



Weekly Newsletter

29 March 2019

Making learning an adventure

Our school value for this half-term is responsibility.



Dear Parents/Carers

Our Year 2 pupils have enjoyed learning road safety through their scooter training this week and everyone has enjoyed the fact that warmer, dryer weather has meant that we have been able to spread onto the school field at break and lunchtimes.

The days are certainly whizzing by and next week is the last week of term before we break up for Easter. School finishes at 2pm on Friday 5 April and, to celebrate the start of Easter, the children are invited to wear mufti for the day!

I have really enjoyed hearing about the various Speaker's Cup presentations that the children have been giving in their classes in the last few weeks and am looking forward to the finals next Wednesday and Thursday. Unfortunately, we are only able to invite the parents of finalists into school for this. However, we would like to invite parents into classrooms from 3pm on Thursday afternoon, to have a look at the topic work their son or daughter has been doing over the course of the term.

Congratulations to our netball teams who finished the netball season as Harpenden Schools Smaller School League Champions, having not lost a match, and second place runners up in the All Schools Netball Tournament at St George's School, where they won every match but one. Next year we will be in the Larger Schools League, as we will have two classes in Year 6.



I enjoyed chatting to a number of parents of children in Key Stage 1 this morning at the coffee morning and it was great to see so many Reception Mums in school today for their Mothers' Day Celebration. Not a dry eye in the house I gather. Thank you also to the large group of parents whose highly efficient organisation of the Discos this evening, made them both a real success. This is really appreciated. The children had a ball!

Seeking Your Views

As you know, the governing body and staff team are keen to seek the views of parents about the provision we offer at High Beeches. Your view really matters to us and we want to be able to feed it into our ongoing self-evaluation and planning for school improvement.

Thank you to all those who have already taken the time to complete the survey. For those who haven't yet done so, the survey will be available until the end of the Easter holidays and can be found [here](#).

Finally, a huge THANK YOU also to all the mums or those with mothering responsibility who nurture and support the children of High Beeches. Wishing you a happy Mothers' Day this Sunday and hoping you get spoilt!

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

FoHBS News

- Thank you to Kerry, Gemma and Vicky, plus all their fantastic volunteers who worked so hard to put on a spectacular Quiz night last Friday. A huge, huge thank you to Steve Whalen and Thomas Watson....you will be a very hard act to follow. The evening was EPIC and we look forward to learning the total raised, once all counting has been finished!
- Reminder that tonight is the school disco - infants, straight from school 3.15pm to 4.15pm and Juniors 4.30pm to 5.45pm.
- Thanks to all who have purchased tickets for our **Community Concert which is next Thursday, 4th April 6-8pm**, in the school hall - we will be providing a bar again so please bring cards and cash.
- We still have a few tables available for the **Midsummer Ball on Friday 21st June**. If you would like some more time to get a table together, or make tables of 8, tables of 10, please just drop me an e-mail at contact.fohbs@gmail.com. To all those who have already done their tables - massive thanks, and look out for the link for ticket purchases and menu choices after the Easter break.
- We're still looking for a couple of extra volunteers to help brainstorm and organise the summer fair. It won't take up much time and is a great way to get involved and have some fun. Please email contact.fohbs@gmail.com

Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- **Reception Oak Class** Lauren for working hard on your Writing
Harry – for an excellent outlook on your learning
- **Reception Chestnut Class** Lexie – for making progress in Reading/Writing
Freddie – for improving Handwriting
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Rory – for trying his best and showing excellent learning powers
Kiara – for showing enthusiasm for learning
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Sienna – for always having a responsible attitude to her learning
Taaha – for concentrating really hard on his work
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Sophia – for working hard and pushing herself particularly in Maths
Archie – for being an excellent role model to his peers
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Erin – for working hard and showing a responsible attitude to learning
Benjamin - for working hard and showing a responsible attitude to learning
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Joshua – for working really hard to improve his writing
Finn – for being really motivated in Maths
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Zac – for being a responsible learner and a responsible friend
Ellie – for taking responsibility for all her learning
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Ella – for having a responsible attitude to all her learning
Freddie – for being a kind and considerate member of Maple class
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Eve – for continuing to be an excellent role model at all times
Annabelle – for continuing to show excellent growth mindset
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Luca – for taking responsibility for his learning in Maths
Abigail – for pushing her learning forward in Maths by trying really hard
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Izzy – for taking responsibility for her learning in Maths club
Ryder – for taking responsibility for his learning in English
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Joe – for always being a responsible learner and working hard in every lesson
Douglas – for working hard to up level his writing

Attendance

Congratulations to Oak class for 100% attendance this week.

Sports Desk

More sporting success this week, as the football and netball seasons come to a close.

The footballers played the Lea and both schools fielded two teams of pupils who had not been selected for any/many other matches this season. This was a hugely rewarding game in which all four teams demonstrated real sportsmanship. Special congratulations are due to our teams, however, who won both games by 3-0 and 2-0 respectively!

Our netball teams played Harpenden Academy at home and the A team played in a Harpenden Schools netball tournament at Roundwood Park School. We won both home matches, 16-0 and 9-0, and won all but one of the matches in the tournament. This amazing run of success means that they brought home the league cup, as overall winners of the league and the runners-up shield for second place in yesterday's tournament. Congratulations to everyone who has played this season and many thanks to Miss Jackson and Mrs Shewbridge for coaching and leading the teams.

Further Information and Reminders

Clocks Spring Forward

As well as it being Mothering Sunday this Sunday, don't forget the clocks also go forward an hour for the start of British Summer Time

Bake Sale – Wednesday 3 April at 3pm

There will be a Bake Sale outside our Reception classes on Wednesday from 3pm. The children have planned this mini enterprise project themselves, having discussed how they would like to buy some materials and equipment for their outdoor learning area. All money raised will be used for resources that the children will be choosing.

Summer Dresses – collection from 4th April

If you placed an order for a summer dress with the school office earlier in the year they will be ready for collection from Thursday 4th April.

World Scout Jamboree

Scouting provides a real plethora of opportunities for children and young people to develop life and leadership skills and is run by a host of dedicated volunteers. Reception teacher, Mrs Burnham and her family have for many years been involved in scouting and she has asked us to let parents know about her Granddaughter's bid to attend the 24th World Scout Jamboree which takes place in the USA later this year. Each participant has to fundraise to cover the cost of transport and food and Abigail is undertaking a number of sponsored activities to raise money for her trip, which, for any parents who might like to support her in this, can be sponsored through her Just Giving page [here](#).

Volunteers in school

All volunteers in school should have a current DBS certificate which they have shown to Mrs Murray and also a character reference. If you help in school in any way whatsoever on a regular basis please make sure you have all the correct paperwork in place. There are some parents who have still not handed in a character reference, please do so asap. If you are unsure please check with Mrs Murray. Thank you.

Parking

Please remember there should be no parking/dropping off/waiting in the staff car park between the hours of 8.15am and 4.30pm. Thank you.

Diary Dates

- 29 March- FoHBS discos
- 1 April- Year 3 visit to British Museum
- 1 April – Year 4 pedestrian skills training
- 3 April, 1.15pm – KS2 Speaker's Cup Final (finalists' parents to be invited)
- 3 April, 3pm – Reception Bake Sale
- 4 April, 9am – KS1 Speaker's Cup Final (finalists' parents to be invited)
- 4 April, 3pm – Open Classrooms
- 4 April, 6pm - Community Concert
- 5 April- Break up for Easter 2pm
- 23 April- INSET day
- 24 April- School opens for Summer term