

WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 20th 2018

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank Mrs Bailey for deputising during my recent absence, and to thank all of our fantastic and dedicated staff team and Governing Body for supporting her.

School Of Sanctuary Award Celebration

As part of our curriculum focus on global awareness this year, Mrs McCann has led our school in working towards the School of Sanctuary Award. A group of our Year 6 pupils recently represented our school at an award ceremony at Birkenhead Town Hall, joining six other schools, who have all been working to achieve The School of Sanctuary award presented by the Mayor and Mayoress. There is an article in this week's Wirral Globe – please follow this [Link](#)

During the Year 6 end of year performance, parents heard new pupils, who joined our school during Key Stage 2, speak of their experiences of being welcomed and made to feel part of our school community.

Year 6 pupils

We have been proud of our current Year 6 pupils, who have worked so hard throughout this year to get along with each other, be kind and considerate and to set an example to younger pupils in our school. In addition, they have achieved excellent results in the national end of Key Stage 2 tests, which will be published on our school website shortly.

They are now ready to move on to Secondary School and we wish them all well.

Year 5 Pupils

Congratulations to everyone for your work on your projects and especially to Ava Langley, whose project of Plastic in the Ocean won first prize. This was an outstanding project, which focused on one of our school priorities - the importance of reducing plastic and taking care of our environment.

11+ tests (Y5 parents)

Parents who have submitted an application for their child to sit the tests in September will receive a test familiarisation leaflet. This will be before the end of term, once these children have had an opportunity to go through this together on Monday.

Staffing news

Many of you know that Mrs McCann tripped and fell on her way home from work resulting in surgery. She is now out of hospital, back home recuperating and hopes to be well enough to return to school in the Autumn Term.

An enormous thank you to Mrs Mills, who is beginning her retirement at the end of this academic year. She has worked here at West Kirby Primary School with a smile for twenty years, as a class teacher as well as leading music and drama at our school. She has shown great commitment throughout: For the last fortnight, she volunteered to step in and return to full time class teaching to ensure a happy end to the year for Class 6.

We would like to thank our three supply teachers, Mrs Pennington, Mrs Burrows and Ms McGorry for their dedication and commitment to their classes and to our staff team.

We will miss them all and wish them well.

We currently have a vacancy for a Cleaning post. This will be advertised on the Wirral website at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

Sports Events

On Monday 11th June a team of Year 5 and Year 6 Girls took part in a Girls Football Festival at Ladymount Primary School. The children enjoyed the event, and worked well as a team.

On Monday 18th June a team of children from Year 5 and Year 6 attended a Dodgeball Festival at Rock Ferry Primary School. The children showed great sportsmanship and represented our school well.

On Friday 22nd June a team of Year 5 and Year 6 children attended a Rounders Festival at Birkenhead School. The children were praised for the progress that they made, and the skills that they developed during the festival – well done.

On Monday 9th July a team of Year 5 and Year 6 children represented our school at a Rounders Festival at Holy Cross Primary School. They worked well as a team and came in first place – Well Done Rounders Team.

Thank You

During this academic year many parents have supported the children to take part in many festivals and tournaments that have taken place. Without your support of transporting the children this would not be possible – thank you for your continued support.

We would also like to thank all of the staff at West Kirby Primary School, and external sporting agencies, that have organised, run or supported our sporting clubs during this academic year. There have been many exciting opportunities provided to our school to encourage the children to stay active and keep fit.

Swimming in Autumn Term

In September Class 3/4 and Class 3 will be swimming every afternoon for two weeks. This will start week commencing 10th September.

Class 5/6 and Class 6 will be swimming every afternoon for two weeks. This will start week commencing 24th September.

Clubs in Autumn Term

Look out for our new clubs that will be taking place in the Autumn term.

Attendance and holidays

Most of our pupils have an excellent rate of attendance at school. Our congratulations to the 13 pupils, who will be receiving certificates at our final assembly on Tuesday, for 100% attendance until today and a further 28 at 99% attendance

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Wirral has one of the lowest school attendance rates in the country. We have been asked to draw to your attention the procedure for issuing Education Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence, which we will follow from September. It is available to download from our school website [here](#). Please take particular note of the instructions relating to holidays during term time and to persistent lateness.

School Meals and Milk

Please may we remind you that school meals are still free for all children in F2, Year 1 and Year 2. For children in Years 3 to 6 the cost will remain at £2.20 per day. Cash or cheque needs to be in a named envelope and handed to the office.

In the interests of reducing single use plastics, we are no longer providing milk during the morning for children in Years 1 to 6. It will be made available at lunchtime (in a beaker).

School extension and building works

Some of you may be aware that the Local Authority have agreed to fund an extension programme for our school to improve security, with a new foyer area at the front as well as providing an additional room at the back in the space currently occupied by the bike sheds (which will be moved). We had hoped the works would begin next week, but there has been a delay to the start. This means that the work is likely to take place during the Autumn term.

Once the work begins, the building site areas will be clearly separated off and out of bounds. This will impact on the arrangements for entering and leaving the building. We will clearly signpost the temporary entry and exit points. We will be using the side gate for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (F1, F2, Y1 & Y2). Key Stage 2 pupils (Y3-Y6) will be using the gate to the KS1 playground accessed via the car park (which will be closed to traffic at the beginning and end of the school day). It will inevitable cause some disruption for a while. We will post the drawings on our school website, so you can see the plans one we have a confirmed start date.

Lost property

There is a lot of lost property in the cupboard in the foyer. Please come along and have a look and feel free to help yourself to any unnamed items which are suitable. Anything left at the end of the term will be recycled.

GDPR

We have decided to wait until the beginning of the new school year before sending out new Privacy Notices for families along with a new consent form to reflect the changes in legislation.

Support for parents

Family Lives is a charity set up in the UK to provide support to parents through the ups and downs of family life .It includes a collection of videos covering a range of topics for parents looking for ideas and support (divided into categories: behaviour, well-being and learning) as well as a telephone helpline.

www.familylives.org.uk

PTA

Thank you to everyone who helped with our School Summer Fair. It was a great family day and raised approximately £1900.00 for the school.

Wishing you all a happy summer of sunshine

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Takashima
Headteacher

Summer term diary dates 2018 and holiday information

Please note that term time and holiday dates including INSET days for 2017 - 18 and 2018 - 19 can be found under the School Info tab on our website or please [Click here](#)

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.

Tuesday 24th July - School closes for summer 3.30pm

Monday 3rd September - School closed INSET Day

Tuesday 4th September - School closed INSET Day

Wednesday 5th September - School opens for autumn term 8.55am