

Dear Parents

The following information may be of interest to you...

Themed Week

We have really enjoyed our whole school themed week based on Science and Maths in the Locality. The week has been packed with investigations, food tasting, experiments and visitors. Mrs Leyland's class have enjoyed looking at houses in the locality, have painted their own homes and have designed new homes for Winnie and Wilbur. Miss Collins' class conducted a waterproof materials investigation and did a survey of the traffic on Pensby Road which proved to be quite tricky as it was so busy! Mrs Goulding's class also did a Pensby Road traffic survey and managed to squeeze in writing their own Wirral Peninsula brochures as well as an absorbent materials experiment and a shape investigation in Maths. Mrs Mitchell's class welcomed in a volunteer from the RNLI who spoke to the children about their role in Hoylake and water safety beside the pool and on the beach. Mrs Holroyd's class were very busy with their musical assembly and they also managed to find the time to sample astronaut space food. They reported that the dried strawberries and mint chocolate chip ice-cream was mouthwatering! Miss Arden's class used the I-Pads to research and create Information Books about the River Mersey and Mr Bettridge's class invited Dr Johnston into school to speak about micro-organisms. In addition to all of the above we also welcomed Freddie Fit back in to school to run a series of healthy eating and physical activity workshops throughout school and each class also welcomed a visiting scientist who helped them to make sherbet sweets, tornado water bottles, Mentos volcanoes, bouncing bubbles and musical instruments covering all major national curriculum science topics. PHEW! What a fast paced week we have had. As ever the children adored the extra special lessons devised by the staff. My thanks go to all the staff, visiting students and visitors - these weeks take a lot of preparation and planning but, as I am sure the children will testify if you ask them, was a real week to remember!

Annual Parent Questionnaire

Many thanks to all of you who have logged on and responded to our annual questionnaire so far. The survey has only been open for two weeks and already we have received 62 responses! We have got a good spread across the year groups but we would like even more! The survey is open for another two weeks and closes on Friday 3rd March. We are determined to get even more responses than last year's impressive 71 returns so this year we are issuing a challenge - the class who accrues the greatest number of responses will receive a very special award! ☺

So far we have the following number of replies...

CLASS	Number of Responses
FS2	8
Year One	8
Year Two	8
Year Three	9
Year Four	12
Year Five	9
Year Six	8

... let's see who is up for the challenge! Results will be texted on Monday 6th March.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 9th March this year and Miss Arden has been very hard at work for all our benefit. She has managed to borrow a Green Screen which means we will be able to photograph the children on a background to suit their costume! For instance if you dress up as Hermione Granger you will be transported to a quidditch pitch in Hogwarts! If you dress up as Tarzan you will be transported to a jungle! We thought we would let you know now so you can start planning outfits. Please note this dress up day is optional as we appreciate that the thought of dressing up for some children may be a bit daunting. It is also completely free of charge (although there may be a small charge at a later date if you wish to purchase your child's photograph) and your child will come home with a £1 book token to spend in any bookstore. We will also be awarding additional prizes for the best dressed children (and adults) in each class which we will be announcing in a special celebration assembly at the end of the day.

IMPORTANT WORLD BOOK DAY NOTICE - As we will be using Green Screen technology children must not wear green clothing or they will appear invisible in the photograph.

Year One Parent Workshop

Miss Collins will be running a parent workshop to explain the Year One Phonics test on Thursday 2nd March from 3.45 to 4.30. All Year One parents are invited to attend to find out about the process and how you can help your child. The workshop is open to adults only but, as we appreciate that childcare may be a problem for some parents, we are proposing to offer a free crèche facility for the duration of this course. All Year One parents are welcome but if you are unable to attend, please speak to Miss Collins separately or feel free to send a grandparent.

Charity Work

We have been doing really well with our charity work lately. Year Two held a fabulous cake sale and managed to raise £78.44 which they will split between Claire House and the Fair Trade Foundation. We managed to raise a huge £430 at today's non uniform day which we will donate to the Bennett family from Irby via their Just Giving account. Thank you to all of you who donated to both days, your generosity never fails to astound us.

Termly Targets

Your child will be bringing home their updated targets tonight so please look in their school bag. If they don't find their way home, please let us know and we will be happy to address this for you.

School Meal Changes

Many of you will have noticed that we have added an additional question to the annual survey this year about school dinners as we would like to raise the number of children taking this offer up. We have received many valuable ideas and we will be attempting to trial some of these ideas over the rest of the year. Unfortunately, as our numbers have dropped we have had Paula (our kitchen assistant) taken off us by Edsential, leaving us with only two permanent kitchen staff. Rest assured Sheila and Mandy will ensure that the meals are still the same high standard they always have been and, if our numbers rise again once more, we may get a third member of staff reinstated in the kitchen which will enable us to make more elaborate desserts.

Internet Safety

We have come across this You Tube NSPCC video which tells parents how to set restrictions on their children's I Phones to restrict access to various sites. A local Safeguarding Lead has recommended parents and staff look at this as a combined effort to help our children remain as safe as possible. Please follow the link below...

<https://youtu.be/mO1TYt5FAo0>

Celebration Corner:

Year Three and Year Four - Congratulations to all the children and staff I Years Three and Four who have treated us to two fantastic class assemblies over the last fortnight. Your confidence and professionalism never ceases to amaze us!

Amber Year 2 Amber came third in a Judo Competition and received a medal and a trophy-well done Amber.

Isla Year 2 Isla received her stage 5 certificate and badge-well done Isla.

With Best Wishes for a happy and relaxing half term break
See you on Monday 27th February

Miss D L Cronin