



Dear Families and Friends

We are now firmly in the routines of the new academic year and there is much to share with regard to events and plans for the term ahead. First though, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new families to school, particularly our new nursery children who have joined the school during the last few weeks.

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Parents' Welcome/Information evening on Wednesday of last week. Attendance was relatively low compared to previous years so we hope that parents who could not attend received their Home Learning resources which were sent home the following day. All of the information shared by myself and teachers during the evening will be published on our website in the next few days. This information can be found on the new class web pages to which information will be posted throughout the year.

I would like to wish everyone a very successful year. Already there is much planned in the way of trips for the children, extra-curricular activities and sports tournaments for the year ahead.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher



KEY DATES for your DIARY

<i>Thursday 29th September, 6.45pm</i>	<i>Year 6 Parents' Meeting : Secondary School Admissions</i>
<i>Friday 30th September</i>	<i>Year 5 : Bikeability Course Part 1</i>
<i>Monday 3rd October, 9.15 – 11.30am</i>	<i>Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support (see flyer)</i>
<i>Friday 7th October</i>	<i>Year 5 : Bikeability Course Part 2</i>
<i>Tuesday 11th October</i>	<i>Year 2 Class Visit (Stockport Hat Works)</i>
<i>Thursday 13th October, 6.45 – 8pm</i>	<i>Friends of NCS (PTA) Meeting at School</i>
<i>Friday 14th October</i>	<i>Assembly : Harvest (usual donations please – see article)</i>
<i>Tuesday 18th October, 2pm – 3pm</i>	<i>Learning Walks (information to follow)</i>
<i>Wednesday 19th October, 9 – 10am</i>	<i>Learning Walks (information to follow)</i>

KEY DATES for your DIARY continued



Friday 21 st October	Christmas CD Recording Day (No Assembly)
Friday 21 st October	School closes for the Half-Term Holiday (1 week)
Monday 31 st October	School opens for the remainder of the Autumn Term
Wednesday 2 nd November	Year 6 Class Visit : Macclesfield Forest (Art Workshop)
Friday 4 th November	Visiting Theatre : Robin Hood (No Assembly)
Wed 9 th – Fri 11 th November	Year 5 Residential : Robinwood Activity Centre (3 days)
Thursday 10 th November	Year 3 Class Visit : Poole's Cavern
Friday 11 th November	Assembly : Remembrance Day
Tuesday 15 th November	Parents Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)
Wednesday 16 th November	Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 7.30pm)
Thursday 17 th November	Individual Photographs
Friday 18 th November	Children in Need Day (Non-Uniform/Donations)
Friday 18 th November	Assembly : Chetham's Musicians (Recorder Ensemble)
Friday 25 th November	Class Assembly : Year 4
Monday 12 th December, 1.45pm	Early Years Christmas Play (afternoon performance)
Tuesday 13 th December, 9.30am	Early Years Christmas Play (morning performance)
Thursday 15 th December, 1.45pm	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (afternoon performance)
Friday 16 th December, 9.30am	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (morning performance)
Wednesday 21 st December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 22 nd December	Christmas Parties (afternoon)
Thursday 22 nd December	School closes for Christmas holiday (2 weeks)
Friday 23 rd December	School CLOSED for Staff Training
Monday 9 th January	School opens for the Spring Term

Please note that the date of our Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6) **Christmas concert** will be confirmed during the next few weeks. Our concert this year will be a ticketed charity event involving a special guest singer and we are seeking an alternative venue for this performance to be able to seat a larger audience for a single performance.

MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT – WELL DONE!

We would like to say “well done” to four of our pupils, Harriet, Joel, Alex and Henry who have all passed their Grade 1 music exams in either clarinet or flute. This involved playing a number of pieces, some accompanied and some solo, scales and arpeggios, and some aural tests. “Congratulations” to the children and “thank you” to Mrs Cheetham for her work in preparing the children for the exam and accompanying them on the day.



