



Weekly Newsletter

28 June 2019

Making learning an adventure

Our school value for this half-term is happiness.

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all those at FoHBS who planned and organised the Mid Summer Ball last Friday. I understand it really was the social event of the year so far and that it raised nearly a staggering £5,000. Wow! Congratulations FoHBS! Thank you in particular to Carolyn Berg for her final major event for FoHBS and for all the hard work she and Anna Davies have put in to High Beeches events during the last few years, it is much appreciated by all staff – you deserve a well-earned rest.

This week we have enjoyed 2 super class assemblies, with Maple Class enthraling their audience with tales from Dell Farm and Hawthorn Class presenting an inspiring performance of drama, geography and song related to their class book, Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom*.

Reception classes have had a lovely creative day with Mrs Smyth and her Creation Station.

Sycamore Class have had a number of visitors this week, learning about British democracy and the rule of law with a visit from *Magistrates in the Community* as well as from Links Academy to support them with transition to secondary school. A team of pupils from Key Stage 2 represented the school really well at the annual District Athletics (pictured above). Thanks to Mr George for training and accompanying the children and to Miss Jackson and Mrs Shewbridge for also supporting them at the event.

Staffing News and Arrangements for 2019/20

Next week, I will be able to confirm how the teaching staff team will be deployed from September 2019 and which classes will move to which teacher. This will be in readiness for our transition day the following week.

We do have a really strong team in place for September, but will be sad to say farewell to two longstanding members of staff at the end of this term in July. Both Mrs Mhairi de Kort and Mrs Monique Whales will be retiring from our learning support team after a combined 19 and 15 years' service to the school respectively. I'm sure staff, parents and children will all want to join me in thanking them for making such a significant contribution to the early education of so many children!

We have been busy recruiting to replace them and to provide some further hours of classroom support, as the school grows to its capacity of 420 pupils in September. Although we do still have one further teaching assistant appointment to make, I am delighted to have already made 3 strong appointments to the support staff team and look forward to welcoming Miss Jody Kiff, Mrs Kelly Stedman and Miss Stephanie Thrale to High Beeches in September.

There are no teaching staff leavers this year and I am delighted to report that Mrs Rachael Hill will be joining the teaching team in September to reflect the increase in pupil numbers. Mrs Hill is a returner to the team having worked at High Beeches before and when she was known as Miss Thomas.

Finally, I would like to inform parents that our lead lunchtime supervisor, Miss Kerry O'Donovan, will also be leaving us at the end of term. Miss O'Donovan has been with us for almost 4 years and leaves us to join the

learning support team at Markyate School and we do, of course, wish her every success in her new post. If you or anyone you know might be interested in this post, do please contact the school office to find out more about it.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

Sports Desk

Congratulations to the Lionesses for their amazing 3-0 win against Norway yesterday, which won them a place in the semi-finals.



Congratulations also to all those from High Beeches who attended District Sports on Tuesday, the final sporting event of the school year. We achieved a very respectable 5th place (out of 16) in the event itself and, having performed really well in other sports this year, narrowly missed out on winning the much coveted Bonner Cup to St Nicholas by just a few points. Thank you to all those staff who have helped our pupils attend the sporting events this year.

FoHBS News

Please see the separate FOHBS Newsletter sent by email earlier today. The newsletter shows what an unbelievable year of fundraising and community events they have had. As a school we would like to thank all those involved. The following message is from Carolyn Berg, following the Mid Summer Ball last week.

I would like to say an enormous thank you to all who attended our Midsummer Ball last Friday and to everyone who purchased raffle tickets at Sports Day and the Summer Fair as well as on the night of the ball.

The ball went so well - it certainly helped to be blessed with the weather and I hope you all enjoyed the new venue, auction, magician, casino tables and of course the fabulous Carnegies. I have received some wonderful feedback and it has made my decision to step down as Co-Chair of FoHBS quite emotional!

We hope to have raised just under £5k which is just a fantastic amount of money. This was largely the auction bids and the raffle ticket sales so THANK YOU all that helped to raise this incredible amount.

