



Weekly Newsletter

6 September 2019

Making learning an adventure

Our school value for this half-term is friendship



Dear Parents/Carers

It has been super to welcome all of our children and families back to High Beeches after the long Summer break, and to hear about what everyone has been getting up to over the holiday. I would especially like to welcome our 60 new Reception pupils, as well as the small number of new pupils who have joined year groups further up the school. A big welcome too, to our new staff members: Mrs Rachael Hill (class teacher for Rowan class and joining the leadership team for assessment and curriculum); teaching assistants, Mrs Jo Drake, Miss Jody Kiff, Mrs Kelly Stedman and Miss Stephanie Thrale; and lunchtime supervisor Miss Meg Crawford.

The staff met for some very productive training sessions on Monday and Tuesday this week which included, safeguarding, inclusion, curriculum development and wellbeing. Additionally, we have been busy preparing classrooms and planning learning for the new term and parents can find out more about plans from each year team during the meet the teacher sessions and from their year group newsletters next week.

You may also notice that Mr Halsey has been busy working on our premises over the holiday. He has, amongst other things, completely redecorated our dining room/central space and has made some adjustments to the fencing around the pedestrian entrance on the Willow Court side of the site. This means that parents can now walk along the pavement between the school buildings and the pedestrian gate, instead of having to enter/exit via the vehicle gate.

All the children have arrived back in school looking really smart in their school uniforms and ready for learning in their attitude and behaviour. Thank you to all those who have donated good condition, second hand uniform as part of our ongoing drive to be more sustainable and reduce our environmental impact. Thank you also to the parent volunteers from FoHBS and our Eco Committee who have sorted through all the stock and who have been selling it on the playground yesterday afternoon and this morning.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

FoHBS News

Continuing the theme of environmental sustainability, the FoHBS team have negotiated commission from Green Bean Party Packs, an online supplier of reusable children's party ware and decorations. If you would like to purchase anything from them, there is a link on the [FoHBS page](#) of the school website or more information can be found [here](#).

Clubs

All clubs start Monday 16th September unless you are informed otherwise.

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- **Year 1 Elm Class** Noah – for settling in so well and showing a positive attitude

- **Year 1 Cedar Class** Billy – for making such a positive start to Year 1
Izzy – for an excellent attitude to the start of Year 1
Zach – for showing enthusiasm in every lesson
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Leo – for putting lots of effort into his work
Isla – for her enthusiastic approach to learning
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Isla Maria – for settling well and showing friendship in her start at High Beeches
Rory – for showing friendship and a positive attitude to others
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Elliott – for settling well and being a friendly member of Birch Class
Lex – for making such a positive start to Year 3
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Oliver – for showing enthusiasm for our topic
Maya – for showing the value of friendship
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Ben – for an excellent attitude to the start of Year 4
Shannon – for trying her hardest in every piece of work this week
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Hugo – for working hard and pushing himself in Maths
Ella – for creating wonderful descriptive phrases in English
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Max – for showing a positive attitude to learning
Alice – for setting an excellent example and having a positive attitude
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Tristan – for a great start to Year 5
Aya – for being a very helpful and patient learning partner
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** The whole class for such an excellent, responsible start to Year 6
- **Year 6 Rowan Class** Maisie – for a brilliant start to Year 6 and volunteering to take on additional responsibilities
Harry – for displaying a positive attitude at the start of Year 6 and having a go at everything

Further Information and Reminders

Arrangements for the Beginning and End of the Day

The children seem to be getting used to their new routines and parents are now familiar with where to drop-off or collect their children for their new classes. As a reminder, please note the following expectations, to ensure that children stay safe and make the smoothest possible transition in and out of school.

