

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 11

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10th February 2012

Dear Parents and Carers

LEARNING is FUN at Fairlands! Below are several reports about this half term's WOW Days – I am sure your child has told you all about them as well! It is always wonderful to see how excited, enthused and engaged the children are during these events. This term, governors have been coming in to experience these enrichment days and monitor the impact on learning – one wrote 'All children were able to talk confidently about their topic and they all told me how much they love coming to school on their WOW days!' Brilliant stuff, and thank you to the teachers for coming up with such creative ideas!

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term break and look forward to seeing you all back at school for more FUN LEARNING at 8.50am on **TUESDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY.**

Robert Staples
Headteacher

THANK YOU



Thank you this week goes to **Miss Emma Verlander**, for organising our event linked to this half term's Reaching High Target – Text Detectives.

The whole school had to solve the mystery of who had stolen a secret potion that could give you the powers to know all the answers to your homework!

After lots of reading clues and decoding texts, the children were amazed to discover that it was Mr Staples who had stolen it! He had some explaining to do, but in the end we all understood that he only took it because he wants us to do our homework properly, without taking performance-enhancing potions!!

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	% CLASS ATTENDANCE	
	w/c 23/01	w/c 30/01
ASH	95.3	90.7
BEECH	94.7	91
CHERRY	91.4	93.4
CHESTNUT	97.2	96.2
ELDER	93.1	93.1
ELM	95.4	93.5
HAZEL	90.4	93.7
HORNBEAM	90.4	95.8
LARCH	91.9	97
LIME	95	96.5
PINE	94.1	100
POPLAR	94.7	97.6
WALNUT	95.9	94.7
WILLOW	97.1	99.4

Very well done to Pine class, who achieved 100% attendance last week!

OPERATION JAMMIE DODGER

Year 2 had a fantastic time last week when they had the opportunity to be police officers for the day and solve the crime of the stolen Jammie Dodgers! The children had their finger prints taken, looked at the evidence, read a character description and held a line-up of the key suspects to identify the criminal. Special thanks to Mrs Nielow, the culprit, for being a fantastic sport.

YEAR 5 & 6 H2O WOW DAY

Last Thursday Year 5 & 6 enjoyed a wonderful H₂O WoW day. The children looked amazing and took part in many water related activities, including; designing their own flavoured bottled water, investigating the causes of river erosion, filtering dirty water to make it clean and painting water colours in the style of Monet. They also contributed to a year group collage of the Titanic.

YEAR 1 SPACE VOYAGE WOW DAY

Year 1 had a fantastic day on Monday! The children had to complete a number of challenges throughout the day including: identifying translucent materials, reflecting light to zap members of the evil alien alliance, make a shadow puppet show, create an alien army and using various light sources to see objects in the dark! The children all made a fabulous effort with costumes and they applied themselves diligently to the task of saving Mr Staples. Fortunately their hard work paid off and their scientific knowledge fended off the alien alliance. But be warned: they will be back.....

YEAR 4 MAD SCIENTIST WOW DAY

Last Thursday, Year 4 became mad scientists for the day and took part in experiments and investigations involving mixing and separating materials. They had an explosive time!

YEAR 3 SUPERHERO WOW DAY

Year 3 had a great Superhero day today. The children looked fantastic in their costumes!

The children have been enjoying art activities – making a Gotham City skyline as well as having fun with our Superhero obstacle course and Superhero dance. Thanks to all the wonderful Superheroes, Stevenage is safe once more!

YEAR 4 MINI-OLYMPICS

Yesterday morning, Year 4 enjoyed a session 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.

BRIDGE ROAD CHILDREN'S CENTRE ACTIVITY SESSION

Thank you to all those parents of Under 5's who returned their slips for the £25 Asda voucher draw (the winner has been notified).

If you have an under 5, why not come along to the Bridge Road Children's Centre **FREE** fun activity session in the **lower hall at Fairlands** on **Wednesday 22nd February** from **9.30am until 11.00am**. No need to book – **just drop in!**

For more details about this event or for more information about the Children's Centre please contact them on 01438 202692 or visit their www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/bridgeroad.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Sainsbury's will be issuing Active Kids Vouchers in store between 15th February and 10th April. These vouchers enable us to order lots of fantastic FREE resources for PE, which benefits the whole school. Please ask all your family and friends to collect for us and send them into school.

Please let the office know if you can help with counting vouchers, as any help would be greatly appreciated.

APPLYING FOR A NURSERY PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

If your child was born between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009 you need to apply for their nursery place for September 2012/January 2013.

You should apply for your child's place on-line at www.hertsdirect.org/nurseryadmission from Monday 20th February. Application deadline Sunday 1st April 2012.

Parents/carers who do not have access to the internet can contact the school office to arrange to come in and use one of our computers. Mrs Dunthorne will be available to help, if needed.

OCCASIONAL DAY CANCELLED

Just a reminder that the Occasional Day, originally booked for **Monday, 2nd July**, has been cancelled. School will still be **closed** on the previous **Friday, 29th June**.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2011/2012 (Newly added dates are shown in bold)

Monday 20 th February	INSET Day
Tuesday 21 st February	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Wed 22 nd February 9.30–11.00am Lower Hall	Under 5s Activity Morning
Thursday 23rd Feb	Parent Forum
Thursday 23rd Feb 3.30 – 4.30pm	E-Safety Parents Open Session
Monday 27th Feb 7.30-9.30pm	Fairlands Fathers
Monday 5 th March 5.30 – 8.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Wednesday 7th March	World Maths Day
Wednesday 7th March 2.45pm	Year 4 Assembly to parents
Wednesday 7 th March 3.30 – 6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thursday 15th March	Class Photographs
Wednesday 21st March 2.45pm	Year 6 Assembly to parents
Monday 26th March 7.30 – 9.30pm	Fairlands Fathers
End of Spring Term	Friday 30 th March 2.15pm