

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 3

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

5th October 2007

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we are 5 weeks into the school year already! We have had a very good start to the term – the school is very settled and calm and I have been extremely pleased with the behaviour of the children as they move about the building.

Can I also take this opportunity to say well done to the children (and thank you to parents!) for coming to school in the correct uniform? There has been a dramatic improvement over the past year and the children are looking exceptionally smart. Let's keep it up!

Robert Staples
Headteacher

BOOK FAIR

Don't forget to visit the Book Fair, which is running in the KS1 hall from **today until Wednesday the 10th October**. Children will have an opportunity to view the books as a class during the day and can then return to purchase them after school between **3.30 and 4.00pm**. (Pre-paid vouchers are available to purchase on-line at www.travellingbooks.co.uk)

KEY STAGE 2 END OF DAY PROCEDURES

Please keep an eye out for a letter describing new arrangements for collecting your child at the end of the day in Key Stage 2.

Children will now be escorted by their teachers to be dismissed and met by their parents on the Lower Playground, so please wait for your child there, rather than coming into school to collect them.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Your child's school photograph proofs will have been sent home with them today. Please **return any orders** to school by **Thursday, 18th October**.

PARENT / TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Parent / Teacher Consultations will be taking place on **Monday, 15th (3.30 – 8.00pm) and Wednesday, 17th October (3.30 – 6.00pm)**. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and discuss with them how your child is progressing so far this year.

Appointment boards will be available in the Upper Building entrance area from **Monday, 8th October**. Please come in and sign up.

CAR BOOT SALE

Thank you to all sellers and buyers who turned up last Sunday to support our first Fairlands Car Boot Sale! It was a huge success for the first one and we managed to raise an amazing £260 for the school.

We intend to make the boot sale a regular feature during the year, so please spread the word as far as possible to draw in more buyers and sellers to the next one!

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 were sent home last week asking for parents to stand for election - please think seriously about nominating yourself and do not hesitate to speak to Mr Staples if you have any questions – nomination forms to be returned to school by **3.15 on Monday, 8th October**.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

The children will be having their Harvest Festival assembly on Wednesday next week. Please send your harvest gifts in on **Monday & Tuesday** of next week (please send any **fresh produce** items on **Wednesday** morning). Thank you for your support.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to Hazel, who won the Attendance Award with 99.6% attendance w/c 17th September, and to Willow, with 98% w/c last week.

KS2 ART AREA

A big thank you to Mr Dayton for all his hard work in refurbishing the KS2 Art Area – he has painted the walls and fitted the areas out with new cabinets and work surfaces and it looks wonderful!

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to Phoebe Swallow (Poplar) who has gained her Level 12, 800m and 1000m in swimming!

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN 2008-09?

If your child was born between 1st September 2003 and 31st August 2004 please apply now for a primary reception place for the school year 2008-2009.

Information has already been sent out to parents. If you have not received your pack, please telephone 01438 737500 (01923 471500 for 01923 callers) between 8am & 8pm from Mon – Fri & 9am – 4pm on Saturday. The quickest and easiest way to apply is on-line at www.hertsdirect/admissions - **Application deadline 2nd November 2007.**

Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line will be able to come into school on **Thursday, 18th October between 9.00am and 12.00pm** and use the school's computers in the ICT suit (KS2 building). A member of staff will be available to help!

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

October is International 'Walk to School Month'. We are having our 'Walk to School Week' from **Monday, 15th to Friday, 19th October**. This is an opportunity to leave the car at home or park a little distance away from school and walk to school together. It's good for your children, it's good for you, it's good for everyone and remember, it's free to walk!

STORYTELLING FOR ALL

A **free** storytelling event for both parents/carers and children will be held at **Stevenage Library** on **Saturday, 13th October** from **10.00am - 12.00pm**. Have fun telling stories with your children and make a story shield together – for more information and to book your place ask at the library or phone 01438 737333.

Stevenage Centre of Badminton Excellence SCOBE

SCOBE run badminton coachings sessions on Tuesday evenings at the Shephall Sports Centre in the grounds of Barnwell School as follows :

Specialist Coaching for 5-10yrs 6 - 7pm

General Club Coaching from 6 - 8pm

Selected Specialist Coaching from 8 - 9pm

£4.00 per hour – no need to book - just turn up in proper indoor sports gear (raquets will be provided)

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

Friday, 5 th – Wednesday, 10 th Oct 3.30 – 4.00pm	Book Fair in Lower Building Hall
Wednesday, 10 th Oct	Harvest Assembly
Monday, 15 th October 3.30 – 8.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Monday, 15 th October (am)	Year 5 to Cineworld
Wednesday, 17 th October 3.30 – 6.00pm	Parent / Teacher Consultations
Thursday, 18 th October	Last date to return photograph orders
Thursday, 18 th October 9.00am – 12.00pm	On-Line School Application Session (ICT Suit – Upper)
Friday 19 th October 9.15am	Parent Forum: On the Agenda - Homework Follow-up; Home- School-Child Agreement and the Future at Fairlands
Monday, 22 nd to Friday, 26 th October	Half Term
Monday, 29 th Oct – Friday 2 nd November	School Kitchen Closed
Wednesday, 31 st Oct	Halloween Disco
Monday 19 th November	Last date to receive uniform orders
Thursday, 6 th Dec	Rec & Year 5 to Cinderella Panto
Friday, 21 st December	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 7 th Jan, 2008	INSET Day
Tuesday, 8 th Jan, 2008	Return to school
Monday, 11 th to Friday, 15 th February 2008	Half Term
Thursday, 20 th March 2008	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 7 th April	INSET Day