved in important decisions about your child's education.

FAIRLANDS' BREAKFAST CLUB

Fairlands' Breakfast Club runs from 8.00am to 8.50am each school day morning in the dining hall.

Cost : £2.00 for the first child, siblings £1.70 (Free School Meals £1.50). No need to book – just turn up on the morning.

Your child will receive a healthy breakfast and professional childcare in a safe and friendly environment, giving them an opportunity to socialise with other children from all areas of the school.

SPRINGMEADOWS AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Springmeadows After-School Club are now taking bookings for February Half Term - 21st - 25th February, 7:50am -6:15pm.

£3 per hour (max daily cost £25), Siblings **£2.50 per hour** (max daily cost £22.50) – aged 4-12yrs.

There will be a cinema and Mcdonalds trip on Tuesday 22nd at an additional cost of £10.

Contact Louise Prior to book a place on 07738 570321, Louise@springmeadows.co.uk or visit www.Springmeadows.co.uk

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2010/2011

Monday, 24th January 3.30pm at Fairlands	Year 5/6 Girls Football Match vs Giles School
Friday, 11th February 9.30 – 11.00am	Nursery Open Morning for parents applying for Sept 11/Jan 12
Monday, 21 st to Friday, 25 th February	Half Term
Monday, 7th March 5.30 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Wednesday, 9th March 6.00 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Friday, 11th March 9.30 – 11.00am	Nursery Open Morning for parents applying for Sept 11/Jan 12
Friday, 8 th April	Last day of term : School finishes at 2.15pm

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you receive one of the following benefits, you could be eligible for free school meals worth over £300 per child per year.

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with a taxable income of no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

Don't Miss Out – Apply Now!

We recommend you **apply online** at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals

Online applications are easier, faster and more convenient. In most cases, you will not need to provide paper proof of benefits or reapply.

If you do not have access to the internet at home, you can obtain access and support at any of the following locations:

- Public Libraries
- UK Online Centres
- Your child's school

If you require assistance with your application, please email howcanwehelp@hertscc.gov.uk or call our customer service centre on 0300 123 4048 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday).