****

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

Head Teacher's News Letter

March 2016

We are quickly approaching the Easter break and looking forward to Easter eggs and a well-earned rest! The frogs have already settled into the school pond and we have the first of this year’s frogspawn! Exciting weeks ahead!

**Post Ofsted**

We have had two visits from our School Improvement Partner, Liam Trippier, this term. In February, he reported that "Leaders have already made a concerted effort to respond to the areas for improvement identified at the inspection at the end of the Autumn term" and, following his visit in March, stated that "Senior leaders have worked with vigour to address the development points from the last visit." Thank you to all our staff for their commitment in responding positively to and actioning the necessary improvements.

**Teaching and Learning**

Mrs McGhie held a Y6 SATs information evening. Thank you to those who attended. There are a number of changes this year to the Y6 SATs and expectations on children have been raised considerably compared to previous years, resulting in greater challenges for all children to meet the new 'national standard'. Ms Huntington and I are running two Easter holiday SATS sessions (7th/8th April) for Y6. Confirmation of attendance is essential.

Miss Davies and I will be hosting a Y2 SATs information evening after the Easter break for our Y2 parents. A letter is being sent out.

**Parent partnership**

It is really important at Wrenbury that there is a successful parent partnership between our families and school in order to have the very best outcomes for all our children and also to build strong school and community links.

Thank you to Julie Dowd, Carol Rogerson, Andrea Winward, Sam Thomas and Jo Greenhough for meeting with me to consult on the school's Relationship and Sex Education Policy. It is important to gather consensus from parents who are representative of our school community. We had a very good and informative discussion and were able to finalise the draft policy before it goes to the Full Governing Body for ratification.

**Parent Evenings**

Thank you for attending your Parent's Evening appointments. It is important to share your child's progress and experience in school with you as well as give you an opportunity to share any concerns or thank yous. A number of parents have commented that they were surprised to have two parent's evenings this term. This is in response to the Parent Survey in July, where a number of parents felt there should be more opportunity to meet with staff. The appointments appear to be close together due to this being a very short term.

***Thank you for raising the following:***

**Clubs**: Clubs do not take place in the Spring term because of the shorter, darker nights. Outdoor clubs can be adversely affected by inclement weather during the spring term, which can cause cancellations and inconvenience to parents/carers. The hall is not suitable for sports clubs. Clubs will return after the Easter break for the summer term. Look out for letters.

**Wet playtimes and lunchtimes:** Wet playtimes and lunchtimes have been very few this term and, when the weather is wet, we make a joint decision amongst staff as to whether the playtime should be inside or outside. We only have wet playtimes when it is raining heavily (not drizzling /spitting). We ask that children come to school with a coat for the very reason that we can be outside at playtime and lunchtime as much as possible.

**Bad language:** There have been reports of bad language being used out of school (at the park), on the school bus and at home. We do not condone the use of bad language and any child using it in school is disciplined as part of our behaviour policy and parents are informed.

**FOWS**

School is very well supported by Friends of Wrenbury School. Through their fundraising activities, which are also social events, they work hard to bring the school community together whilst supporting the school with purchasing equipment that our ever shrinking budget is unable to provide. All their fundraising goes to provide something that EVERY child in school will benefit from and so it would be fantastic to see the support of **all** our families at these events and more support from parents by joining FOWS or offering a helping hand at an event.

A very big thank you to FOWS for hosting the Easter Eggstravaganza last Sunday. It was a lovely, sunny afternoon for all those who enjoyed a stroll through the village looking for answers to the Village Trail quiz followed by afternoon tea, Easter activities and the raffle. There were fabulous entries to the Junior bake-off. Mrs Mulliner (Benjamin Y3's granny) and Mrs Smith judged the entries alongside Mr and Mrs Forshaw. Mr Forshaw is a governor. They all said they were impressed by the entries and very much enjoyed tasting the delicious cakes.

