



Newsletter February 2020

Dear Families,

Following on from the Parent Survey reported in our December newsletter, our School Councillors (elected by their class mates) adapted the questions to create a Pupil Survey for all pupils in Years 3-Year 6. The children decided to undertake class surveys for pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 and some of the older School Councillors went into the classes to help the younger members ask their two questions, with staff helping to write down the responses. The children want to help us continue to improve and develop our school.

You can see a summary of responses on p2. School Councillors have been looking at these to decide what actions or changes might be needed. They will report back to the school and to Governors this will be included in our next newsletter.



Safety on line

Some parents have asked for us to include internet safety updates. At school, our filter system alerts us to any inappropriate searches made. Since September, we have had 2 incidents in school of pupils having their searches blocked. We spoke to those pupils about the dangers & informed their parents. Click on the link for a step-by-step guide on how to set up controls at home
<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

We are also aware of problems with some older children using an app called TikTok and would advise following the link: <https://www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-tiktok> which says:-

Tik Tok is rated 12+ on the Apple app store and “teen maturity” on Google Play. However, there is no system in place to verify a user's age, so anyone can download it. Because of the access to inappropriate content, and the use of popular music that may contain explicit language, this is not an app for young **kids**. How **safe** is **TikTok**? Using any social network can be risky, but it's possible for kids to **safely** use the app with adult supervision (and a private account). When you sign up for **TikTok**, your account is public by default, meaning anyone can see your videos, send you direct messages, and use your location information.

Healthy Lunches & school policy

We expect all parents choosing our school to support our school policies and procedures -and we appreciate that most people do!

We are proud of the quality of the delicious meals served daily by our Kitchen Team—enjoyed by many of the staff as well as the pupils. Staff on duty in the hall at lunchtime have noticed a number of children with packed lunches are bringing in food items which we ask to be left at home or only eaten in school on a Friday. They do not want to upset children by pointing this out and recognise that usually it is parents or carers who select the contents.

Please click on the [Link](#) to download our Healthy Lunchbox Policy to check what is in and what is out Please do not be offended if your child comes home with a paper copy as a reminder.

Governor Vacancy

We are looking to co-opt a volunteer or two from the local community with building, business or marketing experience (maybe retired) to join our friendly school Governing Body. For more information please contact the School Office...

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO PUPIL SURVEY DECEMBER 2020

	Statement	Agree	Don't know	Disagree
1	I am happy at this school	80%	16%	4%
2	I feel safe at this school	76%	21.5%	2.5%
3	My school teaches us to behave well	85.5%	4%	0.5%
4	I have experienced bullying at this school	31%	3%	66%
5	My school has helped me when I have been bullied	41.5%	55%	3.5%
6	My school expects me to do my best	91%	8.5%	0.5%
7	I am challenged by the work I am given	64%	29%	7%
8	If I am really stuck or need help, the teachers help me	81%	16.5%	2.5%
9	We learn a good range of different subjects	69%	20%	11%
10	I like the choice of clubs and activities out of school	73%	21%	6%
11	My school helps me to develop to be a good person	83%	16%	1%
12	I would recommend this school	72%	23%	5%

Year 1 and Year 2

What do we like about our school?

School library Art and craft activities
 Playtime -playing with my friends New after school clubs
 Learning new things every day Reading buddies
 Christmas Fair Spelling tests Athletics
 English because it's really good fun-writing stories
 Lunchtime and school dinners
 Maths is fun and I like counting and Maths challenges
 Everything Our classroom Sports competitions
 Computers Our school uniform Playtime equipment
 People in our school who are kind

Year 1 and Year 2

What would make our school even better?

More books in the library Trampoline
 Trim trail on the garden playground
 More soft surface on playground so we don't get hurt More new equipment New menu
 If people didn't ever shout out or mess about
 If everyone was always nice to each other
 More maths More writing More art
 Try our best at all times More school trips
 Listening more to our adults
 Have an 'upstairs' Have time for 'Grow Naps'
 Football refs at break time Keep our school tidy

What have the children been learning about this half term?

In addition to our regular timetabled curriculum, there have been lots of exciting events as part of the children's learning experiences in the last half term starting with all of Years 1-6 outing to the pantomime to see Cinderella— part of our cultural heritage!

In early February we had a whole school Science Day organised by Mrs Rogers designed to give all of our pupils a sense of the excitement and fun to be had as well as the powerful learning which comes through science... research shows that children who *enjoy* science in school are more likely to go on to rewarding careers in science and engineering.



Years 1 and 2 have concluded half a term learning about the Circus with a fantastic day learning Circus skills and loved seeing so many of you watch their performance at the end of the day. We hope they will continue to develop their juggling and skills on stilts at playtimes...

We know how important it is to look after the mental health & wellbeing of our community. During Children's Mental Health Week, Mr Procter taught techniques for calming down and managing anxiety to all of our teachers to pass on to pupils across the school and we practised every day. We will email you all his top tips & post them on our website today



We hope our pupils will remember lots of what they have learned through all of these memorable experiences...



