



Weekly Newsletter

22 March 2024

Making learning a lifelong adventure

Our school value for this half-term is



Dear Parents/Carers

It has been great to see the majority of parents in school this week for our consultations for parents of children in Reception to Year 5. Your support really matters.

Also this week, our Reception children have had a hands-on session led by Little City, in which they participated in a number of roleplay activities all linked to their *People who Help Us* topic.

Our Year 3 classes each presented an engaging and informative class assembly on the theme of the Olympics, taking us through a Newsround Special report that included sports science, nutrition, poetry and rap!

The children are also looking forward to the FoHBS discos tonight. Please see my previous email about the organisation involved and the importance of being able to plan in advance to ensure that the children are safe and the workload manageable for the FoHBS volunteers.

Today our Year 6 classes have an RE workshop on the theme of Easter and next Thursday, we look forward to the House Ambassadors' Spring Challenge – the Easter Bunny Hop. The children are all invited to wear PE kit for the day and will be undertaking a sponsored run around our all-weather track in aid of Herts Young Carers. Parents, family and friends are invited to sponsor via this [JustGiving link](#). More details in a letter from the House Ambassadors on the final page of this newsletter.

Also next week, some of our Year 5 singers will be joining singers from all the Harpenden primary or Junior schools for the annual Spring Festival at the Eric Morecambe Centre on Tuesday evening and we will be holding our own Spring Music Evening on Wednesday when those who have instrumental lessons will be showcasing their talents.

Lastly, our annual Speakers' Cup finals which take place on Wednesday and Thursday next week. As always, the standard has been really high and teachers have been impressed with the effort made and courage shown by so many. This is an important part of our wider curriculum and a tradition that contributes to what makes the school distinctive. We know from our feeder secondary schools that confident speaking and presentation skills are a feature of former High Beeches pupils and this is a big part of acquiring those skills and the confidence speak publicly.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker

Headteacher

Message from the Governing Body – Annual Survey

Thank you to those who have already completed our annual parent survey. The survey comprises of 19 tick box questions and an opportunity at the end to provide more information or details if parents wish. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete and parents can do so by following [this link](#).



FoHBS Weekly

School Disco - Thank You!!

COLLECTIVE™

A **HUGE** thank you to our sponsor - The Collective, Harpenden! We are grateful for your support!

To Donna, Charlotte and all the volunteers - **thank you** for all your hard work this evening and behind the scenes. An enormous amount of planning goes on for events, so we greatly appreciate everyone who supports FoHBS. Planning a disco for over 200 children is no easy job as you can imagine - so **THANK YOU!**

5k Inflatable Obstacle Course - Saturday 20th April

*******DEADLINE EXTENDED!*******

This is your final call! We need at least 5 more keen people to complete our team!

When and where?

Saturday 20th April at the Herts County Show

Are you up for the challenge?! We've extended the deadline to Monday 25 March - so come and join us! Our team can be made up of adults and children (5 years old and above). We are planning on signing to the 5k distance. There are 32 obstacles to tackle over 5k. There is the opportunity to split your family to do the 2.5k distance but still be part of our group.

How much is the ticket?

Adults £34

Children £24

Family of 4 - 2 adults, 2 children £100

Contact Rebecca Stibbs to sign up

by Monday 25th March

Rebecca.jf.penn@gmail.com

What about sponsorship?

We aim to raise **£3k** as a team of 20 which is £150 per person whether you've signed up as adults or with your children.

Summer Fair - Sunday 7 July

We are delighted that things are progressing with plans for the summer fair - which means we are looking for volunteers.

We will shortly be sharing which year group is allocated to which section, and what support we need, but in the meantime, if you're keen on being a part of the team to make the fair a success, please email us: contact.fohbs@gmail.com

Calling all small businesses! Would you like to showcase your products/business at the fair? We are looking for stallholders and would love to hear from you if you'd like to book a stall space!

Further Events

Golf Day - Friday 14th June, Aldwickbury Golf Club

If you have not already registered your interest with Matt, please contact him via email - matt.davies80@icloud.com to secure your spot, so you don't miss out. This is set to be a great event raising lots of funds for our school! We can't wait!



contact.fohbs@gmail.com

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

Sports Desk

In another busy week for inter-school sport, our football teams met Crabtree Junior School for a football fixture last Friday after school, the A team losing 1-0 in last couple of minutes, after a hard fought 0-0 game for most of the match. The B team lost 4-1. Well done team: a valiant effort from all of you.

