



WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News



The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 9

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

30th January 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

We are looking to develop the ways we are communicating with parents and carers in our ever changing world. At the moment, we have our website, blogging, our Facebook page, Wisepay emails and a paper copy of the newsletter. We are also now considering introducing an App for your smartphone, which will have everything in one place.

We would like to hear your views about how you would like us to communicate with you. Do we still need a paper newsletter? Would you use a smartphone App? Do you like our website? Please come along to the next Parent Forum meeting which is on 12th February at 2pm in the Family Room and we will discuss all these issues.

Robert Staples
Headteacher

YEAR 6 REMEMBER THE HOLOCAUST

Yesterday Year 6 went to Thomas Alleyne's School and found out more about Holocaust Remembrance Week.

They took part in lots of interesting activities, which were very poignant and informative, and gained a good understanding of why it is important to remember history of such magnitude.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Lots of classes in the school have been discussing the weather in French, with our growing bank of phrases. This week we have been learning 'il fait chaud' which means it is hot. Unfortunately, we may have to wait another couple of weeks before we can use this spontaneously. Next week we will be learning 'il y a des nuages' which means it is cloudy.

WHAT GOES ON IN YEAR 1?

On **Thursday 5th February**, from **5pm** in the **lower building hall**, there will be a short presentation and Q&A session to inform parents about transition from EYFS to Year One and onto Year Two, the New National Curriculum for 2014, what happens in the school day and other day to day things. A crèche will be provided.

PARENT FORUM

The next Parent Forum will take place at **2.00pm on Thursday 12th February** in the **Family Room**. This will be run by Miss Bridge (Year 5/6 Assistant Head & Mr Brewis (Year 3/4 Assistant Head).

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING NURSERY SCHOOL IN 2015/16?

If your child was born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012 you can apply for a nursery place for the school year 2015-16 **from Monday 9th February**.

The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **application deadline 20th March 2015**. Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line or would like help with their application are welcome to use a school computer. Please contact Mrs Wilson in the lower building office first to arrange a convenient time.

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers are now being issued in store until 5th May. This is a great scheme which enables us to claim lots of free equipment for the school. Please send your vouchers into school and ask all your family and friends to collect them for us too.

ATTENDANCE AWARD

	w/c 12/01	w/c 19/01
ASH	95.3	90.7
BEECH	94.3	86.7
BIRCH	95	92.7
CHERRY	94.8	94.3
CHESTNUT	84.7	96.7
CEDAR	87.9	94.3
ELDER	95.9	97.3
ELM	90.7	93
FIR	96	97.3
HAZEL	97.3	94.3
HORNBEAM	95.0	90.3
LIME	95.9	94.7
LARCH	89.3	93.3
PINE	96.5	98.3
POPLAR	95.2	96.7
WHITEBEAM	95.4	99
WILLOW	94.4	94.3

EMERGENCY CLOSURE PROCEDURES

In the event of extreme weather, please be reassured that **we will do everything in our power to stay open**. We will only close if:

- risk assessments indicate that it is unsafe for children & parents to access the site,
- not enough staff are able to attend their workplace, again leading to unsafe levels of supervision for the children.

It is always a difficult decision to make to close school and we do appreciate the impact it has, particularly on working parents. **Where possible**, in order to help you plan childcare, a decision will be made **between noon and 3pm the day before closure** and a **wisepay notification** will be issued.

If you are unsure about whether the school is open, you should:

- Check the school **website**
- Check www.hertsdirect.org
- Listen to **106 Jack FM** – if we are not mentioned, then the school is open.
- Check the **notice** on front of the **school gate**

Only if we close early once the school day has started will parents be contacted individually and asked to collect their child. We will always try to avoid this situation happening.

STEVENAGE CREDIT UNION

The Credit Union is run at Fairlands School in the **Dining Hall** every **Tuesday at 3.15pm** – come along and find out more.

The Stevenage Credit Union is a savings club which collects from a number of schools in Stevenage and enables the children to learn about cash handling at an early age.

We also encourage parents to join as adult members – it's an ideal way to save for holidays, birthdays, Christmas, etc. There is no limit to the amount you can save and you can withdraw the money whenever you want it.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/15

Thurs 5 th Feb 2.30pm	Year 1 Parents/Carers' Class Assembly
Thurs 12 th Feb 2pm	Parent/Carer Forum Mr Brewis & Miss Bridge
Thurs 12 th Feb 2.30pm	Year 2 Parents/Carers Class Assembly
Mon 16 th – Friday 20 th Feb	Half Term
Thursday 26 th Feb 2.30pm	Year 3 Parents/Carers' Class Assembly
Thursday 5 th March 2.30pm	Year 4 Parents/Carers' Class Assembly
Tues 10 th March 5.30- 8.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Weds 11 th March 3.30 – 6.00pm	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thurs 12 th March 9am	Parent/Carer Forum Miss Bridge & Miss Thompson
Thursday 12 th March 2.30pm	Year 5 Parents/Carers' Class Assembly
Thursday 19 th March 2.30pm	Year 6 Parents/Carers' Class Assembly
Weds 1 st April 2pm	Parent/Carer Forum Miss Thompson & Mrs Yendell
Thursday 2 nd April	Last day of term: 2.15pm finish
Friday 3 rd – Friday 17 th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 20 th April	INSET Day – School Closed