



Monday 4th April 2022

Newsletter 5 - April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are now two-thirds of the way into the academic year and the children only have one term left in their current year group. We've had a really enjoyable half-term in school and there have been a range of wonderful learning opportunities and events happening for the children.



A lamb visited school



Year 2 had a theatre trip



Our fabulous F2 authors



Year 1 looking for Wild Things in the woods as part of their literacy work



World Book Day fun!



Cerebral Palsy awareness day

It is clear from speaking with the children and looking at their learning that they are benefiting from minimal disruption to their education. It was disappointing that parents/carers were unable to see their children's books because we conducted our parent teacher meetings over the telephone. It is for this reason that we have set some dates for you to come in and have a look with your children at all of their fabulous learning. Due to space in the classroom we politely request that only one adult per child attends the session.

The dates are as follows:

Year 1 – Tuesday 10th May at 2.30pm

Foundation 2- Wednesday 11th May at 9am

Year 2- Tuesday 24th May at 2.30pm

Covid Update

From 1st April 2022 there is updated guidance in relation to Covid. I have selected the information that is particularly relevant to us in school.

- Access to free testing will stop for most groups of people.
- Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough who are otherwise well can continue to attend their education setting.
- As with other respiratory illness, staff members and children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.
- Anyone (over 18) with a positive Covid test result should still remain at home and avoid contact with people for **five days** which is when they are most infectious.
- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.
- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people **for 3 days after the day they took the test**, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.
- Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal

In school we will continue to encourage regular handwashing and we would ask that parents/carers continue to model for the children how to cover their mouth/nose and use a tissue to avoid the spread of any illness.

Ofsted Action Plan Update

This academic year (2021-22) we were expecting another visit from Ofsted. However there have been changes to the inspection schedule and for us it could be delayed for up to six terms. On one hand it allows us more time to address the targets set for us but on the other hand we are keen to have a more positive Ofsted grading.

Nevertheless, we have a continued focus on embedding our school curriculum and improving outcomes for children in the school. We received a second visit from a Local Authority inspector earlier on in the term and she was pleased with the progress that we have made. Her report has been shared with our governing body.

In addition, members of our governing body have joined me this half-term to observe teaching across the school. We observed teaching in Science, Maths, History Understanding the World and PSHE. Without exception, the governors were impressed with the quality of teaching in each class and also the engagement of the children.

Governors and staff participated in Equality and Diversity training on 28th February. The training enabled us to have a deeper understanding of the Equality Act and the nine protected characteristics. Equally important is that it provided us with guidance on how we can continue to embed equality throughout our school curriculum. A new section has been added to the school website which shows how equality is promoted throughout our curriculum.

Statutory Assessment of Pupils in Year 1 and 2

Many of you will already know that the Government require all Year 1 children to sit a statutory phonic

screening check. The screening this year will take place during the week commencing 6th June 2022.

The screening check is designed to confirm whether children have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. Our children are familiar with such phonic assessments so this should not cause any distress. Parents/carers will receive the results in the end of year report.

Year 2

During May, assessment tests will be administered to Year 2 pupils. The test will be incorporated into normal classroom practice so we hope the children will be unaware that the assessments are taking place. We would be grateful if parents/carers also do not focus too much of their child's attention on these assessments because they form only a small part of the child's assessment profile. Once completed our teachers will use the Key Stage 1 test results to help them to reach an overall judgement of the standards children have reached in English Reading, English Writing and Mathematics. You will also receive a teacher assessment judgement for Science, but there is no formal science assessment. You will receive this information in your child's end of year report.

Information leaflets and videos have been produced for parents/carers by the Standards and Testing Agency. If you would like to watch the video or read the leaflets for parents please visit www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents and search for videos about SATs for Key Stage 1. If you require any further information please speak to your child's class teacher.

Attendance

A reminder that (school) holiday requests cannot be approved in term time. Holiday leave may be granted in exceptional circumstances. The principles for defining exceptional are: 'rare, significant, unavoidable and short', with 'unavoidable' meaning an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time and proof of these elements would need to be obtained. The circumstance of 'Covid' would not meet this criteria.