**Winners:** **KS1** Oliver Greenhough and Laura Midwinter; **KS2** Olivia Goodwin (two winning entries); **Star Baker** Esme Ashley; **Raffle hamper**Jessica (Base 2) and her mum Julie.

Thanks also to a link through FOWS, we have received a very generous donation of £550 from Primebake. We were listed as the beneficiary from their Christmas raffle. The money is being used to fund the outdoor classroom and will be formally received at the ‘grand opening’ event in May being organised by Rachel Ashley.

Thanks, too, to Wrenbury Consolidated Charities who have given the school a donation of £250. A much appreciated contribution!

**School Uniform**

Debbie will be taking orders at the start of next term. We do not hold large quantities of stock – only emergency stock – and ask that you put in your order early so as not to be disappointed. Important administration tasks are being held up when additional/late orders are asked to be processed after the order date putting extra pressure on Debbie.

**Educational Visits and Curriculum Enrichment**

Base 1 had an exciting visit by train to Crewe Fire Station. Thank you to Mr Forshaw for helping with the transport organisation. Photos and write up on website.

Y5 had a fantastic visit to the World Museum as part of their Ancient Greece Learning Journey work this term. Photos and write up on website.

Y5 and Y6 enjoyed taking part in Singfest '16 this week. Well done to Imogen, too, who shone as part of the Nantwich Young Voices.

**Attendance**

From the start of the new school year to today (23 March), the overall school attendance is 95.8%. We aim to be above 97%! Well done to Base 4 for outstanding attendance so far this academic year at 97.8% and very nearly outstanding attendance in Base 2 with 96.6%!

Congratulations to Charlie Midwinter, William Hewitt, Oliver Howell, Finley Inniss, Ryan Crone, Annie Major, Melissa Bebbington, Lucy Bourne, Katie Cliffe, Jasmine Garbe, Charlie Winward, Will King and Jemma Lewis for 100% attendance since the start of school in September.

Please do your very best to be in school – it does make a difference to progress over time!

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Base 1 | Base 2 | Base 3 | Base 4 | Base 5 |
| 95.7% | 96.6% | 94.7% | 98.7% | 94.3% |

**Safeguarding**

We have had a few comments from parents about children misusing their social media accounts this term. Whilst these incidents have taken place out of school, we do reinforce with our children in school that cyber-bullying is a serious offence and we strongly urge all parents to supervise their child's use of social media.

**PE kit**

A reminder: We would ask that you provide your child with a **red tee shirt** for PE rather than a white one and black shorts. We will expect the change-over to be made by the May half term or earlier if you can. If you know of a cheap supplier (supermarket or similar) please let school know so we can pass on to all parents

**Community Hub School**

Thank you to Carol Hill for providing Easter craft activities at this month's Coffee stop.

**Giving something back**

**Charity:** Over £70 was raised for the Text Santa appeal and £724 has been banked for Sports Relief with a small amount of sponsorship still waiting to be banked. A huge thank you to Miss Phillips for organising both events and to staff, pupil and parents for supporting us. We can and do make a difference!

**Dates:**

**Wednesday 20 April**: We have a Sharing Afternoon in school between 2.30 and 5.30pm for you to come in and share your child’s Autumn and Spring term Learning Journey books. Refreshments will be available.

**Thursday 21st April**: Class photographs

**Schoolsfest 16:** A celebration of art, musicand poetry in our Nantwich Educational Partnership on **Saturday 2nd July**. There will be opportunities for our children to be involved and feel part of our wider school community.

**Summer Fair:** ***CHANGE OF DATE***

This year’s Summer Fair will be held on **Friday 8th July** after school and into the evening. Following the success of the evening entertainment last year we hope to make the Summer Fair a more social event for the school and village community whilst raising funds. More information will follow.

We hope you can join us at St Margaret’s tomorrow for our Easter service at 9.30am!

Finally, I'd like to thank the **whole** team at Wrenbury, who have worked hard, supported each other and, not least, kept smiling this half term!

Wishing you a Happy Easter on behalf of the staff and myself,

Mrs Cador