



7th May 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

NSPCC Number Day...

Thank you for your support with Number Day today, it was great to see so many children displaying/wearing numbers. As well as promoting the importance of Maths, it has also been a great opportunity to raise money for the NSPCC.

Parents Evening & Reports...

Parent's Evening has taken place this week and it has been an opportunity for you to talk to your child's class teacher after what has been a very different academic year. It has been a long time since our last Parent's Evening in the autumn term. Hopefully from talking with class teachers and receiving the spring interim reports you feel informed and up to date.

If you have not managed to have Parent's Evening with your child's class teacher, please can I urge you to contact the school office as soon as possible so that a convenient time can be made in the next week or so. We appreciate that we are operating in a different way at the moment by using Teams to conduct our meetings. However, please do not let this put you off as we can work around this and/or support you if you are unsure how to access the meetings – just ask! To ensure the best for your child it is really important that we have that communication with parents and carers.

You will receive your child's final report for this academic year in July.

Morning Drop off...

Please can I remind you to ensure that your child is on time to school each day. Lessons start straight away when the class bubbles open. At the start of the day class teachers outline the school day along with any changes that are taking place. It is really important that all children are present so that they have a settling start to the school day.

- Year 5 and Year 6 start school at 8:30am
- Year 3 and Year 4 start school at 8:45am
- Year 1 and Year 2 start school at 9:00am
- F1 and F2 start school at 9:15am

If your child arrives past the start time of their class bubble and the doors that they enter school through are closed, please go around to the school office. Please do not knock on classroom doors, as lessons will have already started.

Swimming...

"Going swimming made me build up the confidence to jump in again - thank you."

"It felt good to be back in the water."

"It's really fun to be back and get into the water learning new strokes."

"Thanks to Helen, I am now able to swim a length."

These are the positive words of some of the children in Year 5 (Class 5). Last week they went swimming and had a great time. It was all really well organised by The Concourse and Edsential to ensure that a Covid secure environment was in place.

Due to the Covid Pandemic children have missed out on many activities that they would normally do after school and at weekends and swimming is definitely one of them. Some local leisure centres are now operating limited services, one of which is swimming lessons for children. Some of you may have seen the news this week that we are being urged to prioritise swimming lessons both in school and out of school, as swimming has many physical and mental health benefits. Living near the beach in West Kirby makes it even more important to ensure that children can swim and know how to stay safe in and near water. If you are able to enrol your child on swimming lessons, please do pursue this opportunity.

Year 5 Secondary Transfer...

Earlier this week Year 5 Parents & Carers should have received an email with information about Assessment for Grammar School. If you wish for your child to be assessed for a non-Catholic Grammar School education, you must register them by **31st May**. If you are unable to register online, you can obtain paper forms by calling the Call Centre on 0151 606 2000. Parents who do not wish their child to be assessed for a Grammar School do not need to register. Upton Hall School (FJC), St Anselm's College and Birkenhead High School Academy have their own testing arrangements and should be contacted by parents directly for more details. The PowerPoint that we emailed earlier in the week is also available on our website. If you have any further questions, please contact us using the Upper Key stage Two email address UKS2@westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk

Grammar School Open Evenings

Monday 10th May - Wirral Grammar School for boys
Tuesday 11th May – Calday Grange Grammar School
Wednesday 12th May – West Kirby Grammar School
Thursday 13th May – Wirral Grammar School for Girls

WKPS Twitter is launched...

We have recently launched our West Kirby Primary Twitter feed. We are just starting out slowly, but please do feel free to follow us. We aim to share some photographs from week to week of the children's learning with you. All parents and carers are asked about the sharing of their child's image when they join the school. Not all of our tweets will contain photographs of children – we will also be sharing information with you. If you have changed your mind and now give or do not give permission for your child's image to be on our social media, please inform the school office. Please note, like all schools, we will not be responding to queries via Twitter. All enquiries should still be directed to the school office as normal, although some of your questions may possibly be answered in our tweets.

School Meals...

Please also find attached within this email our School Lunch Menu for the next three weeks. If your child has school meals, please spend some time looking at the menu to check that they like what is available on any given day. At times, some children can become upset when they don't like what is available. Our lunch time staff always do their very best to accommodate the children to ensure that they have something that they like. However, it may be that on some days a packed lunch may be the best option. Louise, our school cook is always open to ideas for new menu options, if your child has any ideas, please share them with us by emailing the school office.

Internet Safety...

Keeping all children safe online is a key priority for us. At the moment many children are spending much more time online. This week a Web Based Chat Service called **Omegle** was brought to our attention. Reports of Omegle have featured in recent press releases, which I wanted to draw your attention to.

'Omegle links up random people for virtual video and text chats, and claims to be moderated - but has a reputation for unpredictable and shocking content.'

'Global child protection groups are increasingly concerned about predators using the site to gather self-generated child sexual abuse material.' (BBC News)

We are aware that some children in UKS2 know about this website.

It is really important that we all stay vigilant about what the children are accessing when on the internet.

FREE Parent Workshops...

We have been made aware of some **FREE** Parent Workshops that are being delivered in the coming weeks. If you feel they will be beneficial please take the opportunity to book a place using the links below.

Workshop One

Helping Parents with Home Learning: Getting to Grips with Grammar

This event is designed to help primary school parents with Home Learning.

In this session they will explore...

- Grammatical Terminology – Consolidate understanding of word classes including nouns, verbs, adjectives, conjunctions, pronouns and adverbs.
- Ways to support your child at home with their understanding of grammar.

The 45-minute session is **FREE** to all parents who have children at primary school.

Monday 10th May 7:00pm-7:45pm **or** Thursday 15th July 7:00pm – 7:45pm

To book a place [Click Here](#)

Workshop Two

Raising a Reader: Top Tips for Parents to Foster a Love of Reading

Current research suggests that children of all ages who read for pleasure perform better in all subjects.

Reading for pleasure also builds empathy, improves wellbeing and has a dramatic impact on life outcomes.

This session will explore practical tips on how to help your child to foster a love of reading.

This 45-minute session is **FREE** to all parents who have children at primary school.

Thursday 20th May 2021 7:00pm – 7.45pm

To book a place [Click Here](#)

Dates for your diary...

Thursday 20th May – Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check Meeting (via Teams) at 4:30pm

Friday 28th May – School Closes for Half Term

Monday 7th June – School Closed to Pupils (Inset Day)

Tuesday 8th June – School reopens to Pupils

As always please ensure that you contact us if you have any concerns or questions so that we can aim to address any issues straight away.

Have a lovely weekend – thank you for your continued support

Mrs E Bailey
Acting Headteacher