

# WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

# Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 13

[www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk](http://www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk)

7<sup>th</sup> March 2008

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Goodness, what a lot has happened since our last newsletter! I almost don't know where to begin. With regard to the fire, things are coming along very quickly and we are hoping that the Year 3/4 classrooms will be back up and running for the new term after Easter. They are going to be completely redecorated and refurbished, so I am sure they will look very smart indeed. In the meantime, Year 6 will continue to work in the hall – this is actually working very well as the children are all studying together on SATS practice.

The Ofsted report will be out next week – I have seen the initial draft and we have done brilliantly. The report identifies all the fantastic strengths of the school and also gives us a few good pointers of what we need to work on next. We have come such a long way so quickly and this has been down to the hard work of all the staff and children. Well done!

**Robert Staples**  
Headteacher

### RECEPTION STAFFING

Thank you for your continued patience as we try to sort out the staffing issues in Reception. In the meantime, I would like to say an enormous thank you to Mrs Pateman and Mrs Walker, who are doing an excellent job holding the fort down there. Thank you too to the parents who have offered help and support, particularly with our new push to improve children's reading.

### FOUNDATION & KS1 EASTER EGG & SPOON RACE

On **Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March**, the School Council are holding a sponsored **Easter Egg & Spoon Obstacle Race** for **Foundatin & KS1**, to raise money to create a science garden & pond. Don't forget to bring your sponsor forms into school on that day! There will be a prize for the child who collects the most money!

### CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN WITH BARNARDOS

**KS2** children have been invited to take part in an **'Egg Care Challenge'** to help raise money for Barnardos. Full details and 'Egg Care' supporter envelopes were sent home yesterday. Children who wish to take part should bring their decorated, hard-boiled eggs to school **w/c Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March** in a suitable container for transporting a egg to and from school each day!

All envelopes received by **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April** will be entered into a prize draw to win a cuddly bear!

### CAR BOOT SALE IS CANCELLED

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the **Car Boot Sale** planned for this Sunday **has been cancelled**. Please accept our apologies for the short notice – we will let you know when the next one is as soon as possible.

### EASTER DISCO

The Friends of Fairlands are holding an Easter Disco on **Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March – Rec & KS1 5.00–6.00pm, KS2 6.45–8.00pm**. A letter will be sent home early next week with more details.

### ATTENDANCE AWARD



Congratulations to Hornbeam, who were awarded the cup for best attendance w/e 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb with 98.4% and to Pine, who won it last week with 98.1% attendance.

### EXTENDED SCHOOLS

On Tuesday, at a celebration of extended school services at Wheathamsstead Development Centre, Fairlands School was presented with a certificate to mark the achievement of reaching the full core offer as an extended school. We were, in fact, the first Primary School in our consortium to achieve this status. Our citation spoke of the special links we have with the Parentline Plus group and our pride in our strides to support parents.

## YEAR 5/6 FOOTBALL

Our Year 5/6 football team have been very busy over the last couple of weeks, playing away to Shephalbury Park (0-3) - 'Man of the Match' was Craig Jarvis (Poplar) and home to Roebuck (1-4) - Goal scorer Charlie Logan (Willow) and 'Man of the Match' Billy Smith (Pine). On Wednesday they played at home against Peartree (0-4), 'Man of the Match' Cam Mills (Willow) for excellent goal keeping. We only had 7 players for this last match, so well done to all of them for completing the game!

## CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted to announce that Miss Asby, had a baby boy last weekend. Oliver Matthew weighed in at a healthy 9lb 2oz.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

The School Council are going to run an **X-Factor Competition for KS2**. Entries will be 20p - look out for more details!

On a separate note, the School Council are concerned about the problem of headlice and would like to ask parents to :

- Check their child's hair regularly
- Treat hair immediately if headlice are found
- Tie long hair back

## SEX & RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION

Thanks to funding through the Extended Schools Consortium, we now have some books and resources which deal with Sex and Relationships Education which parents may like to use with their children. These may be borrowed by parents from the **Games Library** which opens **every Tuesday at 3.15 p.m. and every Friday at 8.50 a.m.** In addition the DVD Living and Growing, which forms a central part of our Sex and Relationships program at Fairlands may also be borrowed, again from the Games Library.

## STEVENAGE DANCE FESTIVAL

There are still tickets available for the Stevenage Dance Festival at the Gordon Craig on **Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> March**, which some of our Year 5/6 children are taking part in. You can book on-line at the Gordon Craig or call the box office on 233104.



## BRIDGE ROAD CHILDREN'S CENTRE OPEN WEEK

On Wednesday, as part of the official 'launch' of Bridge Road Children's Centre, Natasha Allen, a local community artist, worked with our Nursery children to create tiles for a mural that will be installed at the new Children's Centre building in Bridge Road.

**Bridge Road Children's Centre**, which will be officially opened by the Mayor & Mayoress, Councillor Graham and Mrs Dily Clark at 12.30pm on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, will be holding an 'Open Week' from **Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> March (8.30am to 4pm)**, at Woolenwick Infant & Nursery School, Bridge Road West, Stevenage. For more details visit [www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/bridgeroad](http://www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/bridgeroad)

## TESCO COMPUTERS FOR SCHOOLS

This year's scheme runs from **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March until Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May**. Shoppers will be issued with 1 voucher for every £10 they spend in store. **Can anyone spare some time to help count vouchers?** We would be very happy to provide coffee & biscuits if a group of parents would like to get together to do this for us in school!

## DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

W/c 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March 3.30 - 5.30pm	Reception Parent / Teacher Consultations
Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March 3.30 - 5.30pm	Reception Parent / Teacher Consultations
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> March 5.00-6.00pm Rec & KS1 6.45-8.00pm KS2	Friends of Fairlands' Easter Disco
Wednesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Foundation & KS1 Sponsored Easter Egg Race
Wednesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March 6.00pm	Cuffley Camp Meeting for Year 4 Parents
Thursday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day in- school celebrations
Thursday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Friday, 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Good Friday
Monday, 24 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET
Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school