



"Making learning an adventure"
9th November 2018

Our value for this half term is Empathy

Dear Parents/Carers,

High Beeches news

Welcome back after the half term break! I hope that you all enjoyed a lovely week with your families.

This week we hosted the Harpenden and District Chess tournament at High Beeches. Our children participated enthusiastically and played well. Year 2 visited Pizza Express and our girls football team played in the Football rally on Thursday. They competed well and came 2nd in their group! Well done to all our very active children this week.

In assemblies this week, we reflected upon Divali and Remembrance and also introduced our new value which is Empathy.

Miss Jackson

Huge congratulations to Miss Jackson who has performed brilliantly this week in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at the Alban Arena with the St Albans musical theatre company. Year 3 enjoyed a lovely trip to go and see her on Wednesday afternoon.

Nasal flu spray

The nurses will be at school all day on Monday 12th November to administer nasal flu spray. Parents should already have returned completed forms for this. Parents do not need to be in attendance.

A very important message from St Helen's

What games should I buy for my child this Christmas?

We're the VSC Rating Board whose job it is to review every video game released in the UK and then apply an appropriate age rating. We do this using the PEGI rating system – you've probably seen our symbols on game packaging. Our ratings aim to ensure that you get to make informed buying decisions for your children.

We will be giving a presentation on our work and how you can keep your children safe in the gaming world:

7pm Wednesday 21st November



St. Helen's CE VA Primary School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AN

We would urge you to come along and attend our presentation. We are sure that you will find it useful and informative. We're keen to show you, with video examples, why we rate games, including some of the more mature games as we do. It will also give you a chance to let us, the UK video games regulator, answer any questions you may have about video games and your kids' gaming habits. Most importantly, we can go through any games that are on your children's Christmas list and explain what PEGI rating it received and why!

Due to the nature of the content, this presentation is for adults only. Hope to see your there!

Rotary shoeboxes

Please ensure you return them to school by **Monday 12th December**.

FoHBS news

A big thank you to Hannah Archer and her team for organising a great disco at the end of last half term.

Just a reminder that the Beverages, Banter and a little bit of magic night has been cancelled .Please support FOHBS by purchasing your Christmas Tree via <https://foha.ecwid.com/> For each tree ordered we will receive £10 for the school. They are fantastic quality and for a small fee can be delivered to your home. Paper order forms can also be collected from outside the school office.

Look out for our Christmas newsletter next week detailing donations (what/when/where) for the Christmas Fair.

Save the date for the Christmas Fair- Sunday 9th December 2pm-4.30pm.

Orders

Please note that orders for tea towels, photographs and Christmas cards are now all closed.

Maths workshops

These take place next week. They will all start at 8.45 for 9am and will last no longer than 30 minutes. Phase leaders will be sharing strategies used in the teaching of maths to support children.

Tuesday 13th years 1 and 2

Thursday 15th Years 3 and 4

Friday 16th Years 5 and 6

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.

Pupil achievement

Well done to Annabelle in Year 4 Pine class for completing her ASA Stage 10 swim level.

Headteacher awards

Oak

Agnes for working so hard at maths

Sophie for never giving up

Chestnut

Millie for working hard in phonics

Matthew for trying hard with writing

Elm

Alice for settling into HB so well

Logan for showing enthusiasm and settling into HB so well

Cedar

Sophia for a beautiful piece of writing

Hudson for settling into HB so well

Hazel

Celia for working hard in maths

Edward for always trying his best in everything he does

Willow

Maya for approaching tasks with resilience and always trying her best.

Lucas for approaching tasks with resilience and always trying his best.

Birch

Blake for working really hard in class

Sophia for showing empathy and understanding for other people

Redwood

Sam for working really hard and making good progress in maths

Anish for working really hard and making good progress in maths

Maple

James T for his fantastic understanding and explanations in science

Harry B for showing empathy and being a supportive friend

Pine

Olivia for setting a good example by always working hard

Ethan for setting a good example by always working hard

Ash

Ollie for showing great determination in English

William for showing empathy to others after the football match

Hawthorn- double next week as Miss Wills was ill on Friday



Sycamore

Raphael for always striving to do her best work in maths

William for a fantastic attitude to learning

Have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes,

S. Lawrence

Headteacher

Diary dates-**updates in red**

12th 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

14th November-open morning for September 2019 starters

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

20th November- open morning for September 2019 starters

22nd November-Willow and Hazel coffee morning

29th November-Elm and Cedar coffee morning

3rd December- Occasional day

5th December- Harpenden and District Rotary Carols

6th December-Red and Yellow house KS2 Carol Concert

10th December- Blue and Green house KS2 Carol Concert

7th December- open morning for September 2019 starters

9th December – Christmas Fair

11th December- Panto trip

12th December 2.30pm- EYFS nativity

13th December 9.15- EYFS nativity

14th December- Christmas Jumper day

14th December 2.30pm- Year 1 Carols around the tree

19th December 2pm- Year 2 Nativity

20th December 2pm- Year 2 Nativity

21st December 2pm- End of term

7th January INSET

8th January- term starts for children

17th January- Castles workshop at school for year 1

21st and 22nd January- Viking workshops

24th January- Roman workshop

31st January- Young voices- more info to follow



