



'...where we all matter.'

Head Teacher's News Letter 20 July 21

Dear parent / carer,

What a 'long and winding road' we have travelled through this last academic year. There is no hiding from it - it has been a very tough year for the Wrenbury Team, having to be on 'red alert' for a Covid contact and a potential breach of a bubble; ensuring that we could deliver the high quality education we offer, whether face-to-face or via remote learning and both for a term; supporting our children and families and each other and, added to that, the changes to the way we cater for and cover lunchtimes; the additional cleaning/hygiene regimes and protective measures that needed to be implemented as well as all the additional administrative tasks, risk assessments, paperwork and checklists that added to the 'to do' pile across the days, weeks and months. All balanced with the same positivity and commitment the staff at Wrenbury give to their roles and, most importantly, to our children and families.

And throughout, the children have been amazing. I am so proud of each and every one of them.

In amongst all this, there have been some highlights this term...

- Y6 were able to have seven, longer **swimming sessions** in the outdoor pool at Nantwich in June. Miss Phillips and I took great pleasure from seeing the children thoroughly enjoy themselves as well as improve their swimming. Sunshine (on most days) and water it felt like being on holiday a real treat!
- We were able to host a whole school, sunny, **picnic lunch** on the field. Thank you Mrs Warner and Mrs Speed!
- We had a wonderfully exciting and joyous **sports day**. Lots of fun, laughter, cheers and ice lollies and the Blue's won the Ian Cowley Trophy ... again... but that didn't matter. Being able to host it and for the children to take part was what definitely mattered most to all of us.
- Fantastic learning has taken place the children stepped back into school after the Easter break, aimed high, strived to succeed and took pride in their work. Their Learning Journey books showcase this beautifully.
- Staff were able to hold **face to face parent appointments** (with some restrictions) for the first time in 12 months
- The sunflowers have started blooming golden yellow alongside the footpath and have really turned the walk into Wrenbury school yellow!
- Becoming 'Dementia aware' and planting a garden of forget-me-nots at the front of school
- Following a **young carer's** assembly, children who have identified themselves as young carers were assessed and will be getting the support they deserve.
- Having a zoom lesson from Chester Zoo for Base 3 and 5

Goodbyes...

We have to say **goodbye to our Year 6**. They have a water fight this afternoon and a party after school to celebrate the end of their primary schooling. They are a special cohort for me. I joined the school in January 2015 and a number of the children were in my first reception class. I've watched them flourish on their learning journey through Wrenbury primary and seen the wonderful young people they have grown to become. They are more than ready for the new adventures and exciting opportunities of high school. Since then, the school has grown and the class of 2014 has grown too. Each new member of the cohort (and their family) has become a special part of our Wrenbury family. I wish them all well and want them to know it has been a privilege to be their head-teacher.

We also say **goodbye to Mrs Liz Speed.** Liz has worked at the school as our kitchen assistant for many years supporting Mrs Warner. We thank her for her service to the school and wish her well for a long and happy retirement. Thanks, Liz.

Staffing update

Mrs Dopierala is unwell and will not be able to join us for the start of the next academic year. As such, Mrs Charlesworth and I have had to make a few changes to staffing for September. Miss Christina Bex will be joining the team to teach in Little Wrens and Mrs Phoenix, our newly appointed Little Wren's TA, will join her in our nursery provision. We warmly welcome them.

This allows Mrs Turner to move to Base 2 to teach our current Base 1 class in September; she will be joined by Mrs Wimpenny, as Mrs Agnew is stepping away from her TA role in school. We thank Mrs O'Hara and especially Mrs Winward for all their hard work and commitment in ensuring Base 1 have had a good half term of learning. In the meantime, we send Mrs Dopierala our very best wishes and look forward to her return in the future, both to good health and to school and thank Mrs Agnew for the role she has played in nurturing our current Little Wrens and getting them school-ready.

We warmly welcome Hayley Pearson, who is covering staff absence in The Nest. We know she will be an asset to what we ae able to provide alongside Miss Stonebrook for our Out Of School Club.

Mrs Warner will be making a new appointment for her kitchen assistant.

A huge thank you to:

- Our parents and grandparents for your continued support of your child(ren) /grandchild(ren) and the Wrenbury Team. This strong home/school partnership is a vital element in ensuring the very best outcomes for every child at Wrenbury. Thank you.
- Sarah Goodwin. You didn't stop but just kept on giving, as did all the donators and donations. From your original target of £1,000 back in March 2020, you topped £10k and then went on to top £13,000. An amazing show of dedication to the school and our children a heartfelt, sincere thank you!
- Friends and parents for all the cakes, goodies, gifts and messages to keep the staff going and letting them know they were being thought about and appreciated. Thank you.
- You for your continued support of the school team and our endeavours to keep each and every one of families safe and to still provide a high quality education for every child. For your understanding of the challenges we faced and your selfless support of the measures we put in place to be able to do the things we wanted to do eg parent appointments. Thank you.
- Our utterly brilliant staff! Again, I am humbled and privileged to work with such a fantastic team at Wrenbury. Every single one of them has given their all for the children and school this year and kept a smile on their face! I applaud each and every one of them!

Now the summer break beckons. We're nearly there. Yes, really! Please be cautious and keep safe: 'They think it's all over, it isn't yet!' I will be writing to you towards the end of the summer break with an update of expectations for the start of the next school year. Things change so quickly and I don't want to tell you something now for it to have to change. Do look out for my letter. I'll send a text alert so you know to look for it.

Many thanks for your continued support of myself and the Wrenbury Team. Have a happy, safe and relaxing summer, Best wishes, Bessa Cador