



Weekly Newsletter

12 July 2019

Making learning an adventure

Our school value for this half-term is happiness.

Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday the children and staff enjoyed a really positive transition day, when the children were promoted to their new year groups for the morning, after an assembly on the theme of *change on the horizon*. They spent time with their new teachers and, where possible, classroom assistants getting to know each other and setting expectations for the next school year.



We recognise that the transition from one class to the next can make some children anxious and we hope that having spent a whole morning in their new classes will mean that they can end the term feeling confident about what awaits them next year and be able to continue to make good progress with their learning and development. There was a real atmosphere of excitement around the school, which I am sure will continue through to their proper start in September. This included having all 60 of our new Reception pupils in school, without parents, for the morning and, impressively, staying for lunch before being collected.

Our Year 6 pupils spent the whole day in their new schools and have arrived back in school today full of excitement about the opportunities that await them next year too. We will miss them!

Pupil Reports

Your children will be bringing home their end of year reports today. The reports record their achievements for the year and provide advice about their next steps and targets for the coming year. Please take some time to read your child's reports and the accompanying letter of explanation over the weekend.

I would like to congratulate all of our pupils for their hard work and achievements this year and to thank the staff team for all they have contributed to the children's outcomes. I am delighted to announce that we have had really impressive results in the various statutory tests and assessments that children have been required to undertake this year and that they remain comfortably above national averages.

Year Group and Subject	Promotion Achieved	National (2018)
EYFS Good Level of Development	87%	72%
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	91%	82%
KS1 Reading, expected and above	88%	76%
KS1 Reading, greater depth	41%	26%
KS1 Writing, expected and above	76%	70%
KS1 Writing, greater depth	25%	16%
KS1 Maths, expected and above	83%	76%
KS1 Maths, greater depth	32%	22%
KS2 Reading, expected and above	100%	75%
KS2 Reading, greater depth	47%	28%
SPAG, expected and above	97%	78%
SPAG, greater depth	63%	34%
KS2 Writing, expected and above	94%	78%
KS2 Writing, greater depth	37%	20%
KS2 Maths, expected and above	97%	76%
KS2 Maths, greater depth	60%	24%





As a school, our set of agreed values are really important to us. They form the foundation on which we build learning and personal development and we hope that the children will take them with them into later life. This is why it was so thrilling to learn recently that 4 out of the 7 students who were recently awarded *kindness awards* at Sir John Lawes school, as part of their end of year celebration, were former High Beeches Pupils. Congratulations to all four of them!

As we enter our last full week of the Summer term, please note that school closes for the Summer holidays at 2pm on Wednesday 24 July. Please note that all clubs finished today, please collect your children at 3.15pm unless they are at Jousters. Thank you.

Next week, we are looking forward to our Year 6 production on Monday and Tuesday evenings, the Year 6 leavers social event, High Beeches Got Talent and our science fair with a drop-in on Friday afternoon.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present
SPACE CHASE
Summer Reading Challenge 2019

Are you ready to launch into outer space for 2019's **Space Chase Summer Reading Challenge**? Join the challenge from **13 July 2019** at any Hertfordshire Library. Children who read six library books of their choice by 7 September will receive a medal and certificate as well as getting the chance to win a VIP pass to our event at Mission Control with children's author Steve Cole. Make sure you check out our launch events at St Albans and Bishops Stortford Libraries. We had over 20,000 participants last year – you wouldn't want to miss out on this **free** challenge!



For more details visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries or call 0300 123 4049

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Music Matters

School Orchestra

Last week the school orchestra played in assembly to try and encourage other children who play an instrument to join us in September. Orchestra is open to anyone who plays an instrument (except piano) who have had at least a term of lessons. We would love to see more string players, brass, woodwind, guitars and percussion. Orchestra will be on **MONDAYS** after school until 4pm from September and is free.

Saxophone Group Lessons

There are still a few places available for current years 3-5 to start saxophone lessons in September with Mrs Walton. Cost of lessons is £58.45 per term including the loan of a Jsax for the first year. Please contact the office if interested.

Doods and Toots Club

Mrs Walton advised that she has been inundated with applications for Dood and Toot club. The first 10 applications for each year 2 class will be given a place. A waiting list will be set up for everyone else. You will be told if you have a place by the end of next week.



Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week

- **Reception Oak Class** Luella – for showing the value of happiness in all situations
Sienna – for working hard on writing sentences
- **Reception Chestnut Class** Amy-Sofia – for making her friends smile
Matthew – for working hard to challenge himself
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Isla Mc – for showing a happy and resilient attitude to change
Logan – for always showing a happy and positive approach to learning
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Ted – for always showing enthusiasm for learning
Amelie – for always spreading happiness
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Amy – for always pushing herself with her learning
Elliott W – for showing enthusiasm in his learning
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Maya – for always having a positive attitude and sharing happiness
Lucas – for sharing happy thoughts and always aiming high
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Noori – for having such a positive attitude towards change
Finn – for always trying hard to improve
Zac – for being a happy and confident member of the class
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Charlie – for happiness, resilience and wonderful progress in his spelling this year
Ella - for always spreading happiness
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Toby – for showing a happy and resilient attitude to change
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Aya – for continuing to give maximum effort in all her work
Thomas – for continuing to show a good attitude towards his writing
- **Year 5 Ash Class** John – for always encouraging others to do their best
Isla – for bringing enthusiasm and happiness to all she does
Lily – for always showing happiness and enthusiasm in everything that she does
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Josh – for working together with everyone and always encouraging others
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Archie – for consistently demonstrating all the school values
Daisy – for always working hard and trying her best in all subjects



Congratulations also to Rhea, who has received a thank you letter from one of her Majesty the Queen's Ladies in Waiting this week, thanking her for sending the Queen a drawing for her 93rd birthday!

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Hazel class for 100% attendance this week.

Staff Recruitment

We are currently advertising for two posts: Senior Midday Supervisory Assistant and a Midday Supervisory Assistant. The Senior MSA is for 10 hours per week and the MSA for 7½ hours per week. If you are available during the day and think you might be interested in joining the staff team or know someone who would, more information can be obtained from the school office.

Requests for Absence

Please remember all requests for absence ie medical appointments/any musical or performance exams/holidays etc should be made on the official request forms available on the school website or in the rack outside the school office and should be handed in at least two weeks before the event. Appointments etc should be accompanied by confirmation letters from the appropriate parties.

Letters explaining absences for sickness should be sent the first day of return to school by letter or email to admin@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk. Thank you.

Lost Property

Please check the lost property box before the end of term as any un-named items will be disposed of on the last day of term, including water bottles and lunch boxes. We will try and remember to put them at the front of the school each day. If any parent is willing to help sort the items we would be most grateful, please speak to the school office. Thank you.

Dinner money/Trips

All dinner money for this term should have been paid. If you have not done so please settle by Monday. Present Year 5 PGL deposits should also have been paid by now – we still have a few outstanding, please settle by Monday at the latest. Places are being booked Monday afternoon to get the early bird discount.

Diary Dates

- Monday 15th July – **NO MORE CLUBS UNTIL SEPTEMBER**
- Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th July, 6:30pm – Year 6 Production
- Wednesday 17th July – Year 6 BBQ – Evening
- Thursday 18th July – High Beeches Got Talent 1.20pm
- Friday 19 July – Science Fair Entries into school (see separate letter)
- Monday 22nd July, 2:45pm – Classrooms open for Science Fair
- **Tuesday 23rd July – Volunteers Tea Party – 3.15pm Invitations being sent out**
- Wednesday 24th July – End of Term – **2pm**