

WEST KIRBY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 9th 2016

Dear Parents,

Huge thanks to our PTA for organising the Christmas Fair last Friday night, and to all of the staff and parents who helped out. It was our first to be held in the evening... I am sorry that I was unable to attend the Christmas Fair or the AGM on Tuesday, but delighted to tell you that almost £2000 was raised. Some of this will be used to buy sets of new books for Guided Reading and some to purchase new Maths Numicon resources for the children to use in class. We are also planning to spend some of the money raised on cultural events for our pupils, such as theatre / music / dance - watch this space!

School Lunches and Christmas Lunch

We hope you are enjoying our new menu. We have now added hot Panini, which are very popular. In response to a letter left in the suggestion box, we only use brown bread and rolls. However, our wraps and Panini are white. If you have any questions, Louise in the kitchen is more than happy to answer them. Please may we remind you about Christmas Lunch next Thursday. Please place your order if you haven't already done so.

Green Flag School - Switch off fortnight

Thank you to our Eco Team and Eco Councillors, who led an Assembly to remind us all to save energy wherever we can to conserve natural resources. During Switch off Fortnight, we managed to save 57 KWH of electricity. Every classroom now has a thermometer on display, so that children can keep an eye on the temperature in the room. Our radiators are controlled individually so we can turn them down to reduce our energy consumption.

Thank you to the Broadbent Family, who purchased a weather station for our school, so that children can monitor weather conditions including temperature, air pressure and wind speed outside.

Children in Need: Thanks to Dan Sach and the Charity Club, who organised our Children in Need day, and thank you to everyone who contributed and came to school looking spotty!. We raised £470, including £200 from the sale of wristbands, which will all go towards supporting children in need across the UK.

Christmas Shoeboxes: Thank you to everyone who contributed a shoebox full of gifts to be sent to children in need in Ukraine, Romania and Albania. We sent 78 shoeboxes this year.

Keeping children safe

We have given the children a few reminders for the dark winter months: it is harder to be seen outside so be extra careful when crossing the road; fluorescent or reflective clothing helps pedestrians and cyclists to be seen; cyclists may need lights even during the day time; when it is icy be aware that pedestrians and vehicles may slip so take extra care; avoid ice - you can't tell how thick it is. Wrap up warm, go to an ice rink and wear thick gloves if you want to skate!

Staff news

We were sad to say goodbye last month to Mrs Hayley Kidd, who has worked in our school kitchen since 2009, but is currently unable to work due to ill-health. We all wish her well. We would also like to thank Mrs Sarah Hiles, who has covered this post for us and is finishing here at Christmas. We are currently in the process of recruiting a permanent Catering Assistant. We are also sad to be losing our Learning Mentor, Miss Helen Kelly, who will finish working for us at the end of this term. She has plans to change direction and we wish her all the very best and thank her for the excellent support she has provided for our pupils.

Miss Woods: We are delighted to announce the arrival of a baby daughter for Miss Woods and her partner. Florence Teresa arrived on 27th November weighing just under 7lb, the family are all doing well.

Sporting Activities

Congratulations to Josie Ryan and Charlotte Williams, who represented our school at the National Regional Trampoline Competition 2016 last weekend. The girls performed brilliantly with Josie coming 7th and Charlotte 12th in their age groups.

Clubs for next term

All of the music clubs will continue next term. Premier Sport will be offering the Jolly Olly Football club to KS1 pupils. Hannah Roberts from T.A.G.B. Tigers will also be running a Taekwondo club for this age group. During the spring term, Full of Beans will be offering a Musical Theatre club for years 3 to 6. Other clubs on offer are Charity Club, Athletics, Chess, Debating and Recorders.

Uniform reminder

Hair touching the shoulders or below should be tied back at school and children should wear plain, flat, black school shoes - not trainers or boots in school. Please ensure your child is sticking to our school uniform which is listed on our website under the School Info tab or by clicking on the following link: [Uniform](#)

Parent Survey

Thank you to those of you who provided some additional positive feedback during Parents Evening when we displayed the results of the summer term survey: In response, it is great for the staff to know they are appreciated and we will ensure Home Learning will no longer print out with a coloured background (although it will still be in colour on screen).

The summary of the survey results and individual Parent's comments may be downloaded from the Survey page under the School Info tab on our website, or click here: [Survey results](#)

We welcome your feedback, which can be given via the Comments Box in the foyer which is emptied weekly, or via the Send us a Message page under the Contact tab on our website - or click here: [Send us a message](#) Each month, we will pick up a topic from the survey and ask you to offer constructive comment on topics of interest. We will try to summarise responses in the following newsletter. This month, the topic is *School Governors*. Please contact us to let us know what you

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would like to know about our School Governors and what they do.

We now have photographs of our Governors on our website to download at the bottom of the Governing Body Members page- or just click on the link below:-

[About the Governors](#)

Governors

We did not receive any nominations for the role of Parent Governor advertised last month. We now have two vacancies for parents to join us. We need Governors with a range of different experiences and skills to provide a balance. Current Governors have recently completed an audit of their skills so we are looking for people to complement these. We are looking for governors with any of the following backgrounds or experience: Financial, Legal, Premises, Links with local businesses, SEN, current education policy or a member of a board. Please consider putting yourself forward.

Nomination forms will be sent out today along with the newsletter, or can be downloaded under the Governors tab on the website and submitted electronically.

For more information about the role and responsibilities of becoming a Governor, please click on the link below:-
<http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx>

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who have helped out this term, including in our classrooms and school library, walks to the swimming pool and the library in West Kirby and the recent Year 5 and 6 visit to some of the Liverpool museums - we couldn't do it without you.

Last, but by no means least, thanks to all of the wonderful staff at our school for your hard work and dedication to the children at West Kirby Primary School which make this school such a happy, caring place to learn.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas celebrations next week. Season's Greetings to all!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Takashima
Headteacher

Autumn term diary dates 2016 and holiday information

Wednesday 14th December - Year 2 Carol Concert
9.15am

Wednesday 14th December – Year 2 to Wednesday
Room for Christmas Carols – 10.30am

Tuesday 13th December - Foundation Stage & Year 1
Nativity 2.15pm

Wednesday 14th December – Foundation Stage & Year
1 Nativity 10.30am

Wednesday 14th December – KS2 Carol Service
2.00pm & 6.30pm

Thursday 15th December – Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 20th December – FS and KS1 Christmas
Parties – Children can wear own clothes

Wednesday 21st December – KS2 Christmas Party –
Children can wear own clothes

Wednesday 21st December – School closes for
Christmas holidays 3.30pm

Thursday 22nd December – INSET Day

Friday 23rd December – INSET Day

Monday 9th January – School opens for Spring Term
8.55am

Please note that term time and holiday dates including INSET days for 2016-17 and 2017-18 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

http://www.westkirbyprimaryschool.co.uk/website/attendance_and_term_dates/17375