



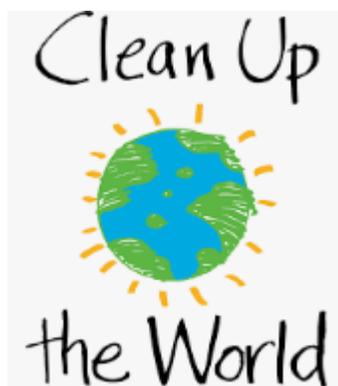
Newsletter December 2018

Dear Families,

Thank you to parents who took the time to complete the Parent Survey at Parents Evening. The Staff and Governors are delighted to see such an overwhelmingly positive endorsement of our school and the education and care provided for our pupils. A summary of the results is available to download from our website under the School Information/Surveys tab or click [here](#). In this newsletter we will try to pick up some of the suggestions made. We have tried to contact parents who gave personal feedback to arrange to meet to discuss those specific issues.

Coast to Country

During the second half of the summer term, we will be taking part in a project with a group of local schools. It is designed to raise our pupils awareness of the beauty and unique features of our local area. We hope that by studying different aspects of our environment and by going out to explore and learn first hand, that our pupils will care and want to protect our heritage and wildlife for future generations to enjoy too. Watch this space!



Staff News

Miss Jones has left us to take up a new post at another school.
Thank you to Mrs Burrows for staying on to take Class 5.



Cleaning Team Vacancy

We still have a vacancy for a cleaning post at our school. It will be advertised on the Wirral Council website from Friday 4th January. Please share this information with anyone who might be interested in this post.



Sporting News

Intra Sporting Events

This half term Key Stage Two have taken part in two Intra School Sporting Events. Year 3 and Year 4 competed against each other in a Football Festival, and Year 5 and Year 6 competed against each other in a Tag Rugby Festival. Both events were a great success, and allowed the children to demonstrate what they had learnt in their PE lessons.

Inter Sporting Events

Eight children from Year 3 attended an Indoor Athletics Festival at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School on Monday 12th November. The children took part in a range of events, and finished in second place – Well Done.

Eight children from Years 3 & 4 attended a Handball festival on Monday 19th November. The children showed great teamwork, and finished in first place – Well Done.

A group of children from KS1 attended a Gymnastics Festival at Park Primary School on Friday 30th November. The children put together a gymnastics routine, and performed to the other schools. Our routine was highly commended by the organisers – Well Done!

Thank you to both staff and parents, who enabled the children to take part in these events.

Reminder ...Please ensure that your child has their full PE kit in school at all times. If possible, we do encourage trainers rather than pumps as they provide more support when playing sport.

Action in response to suggestions from parents in our Autumn 2018 survey

HEADLINES: Everyone said their child is taught well. Nobody said their child was unhappy and no-one said they felt unsafe.



Some parents asked for improved recreation and sports facilities outside. One parent suggested a Friendship bus stop or bench for the playground. Another suggested planting fruit trees in pots and trying to create more green space. We plan to act on these ideas once the building works are completed.

Parents all agreed that children's behaviour is good, which tells us our management systems are working well. Many were unsure about how well school responds to bullying and said this was outside their experience. Only one disagreed to an extent. We suggest asking your children to explain what they understand by the word bullying, and to tell you what they would do if it happened to them, or if they saw it happening to someone else.



Home learning: We know parents have a range of different views on home learning. We hope children will be curious & want to continue their learning at home. We know that a love of reading is vital to academic success so ask you to prioritise this. Mathematics, we hope, is a fun way to practise basic skills. Spelling is a key skill that develops with practice. A number of parents feel there is too much, so we are reducing the number of other tasks we ask children to complete. We will leave in the optional extras for those who would like a bit more...

A few parents asked for more formal written tasks and for these to be marked. Please see the rationale under our Home Learning tab or click [here](#). to see why we have moved away from this.

