



Dear Families and Friends

We are only four weeks into the new academic year and already the diary is full of activities and other events planned for the children. With this in mind, this newsletter includes the dates of all of our key events taking place between now and Christmas. All these and future events are also published on our website.

REMINDER : SCHOOL CLOSED on FRIDAY (2nd October 2015)

I would like to remind everyone that the school is closed this coming Friday, 2nd October, for staff training. We are joining staff from other local schools for joint training sessions covering a range of aspects of teaching and learning, including mathematics.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher



KEY DATES for your DIARY

Fri 2nd October

Week Beginning Mon 5th October

Wednesday 7th October, 7.00pm

Friday 9th October, 9.15am

Friday 9th October

Tuesday 13th October, 6.30pm

Thursday 15th October

Friday 16th October, 9.15am

Tuesday 20th October, 2pm

Wednesday 21st October, 9am

Thursday 22nd October

Friday 23rd October

Monday 9th November

School CLOSED for Staff Training

Poetry Week (see article)

Parents' Forum Meeting with Governors (see article)

Poetry Assembly (all classes)

Year 5 Class Visit : Tatton Park (The Vikings)

Year 5 Parents' Meeting (Robinwood)

Year 2 Class Visit : Stockport Hat Museum

Harvest Assembly (see article)

Learning Walks (parents invited)

Learning Walks (parents invited)

Individual School Photographs

School Closes for the Half-Term Holiday

Year 5 Residential Visit to Robinwood (3 days)

KEY DATES for your DIARY continued



Tuesday 10 th November	Year 3 Class Visit : Poole's Cavern
Thursday 12 th November	Dick Whittington (Visiting Theatre Company)
Tuesday 17 th November	Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)
Wednesday 18 th November	Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 7.30pm)
Monday 7 th December, 1.45pm	Early Years Christmas Play (1 st performance)
Tuesday 8 th December, 9.30am	Early Years Christmas Play (2 nd performance)
Thursday 10 th December, 1.45pm	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (1 st performance)
Friday 11 th December, 9.30am	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (2 nd performance)
Tuesday 15 th December, 7.00pm	Years 3 – 6 Christmas Concert (1 st performance)
Wednesday 16 th December, 9.30am	Years 3 – 6 Christmas Concert (2 nd performance)
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 18 th December	Christmas Parties
Friday 18 th December	School closes for the Christmas Holidays

THEATRE VISITS – JANUARY 2016

Looking further ahead, we would like you to know that we have booked for all of our children in Nursery through to Year 4 to visit the Lowry Theatre in January to see a performance of *Mr Popper's Penguins*. Children in Years 5 and 6 will also visit the Lowry in the same week but to see a performance *Hetty Feather*, based on the story by Jacqueline Wilson. Letters and request for voluntary contributions for these visits will be sent out before the Christmas holiday.



DOGS ON OR NEAR THE PREMISES

We would like to remind everyone that dogs (of any size) should NOT be brought onto the school premises. **Nor should dogs be tied to the school gates or railings directly outside the school.** Dogs left unsupervised can often be distressed and their barking can frighten some children as they arrive at or leave school. There are many children who are wary and frightened of dogs, even small dogs. Whilst we understand that collecting a child from school is also a good opportunity to walk the family dog, we do need to ensure that our children feel safe when arriving at or leaving the school premises. Thank you for your co-operation and consideration.

SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDERS



We have been advised that there is still a problem in ordering and receiving school uniform from TESCO. They are not in a position to fulfil all orders and we understand that some parents have been waiting a few weeks for new school uniform. Our school uniform can also be obtained from the DEBONAIR School Uniform Shop at Wythenshawe Civic Centre.

GOVERNORS / PARENT FORUM WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2015 at 7.00PM

All parents are invited to attend an evening meeting with our Governing Body on Wednesday 7th October starting at 7.00pm. This meeting aims to introduce our governors to you (only some of whom you will know) and provide an overview of the Governing Body's work and responsibilities. There will also be an opportunity for parents to work in small groups to help governors evaluate the work of the school and suggest improvements. During the evening, there will be an opportunity to share questions and ideas in writing and, if time during the plenary, for the Governing Body to answer some of these questions. It is not the purpose of this meeting for the Governing Body to consider specific issues, incidents or concerns (these should always be raised with the Headteacher in the first instance); it is an opportunity to share ideas in general with the Governing Body and for the full Governing Body to develop their engagement and contact with parents.