The Netball teams met the Grove Junior School on Monday for the last of their league matches. The B team finished, winning 3-2 and the A team conceded their first defeat, losing 7-2.

The team was back in play yesterday, travelling to Katherine Warrington School for the Harpenden Schools' Netball Rally. Winning all the games in their group, they came joint top and found themselves face-to-face with the team from the Grove for the second time this week, in the semi-final. Unfortunately, a place in the final was not to be. However, they improved on their previous score, this time losing by 5-3, before the Grove went on to win the final. Congratulations to them of course.

Supporting Families

Hertfordshire School Nurse Q and A – 10 April 2024 at 2pm

Parents are invited to join an online Q and A session with members of the Hertfordshire School Nursing team via Instagram @hct_schoolnursing

More Online Family Lives Support Courses in March

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 26 March to 14 May 2024, 9.30am – 11.30am, Via MS Teams

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Sessions will cover :

- ADHD/ ASD - a whole-family issue
- Understanding your child's behaviour
- Helping your child manage their feelings and outbursts
- Balancing support of siblings
- Learning about structure and routines
- Supporting your child at school

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group

Tuesday 26 March - 14 May 2024, 7pm – 9pm, Via MS Teams

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6- week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better and feel more in control

The sessions will cover:-

- Exploring what helpful discipline is
- Recognising the triggers and responding more effectively
- Learning new parenting tools to challenge children's behaviour
- How to negotiate and implement effective boundaries and family agreements
- How to hold boundaries and gain co-operation

Headteacher Awards

Today we congratulated the following children for their achievements this week.

• Reception Chestnut Class	Benjamin	For being keen and having a go at writing a super sentence! Well done.
	Noah	For super ideas and carefully making a fire engine. Well done!
• Reception Oak Class	Chloe	For making lots of effort with her reading at home.
	Xavier	For making great progress with his writing.
• Year 1 Cedar Class	Alex	For putting her hand up and sharing ideas more often! It has been great to hear your ideas, keep it up!
	Jessica	For presenting her work neatly across all areas of learning, especially in English when writing a list of rules for her very own club. Well done!
• Year 1 Elm Class	Tilly	For super ideas and contributions for our English work on The Black and White Club.
	Saraiya	For Challenging herself in maths when counting in 2s, 5s and 10s with coins.
• Year 2 Hazel Class	Rosie	For improved letter formation, sizing and handwriting with letters sitting on the line. Keep it up!
	Sammy	for retelling the story of The Gruffalo to the whole class for his Speaker's Cup. Hazel class are so proud of you!
• Year 2 Willow Class	Elle	For completing some fantastic work in English this week. Your 'Dogs Can' poem was excellent.
	Cameron	For showing enthusiasm for his learning and producing some excellent work.
• Year 3 Birch Class	James	For working confidently with fractions of numbers and shapes.
	Freddie	For working hard in his handwriting to sit his letters on the line.
• Year 3 Redwood Class	Aseel	For her confident performance and delivery of lines in our class assembly this week.
	Izzy	For her excellent presentation in maths when learning about fractions this week.
• Year 4 Maple Class	Freddie	For aiming for perfection when producing a bar chart in Maths.
	Daniel	For writing a very descriptive poem using fronted adverbials in English.
• Year 4 Pine Class	Carla	For her hard work in every subject and always doing her best.
	Nikolai -	For giving clear and thoughtful answers in Guided Reading
• Year 5 Ash Class	Max	For asking thoughtful questions in science and applying his knowledge when explaining his ideas.
	Lauren	For taking risks in her writing and varying her sentence structure.
• Year 5 Hawthorn Class	Henry	For his detailed and through research of Viking and Anglo-Saxon Kings.
	Rose	For her secure knowledge of how to separate various mixtures of materials in science.
• Year 6 Rowan Class	Jake	For being such a great learning partner this week across different subjects and varying partners.
	Izzy	For always presenting your work so carefully and taking pride in your books.
• Year 6 Sycamore Class	Aiza	For having a great attitude to learning and always wanting to lend a helping hand around the classroom.
	Isla	For always presenting your work to the highest standard.
• PE Awards Infants	Blythe	For her excellent work and ideas when both attacking and defending in PE this week. Well done!
	Emma	For her excellent work and ideas when both attacking and defending in PE this week. Well done!
• PE Awards Juniors	Macy	For her excellent run-out in cricket. Great accuracy! Well done!
	Robert	For his clear communication with his partner in cricket. Well done!

