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**'...where we all matter.'**

Head Teacher's News Letter

May 26th 2015

The time has flown since we returned following the Easter break, hasn't it!

**Y6**

This is a busy time of year for Y6.

A well-deserved water fight was the requested treat for our Y6's following a week of tests during SATs week. A lot of fun was had but the downside was that the football team wore themselves out before playing their Friday after school match. The children are commended for the mature way they approached the tests. We're very proud of you!

'Transition to high school' meetings have already started. These meetings are valuable as staff from the high schools come into school to meet their future pupils, share information and answer questions and to talk with Mr Lauder. The children will be attending Transition days during next half term.

We are now able to focus on our Residential Visit to Robin Wood for Y6 in July. I visited the centre on Saturday to acquaint myself with the amenities. I’m sure Y6 will have a fantastic time – lots of fun, friendship and happy memories to finish their time at Wrenbury. Mr Lauder is organising some fundraisers with Y6 to reduce some of the costs, supported by FOWS. Please support.

**Teaching and Learning**

Quality 'Learning Journey' books to replace the topic books of previous terms have been introduced this term to celebrate our literacy led, cross curricular curriculum . Base 3 have embraced them whole-heartedly and I have enjoyed sharing their books and their learning with them through pupil voice. I'm looking forward to sharing the learning in other Bases in discussions with the children and sharing their books too at the start of next half term.

Our School Improvement Partner, Linda Gretton, visited school at the start of the half term and commented on the positive changes being made to the learning environments in school.

I'm always excited about sharing with children their excitement about their learning and new discoveries. We've had lots of fantastic finds brought into school. I particularly enjoyed sharing Frayer's 'bag of nature' from a family walk, Charlie's feathers that he collected from Martin Mere, Katie's bird skull and Robert-John's piece of wood, pitted with holes created by an insect. Oliver has shared his lovely British wildlife book and I've been treated to some fantastic writing, watched some great gymnastic routines, listened to children excited by learning to play an instrument and so much more! What a privilege!

More and more children have earned a handwriting pen this past half term. I've been impressed with the strides that some of our children have made in a short time, determined to earn their pen and present their work beautifully and maturely in a fluent, joined style. Well done!

Base 1 and 2 went on a fantastic flight to spend a day in Africa a week ago! It presented lots of lovely learning experiences. Thank you Mrs Chapman-Brown for organising. Dan Boulton from Brine Leas' art department came in to work with Base 4. We will welcome him back after half term.

**Sporting Celebrations**

Our School Football Team has continued to play well and have won a good number of their games. Thank you to Mr Lauder for organising the matches both home and away. I believe they've done very well and it's now fingers crossed to see if they get through to the next stage. A huge ‘thank you’ for supporting the team, and for the commitment in getting the children to matches. Thank you to Mr McLean for transport support for Mr Lauder.

**Donations**

Thank you to Mrs Cope (a former parent), Mrs Ashley and Mrs Heath for their donation of books to the library and to Mrs Shaw and Mrs Heath for toys he donated to Base 1. I hope I haven’t missed anyone – sincere apologies if I have.

Kayleb, Base 1, has climbed a mountain and raised £100 in sponsorship which he has very kindly given to school. Thank you, Kaleb! He'd like us to buy some more toys with the money.

**Clubs**

Uptake for clubs has been positive and we hope that we have been able to offer something for everyone.

A big thank you has to go all the staff and members of FOWs for volunteering their time to run a club. A special thank you to Miss Smith, who is running a singing and dancing club two lunch times weekly, preparing her group for 'Fun in a Field for a Fiver' - a new community event - where the money raised will be split equally between the School, the Wingate Centre and St Margaret's. I've been invited along on a few occasions and have been very impressed with the quality of the singing in parts.

The Athletics Club run by Sportscape, Cooking Club (Ms Huntington), Mad Science (Miss Carter), Recorder Club (Mrs Pascall), Wildlife Club (Mrs Greenhough and Mrs Waters) and Gardening Club (Mrs Ashley) will continue after half term.

Note: Mr McLean will be starting his Cricket Club after the half term – a letter will be sent.

 Mrs Chapman-Brown would like more uptake of her Y1/2 drama club for it to go ahead. If

 your child is interested, please let her know!

 Miss Carter will be hosting a Journey Man Club for all the Base 3 pupils who will participate

 at 'Schoolzfest' in July.

**Attendance**

Please see below our attendance % from September until current day. Well done to Base 5 for exceeding our 97% attendance target. I’m sure we can all meet our target will a little extra effort from everyone.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Base 1 | Base 2 | Base 3 | Base 4 | Base 5 |
| 96.2 | 94.9 | 94.7 | 95.6 | 98 |

The number of monthly monitoring letters having to be sent out has reduced, however letters will continue to be sent to parents whose children’s attendance falls below 90%. The government has recently announced 10% of time absent from school is the maximum for any child and anything beyond this is classed as persistent absence and is a great cause for concern. This 10% does not mean an entitlement to time out of school for holidays. In almost all cases, holidays in term time will be unauthorised.

I reiterate that poor attendance can be linked to a lack of progress and achievement. Children who do miss school a lot can feel they are 'falling behind' their peers and lose confidence. We don't want this for any of our Wrenbury children.

**Educational Visits**

Base 1 and 2 had a fantastic Educational Visit to Knowsley Safari Park as part of their Amazing Animals focus. After half term, Y2 countdown to their Tattenhall residential. Mrs Chapman Brown held a parent's meeting and we request that Form C's are completed asap and returned to school.

**Class and team Photos**

We hope you liked the new look class and team photos and put in an order!

**Community Hub School**

We held our first **Community Coffee Stop** in school on 19thMay. A huge thank you to Cath Mansfield and Emma Prince for volunteering to make the teas/coffees. If you weren't able to join us for this one, do come along to our next one on 16th June, you'll be warmly welcomed.

**Assemblies and visitors**

We have had two visitors to help us lead our **Deaf Awareness** assembly, Gill and Shirley. Lily taught us some sign language. Thank you Lily. Jane Emery, who works for the **Nantwich Foodbank,** lead an assembly on Monday 11th May. Rev Alison will also be joining us this next half term to lead an assembly on Tuesday 16th June. This will be after the Community Coffee Stop and parents are welcome to stay and join the children for this assembly.

**Friends Of Wrenbury School ~ FOWS**

The pond area fencing has been agreed and will be made bespoke to the requirements of the Wildlife Club, with viewing windows. This should be completed this half term.

Their May newsletter is available to read on our website.

**Summer Fair**

Do check the school's website 'School – Our People - FOWS' for more information.

**Helpers**

As always, school is very grateful to the volunteer helpers who support our children's learning in school and the governors who work behind the scenes to support and challenge the education we offer here at Wrenbury. Thank you to all our midday staff and also our caretaker, Colin Eaton, and Jane Roberts for helping us keep our school safe, tidy and clean. It is very much appreciated. Thank you Debbie in the office for being friendly and helpful to us all both staff and parents and offering a very warm welcome.

**Staffing**

There will be changes to the staffing in September. I will be sending out a separate letter regarding this on Monday 1st June.

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**A little reminder:**

* We look forward to seeing you after the half term holiday on **Monday 1st June**.

Finally…Thank you for your continued support and the lovely, positive comments we receive in school. We work hard to make a difference in school for your child(ren) and it is very much appreciated by staff when their dedication and commitment and a job well done is recognised.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cador