The meeting will start at 7.00pm with a presentation from Lisa Beattie, our Chair of Governors. Refreshments will be served from 6.30pm. We anticipate the meeting will be closed by 8.30pm at the very latest. If you would like to attend, please complete and return the reply slip included with this newsletter so that we can plan ahead for seating and refreshments. If too few replies are received to make the meeting viable, we may consider cancelling the event. This event is for parents only and we are unable to offer a crèche facility for children on this occasion. We look forward to seeing you at this event.



POETRY WEEK : Week of 5th – 9th October 2015 (next week)

During my Friday assemblies, I have been sharing some poetry with the children. We aim throughout the year to encourage children to perform poetry in assemblies and on other occasions using an appropriate performance voice and style. The week beginning 5th October is Poetry Week in school and classes will be working on writing and preparing poetry for performance in our poetry assembly on Friday 9th October.

With this in mind, I have invited all of the children to write their own poems, possibly to be read in assembly or published on our website. These poems can be rhyming poems or poems structured in another way. They can be of any length and about any theme. They can be serious or funny. If you would like to support your child's effort in this (finding suitable rhyming words, for example), please do so and submit poems to your child's class teacher or the school office by Wednesday 5th October.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS

We would like to remind all parents who use our After-School Club that **bookings and payments must always be made in advance** as we now operating a 'zero-debt' policy. Places are limited and priority is given to those who have paid in advance. Please do not assume that your child has a place at the after-school club if you have not received a confirmation or have not paid in advance. Thank you for your co-operation. I am pleased to tell you that Lana Leech-Martin will be returning to the club on a part-time basis this week (Tuesdays and Wednesdays) – however, all bookings still need to be made in the way we have introduced this term.



COOKERY SESSIONS – CAN YOU HELP?

Now that our “house”, including kitchen facility, is near completion, we are looking ahead to ways in which we can provide more opportunities for our children to cook in school. We are aiming for all of our children to cook, including both savoury and sweet dishes, at least three times each year as part of the school curriculum. In addition to our own staffing, we are looking for parents to volunteer (working ideally in pairs) to run cookery sessions for small groups of children during the school day, ideally completing a single dish in a morning or afternoon session.



Do you (and a friend perhaps) have some spare time (either weekly or every half term) and an interest in cookery or baking that you would like to share with the children? If so, please get in touch with the school office and leave your name and availability. We are looking to start sessions after Christmas. All equipment and ingredients will be provided by school – we even have a dishwasher!. All parent volunteers would need to agree to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS/CRB) check. Thank you for your interest.

ROYAL MAIL LETTER WRITING COMPETITION

Mrs Gray will soon be launching this year’s Royal Mail Letter Writing Competition in school. The theme of this year’s competition is ‘My Dream Job’. Children are invited to write a letter to an employer applying for their dream job. In their letter, children need to say why it’s their dream job and why they would be the right person for the job. Look out for the information which will be sent home during the next two weeks. The children will also be completing related activities in class.



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN



DISCOVER
*The Story
of Mann*

Miss Chapman, Mrs Jones, Mrs Moran and Mr Beard would like to thank all of the children who took part in last week’s residential visit to the Isle of Man for their excellent behaviour, good humour, tidy bedrooms and good health. Well done everyone. We hope you enjoyed the experience of being away from home, discovering all that the beautiful island has to offer and getting somewhat drenched completing the assault course.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY : FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

We are looking ahead to our harvest assembly on Friday 16th October. As we have done in the past, we will be asking the children to bring into school items of (not-perishable) food or other items (toiletries, for example) which will be donated to a local charity and food bank. We will remind you about this nearer the time but, in the meantime, perhaps start to have a look in your cupboards for items you might be a position to donate. Parents are invited this assembly. Year 5 are out on a class visit that day but are invited to contribute to our assembly offering. Thank you.

