



*"Making learning an adventure"*  
Newsletter 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018

*Our value for this half term is Honesty*

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **High Beeches News**

Our first full week back has been action packed as usual! On Monday, the children enjoyed a maths puzzle day and on Thursday Elm and Cedar class engaged in a wonderful Castle workshop which really brought their topic to life. Thank you to all the parents who gave up their time to help, we hope you had as much fun as the children. I had coffee with some of Sycamore parents on Thursday morning and on Friday we had an excellent Vision and aims meeting - further info below! We were again very proud of our year 6 children who showed potential new parents around school on Wednesday.

Next week, the Vikings are coming to High Beeches to visit year 4!

### **Review of Vision and aims**

As our school grows, we want to ensure that our vision and aims statements reflect the future world for our children. I have held meetings with staff, governors and a core group of parents today. After some very valuable discussions, we have agreed that we need to make some changes to our vision and aims statements.

#### **Our current vision statement is as follows:**

- To foster a love of learning through challenge and collaboration, where everyone is encouraged to try new things and fulfil their potential.

#### **Our current aims are:**

- Provide a safe, supportive and happy environment where children enjoy learning
- Enable everyone to have high expectations in order to achieve their full potential
- Instil a desire in our children to excel in all they do and actively attempt new challenges
- Teach value and respect for others, their beliefs and their property
- Encourage all children and adults to play a full role in the wider community
- Develop skills for life through teamwork, investigation and creativity
- Provide a fun and enjoyable learning experience for all

During our meeting today, we decided that the first step in this process would be to create an online survey of key words and phrases that our school community would like to see reflected in either our vision or aims statements. We have selected some key words and would like you to vote. Please click on the link below to express your preference.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7MK9VGV>

Please choose no more than 20. Following this, we will draft our vision and aims statements and consult further with staff, governors, parents and pupils. One of our new key aims will be for children to live the values of the school.

Therefore, you will not see any of our values in the key words.

Having created our vision and aims, we want to produce a graphical representation- so if any parents are graphic designers we may well be asking for help in the future! This is a very exciting project, so thank you for your contributions.

### **Values**

Our value for this half term is Honesty. Please talk to your children about how important it is to be honest.

### **Grammar workshop-Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9am**

This workshop is open to all parents. It will be led by an English adviser from Herts for Learning on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9.00am. As we have to pay for this session, we are asking for a donation from parents to support with the cost. Please let the office know if you will be attending [admin@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk) by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **Summer Dress Orders**

As from Monday 15th January 2018 we are taking orders for our school summer dress. If you would like to purchase the school summer dress, please complete and return the purple order form (available from the rack outside the School Office) no later than Monday 5th February. Orders will be issued as soon as the dresses arrive in from the suppliers, normally beginning of April. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late orders after the 5th February 2016 as our order numbers are passed to the manufacturers who make the dresses especially for us and we do not have sufficient space to keep any in stock.

Payments must be made by School Gateway, remembering to pay for the correct number of dresses, but please remember to hand in your form to the office. Please note that our official dress is green and white stripes and not gingham therefore if you are purchasing dresses from another source (although we would prefer our dresses to be worn) then please make sure they are striped. Thank you.

### **Office opening hours**

Just a reminder that the school office is open 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 3.30pm on Fridays.

### **Absences**

If your child is absent from school please remember to send a letter of explanation on the first day of their return. Our Attendance Officer checks all these letters on his visits.

### **Contacting Teachers**

A reminder that there is now an email for you to contact teachers – [teachers@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk](mailto:teachers@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk) Mr Edney and I will check this email on a daily basis and pass messages to teachers. You will receive a response within 3 working days. Please note that we will not access this email account at weekends, holidays or in the evenings. If you have any questions for teachers or comments or would like an appointment, please use this email address.

### **Head Teacher Questions**

No questions this week

### **Term dates**

Please take note of dates at the end of this letter but please bear in mind that we may have to cancel/alter on some occasions so please check them each week. Alterations and additions will always be in red.

