



Weekly Newsletter

25 October 2019

Making learning an adventure

Our school value for this half-term is friendship



Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to thank the parents who organised and led the FoHBS discos last Friday and the staff who gave up part of their Friday evening to attend. These were managed as smoothly as ever and children really enjoyed themselves.

We have certainly had a busy last week of half-term in school. The week began with Year 6 transformed into a Victorian school room for the day, kindly helped by Mrs Faulkener, Jonah's Grandma, who came in role as schoolmistress, and brought to life by the children and staff dressing the part for the day.

On Tuesday, our Year 1 and 2 pupils participated in a puzzle workshop throughout the morning, investigating shape and number, which they particularly enjoyed. The children in Reception were treated to some Indian dance in the afternoon, as part of their work on Diwali, before performing to parents at the end of the day. Lastly, each class in Years 3 to 6 has experienced a *maths escape room* during the course of yesterday and today where they compete against the clock to solve a series of maths challenges to unlock a series of padlocks.

It has also been a pleasure to see the great majority of our parents at the consultations this week, where you have been able to find out how your child has settled into their current year group and what their priorities and targets are for the coming months.

School Development Plan 2019/20

The governing body and school leadership continuously review the effectiveness of the school and lead the process of ongoing improvement. This takes account of pupil outcomes, the most recent OFSTED inspection and support from other partners such as Herts for Learning. As part of this process we identify improvement and development priorities for the school each year. This year, the key priorities are as follows:

- To review and develop the curriculum, ensuring it maximises opportunities for all pupils.
- To improve the effectiveness of assessment and reporting procedures.
- To develop pupil well-being as a key strength of the school.
- To prioritise staff well-being and workload.

More information can be found in our school development plan which is available from our website [here](#). I would like to wish all the children, their families and the staff team an enjoyable and restful half-term break.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher



FoHBS News

Thanks to all those who have donated uniform for recycling this week.

Don't forget that our annual Christmas Fair on Sunday 8 December from 2 to 4:30pm. We are looking for volunteers to do face painting at the fair. We will provide materials and designs to work from. If you are happy to do a shift, please contact us at contact.fohbs@gmail.com.

Commemorative tea towels available for order now!

These tea towels are decorated with self-portraits of all the children and staff presently at the school. They make great gifts or a memento of your child / children during their time at High Beeches Primary School. All orders will be fulfilled in time for Christmas! Orders will be accepted until Friday November 8th. For information and order details please visit our [ticket sales site](#).

Discounted pantomime tickets for High Beeches families!

Oh yes it is! Beauty and the Beast, Harpenden Public Halls...As you will already know, school is not attending a local pantomime this year, but will instead have a visiting pantomime at school. So, if you are looking for a panto to go to with friends and or family, FoHBS is delighted to be able to offer you discounted tickets for post Christmas performances of Beauty and the Beast at Harpenden Public Halls. Online tickets normally cost somewhere between £13 and £15 but we're able to offer you a limited number of tickets **costing just £10 each (for children and adults)**. This gives you a great discount and as a small donation is made to FoHBS with each purchase you're also able to support our School! These tickets are only available on select dates and performances: 27th December 2.30pm, 28th December 2.30 pm & 6pm, 29th December 2.30pm & 6pm, 30th December 2.30pm.

If you would like to take up this offer, please click [here](#) and get your orders in by midnight on Wednesday November 6th.

