



Weekly Newsletter

13 January 2023

Making learning a lifelong adventure

Our school value for this half-term is **KINDNESS** ❤️

Dear Parents/Carers

School Vision and Strategy

The governing body, as part of the school's leadership, works closely with school leaders and other staff to set and monitor the school's strategic vision. This includes setting priorities for the school to ensure that our pupils achieve the best possible outcomes. Our vision is *to build confidence in all our pupils to dream big and achieve more than they could ever imagine, developing the skills, creativity and versatility they need for life both now and in the future* and our strategic priorities are to (1) *prepare the High Beeches learning community for the future;* (2) *build formal and informal partnerships to acquire and share knowledge, develop opportunities and expand our pupils' horizons;* and (3) *maximise our facilities and provision.*

In order to strengthen our provision in line with the above priorities, we have been exploring the possibility of some additions and improvements to the older main school building (the Orchard Building). This has involved budget modeling and some initial feasibility work with a design consultancy, and we are now at the stage of undertaking more detailed plans and costings. Once this is complete, we hope to be able to undertake a building project that will provide some or all of the following.

- ✓ a new multi-use classroom to enrich the curriculum, particularly for the creative arts, science and technology
- ✓ new group/intervention spaces
- ✓ additional toilets, existing toilet refurbishment and improved access to toilets for children in Reception
- ✓ additional office/meeting space

Although we hope to be able to fund much of the cost of this project from the school budget, we have asked FoHBS to undertake to raise a contribution through their events and initiatives.

We look forward to providing more information for parents as the project develops and hope that this will ultimately be an opportunity to provide more opportunities for a rich and highly individualised curriculum for all of our pupils.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker
Headteacher

Sports Desk

Congratulations to our football teams who played friendly matches at Roundwood Primary School yesterday, the A Team drawing 1:1 and the B Team winning 3:2.

Headteacher Awards

Today we returned congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

• Reception Chestnut Class	Ayeza	For trying really hard in Phonics and beginning to blend
	Ellie	For always showing kindness and being a good friend
• Reception Oak Class	Annabel	For trying hard when writing a sentence about hopes and dreams for the new year!
	Joshua	For trying hard when writing a sentence about hopes and dreams for the new year!
• Year 1 Cedar Class	Cleo	For writing great sentences about how the characters were feeling in the Last Noo Noo.
	Sophie	For reading with such great expression.
• Year 1 Elm Class	Kody	For putting in so much effort into his writing.
	Emmeline	For writing some fantastic sentences in English this week.
• Year 2 Hazel Class	Yusuf	For producing an imaginative poem after being inspired by Into the Blue.
	Leoni	For crafting a beautiful poem by taking inspiration from Into the Blue.
	Angus	For a positive start to this term and for his lovely contributions to a class discussion in Computing.
• Year 2 Willow Class	Mia	For being a kind and supportive learning partner this week.
• Year 3 Birch Class	Freddie	For showing our school value of kindness when looking out for a friend who was feeling upset.
	Luke	For using his addition skills to calculate the perimeter of rectangles accurately.
• Year 3 Redwood Class	Kenzie	For his resilience when calculating the perimeter of shapes this week, including irregular polygons.
	Charlie	For his engagement and contribution to class discussion this week while starting our new book, Journey.
• Year 4 Maple Class	Chloe	For showing understanding and cooperation when working in a group.
	Matthew	For listening well to others and showing enthusiasm when working in a group.
	Calvin	For working so hard in maths and English this week! You took real care when converting a story into a playscript.
• Year 4 Pine Class	Harry	For including such interesting and detailed stage directions when converting a story to a playscript.
• Year 5 Ash Class	Ollie	For his detailed and well reasoned predictions in English based on clues in the text
	Kang	For his improved confidence particularly in PE
• Year 5 Hawthorn Class	Izzy	For her enthusiasm for our English text this week, prompting her to ask probing questions and seek out wider reading opportunities.
	Jasmine	For applying her knowledge of multiples effectively to help compare fractions in Maths.
• Year 6 Rowan Class	Isla	For taking feedback on board and experimenting with different painting techniques when working on Hokusai's Wave
	Emily and Naomi	For showing kindness and responsibility by volunteering to clean all the painting equipment
• Year 6 Sycamore Class	Timothy	For asking such insightful questions during our Science lesson all about the classification of living things.
	Jackson	For showing kindness by helping peers to understand a reasoning question during our Maths lesson (even staying behind at lunch to help).
• PE Awards Infants	Jacob	For excellent imagination and control when creating balances with a partner
	Jack	For excellent gymnastics knowledge and great ideas when inventing balances
• PE Awards Juniors	Ted	For excellent imagination and control when creating balances with a partner
	Hudson	For excellent imagination and control when creating balances with a partner

Community Matters

Message from St Albans Music School

Does your child play the Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Tuba, Bassoon, Recorder, Euphonium, Cornet, Tenor Horn? Join us at St Albans Music School for a fun-filled day of music making on **7 February 2023!**

Develop your musical skills, play together in an ensemble, build confidence, make new friends, find your musical voice, and generally have a great time! The day will culminate in a performance for parents at the school, helping us to develop our performing skills too. All primary aged wind players are welcome to attend this wonderful event. All abilities and skill levels welcomed from beginners upwards. The tickets will be **£24.54** per child.