### **Pupil Achievement**

Issie B in Willow class has had her hair cut short so it could be made into a wig to help children with cancer. She had 40 cm cut off to send to the Little Princess Trust. Amazing Issie- what incredible values of kindness, caring and empathy you have shown! We are all very proud of you.

<http://www.littleprincesses.org.uk/>

## **Attendance**

We have had 100% attendance from Chestnut, Oak, Elm and Redwood classes this week. Well done to you all.

## **Headteacher awards**

### **Oak**

*Mustafa- for settling every quickly at High Beeches*

*Henry- for working so hard on improving his writing*

### **Chestnut**

*Aiza- for settling into school so well*

*Ollie- for not giving up in maths*

### **Elm**

*Charlie- for participating enthusiastically in our Castle workshop*

*Jodie- for trying hard with her sounds in reading*

### **Cedar**

*Samuel- for participating enthusiastically in our Castle workshop*

*Amy- for persevering independently in topic work*

### **Hazel**

*Lois- for trying hard to push herself with her writing*

*Charlotte- for using her growth mindset in maths*

### **Willow**

*Sam- for not giving up, even when he finds things tricky*

*Rayan- for applying himself well during lessons*

### **Birch**

*Zhi-Tao- for always working hard in class*

*Adkeesh- for havng a fantastic attitude to his learning*

### **Redwood**

*George- for working hard in all lessons*

*Ishika- for always showing the value of honesty*

### **Maple**

*Maisie- for working really hard in maths*

*Jayden- for showing a positive attitude in all lessons*

### **Pine**

*Ryder- for showing a positive attitude to all aspects of school work*

*Zoe- for trying hard and persevering during PE*

### **Ash**

*Joseph- for showing great perseverance in maths*

*Ben- for showing a positive attitude in his learning*

### **Sycamore**

*Shakil- for a great effort with independent writing this week*

*Arjan- for making links in his learning with maths*

*Best wishes,*

*S. Lawrence* Headteacher

**Diary dates-updates in red**

**15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January-Year 4 Viking Day.**

**15<sup>th</sup> January – FoHBS meeting 8pm at Plough and Harrow**

**22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January- workshop for parents on Brain awareness and Growth mindset**

**25<sup>th</sup> January- Ash class Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am**

**26<sup>th</sup> January- Pine class assembly 9.15am**

**29<sup>th</sup> January – Year 2 Fire of London workshop in school all day**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 1.30pm-2.30pm- “The B Word”- Bullying production. Years 2-6**

**1<sup>st</sup> February- Pine Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am**

**1st February – Maple Class assembly 9.15am (note change of date)**

**5<sup>th</sup> February 9am Grammar workshop for parents**

**6<sup>th</sup> February- Tag Rugby tournament**

**7<sup>th</sup> February 9am- Cedar class assembly 9.15am**

**8<sup>th</sup> February 9am- Elm class assembly 9.15am**

**9<sup>th</sup> February –Maple class Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am**

**12<sup>th</sup>-16th February- half term**

**20<sup>th</sup> February year 5 and 6 K’Nex challenge – in school**

**21<sup>st</sup> February- parent consultations**

**22<sup>nd</sup> February- Birch Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am**

**26<sup>th</sup> February-parent consultations**

**1<sup>st</sup> March- Food waste Ninjas workshops**

**5<sup>th</sup> March- Year 5 and 6 football tournament**

**6<sup>th</sup> March-Year 4 tree planting at Heartwood Forest**

**8<sup>th</sup> March- Redwood Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am**

**12<sup>th</sup> March – Year 2 Living Rainforest visit**

**15<sup>th</sup> March- Birch class assembly 9.15am**

**16<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 Duxford War Museum visit**

**19<sup>th</sup> March- Netball rally**

**23<sup>rd</sup> March-Redwood class assembly 9.15am**

**28<sup>th</sup> March – Community Concert 7pm**

**29<sup>th</sup> March – End of Term 2pm**

**Sycamore Assembly TBA – original date cancelled**