



Dear parent / carer,

What a very busy half term it seems to have been. The school continues to thrive and I'd like to start by offering a very warm welcome to Oliver (Y4) and his family, who have joined us for the start of this new spring half term. We also continue to grow in Little Wrens, having been joined by Amelia Y, Amelia R, Oliver M, Oliver G, Jack, Ava, Kady and Lucas and we offer a warm welcome to all our new families.

We thank Mrs Dopierala (Mrs D) for her continued work with Base 1 and Little Wrens, ably supported by Mrs Griffin and Mrs Agnew, during Mr Morrison's absence. We send our best wishes to Mr Morrison for a speedy return to good health.

As always we have lots to celebrate in school including a very positive SEND review; the collaborative work we are doing with Malbank School on 'transition and the curriculum' and the continued drive we are on to ensure our curriculum is the best it can be for all our children. We have appreciated the many favourable comments we have received from external agencies and visitors, who have recognised the strength of our curriculum, our 'we all matter' ethos and the very positive behaviours and relationships across school. We look forward to welcoming Jackie Forster, the Director of Education for Cheshire East, in March to see Wrenbury 'in action'.

Whilst there is a lot to commend us as a school, we are never complacent. We know school would be 'even better if' the following were improved:

#### **Punctuality**

**We continue to ask that ALL children arrive NO LATER THAN 8.55am** and enter school through their Meet and Greet entrance. A small number of families continue using the office entrance because they are 'running late'. Sadly, this results in unfair delays to a prompt lesson start for the children already in school or interrupts the teaching and learning that has started; interferes with the efficient running of the office and administrative tasks that are already underway; takes other adults away from their responsibilities in class, who have to ensure lunch registers are updated and children are assisted in getting to their classes or into the learning. **A few minutes late has a HUGE impact on the rest of the school – remember 'we all matter'.**

#### **Head Lice**

We have a number of repeated cases of head lice in school, affecting a few classes. This is becoming distressing for families who find their children with nits AGAIN, having repeatedly had to treat them. It is **VITAL** that everyone in school and all members of the family, not just the children, are checked and that there is **daily** checking. I have copied the NHS website advice to give you and please refer to our Head lice letter that is sent out regularly. Please read the NHS advice and let's see if, by following the advice carefully, we can reduce the number of cases we have been having in recent months.

#### **THANK YOU**

Mrs Ali Hughes, who joined us in the office from the Pre-school, will be leaving us at the end of the week for personal reasons. We wish Ali all the very best and thank her for all she has done; being a great help in supporting the transition from the pre-school into Little Wrens in the last 18 months and in working alongside myself and Debbie as we have moved the school forward.

We welcome Amanda Clarke, into the office administration team. As a past Wrenbury parent and secretary of FOWS and therefore knowing the school, Amanda also brings a wealth of business management knowledge and experience that will support the school moving forward. She has been working alongside Ali and Debbie to ensure a smooth handover. I'm sure you'll all warmly welcome her to the Wrenbury team and I thank her in advance for the contribution she will make.

We also welcome Katie Clarke to our Midday Day Assistant team. This is always a difficult position to fill and we're very grateful to Katie for applying and joining the Wrenbury team.

Thank you to Lesley Midwinter for giving up a day of the holiday to refresh the staff room (and Sarah Goodwin who popped in to help) – it was a lovely gesture and very much appreciated.

Thank you, as always, for your generous support of school and your child(ren) and sincere thanks for your continued support of myself and the team. We hope to see many of you at our forthcoming **Sharing Afternoon on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** (3.30-5pm classrooms) and Parents Evenings on 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April.

*Mrs Cador*

## HEADLICE

The NHS website says:

Head lice can make your head feel:

- itchy
- like something is moving in your hair

The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice.

You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

### How to get rid of head lice

- Treat head lice **as soon as you spot them**.
- You should **check everyone in the house** and **start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day**.
- There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

### Wet combing

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing. You should try this method first.

You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- **wash hair with ordinary shampoo**
- **apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)**
- **comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends**

It usually takes about **10 minutes to comb short hair**, and **20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair**.

**Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.**

### Medicated lotions and sprays

Ask a pharmacist for advice if you have tried wet combing for 17 days, but your child still has live head lice.

They may recommend using medicated lotions and sprays. These kill head lice in all types of hair, and you can buy them from pharmacies, supermarkets or online.

Head lice should die within a day. Some lotions and sprays come with a comb to remove dead lice and eggs. *Some treatments need to be repeated after a week to kill any newly hatched lice.*

Check the pack to see if they're OK for you or your child and how to use them.

If lotions or sprays **do not work**, speak to a pharmacist about other treatments.

*Some treatments are not recommended because they're unlikely to work.*

For example:

- products containing permethrin
- head lice "repellents"
- electric combs for head lice
- tree and plant oil treatments, such as tea tree oil, eucalyptus oil and lavender oil herbal remedies

Information:

The charity Community Health Concern has a [video about wet combing for head lice](#).

### You cannot prevent head lice

***There's nothing you can do to prevent head lice.***

***You can help stop them spreading by wet or dry combing regularly to catch them early.***

*Do not use medicated lotions and sprays to prevent head lice. They can irritate the scalp.*

*There's no need for children to stay off school or to wash laundry on a hot wash.*

The NHS website says: *'Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.'*

We need to all work together to try and prevent 'nits' becoming common place in school and certain classes.

THANK YOU