



## Weekly Newsletter

26 September 2025

*Making learning a lifelong adventure*

Our school value for this half-term is **friendship**

Dear Parents/Carers

Earlier this week our Year 3 pupils have enjoyed some hands-on science, with each class participating in a day-long visitor-led science worship investigating rocks. See pictures (above). Next week is the turn of Year 4, who will be exploring states of matter.

Yesterday and this morning our Year 6 pupils and staff welcomed about 80 parents and old friends of the school to our annual *MacMillan Big Coffee Mornings*. This was a lovely opportunity for the children to host our visitors and to raise awareness of and fund for their excellent work support those living with cancer. Thank you to the staff who facilitated and to the parent providers of cakes!

Congratulations to our Year 6 house leaders who were appointed this week, following a rigorous selection process. The Sports Captains will have additional responsibility for sporting initiatives and events throughout the year and the House Ambassadors will work on various awareness-raising and/or charitable initiatives, representing the school at associated events. The first of these took place yesterday, when the House Ambassadors attended the annual Harpenden Peace Day service at High Street Methodist Church.

Next week FoHBS will be holding the first of their movie nights. Hopefully parents will have seen the Arbor App message yesterday from our outgoing FoHBS Co-Chairs. If not, please see feature right.

You will also see from the diary dates that we have now confirmed the date of our Harvest Festival, which will once again be in aid of both the *Harpenden Hygiene Bank* and the *King's Pantry Food Bank*.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Walker  
Headteacher



### Could it be you?

The role of Chair is still vacant! We will be standing down at the end of the term and would love to be handing over to a new team, but sadly nobody has come forward as yet. FOHBS plays a huge part in the success of our school community and we cannot imagine High Beeches without it, but this is a very real prospect without your help. We appreciate that life is complicated and, as parents, demands come from many directions.

However, the FoHBS is in a very strong position, with a number of events/positions already managed by a great team of volunteers. If you are worried about workload, you can co-chair - we are both working parents who have made it work by sharing it together. You may wish to put yourself forward as part of a pair or three with existing friends. Alternatively, two or three individual volunteers could be brought together as co-chairs. Who knows? It might be the start of a great friendship!

So please come and talk to us if you think you can help. We will talk you through the role and there would be a very thorough handover. Our children are in school for a few more years so if you had any issues later on, we would always be here to help! We love FOHBS and really hope it can continue in its work to support High Beeches for the benefit of our children. Could it be you?

All good wishes

Christina and Sophie [contact.fohbs@gmail.com](mailto:contact.fohbs@gmail.com)

## Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children for their achievements this week.

- Reception Chestnut Class**
  - Luther For sorting objects according to the initial sounds independently.
  - Zachary For always following the class rules and setting everyone a good example.
- Reception Oak Class**
  - Olivia Being helpful at tidy up time
  - Tilly For settling well into Reception and following new rules and routines.
- Year 1 Cedar Class**
  - Rachel For always working so hard in all her activities. She should be really proud of herself.
  - Sofia For working so hard in her phonics lessons, carefully sounding out to practise new sounds.
- Year 1 Elm Class**
  - Jessica For her excellent writing based on Puffin Peter in English.
  - Matteo For always trying his best in every lesson.
- Year 2 Hazel Class**
  - Isaiah For being welcoming to new joiners and showing friendship to everyone.
- Year 2 Willow Class**
  - Alice For explaining how the shapes of everyday materials can change.
  - Sophie For carefully following steps when regrouping tens and ones. Well done!
  - Henry For using a range of conjunctions to add detail to commands. Well done.
- Year 3 Birch Class**
  - Emily For working hard in maths when adding numbers without regrouping, making connections by using a route fact to support her! Well done!
  - Thomas For being a role model in class and always being ready to learn. Well done!
- Year 3 Redwood Class**
  - Harry For sharing lots of wonderful ideas during our Science workshop.
  - Dulcie For super Maths work when adding numbers without regrouping, using a root fact as a starting point to help add larger numbers.
- Year 4 Maple Class**
  - Maria For showing a consistently positive attitude toward her learning. You have made a great start to Year 4!
- Year 4 Pine Class**
  - Cleo For contributing eloquently to a whole class debate in English.
  - Kody For showing our value of friendship this week.
  - Mila For presenting ideas with confidence during our class debate
- Year 5 Ash Class**
  - Luca For showing fantastic learning behaviour this week resulting in a really positive impact on your writing and Maths.
  - Sara For showing such increased confidence in Maths when answering questions during teaching and completing work in your book.
- Year 5 Hawthorn Class**
  - Ellis For showing great learning behaviours this week.
  - Lincoln For your excellent work and understanding on decimals this week.
- Year 6 Rowan Class**
  - Carla For trying her hardest and always putting in her best effort.
  - Matas For his creative storyboard on how light travels through the eye!
- Year 6 Sycamore Class**
  - Luke For an excellent lesson on short division, turning remainders into decimals. He showed good levels of concentration to get his work completed.
  - Dan For his fantastic double page spread on the functions of different parts of the eye. He also presented his work beautifully.
- PE Awards Juniors**
  - Alex For not only working hard to improve his ball control and passing skills but his good communication and teamwork. Well done!

## Community Matters

Two of our local firework displays are offering commission to FoHBS when High Beeches parents book tickets for their events. Please see details below and follow the links to purchase your tickets and benefit our school!