- ✓ Doors open at 8:45am and the children go straight into class; Reception pupils via their outdoor learning space and Years 1 to 6 through the double doors at the ends and side of the Meadow Building and to the side of the Orchard Building. This staggered start helps to ensure there is a calm and swift start to the children's learning activities and that school staff are able to give individualised attention where required.
- ✓ The school day ends at 3:10pm for Reception and 3:15pm for Years 1 to 6. Pupils in Reception and Years 1 to 4 are dismissed from their external classroom doors and those in Years 5 and 6 leave via the double doors at either end of the Meadow Building.
- ✓ Once dismissed to parents or carers, children must be supervised by them. We are unable to allow pupils to use any of the climbing equipment at the end of the school day.
- ✓ In order to develop independence and to aide transition to secondary school, pupils in Year 6 may walk to and from school if their parents are content that it is appropriate and safe to do so. Should a parent of a child in Year 5 wish to request that their child walks to and from school this may be considered in a small number of cases, taking into account the context of the request, as well as the level of maturity of the child and nature of the walk to and from school.
- ✓ Parents who live near-by should walk or take other healthy routes to school if at all possible. We would ask those who do need to drive to help keep pedestrians and other road users safe and to help us to maintain positive relationships with our neighbours, by using the park and ride facility (for which the school pays an annual sum) at the Indoor Bowls Club, just off Waldegrave Park and by not blocking drives, nor parking on pavements or near to junctions on any of the surrounding roads.

Enrichment Clubs

All clubs start Monday 16th September unless you are informed otherwise.

Diary Dates

We have included below a list of events for the coming year which we hope parents will find useful. In some cases, dates are provisional or we await confirmation from other partners before they can be set. The list will be updated each term and we will continue to show new events or amendments in red text.

September	4-10th	Settling in for new Reception children
	10 th	Meet the Teacher sessions: Y1-2 @ 2:45pm; Y3-6 @ 3:20pm
	11th	Reception pupils begin full-time
	17th	Parent helper meeting 9am
	12th	Reception Meet The Teacher session 9am - hall
	18 th	Peace Day service - some Y6 attending
	19 th	<i>Girls Basketball Festival 1-4pm Y6</i>
	23rd	Reception Stay and Play sessions
	26 th	European Day of Languages – events to be held in school
	27th	9:15 to 10am –MacMillan Coffee Morning led by Rowan Class
	27th	2:15 to 3pm –MacMillan Coffee Afternoon led by Sycamore Class
October	7th	Mental Health Week
	TBC	Harvest Festival – date to be confirmed
	17 th	Tag Rugby Y5/6 @ HRFC 12-3pm
	22 nd	Rotary Shoebox appeal launch
	22 nd & 24 th	Parent Consultations
	24/25	Escape Room Maths challenge workshops – KS2
	25 th	Open Classrooms
November	4 th /6 th	Parent Rep meetings
	11 th	Anti-Bullying week
	12 th	Open morning 1 for 2020 Reception parents <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i>
	TBC	Children in Need
	7 th	Girls Football
	14 th	Cross Country pm
	21 st	Open morning 2 for 2020 Reception parents <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i>
		4 th
December	4 th	Harpenden Rotary Club Carol Service
	13th	Y1 Carol Service (in school) 2:30pm
	11 th & 12th	Y2 Nativity (2:30pm & 9am)
	11th	KS2 Carol Services (Methodist Church) 5pm and 6.30
	13 th	Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)
	w/b 16 th	EYFS Nativity
		13 th
January	13 th	Eco Week
	22nd	Young Voices
February	6 th	Tag rugby pm
	24 th	Change School Councillors
	25 th /26 th	Parent Rep meetings
	27th	KS2 SATs Parent Information Meeting 6.30pm
	w/b 10th	Arts Week
	13/14 th	Open classroom
March	5th	World Book Day
	9th	National Science Week
	23 rd & 25 th	Parents Consultations and mid-year reports
	26 th	Netball Rally
	TBC	Y6 football

	18 th	Spring Festival
April	2 nd	Community concert
	1 st and 2 nd	Speaker's Cup Final
	TBC	Chess Rally
May		KS1 Tests Take Place
	7 th	Y3/4 football
	11 th to 14 th	KS2 Test Week
	19 th	Sports Day
	(21st	Reserve Sports Day)
June		Transition visits for new EYFS children (pre school settings)
	4 th	Rounders tournament
	8 th to 12 th	Year 1 Phonics Screen Check
	18th	Kwik Cricket
	22nd	DT week
	29 th - 3 rd July	Y6 Residential
	30 th	District Sports
July	6th	Sports Week
	9th	Transition Day
	13 th & 14th	Y6 Production
	TBC	HBGT
	TBC	Parent Helpers Tea
	TBC	Y2 Music Festival
	TBC	Transition visits for new EYFS children (and parents)