



Newsletter December 2019

Dear Families,

Season's Greetings as we come to the end of the term– and the end of this eventful decade, wondering what lies in store for us all in 2020. Plenty to celebrate here at school– and to look forward to in the new year. Please read on to find out more including about changes we are making to our Behaviour Management system on page 4.

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Parent Survey at the end of last half term. On the next page is a brief summary of the responses and we are delighted and proud to receive such an overwhelmingly positive endorsement of the great job our wonderful team of staff do together.



Lost property:

Under the EYFS covered area– help yourself to anything un-named that fits... anything left at the end of term will be given to charity shops.

Uniform reminder:

Over the holiday, please check names are in every item– including hats, scarves and gloves which seem especially hard to keep track of!

We ask everyone to follow our uniform policy– click [HERE](#) to check. If children wear boots to school at this time of year, we ask them to change into pumps or school shoes indoors. Trainers are not school shoes and should only be worn for PE.

Water reminder:

Please provide a clear, named bottle for your child to rinse & refill with water to drink daily so we can ensure they stay hydrated.



More Staff Baby News:

On 10th November, Miss Woods gave birth to her second daughter, named Maria and the whole family are doing well.

On 16 November, 2 weeks earlier than expected, Mr Hunter's partner gave birth to their second child, a baby brother for Skye, named Kaleb.

Mrs Bailey put in a guest appearance at the Christmas fair last week and at the EYFS and KS1 Christmas dress rehearsals. She has also been in for a visit with baby Ellis too...

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO PARENT SURVEY OCTOBER 2019

	Question	Agree	Don't know	Disagree
1	My child is happy at this school	98.5%	0	1.5%
2	My child feels safe at this school	100%	0	0
3	The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	98.5%	1.5%	0
4	My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	16%	70.5% said not bullied	2.5%
5	The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	89%	7.5%	3.5%
6	When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	74%	3.5% & 19.5% no concerns	3%
7	Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)? Yes or No. If yes, to what extent do you agree with this statement? My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	62.5% of 10%	37.5%	0
8	The school has high expectations for my child	86.5%	10%	3.5%
9	My child does well at this school	98.5%	1.5%	0
10	The school lets me know how my child is doing	95%	2.5%	2.5%
11	There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	98.5%	1.5%	0
12	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	96%	2.5%	1.5%
13	The school supports my child's wider personal development	92.5%	6%	1.5%
14	I would recommend this school to other parents	97%	1.5%	1.5%

Just a reminder that we always want to know if a child is unhappy for any reason and we are committed to working with you to resolve any issues or concerns you may have. Please come back to us if you are not happy that your concern is resolved. We do not tolerate bullying behaviour and will always address it– but cannot do this unless we know about it.

11% of parents who responded were unsure what their children will learn at school through the year. Please note that we always signpost to this information in our newsletters. From January, we will also email out an overview and a Learning Mat for each half term– more information on page 3.

10% of parents who responded did not think that school has high enough expectations for their children. This is something we are addressing as one of our key priorities for this year.

7.5% of parents who responded were unsure how school supports the wider personal development of children. We will include more information on this in future newsletters. Please see our section on clubs on p5.

NB: We will email out a full report of the parent survey feedback ,including comments made, to all parents this week.

THANK YOU to the 82 parents who completed the survey.

What are the children learning about next term?

In response to a small number of parents who asked for more information, from the beginning of the new term, we will be emailing all parents with a copy of the Topic web for the coming half term. This gives a brief overview of what will be covered in each subject area. We will also email a Learning Mat which shows the key information we want children to learn for the main topic– with some questions to discuss at home to help them to remember key facts and vocabulary.

Just a reminder that the curriculum tab on our website always has up to date information about current topics for each key stage. Click [HERE](#) and then select the key stage for your child and download the overview for the half term.

Look down the list on the left for more information about the rationale behind our curriculum at West Kirby Primary School or for more about different subject areas.

Coast to Country Project:

This project across Deeside schools raising awareness of the beauty of Wirral and the need to conserve our local environment for the future will be continuing in the summer term of 2020. We are hoping to develop this work further next year in conjunction with Cheshire Wildlife Trust.

Last summer, the children's learning was exhibited through artwork. Next summer, the showcase will be through music... Watch this space!



Learning about learning

Understanding how we learn has been shown to actually help us learn more.

We are using our Inset Day in January for our staff to learn a bit more about our memory works.

We will be putting this into practice with the children in the new year...

Home Learning

We aim to support you to promote learning at home and to begin to establish good study habits for the future in a way which should be straightforward and enjoyable.

We expect a bit more from pupils as they get older, in preparation for the demands of Secondary School. In response to requests from parents of older children, we have added written homework tasks to the menu for Y5 & Y6 this year which is marked with the children in class every Thursday morning.

We recognise the need for all children to switch off with down time to enjoy hobbies and sports so try to strike a balance with weekly set tasks and optional extras for those looking for a bit more. This can all be downloaded for each key stage by clicking [HERE](#) or look under the Home Learning tab on our website. Please contact the school office to request paper copies.

This year, we will also be offering published workbooks/ study support to all pupils in Years 5 and 6.