Some further thank yous from me regarding the ball - Jo Sim and Shelly Lockwood - my sounding boards and helpers for the past 12 months (ever since we booked the date and venue). Jaks Whalen for your incredible talent, ability to understand every brief we have ever asked and for your patience! Jamie Sim for your epic auctioneer stint. You were brilliant thank you. Thank you to my long suffering husband, Sam, who lived through all the details of the ball! All those who donated auctions prizes - Becca and Phil Grant, Sam Collins, Amy & Adam Wheatley, Anna Michaels, Jonny Lockwood and Mr Walker. Thank you to everyone who was involved in donating prizes for the raffle and to all the local businesses who supported us.

I am officially stepping down as Co-Chair with immediate effect and would like to say a really big thank you to Kerry McNally and Gemma Randall who will be at the helm of FoHBS and are already doing a brilliant job. Well done ladies. In my capacity of a member of FoHBS I would like to thank Anna Davies, my ex co-Chair, the FoHBS committee, big thanks to Lisa Kiff for her efficiency and ability to pull together a float with no notice! It has been a pleasure working with you all.

Finally I would like to thank every parent and teacher who has ever volunteered with any event and to the amazing office staff - Mrs Murray, Mrs Petty and Miss Ellis, who have been so supportive and helpful over the years. We couldn't do it without you. A big thank you to Mrs Shewbridge and Mr Walker for your involvement with FoHBS and your constant support.

Best wishes
Carolyn

Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week

- **Reception Oak Class** Charlie – for showing co-operation in his work and play
Elise – for showing her value of Happiness while she works hard
- **Reception Chestnut Class** Sam – for trying hard to improve her concentration
Amy-Sofia – for having a positive attitude for learning
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Imogen S-H – for putting lots of effort into her writing
Isabella – for putting lots of effort into her Maths
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Milla – for an excellent animal page for our class book
Hudson – for a fantastic effort when writing
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Harry – for always pushing himself in lessons
Alice – for showing the values of kindness and happiness
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Tillie – for working hard, showing resilience and happiness in all areas
Tom – for having a happy, positive approach to his work
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Mikey – for showing resilience and determination in the long distance race
Theo W – for settling into High Beeches so well
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Amber – for being a positive, happy influence on her friends
Rayan K – for working really hard in Maths this week
- **Year 4 Maple Class** All Maple class – for performing their class assembly so beautifully
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Jack – for continuing to be a happy and positive role model to all in Pine class
Beatrix – for always being a happy and positive member of Pine class
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Isobel – for showing happiness through all her learning
Hannah – for always being positive and pushing herself in her learning
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** All Hawthorn – for creating an excellent class assembly and working so beautifully as a team
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Aliza – for showing resilience when making difficult props for the play
Wesley – for bringing happiness and enthusiasm to play rehearsals

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Maple and Pine classes for 100% attendance this week

Team Photographs

Team members should have received their photo proofs this week. Please return any orders by Thursday 4th July at the very latest. If you haven't received one and think you should have please contact the school office on Monday. Thank you.

Diary Dates

- Thursday 4th July – Maple class drumming performance 2.45pm. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE – ALL MAPLE CHILDREN TO BRING WELLINGTONS PLEASE
- Friday 5th July – Ash Class Assembly - 9am
- Monday 8th July – LAST WEEK OF CLUBS
- Tuesday 9th July – No Karate Club
- Thursday 11th July –Transition Day
- Friday 12th July – Pupil reports sent home
- Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th July, 6:30pm – Year 6 Production. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
- Tuesday 16th July – Volunteers Tea Party – 3.15pm
- Wednesday 17th July – Year 6 BBQ – Evening
- Thursday 18th July – High Beeches Got Talent
- Friday 19 July – Science Fair Entries into school (see separate letter)
- Monday 22nd July, 2:45pm – Classrooms open for Science Fair
- Wednesday 24th July – End of Term – **2pm**