

WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 1st 2017

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas Fair this evening (5-7pm) . Thank you to everyone who has contributed bottles, jars and chocolate today and a special big thank you to everyone who has helped with the planning and running of this wonderful family event.

Changes to school entrance and exit routes

From Monday 4th December, we are trying out different routes for our KS2 children (Y3-Y6) going from the playground in and out of school at the beginning and end of the school day.

Class 3 and Class 3/4 will go in and out via the Y3/4 classroom door

Class 4 and Class 6 will go in and out via the Class 4 classroom door.

Class 5 and Class 5/6 will go in and out via the Class 5 classroom door

KS1: No change

EYFS: No change

Packed Lunches

Yesterday, our school cook Louise talked to all of our Key Stage 2 children about how she follows the government guidelines for healthy eating whilst still providing a menu chosen by the children. We explained that the same guidelines apply to packed lunches. Please avoid foods high in salt or sugar (such as crisps, sweets and chocolate bars). We also ask that you save nut products (including peanut butter and Nutella) for home as we have a few children with severe nut allergies.

The School Lunchbox Policy is available to download under the Policies and Procedures tab on our website – or click [Here](#)

Junk Food Marketing Survey

We have been asked by the Children's Food Campaign to share a link with you. This is for on-line survey aimed at parents living in the North-West of England with children aged 2-17 years old. It takes 5-10 minutes to complete with a possibility of winning shopping vouchers:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/junkfoodmarketing>

Keeping children safe

One of our parents reported concern at the unsafe behaviour of a group of older pupils at our school on their way home. If your children travel to and from school without an adult, please remind them about the importance of road safety at all times. It is easy for them to be distracted by their friends and they need to learn to be responsible for themselves and to look out for their friends.

It is great to see some of our children arriving with lights on their scooters and bikes. At this time of year, visibility is often poor and it can be quite dark as children travel to and from school. For hints on how to brighten up click on:

<http://talesoftheroad.direct.gov.uk/be-bright.php>

Parking

We are still receiving complaints about the parking in the area around our school. The Community Police have

been in touch and will be issuing parking tickets for any cars parked illegally.

Parent Meetings

Thank you for the positive feedback about the information received and the discussions that took place at Parents Evening meetings as well as about the on-line booking system which we will continue to use...

Home learning information meetings

We hope that those of you who attended these meetings found them helpful. If you were not able to attend, you can find the information under the Home Learning tab on our website. Just click on Home Learning Presentation- you will also find the KS1 suggestions for games to play at home in the same place.

Staffing news

Mr Wilson will be finishing in Class 3/4 at the end of this term and we thank him for helping us out this term. We have a new teacher joining us in January named Mrs Pennington who will take over. She will be on duty in the playground on a Thursday morning as well as seeing out the class at the end of the day so you can get to know her.

Children in Need/ World Prematurity Day

Thank you to our Year 6 Charity Club for organising events and presenting an assembly in school. Thanks to the Jones' family for contributing to this too. In total we raised £270 for Children in Need- and £270.97 for World Prematurity Day. If we have any children in school who were born prematurely and whose parents would like to take your child to visit and present this cheque to the Neonatal Unit at Arrows Park Hospital, please let us know by next Wednesday 6th December so we can arrange this before the end of term.

Sporting Festivals

Well done to the year 3 children, who took part in the Athletics Festival at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School on 13th November. They worked great as a team and came third in the competition.

Congratulations to the year 6, who took part in the Futsal Festival at Well Lane Primary School on 20th November. Both teams represented our school well. One team came in first place, and one team finished in third place.

This week we also took part in a Gymnastics Festival at Bedford Drive Primary. Well done to our year 1 and year 2 gymnasts, who came in first place.

We would like to thank all parents for assisting us in getting the children to the different events. We understand that this can be difficult at times.

Christmas Performances

We look forward to seeing many of you at the forthcoming Christmas festivities to which you are warmly welcome. We ask that you respect our request that you do not film or take photographs during the Christmas performances. We understand this may be disappointing. We will take some photographs, which will be displayed on the school website gallery. For children in EYFS, photographs will also be shared with you via Tapestry.

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Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15th December is the day for supporting the Save the Children charity. We are happy for children to wear Christmas jumpers and not to be in uniform that day. We will pass on any money donated on the day to Save the Children. For more information please click on the link: <https://christmasjumperday.org/>

Christmas Shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone who filled a box with gifts. This year we contributed 60 boxes which will go to children in Eastern Europe who celebrate Christmas but may not receive other gifts.

Youth Connect 5 course for parents

Would you like to learn how to build your child's resilience and ability to cope with stressful situations as they grow up?

"As parents, we can't always control life's situations, but being able to handle these challenges comes from having strong skills of resilience - we like to think of it as being able to bounce back when life gets tough."

We are very fortunate to be able to offer this course at our school. It will run in the New Year for five weeks on Monday evenings from 6.00pm – 8.00pm starting on 15th January. The course will be led by Mr Alan Jemmett, a parent at our school and assisted by Mr Mike Procter, one of our teachers.

Please click on the link below for information and to book. <https://youthconnect5.org.uk/parents-carers/> or email Alan directly with any queries: jemmettalan@gmail.com

PTA

Thank you again to our PTA for organising the Christmas Fair. Thank you for providing the funds for new Bee-bots and for a new garden shed/undercover gardening space for our Gardening Club, which is already being well used each week for planting and observations.

Christmas Greetings to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Takashima
Headteacher

Autumn term diary dates 2017 and holiday information

Please note that term time and holiday dates including INSET days for 2017-18 can be found under the School Info tab on our website or click [Term dates](#)

Please be aware that schools are not permitted to authorise term time holiday absence apart from in the most exceptional circumstances and that **approval from the Headteacher should be sought prior to booking**. Schools are required to record and report instances of unauthorised absence as it is a legal requirement that children of statutory school age attend regularly. Please be advised that Wirral Borough Council may issue a fixed penalty notice with a fine for unauthorised absence.

Friday 1st December – Christmas Fair 5.00pm – 7.00pm
Monday 4th December - KS1 Parent Phonic Helpers drop in 9am-12 (no need to stay the whole time!)

Tuesday 5th December – Years 1 to 6 to see Robin Hood at Williamson Art Gallery

Monday 11th December - School Nurse meeting for Year 6 Parents talking about puberty 3.30pm (children will be supervised in the ICT suite during the meeting)

Tuesday 12th December – Foundation Stage and Year 1 Christmas Performance 2.15pm

Wednesday 13th December – Year 2 Christmas Performance 9.15am

Wednesday 13th December - Foundation Stage and Year 1 Christmas Performance 10.30am

Wednesday 13th December – Year 2 to the Wednesday Room

Wednesday 13th December – KS2 Carol Service 2.00pm and 6.30pm

Friday 15th December – Christmas Jumper day

Friday 15th December - Violin Assembly - 9.00am – Parents of violinists welcome

Monday 18th December – Foundation Stage Party (non-uniform day for EYFS only - come in party clothes)

Tuesday 19th December – Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 19th December – Years 1 and 2 Film afternoon

Wednesday 20th December – Years 3 to 6 Film afternoon

Thursday 21st December – School closes 3.30pm

Monday 8th January 2018 – School Opens 8.55am