Thingwall Primary School... Together Promoting Success

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe that the end of our first half term is now in sight - what a busy time we've had! Our FS2 children have settled in beautifully and it is hard to imagine life at Thingwall without them now - they have done really well and it has been heartening to see them progress and thrive in our Early Years environment. Well done to all the FS2 children, parents (and grand-parents!) and of course the FS2 staff!

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

Health, Fitness and Safety Themed Week:

This week will see us enjoy our Autumn Term themed week and we have decided to focus this time on health, well-being, safety and general fitness, all of which will be underpinned by the reinforcement of our school's 6 Rs... We aim to become Respectful Learners, Resilient Learners, Responsible Learners, Resourceful Learners, Reflective Learners and Reasoning Learners.

We have lots of exciting events planned across the week to benefit all year groups. As well as exciting assemblies and class based activities about keeping safe we will be welcoming the following visitors into school...

Monday	Premier Sports will take each class in turn and deliver high quality sporting activities
Tuesday	Lindsay from Tescos will work with Years One and Two on an exciting Diwali Trail
	The Education Group will deliver traditional Indian Dance workshops with every class
Wednesday	Sonya Keating from Wirral Primary Care Trust will deliver a Healthy Eating Roadshow and Circuit Training to Years Five and Six
Thursday	Edsential's Computing Advisory Teacher, Jon Lenton will return to us to deliver Cyber Safety talks to every class.
	Year Six will take part in a session on Healthy Hearts with Dr Johnston from The Warren's Surgery
	Mike Goulding (Mrs Goulding's husband) from Edge Hill University will deliver a series of exciting sporting activities for Years One, Two and Three
Friday	Premier Sports will return and will take each class and deliver more high quality sporting activities

In addition, each class will study a different area of the theme in depth with lots of cross-curricular activities to enhance and enthuse everybody!

My thanks go to all staff who have thoughtfully planned the week to appeal to all the children. These themed topics don't happen overnight, they are the result of lots of hard work and additional planning on the staff's part - thank you everyone!

Harvest Festival: Many thanks to all of you who donated loose change and food items for our Harvest Festival last week. As always the festival was really well attended and our Year Six speakers and School Band did us proud! Amanda from the Forum Housing charity was completely overwhelmed by the staggering amount of food we donated and wanted to pass on her sincere thanks.

Harvest Visit to St Michael's Church, Pensby:

As you know, we always like to play a vital role in our community and this year is no exception. Last week Year Six and myself visited St Michael's Church to share our Harvest celebrations with the local Carer's Community. Many thanks to St Michael's for arranging this opportunity for us and well done to Year Six who, as ever, were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Rotary Christmas Shoebox Appeal:

Shoeboxes are now available to collect from the School Office at a cost of £2.00 per box to cover postage and transport.

Big Heritage Viking Long Boat:

We were very excited last week when Dean Paton from Chester's Big Heritage charity arrived at school to deliver our very own Viking Long Boat! The boat is an ex parade float which was used in Chester's recent Pride celebrations and it will form the centre piece of our new Viking Settlement in the central quad. It is wonderful for our school to have benefitted from such a gift, especially as we hold our Viking heritage so close to our hearts. Keep an eye out for a newspaper article in the local papers in the coming weeks.

Goodbye Mrs Geddes:

This Thursday will be tinged with sadness as we wave goodbye to our marvellous Mrs Geddes as she retires from her post as Year One Teaching Assistant. Mrs Geddes has enjoyed links with the school for the last thirty years as her three sons are all past Thingwall pupils and she even ran the Thingwall Pre-School for a considerable length of time before joining us on the staff. First of all she worked alongside Miss Taylor and Mrs Simpson for many years, then Mrs Rose and Mrs Vernon for a short time, after that she worked with myself, next she worked with Miss Burnett and finally she has worked for the past two years with Miss Collins. We will all miss her friendly, easy going nature and the committed way that she has always worked her hardest for the children in her care. The staff are saying goodbye to a much loved colleague but know that she will remain in touch with us all as a life-long friend. The children will say goodbye to her on Thursday during an extended assembly for staff and children and then the staff will hold a delicious afternoon tea for her at 3.30pm. We are sure that lots of you will want to say goodbye and pass on your best wishes to Mrs Geddes so please feel free to pop in at either end of the school day this week. Many thanks for all your donations towards her gift, we hope to purchase vouchers for her to enable her to equip her brand new kitchen as she is moving to Wales in the very near future to be near to family and friends. Goodbye Mrs Geddes, we will <u>all</u> miss you <u>terribly</u>.

Book Fair Update:

The Book Fair made an amazing £709 in total which means that the school can receive a big percentage back to purchase much needed individual reading books. Thank you to all parents who helped us by buying books.

Celebration Corner

This section is for any out of school achievements your child may want to celebrate...

Amber (Year Two)

Well done to Amber who has been awarded her official membership number and membership card with the British Judo Association

Key Stage Two Football Team:

Well done to all the children who represented Thingwall during our recent matches with Gayton Primary and for the Corgi Cup

School Council Representatives:

Well done to those children who represented us at the Liverpool Hope University Fair Trade conference with Mrs Goudling and Mrs Hine earlier on this month

With Best Wishes for a relaxing half term break. We will see you back at school on Monday 31st October.

Miss D L Cronin