Celebrating Success

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- **Reception Chestnut Class** Marcin – for having a positive week and trying hard in learning
Oscar – trying hard to achieve his target
- **Reception Oak Class** Edward – for showing his value of friendship and helping his friends
Milan – for working so hard with speaking English
- **Year 1 Elm Class** Sophie – for being a kind and helpful friend
Max – for working really hard and pushing himself in Maths
- **Year 1 Cedar Class** William – for an excellent effort with creative writing
Erik – for being a responsible and friendly member of the class
- **Year 2 Hazel Class** Henry – for putting lots of effort into his work
Sienna – for showing the values of resilience and kindness
- **Year 2 Willow Class** Immy – for aiming high and trying hard
Jack G – for always working to the best of his ability and sharing our value of friendship
- **Year 3 Birch Class** Sophie – for settling in to Birch class so well
Henry – for working hard in all subjects
- **Year 3 Redwood Class** Amy – for being more independent and challenging herself
Rose – for scientific thinking this week
- **Year 4 Maple Class** Issie – for being resilient and kind
Jenson – for supporting his friends learning Roman numerals
- **Year 4 Pine Class** Lois – for always pushing herself
Callum – for being a kind and helpful friend
- **Year 5 Ash Class** Timo – for showing friendship to all his learning partners
Rory – for showing great enthusiasm for all his learning
- **Year 5 Hawthorn Class** Ella – for making vast leaps in Maths by showing a super Growth Mindset
Theo – for always being really kind and a super friend to everyone
- **Year 6 Sycamore Class** Oliver F – for excellent work in Maths
Cassie – for really good work in English
- **Year 6 Rowan Class** Izzy T – for pushing herself and working hard to improve her skills
Alfie – for maintaining an excellent standard of homework throughout the half term

Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

No 100% this week!

Making the Most of Milk

The Eco Team are trying to help reduce waste around the school in a number of ways. One such way is in ensuring that free milk, and that ordered by parents once children have turned 5, is used up before the next delivery. However, we are still finding that there is a small surplus of milk cartons that cannot be kept once the next delivery arrives. Rather than throw this away, we will be offering it to parents, free of charge, outside school on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Help and Support

Parents who may have a concern about a child or young person and wish to discuss a potential referral to either Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy or Speech & Language Therapy are invited to contact the new Children and Young People's Therapies Advice Line on 01992 823093.

Moving to Secondary School September 2020 – FINAL REMINDER

Parents of children in Year 6 are reminded that the deadline for applications to secondary schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of **Thursday 31st October 2019**. It is recommended that parents complete it by **Friday 25th October**, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Although there is some provision to make an application on paper (by requesting a printed version of the website information and application form from the Admissions and Transport Team), parents are advised to apply online [here](#). Any pupils whose home address is in a different local authority (such as Bedfordshire), must apply via their website.

Rotary Shoebox Appeal

An email was sent out this week explaining the Rotary Shoebox appeal. Boxes are available to purchase from the school office for £2 each. Please return them by Wednesday 6th November, a lovely project for the half term.

School Photographs

There has been a problem with the online booking system at Vancols. The deadline is extended to 5th November.

Parking

Reminder: Please do not park/turn around/drop off in the staff car park after 8.15am and before 4.30pm. Also, don't forget to park in our park and stride at Waldegrave Park, near the bowls club. Thank you.

Poppy Appeal

We will be selling poppies from Monday 4th November from the school office and our school councillors will be taking them around the classes for children to buy. Suggested donation is 50p or more please.

Lost property

We have a huge amount of lost property – lots of un-named items! Please check the lost property bin regularly as any left at the end of a full term will be disposed of. Please ensure all items are clearly named, this includes water bottles, pencil cases, watches, tights etc.

Diary Dates

Any amendments or additions to those previously published are shown in red text.

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| November | 4 th | School opens for Autumn 2 |
| | 4 th /6 th | Parent Rep meetings - 9am |
| | 11 th | Anti-Bullying week |
| | 12 th | Open morning 1 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i> |
| | TBC | Children in Need |
| | 13 th | St Alban's Rehearsal Orchestra concert in school |
| | 7 th | Girls Football |
| | 14 th | Cross Country pm |
| | 21 st | Open morning 2 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i> |
| December | 4 th | Open morning 3 for 2020 Reception parents 9.30am - 10.30am <i>Places are limited. Please book through the school office.</i> |
| | 4 th | Harpenden Rotary Club Carol Service |
| | 8 th | 2 to 4:30pm – FOHBS Christmas Fair |
| | 11 th | Christmas Treat Day: Visiting Pantomime and Christmas lunch |
| | 11 th | KS2 Carol Services (Methodist Church) 5pm and 6.30 |
| | 12 th | 2:30pm - Reception Nativity Play |
| | 13 th | 9:15am - Reception Nativity Play |
| | 13 th | Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children) |
| | 13 th | Y1 Carol Service (in school) 2:30pm |
| | 17 th | 2:30pm Y2 Nativity |
| | 18 th | 9:15am Y2 Nativity |
| | 20 th | School closes for Christmas holiday at 2pm |