Please note, this event takes place during school time at St Albans Music School - please obtain permission from your child's head teacher to attend the day.

St Albans Music School is based at Townsend School, High Oaks, St Albans AL3 6DR.

Places are limited and allocated on a first come first served basis so sign up quickly to avoid disappointment!

To join us, please visit us [here](#). If you have any queries, please email us on

stalbanmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk or visit our [website](#).

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Supporting Families

Parent Workshops

Please see separate flyer promoting a Harpenden Plus Partnership parenting workshop on anger management, that is taking place at High Beeches on 3 March.

Illness and School Attendance

We expect children to attend well and to be in school unless they are too ill to attend or unless there is a suspicion of their having picked-up something for which they are required to self-isolate. We recognise that, particularly since the pandemic, this has, on occasions, become quite a difficult judgement call. [This website](#) contains some useful guidance on making such a decision.

Friends of High Beeches

Co-Chairs: Laura Witts & Lissa Golaszewska

<https://www.highbeeches.herts.sch.uk/parents/fohbs>

Contact.fohbs@gmail.com

[Whats App](#)



NEW TREASURER NEEDED!

FoHBS needs a new treasurer to be able to continue!

Our current treasurer has now left the school.

FoHBS will be unable to continue without a treasurer.

Basic accounting knowledge (Cash accounting) and approximate commitment of 4 hours per term. Email contact.fohbs@gmail.com for more information.

NEW SECRETARY NEEDED!

FoHBS needs a new Secretary to be able to continue!

FoHBS will be unable to continue without a Secretary.

Minimal Time commitment: Taking minutes at quarterly meetings and adhoc secretarial updates as required. Role can be shared. Email contact.fohbs@gmail.com for more information.

We need your help!

If you enjoyed the Christmas fair and want the summer fair to go ahead WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Summer fair will ONLY be able to go ahead with your help. We need to form a committee of volunteers to help plan and run the summer fair. If you are interested please email us: contact.fohbs@gmail.com.

We have only had 1 Volunteer to help so far!

Golf Day

We are excited to announce the FOHBS annual Golf day 2023. Friday 28th April at Aldwickbury Golf Course.

The day includes:

9 hole (main course) Texas Scramble, Lunch, 18 hole main event, Awards Ceremony, Drinks.

You can book as a single through to a four ball.

For more information email Matt on mattdavies80@icloud.com

Spring Ball

• FRIDAY 12 MAY 2023

• 'Kings and Queens Gala Ball'

• Tickets have almost sold out! we have just a few tables left. If you would like to book, please contact: fohbsball2023@gmail.com

Online Shopping?

Please sign up for AmazonSmile and Easy fundraising to earn FoHBS a donation

[amazon smile](#)

easyfundraising.org.uk
feel good shopping

Name labels

We receive a 30% commission if you use our school codes when you purchase your name labels from either of the below companies:

STICKINS: 9527

STAMPTASTIC: BEECHES

High Beeches Gin - Gift it or drink it. Fohbs receives a donation for every bottle sold!

<https://spiritofherts.co.uk/product/high-beeches-primary-school-dry-gin/>

Team Freefall is ready and raring to go. Seven crazy parents, carers and even a teacher have signed up to jump from a perfectly good airplane at 10,000ft to raise money for High Beeches School. Click here to find out more and donate.

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/freefall>

Further Information and Reminders

Enrichment Clubs

ALL clubs will be up and running from Monday 16th January. Please remind your child to attend whether it is a lunchtime club or after school.

A little bit of New Year Housekeeping

Communications

When communicating with school either by email or phone please make sure you state the full name of your child and their class.

Requests for Absence

All requests for any type of absence should be made using the online "Request for absence" form on our website under "Parents" with as much notice as possible please. [High Beeches Primary School - Attendance and Leave of Absence](#)

Uniform

Please name every item of uniform including socks/tights/shoes/water bottles. No sewing required these days as stickers are available which do not wash off. All children should be coming to school with their sweatshirts/cardigans and a warm coat and hat (all named).

Equipment required for the school day

Please ensure your child has the correct equipment required for each school day ie PE kit/instruments/lunch boxes/swimming kit etc to avoid the phone calls that have to be made to chase for these. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Monday 16 th January 2023	<i>Young Voices performance – O2 London</i>
26 th and 27 th January 2023	<i>Chines dragon dance workshops</i>
Monday 30 th January 2023	<i>Year 2 Fire of London Workshop</i>
Monday 30 th January 2023 2.15pm-3pm	<i>Year 6 SATS presentation</i>
Monday 30 th January 2023 4pm – 6pm	<i>Year 6 Parent Consultations</i>
6-10 February 2023	<i>Be Safe Week – a curriculum focus on safety, mental health and wellbeing</i>
Monday 6 th February 2023 2pm – 5.30pm	<i>Year 6 Parent Consultations</i>
Thursday 9 th February 2023 - Morning	<i>Year 5 Visit to Hazard Alley</i>
Friday 10 February 2023	<i>School closes at normal time for half-term break</i>
Monday 20 th February 2023	<i>School opens for Spring 2</i>
Monday 27 th February 2023	<i>Year 2 visit to St Albans Cathedral</i>
Wednesday 8 th March 2023	<i>Spring Music Festival – EMC</i>
21 and 23 March 2023	<i>Spring Term Parent Consultations</i>
Friday 31 March 2023, 2pm	<i>School closes for Easter holiday</i>