



"Making learning an adventure"
Newsletter 19th January 2018

Our value for this half term is Honesty

Dear Parents/Carers,

High Beeches News

I must first apologise for not being out and about in the playground this week. I am afraid I succumbed to the flu! It is nice to be back at work for my first full day today though and see lots of smiling faces- children and staff! Unfortunately, other members of staff have been unwell this week too although pupil attendance across the school has been good.

Maple and Pine class enjoyed their invasion by Vikings earlier this week and learnt lots about these Invaders and Settlers. Thank you for your wonderful efforts with costumes which made their day more authentic.

I hope to see you at my Brain Awareness/growth mindset workshops on Monday and Tuesday morning at 9am. We will be exploring how our brains work and how we can approach life with a positive growth mindset! Please email admin@highbeeches.herts.sch.uk to confirm attendance.

FoHBS news (from FoHBs)

We would like to welcome Carolyn Berg as the new co-chair of FOHBS, working alongside Anna Davies. The whole team is working hard to bring together a great programme of events and fundraisers for the school. New dates for your diary below including our much anticipated Quiz night! Thank you for your continued support.

It was great to hear how much all the children enjoyed last week's puzzle workshop which FoHBS funded with your donations. We hope to fund another exciting workshop later in the year.

*****Save the dates*****

The school Summer Fair will be on Saturday June 16th from 2pm-4.30pm. We will have inflatables, performances by the children's clubs, games, cafe and hot dogs, Year 6 enterprise stalls and much, much more.....!

Other dates for your diary;

- Summer fair planning meeting Friday 23 March 9.00am in school dining hall
- Adults Quiz night Friday 23rd March
- Infant movie night Friday 27th April
- Junior movie night Friday 4th May
- Adults May Ball Saturday May 12th
- Infant and Junior Summer disco Friday 29th June

Message from Mrs Tang

Thanks to parents who helped raise £258 for FoHBSs by buying Christmas DVDs from joanneytang@yahoo.com. There are a few left for the Reception nativity, Year 1 songs and the Year 2 play so email Joanne Tang asap if you would like one.

Sports visitor-message from Miss Pascoe

We are very excited to let you know that Alistair Patrick-Hesleton, a Paralympic footballer, will be coming into school on Friday 9th February. The children will be participating in a circuit of sporting activities and will be encouraged to raise sponsorship money for this. Letters and sponsorship forms will be coming home with your child on Thursday 25th January, after a short assembly explaining the day to them. All monies raised will go towards new PE equipment for the school and to help support GB athletes.

Review of Vision and aims

Thank you for all the contributions so far to this. Our online survey will be open for another week- closing on 26th January. Please remember to contribute.

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. 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

We have selected some key words and phrases to help create our new vision and aims statements. 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 5th February at 9am

This workshop is open to all parents. It will be led by an English adviser from Herts for Learning on Monday 5th 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 by Friday 2nd 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. Please also remember the 48 hour rule from the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Contacting Teachers

A reminder that there is now an email for you to contact teachers – 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

Any questions raised this week have been answered directly.

Pupil Achievement

William B in Willow class achieved his purple belt in Karate- well done!

Attendance

Well done Willow and Pine classes who have had 100% attendance this week.

Headteacher awards

Oak

Leo- for working so hard on your numbers and writing

Sophia- for being kind to your friends

Chestnut

Imogen- for challenging herself to learn teen numbers

Lawrence- for always challenging himself

Elm

Tillie- for putting lots of effort into her writing this week

Harry- for challenging himself in maths

Cedar

Elliott- for continually persevering in his learning

Freya- for continually persevering in her learning

Hazel

Meya- for using resources effectively in maths

Thomas- for being such a good friend to others

Willow

Luis- for challenging himself in maths and making great progress

Sasha- for always showing our values and working so hard

Birch

Leo- for always considering his behaviour and showing our values

William- for working hard in all of his lessons

Redwood

Emily- for helping to organise the class

Olivia- for working hard in all of her lessons

Maple

Jack- for always taking the hardest challenge in maths and not giving up

Louisa- for always taking the hardest challenge in maths and not giving up

Pine

Belle- for continuing to show a positive attitude to all aspects of school work

Yvie- For continuing to try hard and persevere in maths

Ash

Tobenna- for showing great imagination in English

Joshua B- for working hard and helping others in maths

Sycamore

James- for a brilliant story in English

Bertie- for great improvement in attitude to learning in maths over time

Have a very lovely weekend and I hope to see more of you all next week,

Best wishes,

S. Lawrence Headteacher

Diary dates-**updates in red**

22nd and 23rd January- workshop for parents on Brain awareness and Growth mindset

25th January- Ash class Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am

26th January- Pine class assembly 9.15am

29th January – Year 2 Fire of London workshop in school all day

31st January 1.30pm-2.30pm- “The B Word”- Bullying production. Years 2-6

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

5th February 9am Grammar workshop for parents

6th February- Tag Rugby tournament

7th February 9am- Cedar class assembly 9.15am

8th February 9am- Elm class assembly 9.15am

9th February –Maple class Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am

9th February –Pine class Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am - change of date

12th-16th February- half term

20th February year 5 and 6 K’Nex challenge – in school

21st February- parent consultations

22nd February- Birch Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am

26th February-parent consultations

1st March- Food waste Ninjas workshops

5th March- Year 5 and 6 football tournament

6th March-Year 4 tree planting at Heartwood Forest

8th March- Redwood Headteacher coffee morning 9.00-9.30am

12th March – Year 2 Living Rainforest visit

15th March- Birch class assembly 9.15am

16th March – Year 5 Duxford War Museum visit

19th March- Netball rally

23rd March-Redwood class assembly 9.15am

28th March – Community Concert 7pm

29th March – End of Term 2pm

Sycamore Assembly TBA – original date cancelled