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

Head Teacher's News Letter

December 2016

We are quickly approaching the end of a busy Autumn term at Wrenbury and looking forward to the pleasures of joining family and friends for the Christmas break.

**Christmas Festivities**

It was lovely to see so many of our families at the **Christmas Fair**. A very big thank you to FOWS, parents helpers, staff and children for all the work behind the scenes and on the night to make our Christmas Fair a huge success with over £1000 raised. Thank you to Santa for joining us in the grotto and to Mr Jones for driving Santa to school.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our traditional Christmas celebrations; whether it was at the Base 1 and 2 Nativity ‘Jesus’ Christmas party’ or at our KS2 Carol Service at St Margaret’s Church, last Thursday evening. The children were wonderful and sprinkled a little bit of Christmas magic with their performances, readings and singing.

Sharon and Liz in the kitchen put on a wonderful Christmas lunch for everyone and thanks to Alexander Papers for their generous donation of papers and card for us to create our own Christmas hats!

Y6 sang at Wrenbury Nursing Home on Friday afternoon, which was very much appreciated by both the residents and staff. We hope to visit across the school year.

**COMMUNICATION**

Mrs Rowlands has prepared the **Spring Term** **school calendar**, a paper copy of which will be given to each family (see back of this newsletter). It contains key dates and events, which should help with organising time off work etc in advance. A copy will be posted on the website as a ‘newsfeed’ and the website calendar will also be updated with these new dates.

Do keep up to date with news and events in school by also **browsing the school website**. Staff will be adding class **news feeds** each week to give you an overview of the focus and learning taking place.

School policies and statutory documents as well as information for parents can be found on the site under the **SCHOOL** heading on the menu bar. Visitors to school tell us they have looked at our website before visiting us and found it very informative and a great way to get a feel of what we offer at Wrenbury.

**Immediate post-Christmas dates to be aware of:**

* Base 3 swimming starts Wednesday 4th January
* Tempest Class photos Friday 6th January
* KS2 New Vic Theatre visit Thursday 12th January

**Coffee Stop**

A number of parents have said they’d like to come to our Coffee Stops but can’t make it on 3rd Tuesday of the month. In response, we will trial additional Coffee Stop sessions on Wednesday 1st February and Wednesday 1st March at 3pm. Please do join us!

The Coffee stop aims to provide the opportunity for our school community to meet 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. All are welcome, including pre-school children and toddlers. We look forward to you joining us.

**Teaching and Learning**

This term we have followed a whole school theme: 'Into the forest'. The children have explored some super stories and facts and thoroughly enjoyed visits to Delamere Forest and Chester Zoo as well as engaging with their learning in our school grounds. We look forward to you being able to come and **share your child’s learning in school** on Friday 3 February from 2.15pm.

We continue to drive improvement in teaching and learning to ensure better outcomes for all our pupils with the support of our governors.

**Attendance and Punctuality**

**Congratulations** to all the children who have managed the fantastic achievement of 100% attendance this term, despite the few weeks that school was hit with viruses.

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| Base | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | B5 |
| % attendance this to 16.12.16 | 94.4% | 95.1% | 94.0% | 94.7% | 96.6% |
| 100% attendance | Asa Jones  Alfie Speed  Olivia Taylor | Aaron Carrigan  Finley Inniss  Lola Jones | Heather Hand  Jacob Howell | Ryan Crone  Matthew Hitchen  Charlotte Jones | Melissa Bebbington  Katie Cliffe  Ben Hand  Ben Holland  Aoife King  Harry May  Chloe Von Dinther  Charlie Winward |

It is important that children are in school as often as possible to benefit from the education offered.

We continue to track and challenge **'late arrivals'** and '**poor attendance'**. Do endeavour to have your child in school in time to join their class by 8:55am and not have to come through the school's reception door. Your child should attend school as much as is possible. **Monitoring letters** will be sent to parents whose children’s attendance falls **below 90% as identified** byour Educational Welfare Officer. This is deemed as **'Persistent absence'** by the government. Poor attendance is linked to a lack of progress and achievement. Do endeavour to limit the amount of time taken for recovery from illnesses.

**Safeguarding**

We work continuously to safeguard your child.

We continue to be part of **Operation Encompass**. Any domestic abuse reported to the police, having taken place in the family home of any of our pupils overnight, is reported to school by 8.30am so that staff can be vigilant and support the children in question, where necessary.

**E-safety** continues to be taught across school. The Nantwich partnership of school’s are hosting an after **school event for parents to be led by PC Amy Fletcher** on how to keep your child safe online. These events are very well worth attending. I will let you know the date, time and venue once confirmed.

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

**Well-being**

Our Well-being Lunch Clubs for all our children in Y1-6 have proved to be a popular part of our school week. We have focussed this half term on ‘Getting on and falling Out’ using the stories around the characters from Friendship Terrace to lead the discussions. We 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

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**PE**

The school has achieved **Sainsbury Silver Sports Mark** and our thanks go to Miss Phillips and Mrs Winward supported this term by Mr Sargeant for promoting sport so well at Wrenbury. Sportscape continue to coordinate our involvement in the Crewe and Nantwich School Sport Partnership competitions and helping to keep the profile of sport high at Wrenbury. Base 3 and Base 4 will have their swimming lessons this next term. Separate letters will be sent out with information.

**Assemblies and visitors**

Rev. Alison joined us this half term to lead an assembly and joined us at our **Service of Remembrance**.

Ruby the dog continues to come into school with Berney Lunt and share a lovely reading experience with some of our children.

We were delighted to host Base 1’s grandparents for lunch this term and received many compliments about school. We look forward to hosting grandparents from Bases 2, 3 and 4 this next term.

**Charity**

At Wrenbury we like to think of others as ‘we all matter!’ So far this year

* Macmillan Coffee Morning raised £130
* 56kg of foodstuffs for Nantwich Foodbank (Harvest donation)
* Poppy appeal for the British Legion - £40
* Christmas Jumper – Save the Children - £98.40

We were also in receipt of a very generous £500 donation from the Wrenbury Consolidated Charities

We received £181.77 commission from the Book Fair hosted earlier in the term.

We received £158.23 commission from Tempest Photography.

**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.

All the staff join me in wishing you all our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

Kind regards,

Mrs Cador