****

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

Head Teacher's News Letter

May 01 2015

Welcome back to a busy Summer term!

**Teaching and Learning**

Whilst children will still receive their entitlement to a broad and balanced curriculum this term, staff are looking at ways to enhance the teaching and learning in writing and the reading of quality texts to raise children's interest and achievements and school's aspirations and standards in these two areas. FOWS have already invested in helping us reinstate the library and one of our volunteer helpers wrote to me recently writing: “*I was thrilled to see the re-installation of the library in school. I am a very firm believer in the access of books to children, given life is full of technology. As a volunteer reader with three classes in school I have seen a positive reaction already. Children are reading books that they would never have tried before. Totally brilliant and thank you.*”

We now have 'Reading Time' on Friday afternoons before Y6 assembly. Some classes are buddied up to read, some use the opportunity to enjoy the pleasure of reading books in different localities in school and around the school grounds.

We have invested this term in providing the children with quality 'Learning Journey' books to replace the topic books of previous terms. The children will continue to learn through a cross-curricula approach but it is our aim to increase children's pride in their work and presentation by working to deliver opportunities for learning with a high quality outcome.

**Curriculum Timetable Changes and Staffing**

We have moved our Sportscape PE days to Wednesday afternoon for Base 2 and Base 3 and Thursday for Base 1 , Base 4 and Base 5. Base 3 also have their swimming session on the Thursday afternoon.

We welcome Mrs Pascall on Thursdays who is working with Base 5, 4, 3 and 2 and is teaching music. Mrs Pascall has also offered a recorder club on Thursday lunchtimes.

Mrs Rodway will continue to be with us for the term teaching Base 2 on Fridays.

**KS2 SATS**

KS2 SATs take place the week beginning the 11th May. A separate letter for Y6 parents will be sent out identifying the time-table and arrangements for the week.

**Clubs**

You will be receiving today a ‘Clubs’ letter. Staff have volunteered their time after school to run a variety of clubs and we hope there is something on offer for everyone. There will be a finite number for clubs so some will be confirmed on a first come first served basis. There will a few more clubs added during this half term.

**Attendance**

Our first week back to school saw us achieving high attendance percentages, with four classes helping us achieve our outstanding target of 97%+. Outstanding attendance has been celebrated weekly in our Y6 led Friday assemblies. Well done and keep it up!

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Base 1 | Base 2 | Base 3 | Base 4 | Base 5 |
| 99.5% | 96.5% | 97.6% | 100% | 100% |

Monthly monitoring letters will continue to be sent to parents whose children’s attendance falls below 90%. Poor attendance is linked to a lack of progress and achievement.

Children who so miss school a lot can sometimes feel they are 'falling behind' their peers and lose confidence. We don't want this for our Wrenbury children.

**Educational Visits**

This next half term Base 1 and 2 will be travelling to Knowsley Safari park as of their Amazing Animals focus. Y2 will be getting ready for their Tattenhall residential in June and Base 5 are getting ready for their end of term residential at Robin Wood. Base 5 will be organising some fundraising events to offset some of the cost of the visit generously match funded by FOWS.

**Class and team Photos**

You will be receiving your child's class and team photos shortly. We hope you like the new look! We receive commission on your purchases, which we use to provide for your child in school.

**Sporting Celebrations**

Very well done to **Francesca and Harry** (Base 5) for their Black Belt Grading Tae Kwon Do achievements last weekend. We received fantastic news that Sophie (Base 5) has gained a place in the Cheshire Youth Cricket Team and will be touring the country playing teams as far north as Durham! We're very proud of you all!

**Website - Calendar and News**

Do keep up to date with news and events in school through browsing the website. Staff are now adding class news feeds each week to give you an overview of the focus and learning taking place, which may in turn be useful to know how and what to support your child with at home.

**Community Hub School**

Each month we will be hosting a **Community Coffee Stop** in school. This will take place on the **3rd Tuesday of the month from 9-10am** and the first will be held on **Tuesday 19th May**. A huge thank you to Cath Mansfield for volunteering to make the teas/coffees. The aim is to provide the opportunity for our school community to come into school socially and at the same time find out about what is on offer to all families through different organisations linked to young children and families within the Nantwich area. We hope to have short talks or demonstrations from different groups so that information can be shared more accessibly. **All are welcome**. We look forward to you joining us.

A huge thank you to the Cheshire East Rural School representatives Dawn and Carole and to Cheshire East Children's Centre Team for supporting our initiative in school.

Also, if you have a pre-school child (0-4 yrs) or know someone else who does, it is really important that they are registered with the Children’s Centre. Apparantly there are 84 children in this age group in the rural district of Wrenbury (not just in the village) but not all have been registered. So, please do let us know and we will get in touch with the Chldren’s Centre on your behalf.

**Assemblies and visitors**

Next week is **Deaf Awareness Week** and we have two visitors to help us lead our assemblies: Gill and Shirley. Gill is deaf and will be explaining to the children her experience of being deaf, whilst Shirley is going to teach the children to sign a song they have been learning to sing.

We also have Jane Emery, who works for the **Nantwich Foodbank,** leading an assembly on Monday 11th May. We would very much like to support the work of the Nantwich Foodbank, who reach out to families in need, including families in our own school community in a number of ways. One way is the distrbution of everyday essentials. Please can you help by donating one or more items from the list below so that we can give them to her on that morning of her visit. We will taking in collections from tomorrow. Thank you.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Instant Coffee; Tinned sponge puddings; rice pudding; jams/peanut butter; nappies and wipes; toiletries; toothbrushes and paste; sanitary products; treats

Rev. Alison will also be joining us this half term to lead an assembly on Thursday 14th May.

**Friends Of Wrenbury School ~ FOWS**

At the last FOWS meeting, the committee unanimously agreed to fund an outdoor learning classroom for school. A design has been chosen and we hope to have it installed near the pond area so the children are able to benefit from both resources in their learning. This project is hoped to be completed before the end of term.

They are also replacing the pond area fencing in the short term and looking at new picnic benches to replace the few that has seen better days.

A huge thank you to all who support and help raise these funds to enhance the learning experiences of our children in school.

The ‘**Friday Tuck Shop**’, which takes place after school on alternate Fridays, is proving very popular. It will be open for business after school this Friday, with small cakes in addition to the tuck.

**FOWS - Summer Fair**

Information has been sent to you about the new look, Wild West themed Summer Fair. A huge amount of work has gone into ensuring that there is something for everyone and that the event will be a fun packed day, including the evening hoe-down with live music! There will more news about how to get involved coming soon! Do check the school's website 'School - FOWS' for information.

**MUGA**

A big thank you to Jack McEvoy for co-ordinating the building of the path that links the school grounds to the car park next to the doctor’s surgery and all those who supported him, with their volunteered time and free labour. It is **very much** appreciated.

Thank you to Mrs Ashley and the Gardening Club team for helping to make our outside school environment so welcoming. We have some lovely hanging pots and planters at the entrance to school.

**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.

****

**A little reminder:**

* We return to school on **Monday 5th May**.

 *Monday is a Bank Holiday*.

Finally…Enjoy the long weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cador