

Thingwall Primary School

Newsletter

28.04.17

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new term. We hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for the forthcoming summer term. The following information may be of interest to you...

Summer Term Dates:

We have attempted to list useful dates below for you. These can also be found on the school calendar and on the school VLE...

Term 3A 24.04.17 to 26.05.17		Term 3B 05.05.17 to 25.07.17	
28.04.17	Year Five Maths Competition at Wirral Grammar School	w/c 05.06.17	Week Two - Multicultural Faith Fortnight - details to follow
01.05.17	Bank Holiday Monday School Closed	05.06.16	Staff Development Day - School is closed to children.
03.05.17	Year Five Class Assembly - all welcome for a 10am start, teas + coffees available from 9.15am for a small cost.	08.06.17	Staff Development Day - General Election School is closed to children.
04.05.17	Staff Development Day - Local Elections School is closed to children.	12.06.17	Year Two Welly Walk to Claremount Farm
w/c 08.05.17	KS2 Year Six SATs Week - please ensure Year Six arrive punctually. They can arrive from 8.30am for a SATs 'Power Breakfast'.	w/c 12.06.17	Phonics Test week for Year One
17.05.17	Class and Group Photos - please ensure the correct uniforms are worn (navy jumper/cardigan, grey shorts, skirt, trousers or dress, pale blue polo shirt OR blue and white gingham dresses. Please do not wear trainers.	14-16.06.17	Year Six Field Trip to Colomendy with Mr Bettridge, Miss Hine and Mrs Stark Please ensure any outstanding payments are settled before the visit. If you are having difficulties with this please contact the school office.
18.05.17	Year Four Deeside Drama Festival at Pensby Primary - details to follow.	15.06.17	Year Five Dodd Cup for Year Five Footballers at Heswall Primary
w/c 22.05.17	Week One - Multicultural Faith Fortnight - details to follow	21.06.17 9.30am and 22.06.17 9.30 am ***Please see below for potential issue with these dates***	KS1 Sports Day - all welcome KS2 Sports Day - all welcome
25.05.17	Year One Class Assembly - all welcome for a 10am start, teas + coffees available from 9.15am for a small cost.	28-29.06.17	Year Five Field Trip to Burwardsley with Miss Arden, Mrs Metcalfe and Miss Cronin
		06.07.17	Reception Class Assembly - all welcome for a 10am start, teas + coffees available from 9.15am for a small cost.
		07.07.17	Year Four visit to Walker Art Gallery and Liverpool Museum

		12.07.17	Year Six Secondary School Induction Day and other year groups to visit next class.
		19.07.17	Parents' Evening
		20.07.17	Year Six Class Assembly - all welcome for a 10am start, teas + coffees available from 9.15am for a small cost.
		20.07.17	Year Six Leaver's Party - 4.30pm to 6pm

Sports Day Alert:

Some of you may have noticed that the Local Authority have made a start on replacing the grass on the Stanley School field. You may have also noticed that they have included a proportion of our field in this which may cause a problem for Sports Days this year. Hopefully it will all be sorted in time and (weather permitting) we will still have a wonderful day on our field.

However, as a contingency plan, we are investigating other venues/locations in and around school so the children do not miss out. We will be in touch when we have more details and the Local Authority have provided us with a timeline for the resurfacing.

Goodbye Mrs Bagnall and Hello Mrs Abdul:

We say goodbye to Mrs Bagnall as she leaves her position as a Midday Assistant today and thank her for her hard work over the time she has been here. We have appointed Mrs Abdul to replace Mrs Bagnall and I am sure you will join us in giving her a big welcome. Good luck Mrs Bagnall we will miss you.

Deeside Champion of Champions Spelling Bee Winner:

Our Soft Federation of schools met a few weeks ago for our annual Maths and Spelling Bee competitions which were arranged by Mr Bettridge and hosted by Thingwall Primary. We were delighted with all of the children from all of the schools. All children involved showed great resilience and a positive attitude. We were so proud of William from Year Six who managed to come second in the Maths Bee, narrowly missing out to Gayton Primary and also to Sithara from Year Five who pipped Irby Primary in the Spelling Bee final, coming first! Sithara walked away with first prize of £100 for the school library and a £20 book token for herself! Congratulations to all who represented Thingwall so beautifully, including our Key Stage Two pupils who cheered along all of the schools.

Key Stage One Trim Trail:

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Parents' Association who have worked tirelessly over the last few years to raise money for the KS1 Trim Trail on the infant playground. We are sure you are all as thrilled as we are with the finished structure and we will open it for use by the children as soon as we can, once we have received the relevant risk assessments and warranties from Sovereign Playgrounds. Thank you to all our parents who have helped us raise money for this impressive piece of playground equipment. Whether you have supported us by running stalls at a fair, bought a ticket for your child for the disco, attended a POTS meeting at the Bassett Hound or even made cakes for the cake stall, you have all contributed time, effort and money towards this so... THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! ☺

Parental Questionnaire Feedback:

It seems like a really long time ago that we held our annual on-line questionnaire to parents and I am still aware that we have not fed back on the various comments made. Apologies for the slight delay. Below is a synopsis of the positives you have identified and the ways forward that were identified by more than one parent.

Positives:

Staff and their relationships with the pupils
Provision for pupils with additional needs and Special Educational needs
Open Door policy and frequency/quality of communication
Happy children who enjoy school + consideration for the whole child (academically and personally)
Good standard of education and children enjoy learning and fulfil their potential
Environment, ethos and welcoming attitude
Variety of clubs
Dealing with issues and helping children feel safe and valued
Collaboration with other schools
Outside facilities/improvements
Inductions and transitions to new year groups
Support available for parents and children - time to listen, discuss problems, offer support
The way we encourage life skills (e.g. friendship, equality, support for each other)
Good behaviour and systems in place for discipline and rules
Organised, friendly and professional office staff
Themed events and sessions that enhance the curriculum
School dinners

Ways Forward:

More choice of after-school activities (including non-sport alternatives) - 4 parents
More/less homework - 4 parents
More reading books/ library books - 3 parents
More opportunity to focus on non-academic subjects (e.g. gardening, cookery, creativity) - 2 parents
Ordering/payment system for school lunches - 5 parents
More funding from the Local Authority and Government - 3 parents
School dinners - 6 parents

As you can read, the positive comments far outweighed the ways forward. As always, thank you so much for your support and your commitment to the school and your children's education.

Celebration Corner

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

Charlotte (Year Three) - Well done Charlotte for coming second in your recent ballet Competition ☺

Jack (Year Two) - Congratulations to Jack who passed his yellow belt in taekwondo recently ☺

Amelie (Year Two) - Well done to Amelie and her partner Mae who won a gold medal at the Rotherham Acro Sports Club International Gymnastics Competition on Mothers' Day ☺

Jake (Year Five) - Well done to Jake who recently was awarded a distinction in his Grade One cornet exam ☺

With Best Wishes

Miss D L Cronin

