



Harlow Fields School and College

Family Newsletter

5th July 2024 Issue 16

Dear Parents and Carers - A very special **thank you** to our PTFA for organising such a **wonderful fete** last weekend. It was so professionally coordinated with such a wide variety of stands, stalls, delicious food, incredible prizes, and family entertainment. It was a beautiful family and community event - perfect in every sense. Thank you to all who have supported our PTFA with this. It was lovely to see so many of you, our staff and Governors attend.

Please read his letter from our Acting Chair:

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone that attended our inaugural Summer Fayre on Saturday. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces and people enjoying the weather and the entertainment! We also had some lovely feedback from stallholders regarding our fabulous children which is always lovely to hear.

I need to take a moment to thank all of the PTFA team for their hard work and dedication to the cause over the past few months. Additionally, we really do need to thank all the volunteers (staff and non-staff) that allowed us to put the event together and make it the success that it was. A special mention needs to go to 6th formers Chloe and Oliver, and their friend and sibling Angel and Poppy who quite simply worked their socks off all day as well as Luis and Luke our other sixth form volunteers who helped run stalls – we could not have done it without you!

I also need to acknowledge the support of Great Dunmow Primary School PTFA for the loan of their fayre games as well as Harlow Fire Brigade and Harlow Police Community Support Officers for attending our fayre so enthusiastically. Also, a huge thank you to Cambridge Print Solutions for the donation of posters, flyers and stickers.

Everyone enjoyed watching Megan and the majorettes - The Asteroids, and not forgetting the fantastic live band - Harlow Brass Band. So... did our efforts pay off... I would like to announce that we made in the region of £1200 - £1300 profit which is a fantastic total, especially given that we had a large capital outlay on items that can be reused at future events.

We, as a PTFA, need to thank our outgoing Chair Natalie for all of her support and dedication this past year. We hope that she is as proud of all her efforts as we are, and that without her drive and determination the Summer Fayre would not have been the success that it was. Well done Natalie!

Warm regards

Helen

Acting Chair - PTFA

As we approach the end of term, it is time to say farewell to some of our staff. Jose will be returning home to his family in Spain. As a highly regarded member of staff, Jose will be dearly missed by all of us, especially The College team. Jack will also be leaving to relocate outside of Essex. Jack will be missed (especially by his current team in Dahl class). After many years of service Cathy is retiring. Cathy has made such a positive impact at Harlow Fields and will be always remembered for her calm and lovely ways of working. Cathy has been a wonderful colleague who has brought art to the fore for our pupils. Keily will be taking up a secondment post with ESSET (Essex Special Schools Education Trust). This is exciting work for Keily and for Harlow Fields since she will be supporting our mainstream colleagues and pupils to have specialist SEND support. This secondment is for 5 terms so it is not a full goodbye, but a farewell for now. We also have some lovely baby news - both Emma and Georgia are expecting summer babies so will be away on maternity leave in the new term. We look forward to meeting the new additions in the upcoming months!

Despite there being a national shortage of school staff, I am delighted to share that all classes are fully staffed for September and we have also covered Keily's secondment with an experienced SEND leader from one of the Essex Special Needs Schools. I will introduce all the new staff joining our school in September.

In other news, our swimming pool is opening next week (starting with PMLD) and we have a school nurse! Emma took up her post this week and will be introducing herself to parents soon.

Looking forward to seeing you at the below events that our amazing staff have organised

- 5/7 Sports Day- Upper School
- 9/7 Upper School Enterprise day
- 11/7 Parents Evening
- 12/7 Family picnic
- 15/7 Summer Craft & Merit Celebrations afternoon – Lower
- 16/7 6th Form Leavers assembly
- 17/7 Merit Assembly- Upper School / Year 6 Moving on assembly- Lower School
- 18/7 Merit Assembly (2pm)
- 23/7 Early closure Summer Holiday

Kindest regards,

Kathleen M Faherty (Headteacher)