### **Harpenden Rugby Football Club**

Sunday 2 November - Gates open at 4pm and the show starts at 6pm

Join Harpenden Rugby Football Club for their annual community fireworks with a DJ, food village, drinks marquee & entertainment and 25% going to FoHBS! [Buy your tickets here!](#)

### **Katherine Warrington School**

Friday 7 November - doors open at 6pm, fireworks at 7pm

KWS are hosting their fantastic low bang display and there promises to be lots of great music and delicious refreshments on site. Please [use this link](#) to purchase your tickets and 10% of the ticket sales will go to FoHBS!

### **Charity Shoe Collection**

You may have heard that we are running a collection of used footwear for children and adults for the charity Shoe Aid who collect and donate footwear to use in the fight against footwear poverty.

They ask where possible that all items of footwear collected are **'Fit for Purpose'** as in, they are not overly damaged have holes or could cause distress or injury, and basically can be comfortably worn again.



If you wish to donate please leave the shoes in bags by the bike sheds to the left of the school from next Monday. We will be collecting all next week.

### **The Great St Albans Challenge**

See flyer overleaf promoting this years *Great St Albans Challenge* GPS treasure hunt in aid of Youth Talk.

## Further Information and Reminders

### **Safe Arrival at School and Registration**

The vast majority of our children arrive at school in good time between 8:40 and 8:45am. The children in Years 5 and 6 may walk to school or walk from where they are dropped off, those in Years 1 to 4 walk independently into school from the drop-off point in the front playground and Reception children are brought to the classroom door by their parent or carer.

Parents are reminded that any late arrivals (after 8:45am) should enter through the main entrance. This is to ensure that the gates are closed and the school perimeter is secured, and includes the door to Oak class which opens onto the area to the front of the school. Late arrivals should be signed in using the touchscreen in the main entrance foyer, as they may have missed the register being taken in class. This ensures that all children are registered as present and avoids confusion about whether or not a child has arrived at school and avoids us having to subsequently unnecessarily contact parents.

### **Attendance**

Congratulations to Elm, Hazel and Pine classes who have the best attendance this week, with 100% attendance.

To notify school of medical appointments or Secondary school visits please complete [this form](#) found on the school website.



## Diary Dates

*New and amended dates are shown in purple in future newsletters.*

Friday 3 October 2025	<i>FoHBS Movie Night – Years 4 to 6</i>
Friday 10 October 2025	<i>FoHBS 80's &amp; 90's Disco</i>
<b>Tuesday 14 October 2025</b>	<b><i>Harvest Festival</i></b>
Friday 17 October 2025	<i>FoHBS Movie Night - Years 1 to 3</i>
W/b 20 October 2025	<i>Parent Consultations</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tuesday 21, 3:45 to 7pm</i></li> <li>• <i>Thursday 23, 3:45 to 7pm</i></li> </ul> <i>FOHBS AGM</i>
Tuesday 21 October 2025, 6:45pm	
24 October, 4, 13 and 27 November	<i>Open Mornings for entry to Reception in September 2026.</i> <i>Book a place via the school website</i>
Friday 24 October 2025	<i>School closes for half-term break at normal time</i>
Monday 3 November 2025	<i>School opens for autumn Term 2</i>
Friday 14 November 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 4 Open Classrooms</i>
Wednesday 26 November 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 6 Open Classrooms</i>
Thursday 27 November 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 1 Open Classrooms</i>
Thursday 27 November 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 5 Open Classrooms</i>
Friday 28 November 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 3 Open Classrooms</i>
Monday 1 December 2025	<i>School closed for Occasional Day</i>
Thurs 4 December 2025, 9:15am	<i>Reception Nativity</i>
Wed 3 December 2025	<i>Year 6 Choir attends Rotary in Harpenden Carol Service</i> <i>at High Street Methodist Church</i>
Saturday 6 December 2025	<i>Provisional date for FoHBS Christmas Fair</i>
Tuesday 9 December 2025	<i>Year 2 Nativity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>1:30pm - Hazel Class</i></li> <li>• <i>2:30pm - Willow Class</i></li> </ul> <i>Choir to attend Mayor of Harpenden's Carol Service</i>
10 December 2025, 6pm	
Friday 12 December 2025, 2:30pm	<i>Year 1 Christmas Carols around the Tree</i>
Friday 12 December 2025, 3pm	<i>Year 2 Open Classrooms</i>
Wednesday 17 Dec 2025	<i>5pm - KS2 Green and Yellow House Carol Service</i> <i>6:30pm - KS2 Blue and Red House Carol Service</i>
Thurs 18 December 2025	<i>School Christmas dinner, discos and L &amp; D Christmas Jumper Day</i>
Friday 19 December 2025, 2pm	<i>School closes at 2pm for Christmas holiday</i>





**THE GREAT  
ST. ALBANS  
CHALLENGE!**

# IT'S TIME TO GRAB YOUR CAPES



£10 Off  
Discount Code



**PHOENIX**  
CONSTRUCTION

**SUPERSIGNUP2**

**The Great St Albans  
Challenge returns**

12th October 2025

[www.greatstalbanschallenge.org.uk](http://www.greatstalbanschallenge.org.uk)

**YOUTH  
TALK**  
Water Education