



2nd October 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is incredible how quickly the past month has gone and that we are into October already! The children have had such a busy return to school with trips, swimming lessons, sporting events and Greek themed days! They are also working incredibly hard in their lessons and enjoying their new topics. I have had the pleasure of awarding lots of golden Headteacher stickers for a steady stream of work that has arrived at my door. It is always a highlight of my day to receive a knock on my door from a child who has come to show off their work.

Acting Assistant Headteacher

The Governors and I are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Devoy as our Acting Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Devoy is already a member of our Senior Leadership Team and we are sure that she will provide excellent support to Mrs Whittaker and I over the coming year.

Cross Country Race

Last Thursday, children from years 4, 5 and 6 represented the school at a Cross Country Festival at Heygarth Primary School. Some of the children had competed in this type of competition before whilst for others it was a completely new experience but they all represented the school brilliantly. Overall, we came second in the event and we look forward to attending more Cross Country events. A massive well done to all of the children who competed and a thank you to the parents/carers who were able to take them to the event. Thank you also to Miss Hess for organising our participation in the event and to Mr Rudd, Mrs Whittaker and Mrs Hudson for accompanying the children at the race.

Year 4 Trip to Liverpool

The Year 4 recently enjoyed an interesting- if rather rainy- trip to Liverpool. The children's behaviour was a real credit to the school and we were very proud of them. Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to help us with this trip.

School Building Update



The building work is continuing at a good pace. The entrance foyer, school office and new boy's toilets have been completed and are looking really smart. Please can I ask that you don't allow your children to play on the temporary wooden handrails near the front entrance whilst you are waiting on the playground.





Acting Headteacher: Mrs S. Calveley B.Ed.(Hons)

Behaviour



This is our new *Celebration Wall* which the House Captains are responsible for updating each week. The changes in our behaviour policy seem to be embedding well. The children have earned lots of recognition time for continuing to follow our 'Ready, Respectful, Safe' rules. Our House Captains and School Council members have been selected and are already settling into their roles. Our Praise Postcards have been ordered so look out for the first of these to be sent out shortly! Feedback from the children to the changes has been very positive. Once again, the school staff and I would like to thank you for your support with this.

Email System



We are still experiencing some technical difficulties moving the email addresses of our Year 3 parents onto our email system but we are hoping this will be resolved very soon. Until then, Year 3 parents will continue to receive paper copies of all our correspondence.

Parent/Carer Volunteers

Thank you to all those who have contacted the school to volunteer your help. I will be in contact very soon to organise the annual safeguarding update.

School Office Hours

Just a reminder that the School Office is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day.



Acting Headteacher: Mrs S. Calveley B.Ed.(Hons)

Reminder- Absence and Attendance Policy

Parents are responsible for ensuring full time, regular and punctual attendance of their child who is of compulsory school age. Regular and punctual attendance of pupils at school is both a legal requirement and essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities.

As I mentioned in my previous newsletter, the Local Authority rules for unauthorised absences have changed from September 2018. We have been advised that Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued now if a child has:

- 5 days or more unauthorised leave of absence and the Headteacher has advised the parents in writing that the leave of absence does not constitute the Headteacher's view of exceptional circumstances.
- Leave of absence in term time with parents requesting authorisation from the school.
- 10 lates after the register has closed

We actively discourage children's absence during school sessions, particularly for family holidays. We ask that wherever possible, health appointments are made outside the school day to minimise disruption to your child's education. Under Government and Wirral Local Authority guidelines, we are only allowed to give permission for term-time absences in **exceptional** circumstances. In order for any request to be considered, it must be submitted in writing, using the Leave of Absence forms available from the School Office, along with any additional written evidence attached.

Diary Dates

Here are some key dates for the year ahead. The school website will be updated with these and further dates as events are booked in.

- Tuesday 16th October & Thursday 18th October - Year 4 Harvest Assembly 9.45am
- Friday 19th October INSET Day- school closed for children
- Monday 22nd October-Friday 26th October - Half Term holiday
- Tuesday 30th October & Thursday 1st November- Parents Evening 3.40pm-6.30pm
- Friday 2nd November- PTA Non-Uniform Day for donation
- Wednesday 7th November- Year 6 Road Safety Talk
- Wednesday 14th November - Year 6 Whitemoor Lakes Residential Parents Meeting-6pm
- Tuesday 20th November- Flu immunisations

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything you are concerned about or need to discuss.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Warmest wishes,

S Calveley
Acting Headteacher