FRIENDS OF NCS : MEETING on Thursday 13th October, 6.45pm – 8.00pm



The Friends of Northenden Community School (the PTA) are holding their first meeting of the year at school on Thursday 13th October, starting at 6.45pm. All parents are welcome to attend. During this meeting, the plans for fundraising and other activities for the year ahead will be discussed. There is opportunity for parents to take on specific roles within the team. Existing members are very keen for more parents to join the team to share ideas and the work involved in organising and running events for parents and children, including discos, quiz nights, the Summer Fair and other events which might be organised throughout the year. Please come along to the meeting to share your ideas and be involved in the life of the school.

PARENTS/GOVERNORS FORUM MEETING Tuesday 4th October 2016 at 7.00pm

All parents are invited to attend an evening meeting with members of our Governing Body on Tuesday 4th October starting at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity for parents to meet our governors and to hear feedback from the school about the comments and ideas parents have shared via the questionnaire which was sent out in July. There will be an opportunity to raise general issues and questions and to share ideas for school development. Some parents in responding to our questionnaire said that they did not feel they contributed to the school's development; this is an opportunity to do so alongside other parents, members of the school leadership team and governors, if you wish to do so. Please look out for the letter which will be sent out next week and complete the reply slip to confirm your attendance at this event.



AFTER -SCHOOL / MORNING CLUB

The demand for after-school club places this year has risen significantly and we know that some parents have been disappointed that we sometimes cannot offer their child a place. Our After-School Club, and the accommodation we have available, was never intended to cater for more than 45-50 children and there are staff ratios in place to ensure that the children are well-supported and safe, particularly as there is such a wide range of age groups with many younger children attending the club.



Whilst we are reviewing how we might manage the increased demand and have taken some steps to increase staffing, we may, on occasions, have to refuse places to a manageable and safe level, even if parents have made large payments in advance. All parents are advised therefore to have alternative arrangements in place just in case we cannot offer you a place. With regard to morning club, we have increased our staffing from 7.45am to accommodate increased demand at this time.

Next week, we will be seeking your views about the provision of breakfast. This will be offered as a separate service, possibly at an additional cost to cover the extra staffing that will be needed to serve breakfast and supervise the children in a separate space suitable for eating.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CHAT, A BREW AND A SLICE OF CAKE!

Please come along to our Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support during the morning of Monday 3rd October, 9.15am – 11.30am. This will take place in our After-School Club room. Lana looks forward to welcoming you to this event. (See attached flyer)



HARVEST ASSEMBLY : Friday 14th October

We are looking ahead to our Harvest assembly on Friday 14th October. As usual, we will be asking families to donate food (not perishable) or other items (toiletries, for example) which will benefit families in Wythenshawe who use the local food bank. We will remind you about this nearer the time.



USUAL REMINDERS ... PLEASE READ

As we usually do at this time of year, we would like to remind all parents that ...

- parents should not drive down or park on Bazley Road when dropping off or collecting children
- children and parents should not enter or leave the premises using the vehicle gates
- parents should adhere to the speeding restrictions (20mph) when in the locality of the school
- children should bring a water bottle (small please) to access drinking water at school
- PE kits should be in school every day and taken home on Fridays for washing
- homework should be completed and returned on time (usually a Wednesday)

SUPERVISION and SAFETY OF CHILDREN on SCHOOL PREMISES Please help us to keep your children and others safe

We are asking all parents to ensure that their children remain with an adult and are properly supervised for their safety at all times when entering and leaving the school premises. We have noted that many children run ahead of parents when entering or leaving the playground. This is particularly a problem at the end of the school day when some of our youngest children reach the car park with parents nowhere in sight. This is not particularly safe for the children. We do have a member of staff supervising the car park area to stop any child from running ahead but it would be so much safer and consistent for the children if they remained with their adults at all times. Thank you for your support.

Linked to this is the need, in the interests of safety, for all children to dismount their bicycles and scooters whilst on school premises. Children must not ride bicycles, scooters or skateboards on the school premises, including in the playground or car park. This week, one of our children was knocked over and injured by another child riding a scooter in the playground. Staff on duty will ask children to dismount their bicycles and scooters. Again, thank you for your support.

