

Dear Parents

The following information may be of interest to you...

**\*\*REPEAT MESSAGE\*\* Biscuit Money Idea:**

One of our FS2 parents pointed out that it would be a lot more convenient to pay annually in advance for Biscuit Tuesday rather than finding 20p per week. We think this is a great idea for busy parents and may appeal to many of you. If this is the case please pass the correct money in a labelled envelope to Mrs Rees (Owen, Year One) who will be in the ICT Suite before school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Alternatively, if it is easier, please pass the correct money in a labelled envelope to Mrs Hamel in the School Office.

Mrs Rees has worked out how much money would be owed to cover the whole academic year if you wish to pay in this way. This is based on a 38 week year.

2 biscuits per week.....	£7.60
1 biscuit per week.....	£3.80

**\*\*REPEAT MESSAGE\*\* Term Dates and Staff Development Days:**

Hopefully you will have received the 2018/2019 term dates last week. If you have misplaced your copy we have additional sheets in the Entrance Hall.

**Sports Day Arrangements:**

You will have noticed that the school field is currently out of action and in previous newsletters I mentioned that we would need to make alternative arrangements for Sports Days this year. We have devised a Sports Day with a difference and you are very welcome to come and spectate and support the children as usual. Please see the details below...

We have organised a Round Robin of sporting activities which will take place on the back KS2 playground. The children will be split into mixed age group teams and rotate around a variety of activities e.g. hula hooping, egg and spoon, throwing bean bags at a target, kicking balls towards a goal, dribbling around skittles etc. These activities will be led by staff, taking place around the edge of the playground at various stations. Each team will collect points at each station and these will be recorded on a central sheet. We will then total the scores and award the trophy to the winning team or House Captains. As we will be rotating around the outside of the playground parents (and grandparents) will be able to sit on benches in the centre of the playground and rotate around to follow their child/children. We will aim to keep siblings in the same teams so you are only following one group!

**The Key Stage One Sports Day will take place at 9.30am on Wednesday 21.06.17 and the Key Stage Two Sports Day will take place on Thursday 22.06.17, also at 9.30am. Please note that these dates are dependent on the weather.** We will text to cancel and offer alternative dates if it is wet. If it is sunny please remember to provide your child with a hat and sun cream.

Please note that space will be limited in the central area for parents and we would ask that you remain in the central part to enable us to safeguard the children at all times. It may be a bit of a squash depending on how many spectators arrive so please bear with us.

We hope that this makes sense and we will have a lovely time. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us. As always, we fully understand that you may want to take photographs of your child but please be sensitive of other families and do not upload images to Facebook or other social networks. Many thanks for your continued support.

**Trim Trail:**

You will have noticed our lovely new Trim Trail on the Key Stage One playground I am sure. We are extremely grateful to the Parents' Association for raising money to pay for this expensive piece of equipment and we are delighted with the end result (as are the children). We are in the process of training the children how to use it safely and making them aware of the rules which are as follows:

- No jumping on the bridge
- Line up and fairly wait for your turn
- No pushing past each other
- No twirling on the bars
- No going backwards
- To be only used by children up to the age of 11.

We are using it mainly during lessons at the moment and for occasional playtimes whilst the children get used to how to play safely. We have noticed that it is being used before and after school too, which is obviously fine, but we would like to make it clear that this will be the responsibility of the parents to ensure their children are using the equipment safely and appropriately and school will not accept any responsibility for any accidents or issues that occur out of school hours.

Please rest assured that as long as the Trim Trail is used in accordance with the above rules it is entirely safe and meets all Health and Safety regulations.

#### **Liverpool John Moore's University Teacher Mentor of the Year 2017:**

We received a very exciting letter earlier on this week from Liverpool John Moore's University. As you will be aware we have hosted several students throughout the year who are in the process of training to become teachers. Our very own Mrs Mitchell has been shortlisted as a finalist following her nomination from Miss Ayres who was with us earlier on this year. This is an incredible achievement (and is richly deserved) and myself and Mrs Mitchell will be attending the awards evening on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Well done Mrs Mitchell and watch this space for the overall results. Fingers crossed...

#### **Deeside Swimming Gala:**

Congratulations to the children who took part in this week's swimming gala. Year Five and Six children represented us and showed great teamwork, motivation and resilience. We were against twelve other schools and managed to get a fifth place ribbon for the cannon relay and Jack managed to get a fifth place ribbon for the Year Five backstroke too! As always, our children were beautifully behaved and the organisers singled our school out for their impeccable manners, super behaviour and positive team spirit. Well done Jack, Daniel, Joe, Lesedi, Katy, Sithara, Esme, Abbie, Sam, Will, James, Gracie, Leah, Mia and Darcy - you did us proud, what great ambassadors for Thingwall and you all showed great **resilience**! Also a special well done also goes to Tom (and Mr Bettridge) who did a grand job as the Team Coach, organising all of the children and preparing them for the races.

#### **South Deeside Federation Dodd Football Cup:**

Goodness me, we have had a busy sporting week! Yesterday saw our Year Five children accompany myself to the annual Dodd football competition which took place at Heswall Primary. Considering it was the first time that Ben (captain), Joe (coach), Adam, Elizabeth, James, Daniel, Chris and Freya had played together as a team they did brilliantly with us coming third in the tournament! The team won two games, lost one and drew two giving them a total of 8 points meaning that Gayton just sneaked in at second place on goal difference and Heswall achieved a well-deserved overall first place with 15 points. All the children co-operated well and helped each other out with encouragement and advice, demonstrating impressive teamwork, **respect** and **resilience**. Next week will see our Year Five and Six mixed Netball Team representing us at Pensby High for the South Deeside Federation Braddock Netball Cup - good luck!

#### **Celebration Corner:**

Daniel (Year Five) took part in last week's Wirral Bikeathon, cycling a whopping 15 miles with his mum across Wirral! This was made all the more amazing because Daniel fell badly half way into the race and still managed to show grit and determination by hopping back on his bike to finish the whole distance! Well done Daniel (and mum) and thank you to the kind lady who ran out of her house in West Kirby with first aid supplies to save the day. ☺

With Best Wishes

Miss D L Cronin