Foundation 1 Parent/Teacher Meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings for Mrs Honeybourne's class will take place week commencing **9th May**. Appointments will go live on eSchools at 6pm on Wednesday 6th April 2022. Please contact the school office if you have any problems making an appointment.

Parent/Governor Elections

I would like to express my gratitude to the three parents who volunteered to represent our school community on our governing body. Thank you also to the people who took the time to vote. Following the election, I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Brooke Bianco (Aidan 1DH) received the most votes and will be our new parent governor.

Parent/Governor Coffee morning

Sadly, we had to postpone our parent/governor coffee morning due to high levels of Covid amongst our staff. This has been re-scheduled for **Thursday 19th May at 9am**. I hope that you can join us to share your views of the school with our governors.

Foundation 1 Places

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019? We are currently taking applications for places in our Foundation 1 provision. Please contact the school office for an application form.

Family Toolbox

Over the past few years, a number of agencies offering support to families in Wirral have been listening to parents/carers to understand the kinds of challenges they are facing. Lot of families have communicated that they are not able to find appropriate resources or support at the right time. Familytoolbox.co.uk is a free online hub that supports Wirral's parents/carers with managing family life. This site provides families with a wide range of services which they can access in one place. Resources and support are available for a range of concerns or worries such as challenging behaviour, sleep, ADHD and autism.

The site will be launched on Monday 4th April.

PE days for next half-term (no change from last half-term)

Monday - Year 2EA

Tuesday - Foundation 2

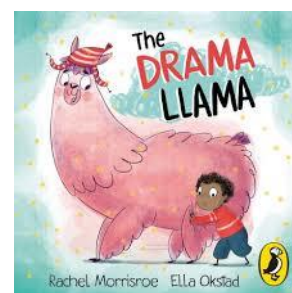
Thursday - Year 2 TM

Friday - Year 1(CY and DH)

Author Visit

Linghams Bookshop in Heswall have organised for us to have an author visit on Tuesday 26th April. Thank you to Linghams !

The author is called Rachel Morrisroe and she is the author of a book called The Drama Llama. Details of how you can purchase her book on the day have been distributed to all F2, Yr1 and Yr2 parents/carers.



Parking

Please remember to park safely and considerately when dropping your children off at school. We have received complaints from residents who have had their drives blocked at drop off and collection time. Could you pass on this message to relatives/friends who may not have access to this information but do drop off and collect children?

April

- Wednesday 6th April - Rock Steady Concert (invited guests only)
- Friday 8th April - Children finish school for Easter holiday.
FOBHHS Break the Rules day (see letter)
Easter Bonnet Parade
- Monday 25th April - Children return to school.
- Tuesday 26th April – Author Visit (F2-Yr2)

May

- Tuesday 3rd May - Additional Bank Holiday for Queen's Jubilee
- Year 2 Statutory Assessments

- Week commencing 9th May F1 Parent/Teacher meetings
- Tuesday 10th May Year 1 Show your work time at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 11th May Foundation 2 Show your work time at 9am-9.30pm
- Monday 16th May Year 1 trip to Ness Gardens
- Thursday 19th May Parent/Governor Coffee morning 9am
- Tuesday 24th May Year 2 Show your work time at 2.30pm
- Friday 27th May Wear Red, White and Blue for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee/picnic
(Details to follow)

June

- Monday 6th June - Staff Development Day
- Year 1 Phonic screening check
- Monday 13th June - Breakfast Judo club
- Tuesday 14th June - Class Photographs
- Saturday 18th June School summer fair
- Thursday 23rd June Sports day
9am - 10am Yr2 parents
10am - 11am Yr1 parents
11am - 12noon F2 parents

July

- Friday 8th July –Annual reports to parents
Governor walk around

Enjoy the spring break and fingers crossed for some lovely, fine, dry weather.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris
Headteacher