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

Head Teacher's News Letter

March 2017

What a short but very busy term we have had!

**Inspection**

Our first visit from HMI in January was welcomed and we were very pleased with the outcomes of this monitoring visit. Anne Seneviratne was very complimentary about our school, our teachers and our children and recognised the good progress the school team is making.

*'The work in pupils’ books provides strong evidence that the quality of teaching has improved across the school'. The children summed up our school as ‘awesome’, ‘fabulous’ and ‘fantastic’. Ms Seneviratne wrote that 'It is clear that they (children) value the support they receive from staff and that they enjoy their learning. Children at Wrenbury feel safe, valued and happy, which helps them to learn more effectively. Staff and pupils alike embrace the school motto, ‘We All Matter’. This is a school that puts the well-being of children at the heart of all that it does.'*

We are rightly proud of our school and continue to work tirelessly to ensure that we offer the very best we can for every child and family at Wrenbury.

**Teaching and Learning**

The whole school theme of 'Journeys' led our learning this term: journeys into space, between poles, across oceans and migrations.

We welcomed Paul Gerraghty, an author and illustrator, in for the day to inspire our writing and love of reading.

This term children from Bases 2-6 came and shared their learning journey books with the governors who focus on teaching and learning. The governors were very impressed with how articulate the children were about their learning and the wide range of learning undertaken.

A special mention goes to **Mrs Clarke**, who teaches RE in Bases 3, 4 and 5 for the wonderful learning opportunities she delivers and the fantastic books she makes to record the children's learning. They are on display in the school hall if you would like to look at them.

We hosted **two curriculum events** this term: one on numeracy teaching and one on literacy. parents who attended found them to be very worthwhile events. Staff are thanked for leading them.

We hosted our **Sharing Afternoon** inFebruary, which was very well attended, to provide quality time for our children to share their learning journey books as well as their Maths and English books with mums, dads and grandparents.

We ended the term with two parent evenings. We expect 100% of parents to engage with school in their children's learning. arrangements will be made to meet with those parents who couldn't attend.

**Governance**

We welcome Caroline Cawood (James in Y5's mum) to our governing body as a Parent Governor.. Thank you to each of our governors for their commitment to working with us to ensure the education we offer is the best it can be for all our pupils. They spend a lot of voluntary time in and out of school time supporting us.

Please also look on the school's website - Our People - Our Governors. You can read a short biography for each governor. Other information around the work of the Governing Body and the termly newsletters from Jenny Davies, the Chair of Governors, are also on our website.

**Family Links**

Grandparents have really enjoyed the opportunity of coming in and spending time with their grandchild(ren). We look forward to welcoming Base 5 grandparents in the near future. We have listened to parents who have asked for parents’ lunches and these are being organised with Sharon.

**Communication - Parent Forum**

Today saw the start of Parent Forum. Your Parent Forum representatives are:

Rachel Walker (Alfie YR)

Jenny Parry (Laura YR)

Sally White (Reefe YR/Taylor Y1)

Tracey Inniss (Finley Y2)

Carol Rogerson (Frayer Y3)

Rachel Howell (Jacob/Oliver Y3)

Lydia Jones (Harley Y4)

Lorraine Cooke (Alivia Y4)

Jo Heath (Ruby Y5)

Please see attached agreed Terms of Reference and the Minutes from our first successful meeting this morning.

**Attendance**

Our **HMI** rightly identified that attendance for a number of children and families is a cause for concern. Poor attendance is linked to a lack of progress and achievement. Mrs Rowlands and I are tracking attendance and we work closely with our Educational Welfare Officer to follow up persistent absence.Your child MUST attend school as much as is possible.

We have **8 children with 100% attendance since 5th September**: Y6 - Melissa, Ben Holland, Aoife, Harry and Charlie, Y5 – Charlotte, Y2 - Finley, Lola ~ CONGRATULATIONS!

We have **36 children with 100% attendance since 1st January (35% of our pupils)**

B1: Josh, Isabella, Sofia, Phoebe, Livvy, Reefe;

B2 – Eleanor, Freddie, Henry, Isaac, LJ, Monty, Finley, Lola, Jessica, Reece, Taylor, Charlie;

B3 – Ellie, Amelia, Max;

B4 – Ethan, Harrison, Matthew F, Max H, Charlotte, Harley;

B5 – Melissa, Lucy, Daisy, William, Ben Holland, Alfie, Aoife, Harry and Charlie.

