

# WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had an enjoyable half term week – we have all appreciated the blue skies and sunshine this week!

## New gateway into EYFS

Our thanks to our Caretaker, Mr Houghton, who, over half term, has created a new gateway through to EYFS from the main playground. We hope this will go some way towards easing the congestion at the top end of the playground at the beginning and end of the school day. Parents collecting KS1 children, please stand back from the other blue gateway so the children can get through and please avoid the area in front of the bike sheds. Most of the children are very careful as they push their bikes and scooters through the playground. If you have younger children, please help them get into the same habit to avoid collisions in the playground.

## Dogs

We know how lovely they are - just a reminder that they are not permitted on any school sites unless they are Guide dogs.

We also ask that you do not bring them to school or leave them at the school gate, which gets very congested by the roadside.

We have also been asked to remind all dog owners to clear up after their dogs - there has been a problem recently in the vicinity of our school. We are aware this may not be down to any parents at our school ...

## School Lunches

Our new menu was launched this week.

We are proud of the quality of our home cooked (in school!) hot meals and the range of fresh breads, fillings, salads and fruit on offer each day. We are happy for any child to try it out for a day - or a week... just have a word with the School Office staff.

## Keeping children safe

This week we are talking to the children about safety around bonfires and fireworks.

Check that any fireworks purchased conform to the British Standard (they should say on them), Categories 1 and 2 are for use in restricted areas. Categories 3 & 4 are designed for use in wider open spaces and public displays.

Information on the safe use of sparklers and what to do in an emergency can be found by clicking on the link below:  
[http://www.fireworksafety.co.uk/fws2010/?page\\_id=8](http://www.fireworksafety.co.uk/fws2010/?page_id=8)

## Parents of pupils now in Year 6

Just to remind you that the closing date for Secondary School applications was Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. We are aware some parents had difficulties with the on line application process last week. Please tell us quickly if you missed the deadline for any reason.

## Parents Evenings

Just a reminder to send back your reply slip indicating your preferred time slot... first come first served!

We will contact parents of pupils in Miss Oxtan's class to arrange appointments once she is back at work.

Class teachers are looking forward to meeting with you next week to talk about how your child is settling into their new class and will comment on effort and behaviour. The teacher will also discuss the progress your child has made this term and to discuss the progress they expect them to make by the end of the year. For pupils in Years 1 - 6, the teachers will provide you with a brief written report to summarise this. On the back of this report are the National Curriculum objectives for English and Mathematics which provide a fairly detailed overview of what pupils of this age group should be taught. This is also a good opportunity for you to share any information you think we need to know which may impact on your child's well-being in school or to ask any questions if you have not had a chance to do this earlier in the term.

The display of photographs prepared for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mrs Forrester and our Nursery class in September will be on show at Parents Evenings next week.

## Miss Woods

Miss Woods will be commencing her maternity leave in the next few weeks. Her last day will be Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Miss Sophie Griffiths will be covering the maternity leave until Miss Woods returns.

## Parent Survey

We will display the results at Parents Evening from the 45 parents who responded in the summer term and invite you to provide us with further or more detailed feedback. We do take note of what you tell us. If you can be specific about exactly what you would like us to change/ improve/ add to, then it enables us to provide a fuller response. For example, the survey of parents tells us some of you would like to know more about our curriculum. There is lots of information under the Curriculum tab on our website, some of which we also display in the school foyer. Tell us what else you would like to know and we will do our best to provide it.

The survey also tells us many of you do not know who the Governors are. Look out for some of our Governors at Parents Evenings – they will be wearing a Governor badge so you can spot them! Please ask them questions about what they do. Many of them work during the day so you may not know who they are. You can find out by looking under the Governors tab on our website or by clicking on the link [Governors](#)

## Governors

We currently have a vacancy for 1 new Parent Governor to be elected by parents (not 2 as stated in the last newsletter although we may have a second vacancy shortly). Please see separate letter, which will sent home on Monday.

If you are interested in this role, please click on the link below to find out more:

<http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx>

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[http://www.westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk/website/attendance\\_and\\_term\\_dates/17375](http://www.westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk/website/attendance_and_term_dates/17375)

## Shoeboxes

Please may we remind you to return the shoeboxes on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

## PTA

A fantastic turn out for our first PTA meeting of the school year, thank you to all of our new attendees and for a great night planning the Christmas Fair and how we can help support the school with our funds. The Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December between 6pm-8pm and promises to be the biggest and best yet. All help will be greatly appreciated in running the fair and more details on how you can get involved will be released shortly. Our AGM and Christmas social will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at The Viking, everyone welcome for a fantastic evening. Matt & Louise – Co-Chairs.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Takashima  
Headteacher

## Autumn term diary dates 2016 and holiday information

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – All shoeboxes to be returned today

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November** – Foundation Stage 2 to visit West Kirby Library

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November** – Parents Evening

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Parents Evening

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** – Years 5 and 6 to Liverpool Museums

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** – Christmas Fair 6.00pm – 8.00pm

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 2 Carol Concert 9.15am

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 2 to Wednesday Room for Christmas Carols – 10.30am

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Foundation Stage & Year 1 Nativity 2.15pm

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** – Foundation Stage & Year 1 Nativity 10.30am

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 Carol Service 2.00pm & 6.30pm

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Lunch

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – School closes for Christmas holidays 3.30pm

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – INSET Day

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** – INSET Day

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January** – School opens for Spring Term 8.55am

*Please note that term time and holiday dates including INSET days for 2016-17 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. Our Attendance procedure and leave of absence form can be downloaded from our website