



14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

As the end of our current academic year approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to share important dates and information with you.

### Important Dates

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July: Online/Home Learning Day – **Attendance for this day is compulsory and is part of our official school days.**
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July: Inset Day – School Closed to all pupils
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July: Inset Day – School Closed to all pupils
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Inset Day – School Closed to all pupils
  
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September: Inset Day – School Closed to all pupils
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September: School reopens for the Autumn Term**

The start of the new academic year is really important to support the children with transition to new classes and new schools. It is also when many values, expectations and routines are shared, which is vital for the children. Our aim is 100% attendance from the start.

### Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July...

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July is a compulsory school day and the children should attend the scheduled Teams meet for their class. Please refer to the letter that I sent to you yesterday for all of the necessary links and times. A copy of the letter can be found on our school website [click here](#)

We have staggered the Teams times to allow for the sharing of devices in households. If necessary, illness/absence should be reported to the School Office in the normal way.

	Morning	Afternoon
EYFS	9:55 -10:15am	1:45 – 2:05pm
KS1	9:30 – 9:50am	2:10 – 2:30pm
LKS2	9:05 – 9:25am	2:35 – 2:55pm
UKS2	8:40 – 9:00am	3:00 – 3:20pm

### Goodbyes...

As we come to the end of this academic year, we have a few members of staff who we want to wish well as they embark on a change of direction.

Firstly, Mrs Smith who has been a Teaching Assistant at West Kirby Primary School for the last 29 years will begin her retirement from September. I am sure many of you know Mrs Smith as she works right across the school. Mrs Smith is a highly skilled and experienced Teaching Assistant who we will miss dearly. Her calm, thoughtful and caring

nature has been a reassuring presence to many children during her time at WKPS. We wish her well in her retirement.

Miss Auld who joined us in September 2022 and has been working in Class 4 this year will also embark on a different direction from September. She has successfully secured a place to begin Teacher Training from September 2023. Thank you to Miss Auld who has supported the children in Class 4. She has also been a very familiar face on the EYFS and Key Stage One playground every lunchtime. We wish her good luck as she begins a new career direction.

Some of you may have spotted that Miss Turnbull is expecting her first child, which is very exciting news! The arrival of Baby Turnbull is expected in September. If there are no early arrival surprises, Miss Turnbull is hoping to return for a short time in early September. We hope that Miss Turnbull can put her feet up over the summer holidays.

### Year 6...

Good Luck to all of our Year 6 children who leave WKPS on Monday. We have seen you grow and blossom over the time you have been in our school. We are very proud of every single one of you and we know that you will go on to be the best you can be. Strive for those aspirations, never give up and follow your dreams. We look forward to hearing your success stories in years to come!

### End of Year Reports...

We hope that you found your child's summer report informative. During the course of the year, you should have received two interim reports and one final full report. All of these reports have followed our new assessment format, with the aim of using clearer language and we have removed the reference to letters and numbers. We hope that the reports explain clearly where your child is assessed at and what their next steps are. Thank you to those of you who have completed the report feedback and comments. Your comments are really valued. If you have not yet completed this, please complete this using the following link [click here](#).

### End of year survey...

We value your feedback to ensure that we continue to develop and build on current successes. As we come to end of this academic year, please find a few minutes to follow the link and complete our [Parent/Carer Survey Link 2022-2023](#)

### West Kirby Primary Values Ambassadors...

This time last year we began to embed our new WKPS values – **Welcoming**, **Polite**, **Kind** and **Successful**. Our whole school community have embraced these and it is a common language and expectation from both the children and staff. It is hard to believe that we have only had these in place for twelve months. In the words of Ofsted: '*The West Kirby Primary School values shine throughout the life of the school.*' Staff have nominated children from each phase who they feel demonstrate these values consistently. We have celebrated the success of these children in our end of year assembly today. We have just over 300 children on roll at WKPS, so this is a huge achievement.

Well Done to our ambassadors for 2022-2023

EYFS	Key Stage One	Lower Key Stage Two	Upper Key Stage Two
Jacob and	Penelope and	Ben and	Hannah and

Maya	Wilbur	Carys	Ethan
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### **School Meals...Price Increase**

Our school is being affected by the rising food costs, rising utility costs and inflation costs. Therefore, from September 2023 school meals will increase to £2.50 per meal. This is not a decision that has been taken lightly, but to continue to provide the standard of meals we aim for, we need to increase the cost.

Universal Free School Meals will continue to be free for all children in F2, Year 1 and Year 2. The funding that we receive from the Government for Universal Free School Meals is £2.41 per child. The portion sizes for Key Stage Two are larger than those for F2, Year 1 and Year 2, hence the 9p difference.

Thank you to our dedicated kitchen team who work extremely hard every day to provide high quality meals to all of the children. We are hoping to organise more Come Dine With Me events in the autumn term.

### **Summer Reading Challenge...**

Miss O'Toole and Library Jane launched our Summer Reading Challenge to the children in an assembly last week. This week each class visited our WKPS beach to read and share a variety of books. It is a shame that the weather wasn't on our side and it was a visit to the beach in the rain for many classes. Children can be prone to the 'summer slide' over the holiday if they don't continue reading. Therefore, the aim of our Summer Reading Challenge is to engage the children in reading for pleasure over the holiday. Reading challenges have been set for the children and the aim is to see how many they can complete. Attached to this email is the Summer Reading Challenge document.

### **RHSE Parental Consultation...**

At WKPS we currently have a Relationship and Health Education Policy (RHE). From September 2023 we are proposing that we have a Relationship, Health and Sex Education Policy. This change has been approved by our Governing Body. Further information about these changes were shared with parents during a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July, thank you to those of you who attended.

If you missed this meeting and would like to know more, the presentation slides and the draft RHSE Policy are available on our website [click here](#)

The consultation period opened on 12/7/23 and will close on 21/7/23. If you wish to share any questions or thoughts with us, please use the school office email address.

### **WKPS Awards...**

I am pleased to announce that we have achieved the following awards:

- The School Games Gold Mark for PE; this is the second year that we have achieved this level. Thank you to Mrs. Burrows, Miss Gerrard and Mr. O'Rourke for their support with this.
- The Mental Health Award for our school; this is a new award for us. Thank you to Mr. Procter for his support towards this.
- Reaccreditation of The School of Sanctuary. Thank you to Mrs. O'Connor for her support towards this.

### **Child-care vouchers**

We currently use ParentPay and accept child-care vouchers for payment items in school (we are a cashless school). Just a reminder that child-care vouchers can only be used to

pay for activities out of normal school hours and on school premises. Therefore, we can accept child care vouchers for Waves wrap around care and after school clubs, but not for meals, trips or residential, unfortunately.

### Thank you...

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continued support during this academic year. It has been a successful year with many positive experiences and outcomes for all of the children. The staff and governing body work incredibly hard and go above and beyond for all of the children as they always want the best for the children. No decision is ever taken lightly and it is always the children who are at the forefront of our minds.

We have already started to make plans for 2023-2024 and we look forward to another successful year where the children at WKPS can feel safe, secure, happy and be successful in all they do.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8:40am.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Bailey  
Headteacher