**We have 58 pupils (56%) will 97% or higher attendance this term. Let’s see if we can increase this by the end of next term!**

The **school bell** is rung from 8.45am to signal that school is open! This has had a positive impact on getting children into school on time. **Thanks to Max (Y5)** for his wonderful bell-ringing!

**Safeguarding**

**On-line safety** meetings for parents were held in early March and led by PC Amy Fletcher. Again, those who attended found them to be very informative.

Children in Y5/6 were also given a **'Keeping Safe on Line'** talk by PC Amy Fletcher.

Our **PCSO, Sharon Jones**, held a pupil drop-in and a parent drop-in this term. She is a regular attendee at our monthly Coffee Stops if anyone needs to talk to help in confidence.

Mark Thomas, from the **RNLI**, led a whole school assembly on keeping safe near inland and coastal waters as well as leading a workshop on the history of the RNLI for Bases 3 and 4.

Do keep us up to date with changes to **home-time arrangements** and contact detail changes.

**Well-being**

Pupils are really enjoying our weekly well-being lunch clubs but have said they would like the opportunity to change groups so that they get to know other children in school better and get to know a different member of staff. We have listened and think it is a great idea! So it's all change for our Well-being Lunch Clubs for the Summer term.

We have worked through Friendship Terrace. We start the summer term looking at how we can be more resilient, able to persevere and to develop a Growth Mindset rather than an 'I can't' attitude and approach to life and learning.

We know school is a place of learning but we also know that to learn well a child has to have a sense of well-being - 'a happy mind learns best'. If your child is experiencing any difficulties that could be affecting their emotional well-being please can you share them with school (in confidence) so that staff can put the necessary support in place during periods of difficulty: marriage break up / separations / bereavement / long term illness of a family member etc. If you have concerns regarding their time in school it is important that these are shared too with your child's class teacher: friendships, work etc

**PE**

Thank you to Miss Phillips, Mr Sargeant, Mrs Winward and Mrs Clarke for continuing to offer sporting opportunities and competition experience to our children through your commitment and volunteered time alongside Sportscape. It is hugely appreciated. **45 KS2 children (82%) have competed in competitions since the start of the academic year** and more children have been invited but not yet taken up the offer. We hope to increase this number and % by the end of the summer.

**Assemblies and visitors**

Rev. Alison has led an assembly. Mark Thomas led a whole school assembly on water safety as representative of the RNLI. Paul Geraghty spent a day in school inspiring a love of writing and illustration. Ruby the dog continues to come into school with Berney Lunt and provides a lovely reading experience with some of our children. Children's Centre mobile bus joined us at our last Coffee Stop.

**Charity**

THANK YOU! The children, with your support, have raised an amazing **£1,078** for children and families in need across the UK and in Africa for [Red Nose Day]. It is fantastic to know that we can do our bit to help others who 'matter' just as much as we do!

We have received £175 from **Wrenbury Consolidated Charities**. A thank you has been sent.

**Community Hub School**

The Coffee Stop continues on the third Tuesday of the month 9am-10am, except for April! We strat back to school on the third Tuesday so are moving the Coffee Stop to the **25th April.**

**All are welcome, including pre-school children and toddlers**. We look forward to you joining us.

**Clubs**

This term we offered 9 clubs: Football, netball, cross-stitch, cross-country, art, choir, construction,music and ‘Band’. Next term we hope to be offering more clubs. News will follow.

Thank you to Mrs Clarke (Iona's mum) for her very kind offer to run a Gardening Club during the summer term. All helpers with skills welcome! Do let us know if you can help!

**Parent helpers / volunteers**

We are very grateful for the support we have from our parents and grandparents. If anyone feels they can offer the school and our children a skill or expertise, some time to listen to readers or help out in class or at events, please do let your child's class teacher know. Thank you.

Today is National Kindness Day. Let's all do our bit to spread a little kindness to all those we can.

Happy Easter and kind regards,

Mrs Cador