

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

Headteacher's Newsletter

September 2015

A very warm welcome back!

I hope you have had a lovely summer enjoying time with family and friends. It was lovely to see everyone, looking very smart in their school uniform and smiling and on time last Wednesday...and nice to see it continue this week!

**NEW STARTERS**
We have our full capacity of **20 new starters** this September and I'm pleased to see and hear how well they have settled in with Ms Huntington, Mrs Parsons and Mrs Wimpenny. We are looking forward to working in partnership with our new parents and grand-parents as our new starters, in Base 1, start their exciting Learning Journey at Wrenbury.

**NEW STAFF**
There's been a lovely buzz around school. We're delighted to be joined by **Miss Davies** in Base 2, **Miss Phillips** in Base 4 and **Mrs McGhie** in Base 5, as well as newly name–changed Mrs Carden to Base 3. **Mrs Wimpenny** is warmly welcomed to Base 1 as a 1:1 teaching assistant. On my walkabouts and pop ins, I've been met with children eager to tell me how much they like their new teachers and are enjoying their first few days in school. We welcome **Mrs** **Ali Hughes**, who will be supporting Debbie in the office, on Fridays. **Andy and Kieron** from Sportscape are co–ordinating PE this year and **Dan** will be teaching PE in Bases 3 and 5. **Mrs Rodway** continues to work with us teaching Base 4 on Fridays.

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY**

I received a letter at the end of last week saying we had been awarded **Green for outstanding** **attendance** for the year 2015-16 compared with other schools in Cheshire East. It is worth noting that none of last year's Y6 had attendance less than 95%, which is a fantastic commitment to school and learning. Last year's Reception class, Years 3 and 4 also did particularly well with their attendance.

Let's see if we can **all** endeavour to be in school on time and as much as possible. We do know that missing school does impact on a child's learning, where gaps in learning can become apparent, and ultimately on a child's progress. Absence can affect a child's confidence, too. It would be beneficial to ask, when making appointments, if they could be made at the end of the school day to reduce the interruption to your child's learning.

A polite reminder that we expect all children to be in school between **8:45 and 8:55am**. So far, so good! We do monitor not only % attendance monthly but also the number of *minutes late* when a child arrives after registration.

**If your child is ill**, it is important to inform the office as early as possible - we do have an answer machine for messages. Debbie will pick up your message.

**INFORMATION SHARING**
You should all have received a **welcome letter** from your child's class teacher and an **overview of the learning** that has been planned for this term.

We are promoting a love of reading through our Learning Journeys: Base 2 are reading 'Charlotte's Web' by EB White; Base 3 – 'Roman Mysteries' by Caroline Lawrence; Base 4 – 'The Railway Children' by E Nesbit and Base 5 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver. you may like to buy your child their own copy to read along with the teacher.

We are holding **Pastoral Meetings** next week. Do come along as you'll get a more personal and fuller flavour of the rhythms, routines, teaching, learning and expectations in the year ahead for your child and there will be opportunity for the teachers to answer any questions you may have.

**Base 3 (Y3/4)Monday 14th September
Base 4 (Y5) Tuesday 15th September
Base 5 (Y6) Tuesday 15th September**

**Base 2 (Y1/2) Wednesday 16th September**

The meetings will take place in the **classrooms** and will start at **4.30pm.**

**REFURBISHMENT and THANK YOUs**There has been some refurbishment in school over the summer and a big, public, thank you must go to **Colin Eaton and Jane Roberts** who have both done an amazing job at cleaning and refreshing the school (a lot of painting was undertaken!)

**Behind the scenes**: we've de–cluttered the school; put in new flooring and furniture in the school's entrance and main corridors; bought new furniture and installed new display boarding for Base 5 and installed new technology in Base 4.

A big thank you to **FOWS** for sorting the storage container. We found a few amazing gems hidden away, including a wonderful Victorian desk and a beautiful scholarship board. Both will have pride of place in the library. I'm sure the children will think it's great sitting at the desk with its long wooden bench, ink well sliding lids and lift–up writing lid.

**Ms Huntington and Mrs Parsons** have spent a lot of time in the EYFS outdoor area creating even better provision.

I have to thank **Irene Williamson**, Libby's gran, for very kindly making curtains for Base 2 and Base 3 and recovering the sofa cushions at no expense.

Our school garden and flower pots have been kept watered over the six week break with thanks to **Rachel Ashley**, Esme's mum.

**GETTING INVOLVED**
We very much want to work in partnership with you. You can get involved in a number of ways: as a parent helper, supporting Friends of Wrenbury School (FOWS), offering skills or contacts to enhance our children's learning.

**FOWS meeting**: The first meeting of the Autumn term will be held at **The Cotton Arms at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th September.** Be assured - it's all about many hands making the work load lighter rather than a few people with lots to do. Being a part of FOWS doesn't need to involve a huge time commitment. FOWS is a very friendly group and everyone is warmly welcome to pop along and find out about the group and the different way to support or help out. Following a hugely success Wild West summer fair, a **Welcome Disco** and a **Film Night** are being organised for this half term; dates and times to be confirmed.

**COMING UP**

* Singing workshop for Y5 and 6 led by Victoria Palethorpe Wednesday 9th September
* Community Coffee Stop – Tuesday 19th September 9–10am – all warmly welcome
* Bikeability for Y4 and Y5 week beginning 21st September (Information to follow)
* Sporting competitions organised through the Crewe and Nantwich School's Sport Partnership

**CLUBS**
A number of clubs are up and running:
Tennis, athletics, gardening and wildlife. Craft Club and a weekly football team practice will be starting soon. I have taken on board from the Parent Survey that we need to be offering a few more clubs for our younger children and hope to do so. We will be advertising additional clubs in the next week. They are a great way of getting your child involved in school life and helping them learn new skills and hobbies as well as making new friends! Look out for forthcoming information.

**OUTDOOR LEARNING**
We're very excited to announce that we have a provisional date (19 October) for the installation of our **outdoor classroom**. It will be sited near the pond area. This could only be purchased with the amazing fundraising and support of FOWS. THANK YOU!

On the back of this, we have also won **a lottery grant** for a double log climber, which will be installed at the same time. We think it will be a valuable addition to the facilities we have in school to increase our children's health and fitness.

**INFORMATION**At the start of the academic year we do request a lot of information from you:

* Home–time Arrangements
* Home School Agreement
* Updated Contact details
* Permission for use of photographs
* Email contact for information or to let us know you require paper copies.

These are IMPORTANT documents that need to be returned to the office (via your child's class teacher).

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

All our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children are able to receive a Universal Free School Meal (FSM). However, there is also an **income-related FSM** that can be claimed. Even if your child is receiving the Universal FSM in Base 1 and 2, you should claim for the income-related FSM too (if it is applicable to your current financial situation) as it is linked to additional funding we can receive in school. You can find more information on the Cheshire East website or by phoning 0300 123 5012. *Income-related FSM is also applicable to children in KS2 (Y3-6).*

**And finally...**
Thank you for your continued support. I am always available if you would like to chat anything through with me and I very much look forward to working with you and your child over the coming year.

Best wishes,
Mrs Cador