

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 11

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

18th February 2011

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to the 93 parents and carers who signed the petition about the need for additional parking if the school expands to three forms of entry. This is a clear indication of how much you support the proposals, but equally how strongly you feel about the impact on congestion in Pound Avenue.

In the meantime, can I also take this opportunity to remind you again about driving and parking legally at the start and end of the day? We have been working closely with the police to implement strategies to address this issue and I am hoping there will be a significant improvement in the coming months.

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term break and look forward to seeing you all back at school at **8.50am on Monday, 28th February.**

Robert Staples
Headteacher

NEW LINING UP ARRANGEMENTS

Those of you with children in the Lower Building will have noticed that we have changed where Year 1 are lining up in the morning. The aim is to reduce congestion around the bottom of the footpath. In order to make this work properly, can I remind parents to:

- think about where you stop to chat, especially if you have a buggy... are you blocking a gangway/footpath?
- leave the area alongside Nursery clear so that Nursery/Year 2 parents can move freely

Thank you!

PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Parent/teacher consultations will be taking place on **Monday, 7th March (5.30pm – 8.00pm)** and **Wednesday, 9th March (3.30 – 6.00pm)** and for **Nursery parents Monday, 7th March 8.30am – 6.00pm.**

Letters were sent home on Monday asking you to complete and return a slip, letting us know which time slots best suit you. You will be notified of your appointment after half term. If you haven't already done so, please remember to bring your completed slip back on Monday 28th February.

THE REACHING HIGH TARGET

On Wednesday, children from Yr 1 – Yr 6 had the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to tell the time by taking part in some interactive games using the new laptop trollies.

YEAR 4 MINI-OLYMPICS FESTIVAL

Year 4 enjoyed a morning of Mini-Olympics at Stevenage Leisure Centre, organised by the Stevenage Sports Partnership. They enjoyed a variety of activities including trampolining, wall climbing, cheerleading, hockey, tennis rugby and speed stacking. The children behaved impeccably and took part enthusiastically.

RECEPTION TRIP TO STEVENAGE MUSEUM

Last week our Reception children enjoyed a real hands-on session at Stevenage Museum, where they took part in a 'Peep at the Past Workshop' which gave them the opportunity to play with old toys, bath a baby in a tin tub and dance to an old record that played on a old record player. Thank you to all the parent helpers who came with us.

YEAR 3/4 SUPERHERO DAY!

The school was overrun with Superheroes last Friday when, as part of this term's topic work, Year 3 and 4 children, and teachers, came into school dressed as their favourite Superhero.

The dastardly Super Villain; 'The Fairlands Fiend' disturbed our assembly in the morning and kidnapped the Man of Steel Superman. We had to solve a series of clues and complete an assault course to find out the secret identity of The Fiend and safely recover Superman.

The Stevenage Comet newspaper came and took photos and we made the front page this week!

THANK YOU



Thank you this week goes to **the teachers who organised Superhero Day!**

It was great to see how much fun the children had!

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	% CLASS ATTENDANCE	
	w/c 31/1	w/c 7/2
ASH	92.8	93.4
BEECH	93.3	95.3
CHERRY	94.6	95.7
CHESTNUT	95.7	92.7
ELDER	94.2	94.6
ELM	95.4	98.7
HAZEL	90.4	94.4
HORNBEAM	96.8	97.2
LIME	95.6	94.4
LARCH	98.4	98.9
PINE	91.1	92.8
POPLAR	98.7	100
WILLOW	98.1	92.9

Well done to Poplar for achieving 100% attendance last week – they were awarded with a voucher for **£25** to spend on classroom resources.

RAISING CONFIDENT CHILDREN

Sara Hassell, our Parent Support Worker from Family Lives (formerly Parentline plus), is running a **FREE 5 week group** (with free crèche) called 'Raising Confident Children' – a really usefully workshop to give you tools to enable you to help your family have more confidence.

The group will be run in the Community Room from **9.15 – 11.15am on Wednesdays from 9th March to 6th April.**

Booking is essential through Sara by text or phone call to 07805 523480 or through the school office.

TESCO FOR SCHOOLS & CLUBS

Once again, we are taking part in this year's Tesco Voucher scheme. Please help us by asking everyone you know to collect vouchers for us and send them into school **Vouchers are in store from 28th February until 8th May.** Please let the office know if you can help count vouchers for us.

APPLYING FOR A NURSERY PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2011/ JANUARY 2012

If your child was born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008, you can apply for their nursery place from **Monday 21st February.**

If you would like to look around the nursery setting, we are holding some 'open sessions' for prospective parents in March. Please see Diary Dates at the end of the newsletter for details and contact the school office if you wish to book an appointment.

The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **Application deadline Friday, 1st April.**

Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line are welcome to come to the office and use a computer. Mrs Dunthorne will be available to help you, if needed, but please contact her to arrange a convenient time.

NESTLES BOX TOPS

Don't forget to keep sending in Box Tops tokens – this year's scheme is coming to an end, so the more we collect the more money we can claim back!

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2010/2011 (Newly added dates are shown in bold)

Monday, 21 st to Friday, 25 th February	Half Term
Tuesday, 1 st March	World Maths Day
Thursday, 3rd March 1.30 – 2.30pm	Nursery Open Afternoon for parents applying for Sept 11/Jan 12
Monday, 7th March 8.30am – 5.00pm	Nursery Parent/Teacher Consultations
Monday, 7 th March 5.30 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Wednesday, 9th March 9.00am – 10.30am	Children's Centre Story & Rhyme Session : Lower Hall
Wednesday, 9 th March 6.00 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Friday, 11 th March 9.30 – 11.00am	Nursery Open Morning for parents applying for Sept 11/Jan 12
Friday, 18th March 1.30 – 2.30pm	Nursery Open Afternoon for parents applying for Sept 11/Jan 12
Friday, 1st April	Closing Date for On-line Nursery Applications
Friday, 8 th April	Last day of term : School finishes at 2.15pm