

Dear Parents

The following information may be of interest to you:

E-Safety at Home:

Hopefully you should have all received the Digital Parenting magazine (October Edition) that we sent home a few weeks ago. Many thanks to Mrs Evans (Harrison's mum) for recommending the magazine to us. I'm sure you'll agree it had many useful tips and guidance for parents to help us cope in this ever changing world of technology. We will try to secure future copies and circulate on a monthly basis.

Running with the same theme of keeping our children safe while they are accessing the internet, the NSPCC have developed a whole host of resources to support families with e-Safety at home which we think is very useful, especially as many children may be receiving technology themed presents this Christmas. Their campaign advises parents on gaming websites, kids forums and social media and includes lots of invaluable advice. If you have a spare moment please take a look on <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> They have also introduced a net aware app that parents can download to their phone, PC or tablet with lots of useful tips.

On-Line Payment System:

Many thanks to all of you for bearing with us as we settle into the new school lunch ordering system. It has been mainly successful, with only a few parents appearing to still experience difficulties. Please contact the School Office if you require any help/advice with this matter and Mrs Hamel and Mrs Metcalfe will do their best to assist. We will accommodate every food order if it has been placed on-line in time. However, if a food order has not been placed we will usually have to revert to providing your child with the deli option (subway sandwich, salad, pudding, fresh fruit option and drink). This is because Sheila, our School Cook, needs to order the ingredients in advance. Please rest assured that no child will go hungry! Many thanks to the midday, office and kitchen staff for working so hard with this new system over the last couple of weeks. We are confident we will get there in the end and that it will save a lot of time in the long run as well as cutting down on food waste in the kitchen.

New Electronic Gate System:

Our new electronic gate is now in use. This means that the car park is now only to be used by staff, deliveries and people requiring disabled access. Should you require access during the school day (by prior arrangement, to collect your child for medical appointments etc) you will need to press the bell button on the intercom system and wait for someone in the office to speak with you. Please bear with us as occasionally we will need to pop out of the office to deliver messages to the various classrooms, therefore leaving the office temporarily unattended. Thank you for your patience.

Parent Governor Nominations:

We are pleased to welcome Mr Rees (Owen's dad) to the Governing Body following our recent newsletter appeal to fill our two Parent Governor vacancies. We did not receive any further nominations so this means that we still have one vacancy for a Parent Governor on our school's Governing Body. As no-one else has put themselves forward this means that we will need to advertise the vacancy on the Wirral Local Authority website. This means that any Wirral parent who has a child in any Wirral school will be eligible to apply. If anyone missed the original letters but is now interested in becoming a Parent Governor please contact Mrs Hamel in the School Office by Friday 25th November. If more than one Thingwall parent expresses an interest we may have to hold further elections.

The structure of the 2016-2017 Governing Body is as follows...

Category of Governor	Named Governor	Role
Local Authority Governor	Dr Sykes	Chair of Governors
Community Governor	Mr Lester	Standards & Strategy Committee Chair Governor for Safeguarding & Child Protection
Community Governor	Mr McNulty	
Community Governor	Mrs Mitchell	
Community Governor	Mrs Goulding	
Community Governor	Mr Bettridge	
Community Governor	VACANCY	
Community Governor	VACANCY	
Parent Governor	Mrs Harwood	Vice Chair of Governors Finance & Staffing Committee Chair
Parent Governor	Mrs Kenningham	
Parent Governor	Mrs Varey	Health & Safety Committee Chair Governor for Special Educational Needs
Parent Governor	Mr Rees	
Parent Governor	VACANCY	
Staff Governor	Miss Arden	
Head Teacher Governor	Miss Cronin	

PA Thanks:

Many thanks to those parents who came to the AGM at the Bassett Hound on 8.11.16. We are delighted that the PA agreed to fund the installation of the FS2/KS1 Trim Trail and hope to get this sorted in the new year once we have sorted the tarmac and prepared the area. We were also very pleased that the PA agreed to match fund a new reading scheme this academic year and also fundraise towards the planned outdoor reading area. Mrs Mitchell and Miss Arden are in the process of researching which reading schemes offer best value for money and are the most appealing/effective for our children.

The PA have many exciting events planned for us this term. Please see below a list of dates for your interest for the remainder of the term...

01.12.16	8am	FS2/KS1 Breakfast with Santa
05.12.16 & 06.12.16	6pm	KS2 Christmas Performance at St Michael's Church, Pensby - ticketed
09.12.16	10.15am	Year Five and Year Six go Carol Singing at The Warrens Surgery
09.12.16	evening	Round Table Santa Sleigh around Thingwall with staff and members of the PA acting as Santa's Little Helpers!
12.12.16	1.10pm	Coverdale Puppet Show
14.12.16	1.30pm	FS2/KS1 Christmas Performance in the School Hall - ticketed
15.12.16	9.30am	
14.12.16		Christmas Lunch (£2.30 each for KS2 children, free for FS2/KS1)
15.12.16	after school	Christmas Discos (including Grand Raffle and selected stalls)
19.12.16	pm	Film Afternoon and Children's Raffle
20.12.16	pm	Christmas Parties
21.12.16	all day	Toy Day and Own Clothes Day - no electronic devices that have access to the internet of that can take photographs please!
09.01.17		BACK TO SCHOOL FOR THE START OF A BRAND NEW TERM

Well Done Miss Arden:

We would like to say a massive well done to Miss Arden who was selected to run a course on raising attainment in Boys' Writing which was run by Edsential for all teachers in Wirral and Cheshire to attend. She did a fantastic job and the teachers who attended felt that they took part in a very worthwhile course and would be able to take lots of ideas and strategies back to their school settings to help boys with their writing.

CELEBRATION CORNER!

This area of the newsletter is for anything your children achieve outside school that they would like to celebrate with us. Please note that children will only be referred to by their first name for safeguarding purposes, as we are now publishing our newsletters on the public page of the VLE.

Daniel (Year Two) - Congratulations to Daniel who made an appearance in the Liverpool Echo recently for heroically saving a dog whilst out with his family on the towpath at Maesbury Marsh! What a super hero Dan - you should be very proud of your quick thinking actions!

David (Year 6)

Well done David for passing your orange belt in karate. All your family are so proud of all your hard work to achieve this. Well Done!

With Best Wishes

Miss D L Cronin