

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 2

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21st September 2007

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent Welcome meetings at the start of term – these are important meetings where information is shared about the year ahead, including details about what the children will be learning and how you can support them at home. If you were unable to come along, please feel free to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher at another time.

Robert Staples
Headteacher

BELL RINGING TIMES

A problem has been highlighted in Parent Forum for parents who have children in both KS1 and KS2, regarding not being able to be in two places at once when the morning bells are rung at 8.50am in both playgrounds!

In order to help with this, from next week the KS1 staff will ring their bell shortly **after** they have heard the KS2 bell. Hopefully, this will give parents a few more moments to make their way from the KS2 playground down to the KS1 playground.

YEAR 6 TRIP TO OVERSTRAND

Last week a group of Year 6 children travelled to Overstrand, Norfolk, for a week of fun and activities. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to Mrs Walker, Miss Franklin and Mr Horner for giving up their time to go along.

KS1 TRIP TO CLACTON-ON-SEA

On Tuesday Years 1 and 2 went to the seaside. The weather was great, not too hot and not too cold. The children paddled in the sea, played on the sand, visited the "Seaquarium", walked along the pier and, to get a true flavour of the seaside, ate an ice cream! They also watched a traditional Punch and Judy show, with an explanation of the tradition before the show. After the show children had a glimpse of how the puppets were made. Thankfully we managed to bring all the children back without any losing their fingers to "the crocodile", who put in an appearance on the beach at the end of the performance!

A quote from one child in Yr 2 "This is this best day of my life so far", so for at least one child the day was a huge success. The experience for all the children will support their learning in history and geography this term.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PARTY

The School Council finally got round to having their end of office party on Thursday, it having been postponed from last term. Pizza, jelly and games were enjoyed by eleven of last year's School Council. The new School Council will begin meeting shortly.

CRUCIAL CREW

On Thursday morning Year 6 went to Crucial Crew at Bowes Lyon House, where they took part in a range of group activities related to health and safety. The children were very well behaved and responded well to the activities. They all seemed to enjoy themselves and, hopefully, learned a lot.

Well done to Stefan Mullings, who was awarded 7 Personal Points (given for answering questions correctly), which is the most EVER awarded!

GAMES LIBRARY

Our Games Library is being extended and **help is needed!** If you are interested in helping in this exciting project please express this interest either by letting the school office know or by speaking to Mrs. V. Bradley. Your commitment to this project could be a matter of merely an hour or so, or it could be a more sustained contribution over the weeks. It would be entirely up to you and any help would be much appreciated.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to Poplar, who won the Attendance Award for the first full week back at school with 98.82% attendance.

YEAR 6 CAR WASH

Thank you to all of you who supported the Year 6 Car Wash on Tuesday and well done to the children and staff for their hard work. The money raised was £134, which will go towards paying for their SATs revision books this year.

FAMILY LEARNING / ENGLISH CLASSES

The classes will start again on **Tuesday, 25th September**, in the **Learning Room**, from **9 a.m. until approx 11 a.m.** As usual, they will be led by Manjula Niven (North Herts College tutor) and Mrs Smith (Fairlands Ethnic Minority Support teacher). All adult speakers of other languages, whether beginners in learning English or fluent English speakers, are very welcome. We look forward to seeing everyone again after the break and perhaps meeting some new faces.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be coming in on **Friday, 28th September**. All children will be photographed individually. If you require a family group photograph which includes pre-school children, please book an appointment on the board by the new KS2 main entrance.

CAR BOOT SALE

Don't forget the Friends of Fairlands Car Boot Sale – which takes place at the school on **Sunday, 30th September** from **12.00am to 2.00pm** (pitchholders from 11.00am). Cost **£5.00 per pitch**. Tel. 351053 to book a pitch.

BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair will be in school in the KS1 hall from **Friday, 5th to Wednesday 10th October**. Children will have an opportunity to view the books as a class during the day and can then return at the end of the school day to purchase them.

TESCO SPORT FOR SCHOOLS

This year's 'Sport for Schools' scheme is running until Sunday, 4th November. Please ask everyone you know to collect vouchers for us and send them into school. In the past, we have been able to claim some excellent new sports equipment through this scheme. **Can anyone volunteer to help count the vouchers?! Coffee & biscuits can always be provided!**

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

We currently have vacancies for 3 parent governors at Fairlands. All you need to be a parent governor is an interest in your children's education and the way in which the school is run.

Letters will be sent home shortly, asking for parents to stand for election - please think seriously about nominating yourself and come along to a **Coffee Morning** at the school on **Friday, 5th October**, where Teresa Callaghan and Sue Hurren, two of our present parent governors, will be delighted to answer any questions you may have, whether you wish to stand as a Governor or just wish to know more.

BSF AND TRANSPORT FOR STUDENTS TO THE PROPOSED GREAT ASHBY SECONDARY SCHOOL SITE

Many prospective secondary school parents are unaware of the promises that the County Council has made about transport to the proposed new secondary school site in Great Ashby.

In simple terms, the County Council have promised that they will put in place transitional arrangements for all students that have to relocate to a new site and so, parents can be confident that if children already attending a secondary school have to travel further when that school moves to the Great Ashby site, they will either be funded to do this, or transport will be arranged.

If it is the Thomas Alleyne School which moves to the new site (and that is the County Council's preferred and proposed option), their Governors have their own money as part of Thomas Alleyne's original legacy, which they will use to ensure a student who starts at this site will receive transport to the new site.

NESTLE BOX TOPS

The first banking period for Box Tops 8th – 19th October, so please send in any tokens you have at home by Monday, 8th and we can get an extra 20 bonus tokens!