



*"Making learning an adventure"*  
26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

*Our value for this half term is Cooperation*

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **High Beeches news**

We come to the end of the first half term of this academic year. As I wander around the school, the children are always well focused and engaged on their learning and very keen to chat about their activities. I know they are all excited about the Discos this afternoon. A big thank you to FoHBS for the Discos and all their hard work so far this year.

Another huge thank you from me to the wonderful staff team at High Beeches who all work so very hard every day for the children.

I hope that you all enjoy a really lovely half term break and I look forward to seeing you again in November.

### **Non uniform day**

Thank you for your kind donations for non uniform day. Our total is an amazing £220.60.

### **Values**

Our school value after half term is Empathy. Please have a discussion with your child about Empathy and how they can show it in their behaviour towards others.

### **Katharine Warrington**

As you will be aware, the window for applications for secondary school closes on **31st October** and we have half-term before that. The application process for the Katherine Warrington School is separate to the 4 preferences permissible by HCC this year. The Katherine Warrington application is an additional choice for parents this year. Application forms can be completed by visiting [www.kwschool.co.uk/admissions](http://www.kwschool.co.uk/admissions) and submitted to HCC. On national offer day on March 1st 2019, places permitting, parents can decide to accept one of the preferences or Katherine Warrington.

### **Fortnite**

We are aware that some children in our school play the online game 'Fortnite' and are using it to communicate with each other. From an online safety point of view, the children have no idea who they are inviting into their group chat so this is concerning. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that it has an advisory PEGI rating of 12 years old.



If your child plays this game, please ensure that you are aware of the reasons for this rating and the unmoderated nature of some of the gameplay.

Below are some useful links to articles about the game and how to ensure your child stays safe online.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale>

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/fortnite-everything-you-need-know-about-online-game>

### **FoHBS news**

We are very sorry we had to cancel the Beverage Banter and a Little bit of Magic evening.

In other news we would just like to let you know that in support of the school trying to save money on paper and caring for the environment we will be sending out correspondence by e-mail going forward. Many of you have expressed that you prefer the paper leaflets in book bags/rucksacks but with so many pupils now this is such a waste of resources. We will also be using Gateway to pay for FoHBS events such as the disco, quiz, and as you know tea towels at the moment - we would like to eliminate paper wastage in the future. We would really appreciate you supporting us by using Gateway where possible.

We will be sending out order forms after half term but FoHBS are delighted to tell you we will be part of the Christmas Tree fundraising event again this year. The trees are beautiful and freshly cut. For a small delivery fee you can have your tree delivered to your home. Online ordering is now open. Each tree that is ordered earns a £10 donation for High Beeches.

<https://foha.ecwid.com/>

Thanks for your support and have a lovely half term.

### **PE Lessons**

Please can we ask that all children have a spare pair of socks in their PE bags.

### **School Dinner Payments**

The School Gateway item to pay for School Dinners up to Christmas will be available from Saturday 27 October. The children's individual dinner invoices will be sent out in the first few days back after half term, but there is no need to wait for the invoice before paying! The system allows for multiple payments to help spread the cost. However, there is still a deadline date, when all payments are required, of Friday 23rd November. For your information, Herts Catering actually request payment up front for all school meals. However, as a school we try and be more understanding to our parents and allow a few weeks in which to pay - but please help us by paying by the deadline stated. We do not enjoy chasing for dinner money payments! From next half term we will be trialling a system where text messages will be sent when your child's dinner money account drops below a certain level of debt, to remind you that a payment is due.

### **Parents/Carers using Jousters**

Can we please ask that parents/carers using Jousters use the correct gates ie entrance and exit. Unfortunately we need to change the timings for the use of the staff car park due to the lack of parking spaces for staff. Please only park in the staff car park between the hours of 7.30am to 8.15am and from 4.30pm onwards. Thank you.



## **Pupil achievement**

### **Headteacher awards**

#### **Oak**

*Sienna- for working hard at forming her letters correctly*

*Kia- for working so hard at blending words*

#### **Chestnut**

*Isla- for showing a good growth mindset and persevering to write words*

*Dillon- for always smiling and trying his best in everything he does*

#### **Elm**

*Amelia- for showing a positive attitude to learning*

*Ernie- for always showing school values and trying his best*

#### **Cedar**

*Izzy- for always putting effort into his work*

*Caleb- for putting lots of effort into his handwriting*

#### **Hazel**

*Eva- for challenging herself with her number bonds*

*Elliott- for working well with others-particularly in maths*

#### **Willow**

*Harrison- for showing a positive attitude to learning*

*Scarlett- for showing a positive attitude to learning*

#### **Birch**

*Joshua- for always cooperating well with others*

*Rosie- for settling into Birch class so well*

#### **Redwood**

*Ailbhe- for sharing her fascinating fossils with us all*

*Brendan- for being composed and making good decisions in PE*

#### **Maple**

*Bobo- for a positive attitude to all his learning*

*Leo- for an excellent attitude to spellings and writing*

#### **Pine**

*Jack- for working hard to improve his handwriting*

*Annabelle- for always being a positive role model in class*

#### **Ash**

*Alexandra- for creative work in English role play*

*Lexi-Mae- for cooperating well with others*

#### **Hawthorn**

*Cassie- for always being so caring and generous towards others*

*Clara- for creativity and imagination in her learning log project*

#### **Sycamore**

*Annabel- for working cooperatively in a group and with her learning partner*

*Douglas- for working really hard in maths*

*Have a really wonderful half term holiday,*

*Best wishes,*

*S. Lawrence*

Headteacher

**Diary dates-updates in red**

29<sup>th</sup> October- 2<sup>ND</sup> November- Half term

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November- Pizza Express trip year 2

8<sup>th</sup> November-Maple and Pine Coffee morning

8<sup>th</sup> November- Pizza Express trip year 2

12<sup>th</sup> November- Reception- year 5 Flu vaccines

Tues 13 Nov Y1/2 parents- maths workshop – 8.45am for 9.00am start

Thurs 15 Nov Y3/4 parents maths workshop – 8.45am for 9.00am start

Fri 16 Nov Y5/6 parents- maths workshop – 8.45am for 9.00am start

14<sup>th</sup> November-open morning for September 2019 starters

16<sup>th</sup> November – Beverage, Banter and a little bit of Magic FoHBS Social event

20<sup>th</sup> November- open morning for September 2019 starters

22<sup>nd</sup> November-Willow and Hazel coffee morning

29<sup>th</sup> November-Elm and Cedar coffee morning

3<sup>rd</sup> December- Occasional day

5<sup>th</sup> December- Harpenden and District Rotary Carols

**6<sup>th</sup> December-Red and Yellow house KS2 Carol Concert**

**10<sup>th</sup> December- Blue and Green house KS2 Carol Concert**

7<sup>th</sup> December- open morning for September 2019 starters

9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair

11<sup>th</sup> December- Panto trip

12<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm- EYFS nativity

13<sup>th</sup> December 9.15- EYFS nativity

**14<sup>th</sup> December- Christmas Jumper day**

14<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm- Year 1 Carols around the tree

19<sup>th</sup> December 2pm- Year 2 Nativity

20<sup>th</sup> December 2pm- Year 2 Nativity

21<sup>st</sup> December 2pm- End of term

**7<sup>th</sup> January INSET**

**8<sup>th</sup> January- term starts for children**

**17<sup>th</sup> January- Castles workshop at school for year 1**

**21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January- Viking workshops**

**24<sup>th</sup> January- Roma workshop 31<sup>st</sup> January- Young voices- more info to follow**