West Kirby Primary School Values

In September, we adopted the School Game Values as part of our development of PE in school. Children and staff have commented that these are a great set of values to live our lives by so we propose to adopt these as part of our Behaviour Management Policy. From January, we will replace our Code of Conduct posters with the values below. We will teach the children to think about what each one means and the kinds of behaviours which exemplify each one. Children showing these values will be praised and encouraged to move their names from the Green Zone up to the value they have demonstrated. Staff and visitors to our school are expected to model these values too !



WKPS Sports Report: Autumn 2

Once again the children of West Kirby Primary School have represented their school with passion and determination. They have shown great teamwork and excellent sporting conduct.



11th November 2019

Years 5 and 6 took part in a Dodgeball Tournament at Ladymount Catholic Primary School.

Respect was shown and great fun was had by all and they claimed second place.

18th November 2019

Year 2 represented KS1 in an Indoor Athletics Tournament. This was the first time for the children representing West Kirby Primary School. Miss O'Toole was very proud of them and they came a brilliant 3rd place. Well done.



Before school, a group of children attended a Fencing Club each week over the last half term. It is hoped that they can attend a competition in fencing later in the year.

SPORTS REPORT continued...

3rd December 2019

Mr O'Rourke and Mrs Hearty enjoyed taking a Year 5 and Year 6 Futsal Team to Tranmere Rovers Futsal Centre.

They scored many goals, but just lost out on qualifying for the final by goal difference. The team showed great skill, respect and self belief.



6th December 2019

Year 3 and 4 had a 'splashing time' at a swimming festival at Woodchurch Leisure Centre.

They demonstrated water confidence and enjoyed water games and activities.

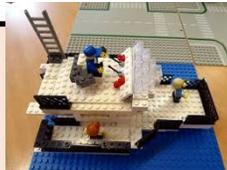
9th December 2019

Year 5 and 6 took 3 teams to play Boccia against St Bridget's School. This was an event that saw a joint team, pupils from both schools, play as a C team. West Kirby A Team came first and West Kirby B and C Team came joint second. Well done –great teamwork.



THANK YOU– to Mrs Burrows and Mr O'Rourke for making it all happen!

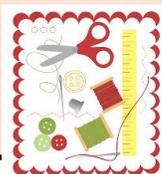
We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in taking children to and from sporting events this half term. Without parents and family and friends transporting the children, the children would not have the opportunity to participate in events across the Wirral.



CLUBS

I would like to thank all of our staff who have taken on the additional responsibilities of running clubs before and after school:

Our new WAVES club has got off to a great start in the new Skylight Room and this half term we have had Christmas craft clubs, Construction clubs, Gymnastics and Tag Rugby clubs. Next half term, we have a few spaces on some days for WAVES before and after school. Jewellery making, Sewing, Board games, Hockey, Netball and Basketball are the clubs on offer in the first half of the Spring term and the deadline for bookings is Thursday 19th December. Parents booking by this date will receive a text by the end of Friday to let you know whether there is a space for your child.



PTA

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the parents who helped out with the organisation of our school Christmas Fair last week.

Thank you to everyone who came along to enjoy the festivities— please think about how you might also be able to help with future events so the hard work does not fall on just a few— every little helps!

All the money raised goes towards equipment and events for the children to benefit from and which we could not otherwise afford.

All parents, carers and staff at our school are automatically members of our PTA and every offer of help is very welcome.



CONGRATULATIONS to the 58 children who have 100% attendance & punctuality so far (up to 17/12/19)

Request for volunteers:

All schools are required to re-view provision for teaching Relationships and Sex Education before next September. Please contact the School Office if you would like to look at this with us next term.



Clean air project

Our Year 4 pupils together with Year 4 pupils from Thingwall Primary School have been measuring levels of air pollution at the beginning and end of the school day as we are both located on busy roads. We have been thinking about how we might improve the air quality. We have found that the air is less polluted in school, and by the railway line compared to that on the main road. In the Spring, we will be planting a privet hedge alongside our front railings to help combat the air pollution.

Spring Term Diary Dates 2020 and Holiday Information

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Performances – KS1 9.15am & 2.30pm — EYFS 10.30am

Friday 20th December - School Closes for Christmas Holidays 3.30pm

Monday 6th January - INSET Day School Closed

Tuesday 7th January - School opens for Spring Term 1

Thursday 9th January - Year 6 SATS Meeting 9.00am

Friday 10th January - Years 1 - 6 Pantomime at Floral Pavilion—Thank you to the PTA

Wednesday 15th January - Year 2 SATS Meeting 9.00am

Tuesday 21st January - Year 4 Residential Meeting 9.00am & 5.00pm

Tuesday 28th January - Years 5 and 6 Residential Meeting 9.00am & 5.00pm

Monday 3rd—Friday 7th February - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 4th February - Whole School Science Day

Tuesday 11th February - Years 5 & 6 Rainforest Art Day

Thursday 13th February - KS1 Circus Day in School

Friday 14th February - School closes for Half Term

Monday 24th February - School opens Spring Term 2

Friday 6th March - KS2 to Liverpool Philharmonic Schools' Concert

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

Tuesday 31st March - KS1 to Knowsley Safari Park

Friday 3rd April - School closes for Spring Break

