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

Head Teacher's News Letter

January 2016

I very much hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and wish you a very happy new year.

The children brought lots of Christmas spirit into school and into the community through their super Nativity, the KS2 Carol Service at St Margaret’s and Y5 carol singing at Wrenbury Nursery home. There were lots of lovely comments about the wonderful singing and story-telling and we were very proud of them. Thank you to the staff for their hard work in preparing the children.

The children have come back to school in a very calm yet enthusiastic manner and eager to work and learn.

At the start of this new term, we welcome Mrs Vukovic to Base 3. We thank her for the commitment she made, prior to the end of last term, to secure a smooth transition for the children with the support of Mrs Carden. There have been lots of ‘I like my new teacher’ and smiling faces, which are lovely to hear and see.

In assembly yesterday, we talked about the New Year and resolutions. Nathan in Y1 said he’d like to do lots more writing…and he went home and did just that! I was privileged to share his story at lunchtime. Will H, Jacob and Andra went on a tour of our outside areas with Mrs Conroy, have mind mapped their ideas to improve them and have started writing a super report. A great start to the New Year and our focus to inspire the children to be great writers!

**Parent Evenings**

We invite you to parents evenings next Wednesday and Thursday. A separate letter will be sent for you to book an appointment with your child’s teacher. Y3/4 will not receive a letter as parents were invited to meet with Mrs Carden at the end of last term. At this appointment the teacher will be sharing your child’s progress last term and talking to you about next steps for this term. A further parent’s evening is pencilled in on our school calendar (copies sent home at start of autumn term) for the end of this term to review progress again.

**Teaching and Learning**

You will shortly be receiving your child’s holistic termly plan and a class newsletter. The children are finding out all about Toys in Y1/2, travelling back in time to the Vikings in Y3/4, visiting ancient Greece in Y5 and exploring Benin in Africa in Y6. The staff have chosen some good reads to entice the children into their learning. If you have skills and artefacts etcetera that you feel would enhance the learning in any of the classes, please do get in touch.

**Educational Visits and Curriculum Enrichmnet**

Base 1 had a fantastic visit to Underwater Street Liverpool in November.

KS2 are very much looking forward to their visit to the New Vic Theatre to see Robin Hood on Tuesday. It really is a wonderful theatrical experience.

Y5 and Y6 are busy preparing for their next massed choir rehearsal for Singfest ’16. Tickets are available to purchase in advance (not through school but through previous link sent home) if you’d like to watch and listen to the final performance.

**Assemblies and visitors**

We look forward to welcoming Mr Kowtal from the Muslim faith into school on Monday. Mr Kowtal is an ‘outstanding’ teacher and comes highly recommended. He will be leading an assembly and then work with Base 3 and Base 5 on their Islam RE units of work. Reverend Alison Fulford and Andrew Taylor (one of our new governors) will join us in school. The governors and Ofsted both saw this as a fantastic opportunity to support and develop our work around British Values to help us live with each other in a tolerant and respectful way.

**PE**

Please can you ensure that your child has **PE kit in school** and that **sturdy trainers are worn** for outdoor PE. You may like to provide your child with a tracksuit or tracksuit bottoms (navy, black or grey) for outdoor PE this term. We look forward to competing in competitions with local schools again this term with the support of Sportscape, Mrs Winward and Miss Phillips

***Swimming*** – Y6 have 3 more swimming lessons. Y5 will then begin their series of lessons up to the Easter break. Lessons will be sent out shortly to Base 4 parents.

**Attendance**

We were awarded 'Green' for the 2nd year running for outstanding attendance compared to other Cheshire East schools at the end of the last academic year. This is a huge achievement but we can't be complacent!

From the start of the new school year to today (6th January) , the overall school attendance is 96.7%. We aim to be above 97%! As we’re not far off, let’s try and be in school as much as possible!

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Base 1 | Base 2 | Base 3 | Base 4 | Base 5 |
| 96.7% | 98% | 96% | 98.5% | 93.7% |

Congratulations go to Bases 2 and 4 for their outstanding attendance (above 97%)! This is fantastic! Base 1 and Base 3 are close behind – well done! Base 5 need to work harder at being in school. Poor attendance is linked to a lack of progress and achievement. **Children, who miss school a lot, can sometimes feel they are 'falling behind' their peers, lose confidence and make less progress**. We don't want this for any of our Wrenbury children.

Monitoring letters will continue to be sent to parents whose children’s attendance falls below 90%. This is now deemed as **'Persistent absence'** by the government.

**Safeguarding**

We work continuously to safeguard your child.

**Internet Safety**

You are invited (FREE) to attend the forthcoming Nantwich Educational Partnership of primary schools evening THURSDAY 14 JANUARY at Willaston Academy to find out how to keep your child safe online. A letter is being sent to you outlining details. These are highly recommended events – any parent/carer is welcome to attend and will be particularly pertinent to parents in KS2.

**ROAD SAFETY** - a polite reminder that there should be **no parking** (even for dropping off) in the yellow marked area outside school **OR** in unmarked areas opposite the road junction outside School House**. (Cars should not park on the road within 10metres of a junction - Highway Code)**. Such parking causes danger for pedestrians and especially our children trying to cross the road safely at busy times of the school day. Travelling vehicles have to drive on the opposite side of the road to pass the parked vehicles and visibility is reduced for both drivers and pedestrians. Please support us in keeping our children and families safe on the roads around school. Thank you!

We welcomed **PCSO Sharon Jones** and **PC Nicky Berry** into school for a lunchtime drop-in for children across school, before the Christmas break, and this continue in the Spring term.

Thank you for keeping us up to date with changes to **home-time arrangements** and contact detail changes.

**Community Hub School**

Thank you for the wonderful turn out at December’s Coffee Stop. 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**. We look forward to you joining us again on **Tuesday 19 January** at 9am.

**Your voice:**

I asked for suggestions of how we could develop the Coffee Stop further. Suggestions included: Clothes swap (uniforma nd non-uniform) and a book swap. We will get these underway for this month’s Coffee Stop.

**Friends Of Wrenbury School ~ FOWS**

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Peek (Daisy’s parents) who stepped in and were elected the Chair of FOWS for this year.

We had a fantastic Christmas Fair and Santa’s arrival in a vintage car was a highlight of the evening. A very big thank you for your donations and attendance at the event, which helped make it such a successful event. Of course, a big ‘thank-you’ too for the hard work of the FOWS committee and helpers.

FOWS are meeting at **The Cotton Arms on** **Thursday 7th January at 7.30pm** for their first meeting of the New Year. Why not join them to find out about future fundraising and social events for the next two terms? Your support would be very welcome!

**Clothing**

Please can you ensure your child comes to school with a coat and, if the weather gets colder, a hat and gloves. Labelling clothes will go a long way to helping us reduce our lost property too.

**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.

**Ofsted**

Thank you for your support during the Inspection. We expect to receive our report in the next few weeks.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cador