Extra congratulations go to the following pupils who have been confirmed as finalists in the Harpenden and Villages Schools' Short Story Competition for this year:

Year 1 – Elise, Year 2 – Alice, Year 3 – Ellie, Year 4 – Erin, Year 5 – Sienna, Year 6 – Ted.

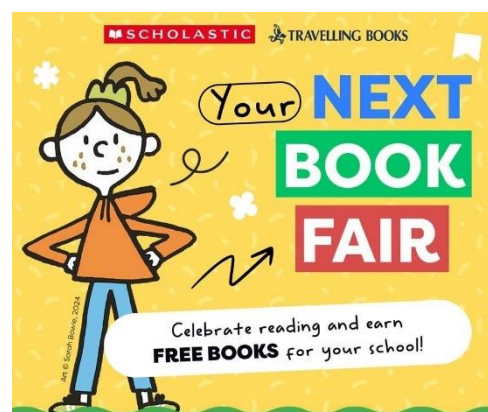
Further Information and Reminders

Attendance

Congratulations to Willow and Ash classes who have the best attendance this week, with 99.6% and 99.3% respectively.

Book Fair

The fantastic Scholastic book fair will be in school during the week after the Easter holidays (17 to 21 April 2024) and parents will be able to browse and buy outside the front entrance (or inside the dining area, if weather dictates) at the end of each day after school.



Diary Dates

Amendments and additions to previously published events shown in purple

26 March 2024, 6pm	Y5 Choir in Harpenden Schools' Spring Music Festival at the EMC
27 March 2024, 1.15pm	KS2 Speakers Cup Final (finalists' parents invited)
27 March 2024, 6.00pm	Spring Music Evening
28 March 2024, 9.00am	K1 Speakers Cup Final (finalists' parents invited)
28 March 2024	House Ambassadors' Sponsored Bunny Hop Events for Herts young Carers
28 March 2024, 2pm	School closes for Easter holiday
Mon 15 April 2024	School opens for Summer term
6 May 2024	School closed for Early May Bank Holiday
13-17 May 2024	KS2 Tests
22-24 May 2024	Year 6 Residential
23 May 2024, 9am	Year 5 Ash class assembly
23 May 2024, 2:30pm	Year 5 Hawthorn class assembly
24 May 2024	School closes for half-term break
4 June 2024	School opens for Summer term 2
3 – 21 June 2024	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check window
7 June 2024	Music on the Field event
10-11 June 2024	Year 4 Residential
10-14 June 2024	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Friday 14 June 2024	FoHBS Golf Day
20 June 2024, 1:30pm	Y5/6 Sports Day
25 June 2024, 1:15pm	Y3/4 Sports Day
27 June 2024, 1pm	YR/1/2 Sports Day
Sunday 7 July 2024	FOHBS Summer Fair
12 July 2024	Pupil reports out to parents
15 and 16 July 2024, 6:00pm	Year 6 Leavers' Production
17 July, 9:30am	HB's Got Talent
Thursday 18 July, 9am	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Thurs 18 July, 5:30-7:30pm	Year 6 Leavers' Event
19 July 2023, 1:30pm	School closes for summer holiday



21st March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

on Thursday 28th March we will be holding a sponsored Bunny Hop in school.

Every child will be travelling around the track for these number of laps:

Reception - 1 lap

Year 1 - 2 laps

Year 2 - 3 laps

Year 3 - 4 laps

Year 4 - 5 laps

Year 5 - 6 laps

Year 6 - 7 laps

Staff are joining in too!

We are not expecting children to hop, but they may walk, skip, jog or run - whatever suits them.

Our chosen charity for this year is Herts Young Carers, who came into school for an assembly today. We really want to help them so please sponsor your child through the JustGiving link that we will send out shortly.

For this special day, your child should come into school in their PE kit. If they would like to accessorise with bunny ears or an Easter bonnet, they are most welcome!

We are really eggscited to host this eggscellent fundraising event and hope to raise as much as we can.

Yours sincerely,

Electra Hudson Emily Elsie x Izzy♥ Eve

Your Y6 House Ambassadors

Erin♥ Imogen x Ernie 😊

Stephanie Shewbridge

Leo Aiza x

Deputy Headteacher
High Beeches Primary School
Harpenden
AL5 5SD