Talking to Teachers

Although teachers are busy seeing in and dismissing their classes at the very beginning and end of each day, they are always ready to make time to talk with parents either before 8.45am, or after they have finished dismissing everyone. No concern is too small—we would much prefer you to make us aware of any small issues so that we can work with you to prevent them becoming any bigger. Our school office staff are happy to liaise to find a mutually convenient time for parents who are not here at the times the children



come and go... If you would like more information from us, please just ask at the school office, or email the school office. To help prepare, the office may ask you what you wish to discuss. This is to help the teacher be prepared and organised for the meeting.



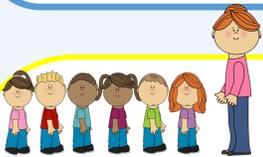
Parent Pay

From January, you will be able to pay online for school meals, events, clubs, trips, etc.

You will receive a paper copy of your log in details and instructions for ParentPay on

Thursday 20th December. This will be sent home with your child. Please contact the School Office if you do not receive this or have any further queries..

We will still be happy to receive cash or cheques if you prefer.



Attendance and Punctuality

When they are fit and well, arriving at school on time, ready to learn after a good breakfast, gives children the best start to the school day, and enables them to achieve their best. When they are poorly, they need to stay at home to recover. Sometimes they may be just a bit under the weather or not themselves for some reason. If you contact the school office, staff can let you know if we are aware of any particular bugs going round, which may be beginning to develop in your child. Otherwise, if you are unsure, please bring them in. We will always contact you if your child appears unwell during the day.

Sometimes children can experience symptoms such as headaches, tummy aches or feeling sick when they feel anxious about something. Please let us know if you think this could be the case. We will work with you to try to establish the causes of the worries, and to help your child to manage and address them.



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Thank you to all of our staff who have worked really hard to help the children put on the wonderful performance we have seen during the last week or so. Thank you to our amazing Kitchen team, who produced a gourmet Christmas lunch for 300 and served everyone in just over an hour! Thank you also to our PTA who have joined with staff at the United Reformed church in West Kirby to organise a family Christmas Carol Service.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.





Entry and exit arrangements during Building Works

This week, we have been moving the offices into the staffroom ready for the building work due to begin during the Christmas break. When we re-open in January, our site will be restricted.

The temporary main entrance for staff and visitors will be through the car park, via the fire door into the school hall.

KS2 pupils will enter and leave school through the school car park and Garden Playground behind.

EYFS, KS1 & KS2 pupils with younger siblings will enter and leave via the side gate in the alley way. This will be very congested. We ask that older KS2 siblings, KS1 pupils and parents wait on the soft surface area in the main playground until the whistle goes. At the end of the day, please move away from the doors as soon as you have collected your children so staff can see parents still waiting.



Data/Medical Information/ Privacy Notices and Image Consent

Thank you to everyone who has returned up-to-date information and consent forms to the office. We will post on our website and newsletter only images of children for whom we have consent, and never with their names.

PTA

Thank you to the small group of parents who worked so hard to organise our school Christmas Fair, which so many members of our school community enjoyed and which raised over £2000 to spend for the benefit of all pupils, including the Pantomime in January.

Road Safety

Thank you to parents who raised this concern in the Survey.

This week an accident was caused by the thoughtless parking of a parent in a hurry.

We welcome any suggestions about anything more our school could do to help to raise awareness and keep our community safe.



Spring Term 2019 Diary Dates

Please note that term dates for 2019-2020 are now available to download from our website under the School Information tab– or [Click here](#)



Friday 21st December - School Closes for Christmas Holidays

Monday 7th January - INSET Day School Closed

Tuesday 8th January - School opens for Spring Term 1

Friday 11th January - Years 1 to 6 Trip to Floral Pavilion to see Dick Whittington courtesy of the PTA

Tuesday 12th February - Whole School Science Day

Friday 15th February - School closes for Half Term

Monday 25th February - School opens for Spring Term 2