This week Years 5 & 6 have enjoyed an Amazon art day and had a visit from Professor Parr & a colleague who have studied wildlife in the Amazon.

Coast to Country Project:

This project across Deeside schools raising awareness of the beauty of Wirral and the need to conserve our environment for the future will be continuing in the summer term of 2020. Under the banner: One world, one chance, children will be thinking about actions they can take.

Our KS1 pupils followed this up through their Christmas performance of Eddie the Penguin. Through the songs, they learned about saving water, reducing waste and recycling

Last summer, the children's learning was exhibited through artwork.

This year, the showcase will be through music and Design and Technology. All of our KS2 children will be performing a beautiful song called People of Tomorrow with school across Merseyside as part of their visit to the Philharmonic Hall on March 6th.



West Kirby Primary School Values



Our school values especially great teamwork and respect for fair play, have again been demonstrated by the children representing West Kirby Primary School in sporting competitions. They have been all been excellent role models for our school.

13th January 2020

8 pupils from Years 3 and 4 took part in a New Aged Kurling Tournament at Somerville Primary school. They quickly mastered the skills needed and developed accuracy and tactics that helped them secure 3rd place. Well done!



20th January 2020

Year 5 represented West Kirby Primary School in an Indoor Athletics Tournament. This was a very close competition and the team came 2nd, missing out by 1 point! They had such energy and enthusiasm and determination to compete to the best of their ability. Congratulations Year 5 team.

30th January 2020

Mr O'Rourke and Mrs Hearty enjoyed taking a Year 3 and Year 4 Futsal Team to Tranmere Rovers Futsal Centre. They showed skill and passion and qualified for the final. After a brilliant performance they lost 2 – 1 to Birkenhead School. Well done on a fantastic performance.



4th February 2020

Mr O'Rourke and Mrs Burrows took a mixed age KS2 team to play Futsal at Tranmere Rovers Futsal Centre. West Kirby came third in their group scoring an amazing 7 goals. Their sportsmanship and teamwork was fantastic and they were a pleasure to take along to the event. Well

Monday 11th February 2020

Our Year 1 Indoor Athletics had a fun time at an athletics festival. They made Mrs Hughes very proud with their determination and enthusiasm. They came a wonderful 2nd place and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Well done Year 1.



After School Sports Clubs : As usual these clubs have proved very popular. Mr O'Rourke has provided Hockey and Netball and Basketball Clubs, all very well attended. Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in taking children to and from sporting events this half term. Without parents and family and friends transporting the children, the children would not have the opportunity to participate in events across the Wirral.

Thank you to Mrs Burrows for coordinating the events and providing the sporting updates

F2 – Fun Activities Morning Wednesday 12th February 2020



F2 walked to the Concourse Leisure Centre to take part in a variety of fun activities. They were introduced to Karate, Badminton and Indoor Athletics. They had an exciting time and worked towards their 60 minutes of active exercise a day in a new way.

We are hoping that the weather will allow us to re-schedule our planned walk to Ashton Park for Friday 14th February...

THANK YOU to the parents who noticed the storm damage at school over the weekend and raised the alarm...

The roof of the shed beside the EYFS side gate blew right off but we were able to get there quickly and re-pair the damage before it caused any more.

THANK YOU to our caretaker Mr Houghton who came to the rescue.

We are aware of a number of slates and roof tiles that have slipped and have asked for a roofer to address this over half term as a matter of urgency.

Clean air project update

We previously let you know of our plans to plant hedging at the front of our school.

The Woodland Trust advise that mixed planting is better for encouraging wildlife and will also improve air quality. They will provide us with the trees free of charge if we are prepared to leave planting until the end of this year. This is now our plan.

Clean up



the world



PTA

The PTA had a great end to 2019 raising just over £2,000 from the sale of spooky jolly jars and a spooky hair day and of course the very festive Christmas Fair. This fund raising activity enabled us to pay for the school pantomime trip in January and to part fund the Circus Day for Years 1 and 2 yesterday, so all the effort that everyone puts in is very much worth it. We will be looking at organising other fund making activities throughout this year and would welcome as much help as we can with that activity. Details of the next PTA meeting will be announced soon.



Spring Term Diary Dates 2020 and Holiday Information

Monday 24th February - Friday 6th March - Class 3 and Class 5 Swimming

Tuesday 3rd March - Year 1 Phonics Meeting for Parents 5.30pm

Wednesday 4th March - EYFS Fine Motor and Writing Workshop 9.00am - 10.00am

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Friday 6th March - KS2 to Liverpool Philharmonic am

Tuesday 10th March - Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check Meeting for Parents 5.30pm

Tuesday 17th March - Years 5 and 6 to Chester Zoo

Monday 23rd March - Year 1 to West Kirby United Reform Church

Tuesday 24th March - Bike It Breakfast

Thursday 26th March - Year 2 to West Kirby United Reform Church

Monday 30th March - Wednesday 1st April - Year 4 Residential

Tuesday 31st March - Years 1 and 2 to Knowsley Safari Park

Friday 3rd April - School closes for Spring Break 3.30pm