

WE ARE 'REACHING HIGH'

Fairlands News

The newsletter of Fairlands Primary School and Nursery

Issue 8

www.fairlands.herts.sch.uk

21st December 2007

Dear Parents and Carers,

At last – Christmas is here! It has certainly been a very long and busy term and I am sure both staff and children are ready for a well-earned break – I know I am! Thank you so much to all the staff who have been organising all the Christmas concerts, performances and celebrations that have been happening over the last few weeks. I don't think I have ever known a school with so many activities taking place – it is really marvellous! Thank you also to parents, friends and family members who have turned out on some very cold days to support everything that has been going on.

It is also something of a personal anniversary for me, having completed my first year as headteacher at Fairlands. Looking back over the last year, I am truly proud of everything the staff and children have achieved since last January – we really have been 'Reaching High' together and I feel that the school is going from strength to strength! Thank you to everyone for all your support and encouragement during my first year.

So, may I take this opportunity to wish everybody **A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR** – we look forward to seeing you all back safe and sound on **Tuesday, 8th January 2008**.

Robert Staples
Headteacher

FAREWELL

Today we say 'Farewell and Thank You' to Mrs Hunt (Year 5), who has been on long term supply with us.

KS1 & FOUNDATION PERFORMANCE

The KS1 & Foundation performance of 'Are We Nearly There Yet' was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who watched it.

Thank you to the staff for their hard work on this production, to the Friends of Fairlands for providing refreshments and to the parents / carers who donated to Keech Cottage Hospice, which raised £100.

HOLY TRINITY

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, our KS2 children performed their Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church.

Thanks go to all the staff for their hard work, to the Rev. Geoff Tickner and Geoff Withers for their help and to all the parents / carers who joined us.

YEAR 5 & 6 CAROL SINGING

Years 5 & 6 performed their Carol Concert to shoppers in Stevenage Town Centre last Friday. Thank you to all of them for making the occasion such an enjoyable one.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to Pine, who won the award with 96.2% attendance w/c 3rd December, and to Hornbeam who won with 97.2% attendance last week.

HOME-SCHOOL-CHILD AGREEMENTS & RESPONSIBLE INTERNET USE FORMS

These letters were sent home with children at the beginning of December and there are still a **huge** number that have not been signed and returned to school.

Please look in your child's bag over the holiday and, if they have brought these letters home, sign them and put them back in their bag for when they return in January!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Very well done to Alice Hannaford (Hawthorn) who has passed her Preparatory Grade in Ballet with Honours, and to Charlotte Hannaford (Walnut) who has passed her Ballet Grade 2 and Bronze Group Tap, both with Commended.

DINNER MONEY

Dinner money for next half term will be as follows :

£1.65 per day / £8.25 per week / £39.60 for the half term.

Nursery Lunch Club : £3.40 per day (£1.85 for those entitled to Free School Meals)

Please send dinner money into school on a Friday or Monday morning, in an envelope clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Any change due under 10p will be credited to your child's account.

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING NURSERY IN 2008-09?

If your child was born between 1st September 2004 and 31st August 2005 please apply now for a nursery 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 25th January 2008.**

Parents who do not have the facility to apply on-line will be able to come into school on **Thursday, 10th January 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!

SORTING OUT ARGUMENTS IN THE FAMILY

Parentline Plus is running a **FREE** 7 week workshop on **Sorting out Arguments in the Family** at Fairlands School on **Wednesday, 23rd & 30th January, 6th & 20th Feb and 5th, 12th & 19th March from 9.15 – 11.15am.**

Please contact the school office to book a place or, for more info contact Sara Hassell on 01707 630100

INSET AND OCCASIONAL DAY'S HOLIDAY

Please note that school will be closed on the following dates next year : **Monday, 2nd June** INSET and **Friday, 20th June** Occasional Day's Holiday.

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

Monday, 7 th Jan, 2008	INSET Day
Tuesday, 8 th Jan, 2008	Return to school
Thursday, 10th January 9.00am – 12.15pm	Nursery On-Line Application Session
Thursday, 17th Jan 9.10am	Parent Forum
Monday, 11th to Friday, 15th February	Half Term
Thursday, 20th March	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish
Monday, 7th April	INSET Day
Friday, 21 st March	Good Friday
Monday, 24 th March to Friday, 4 th April	Easter Holiday
Monday, 7 th April	INSET
Monday, 5 th May	Bank Holiday
Monday, 12 th to Friday, 16 th May	YEAR 6 SATS
Monday, 2nd June	INSET
Friday, 20th June	Occasional Day's Holiday
Wednesday, 23 rd July	Last Day of Term : 2.15pm finish