



*"Making learning an adventure"*  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

*Our value for this half term is Empathy*

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **High Beeches news**

The weeks are flying by as we approach Christmas at High Beeches! The children are starting to learn lines and sing beautiful Christmas music. This week our reception children enjoyed a visit from some beautiful Owls and discovered lots about nocturnal creatures. Also Chestnut and Oak parents and children had some very useful road safety training too!

Around school, children have been working hard and as always have been extremely productive!

### **Letter from Nick Gibb- Minister of State for School Standards**

I am pleased, and very proud, to inform you that for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row we have received a letter from Nick Gibb congratulating the children and staff on our success in the year 1 phonics test. 95% of our pupils reached the required standard which puts High Beeches in the top 9% of all Primary schools in the Country.

*"Your success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation in reading, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of learning".*

I am sure you join me in congratulating our amazing staff on their continued success.

### **Sir John Lawes Consultation**

The Scholars' Education Trust and the Admissions Committee for Sir John Lawes school are currently determining proposed admission arrangements for September 2020. Please see the link below so that you can contribute to the consultations if you wish to do so.

**<https://www.sjl.herts.sch.uk/782/admissions>**

### **Luton and Dunstable Neonatal ICU**

I am really pleased to inform you that High Beeches donated £279.12 to the unit from our non uniform day before the FoHBS disco.



## **Illness**

There are rather a lot of nasty bugs going around school at the moment affecting both children and staff. If your child succumbs to something, please try to ensure that they return to school when they are better to try to stop anything spreading. Thank you for your help and support with this.

## **100% attendance this week**

Congratulations to Birch and Sycamore class this week on 100% attendance.

## **School Development Plan**

It gives me pleasure to share with you our areas of focus for this academic year. We decide upon our focus areas based on a thorough evaluation of the school.

- 1. To secure excellent teaching, learning and progression in maths to ensure that pupils across the school achieve well.**
- 2. To achieve Values based school accreditation ensuring that VbE is embedded across the school culture and within our whole school community**
- 3. Improve the effectiveness of Early Years provision to ensure that provision moves towards outstanding and all children reach their potential.**
- 4. To strengthen leadership across the school at all levels so that provision impacts positively on pupil achievement**

## **FoHBS news**

We start collecting donations for our Christmas fair next week. Tubs will be in the school reception area from Monday for your Secrets room presents, Luxury food/gift hamper items and second hand books and toys donations.

Please return Christmas hamper raffle tickets and payment or unused tickets to the FOHBS box in school reception.

## **Ofsted Parentview**

Just a reminder that at High Beeches we constantly reflect on our provision and it is always good to have feedback. If you get a moment, please contribute to the Parentview survey on the Ofsted website. Governors will also be sending out a more detailed questionnaire in February 2019 to gather views.

**<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>**

## **Pupil achievement**

Congratulations to:

Emilia in Hawthorn passed her National Ice Skating Association Level 1 field moves exam..

## **Headteacher awards**

### **Oak**

*Elise for showing Growth mindset in number formation*

*Luella for showing empathy to her learning partner*



### **Chestnut**

*Ruby for showing a good attitude to learning and good progress in reading*

*Sam for showing good progress in reading*

### **Elm**

*Olivia for putting lots of effort into her writing*

*George for trying his best and being a kind friend*

### **Cedar**

*Jasmine for always challenging herself in maths*

*Marnie for always showing empathy*

### **Hazel**

*Daniel for always showing kindness and empathy*

*Archie for showing great cooperation in maths and working with his learning partner*

### **Willow**

*Tom for approaching tasks with resilience and always trying his best*

*Erin for putting lots of effort into her work and showing resilience*

### **Birch**

*Lois for showing our value of empathy this week*

*Aiden for being a determined learner and completing a lovely Governor's cup entry*

### **Redwood**

*Luis for working really hard to progress in reading*

*Henry for being an empathetic friend to others*

### **Maple**

*Sam for always showing empathy and determination*

*Ella for determination and resilience in Maths*

### **Pine**

*Tristen for showing an excellent attitude towards his English and Maths work*

*Henry for setting a good example by working hard during lesson time*

### **Ash**

*Oliver for showing Growth Mindset in English and Maths*

*Thomas for working well with others and showing empathy*

### **Hawthorn**

*Louis for working hard in all lessons*

*Jonah for always being helpful*

### **Sycamore**

*Joanne for having an excellent attitude to her learning*

*Daisy for working hard in all subjects and always doing her best*

*Have a lovely weekend,*

*Best wishes,*

*S. Lawrence*

Headteacher

**Diary dates-updates in red**

- 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
- 7<sup>th</sup> December- open morning for September 2019 starters
- 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair
- 10<sup>th</sup> December- Blue and Green house KS2 Carol Concert
- 10<sup>th</sup> December-14<sup>th</sup> December- Book 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
- 18<sup>th</sup> December- School Christmas lunch
- 19<sup>th</sup> December 9am- Governor’s Cup assembly
- 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- Roman workshop
- 31<sup>st</sup> January-Fire of London workshop
- 31<sup>st</sup> January- Young voices- more info to follow
- 5<sup>th</sup> February- drama workshop
- 8<sup>th</sup> February- Movie night
- 11<sup>th</sup> February- Year 5 K’nex challenge tbc
- 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February- half term
- 25<sup>th</sup> February- school starts
- 14<sup>th</sup> March- Year 2 trip to Living rainforest tbc
- 15<sup>th</sup> March- Year 5 trip to Duxford
- 20<sup>th</sup> March- Spring Festival
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March-Quiz night FoHBS
- 29<sup>th</sup> March- FoHBS disco
- 1<sup>st</sup> April- Year 3 British museum trip
- 4<sup>th</sup> April- Community Concert
- 5<sup>th</sup> April- Break up for Easter
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April- INSET day
- 24<sup>th</sup> April- Children back

