

# **ST. PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HESWALL**

## **NEWS UPDATE – March 2017**

### **Staffing News**

At the end of the term, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Karen Wishart, our ICT Administrator, as she is relocating to Kent to be with her wider family. Mrs Wishart has been part of the school admin team since April 2012, with her main role relating to ICT. She has played a key part in developing our electronic communication with responsibility for the enhanced school website, newsletters, on-line booking system and many more aspects of computing at St. Peter's.

I am hugely grateful for the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment Mrs Wishart has shown to the school during her time in the post and she will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils. Due to the current financial constraints, being faced by all schools, we will not be replacing Mrs Wishart but instead plan to restructure the different aspects of the role within our existing admin team.

I am delighted to share the news that Miss Lara Jones, class teacher in Years 1&2, will be getting married during the spring break holiday and will become Mrs Bass from the start of the summer term. We offer our love and best wishes to Lara and her fiancée Daniel as they prepare for their special wedding day.

This half term, we welcome two new members to our Lunchtime Supervisors, with Mrs Lisa McAlister and Miss Erica Ives joining the team. Mrs Paula Donnan has also stepped up to lead the team, taking on the Senior Supervisor post. Mrs Nici Jordan, Teaching Assistant, has recently qualified as one of our named First Aiders and will be taking over this role from Mrs Wishart from the start of the summer term.

### **Improved Communication**

We have recently reviewed the way we communicate to parents and following feedback received we plan to streamline the information being sent home. I am aware that we have been sending out numerous daily e-mails, sometimes up to 5 or 6, and with such frequency there is a concern that information is missed or not read. We now plan to limit information to just one main e-mail a day which will be sent out at about 2pm. This will combine all key information in just one message. We hope that parents will look out for this and find the 'one message' approach a useful improvement. We also plan to launch a school app through 'MySchoolApp.'

The school has recently subscribed to 'mySchoolApp' which is available as a free app on both Apple and Android. We plan to use this as a way of sending out 'push notifications' instead of text messages for key information and updates relating to whole school, year group, class and extra-curricular clubs during the week. There are also a number of additional features including the calendar, news items and a feature that will enable parents to notify school of pupil absence.

We will be sending out further information regarding this and how to sign up in a separate letter. We also plan to have some of our digital leaders on hand during our Parent/Teacher Meetings later this month to help parents download the app and show how to register with our school.

### **World Book Day**

This year for World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March pupils have been invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. As part of our book activities, we would like to encourage any parents or grandparents to come and read to a class of children. It will be a 'Mystery Reader' as the class will know that somebody is going to come and read to them at a particular time, but they won't know who it is.

If possible, it would be lovely to have some dads and grandads reading to the children, providing great reading role models for our boys! The Mystery Reader slots will only last for about 10 minutes. You will be reading to the whole class of children! If you would like to be involved with this, then please let the school office know.

### **Book Fair**

Our spring book fair takes place in the hall from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March from 2:30pm. All of the commission raised from book sales will be put towards books for our new school library.

### **Cheshire Phoenix Basketball Match Experience**

Pupils from Y3 to Y6 have the opportunity to take part in a 'Match Experience' with the Cheshire Phoenix Basketball Team on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The evening begins with a coach journey from school at 4.10pm to the Ellesmere Port Sports Village. The children will take part in a basketball coaching session before receiving a pre-match packed lunch and drink. They will then take their seats in the stand to watch the BBL League game between Chester Phoenix and Leeds Force. The children will return on the coach arriving back at 9:30pm. The cost of the trip is £21. Please contact the school office for more details. Additional adult (£5) / child (£3) tickets are also available from school.

### **Years' 5&6 Parents Meeting – KS2 SATs and Manor Residential trip**

A meeting has been scheduled for parents of children in Years 5&6 on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6pm. The meeting will provide a summary of the KS2 SATs that take place in May, as well as providing information about the forthcoming Y6 residential to Manor Adventure between 20<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March. This meeting is also intended for Y5

parents, as it will provide a useful introduction and overview of both aspects of the Year 6 programme.

### **Class Assemblies**

There are two class assemblies scheduled for this month, in which parents and family members of the children in each of the respective classes are welcome to join us. They are;-

3/4SC Mrs Woolley & Mrs Monks Class on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am

1/2J Miss Jones' Class on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 9.15am.

### **Playground Resurfacing Project**

Thanks to the hard work of the Friends of St. Peter's and the fundraising efforts over the last twelve months, they have made a commitment to providing a substantial amount of funding to enable this project to be realised. It had been hoped to be able to re-surface the playground as part of the building project during the summer but finance didn't allow it. The project is currently out to tender and further information will be provided as soon as it has been confirmed.

### **Friends' Social Events**

There are three Friends' events scheduled to take place this month. On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March the children will take part in the Sponsored Pancake Flip. The children's disco has been arranged for Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March with an Adult Quiz Night organised for Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Details regarding these events will be sent out separately. With Easter falling at the end of the spring break this year, the Easter Breakfast will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Class Photographs**

The school photographer is in school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March for our class photos and also for the Year 6 leavers. All pupils should come into school in winter uniform on this day.

### **Parent & Teacher Meetings**

Our Parent & Teacher Meetings for the spring term are scheduled to take place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, with appointments being offered from 4pm to 6.30pm and a few appointments available at the start of both days. Parents will again be able to select their appointment times on-line. Information relating to this will be sent out shortly.

### **Comic Relief – Red Nose Day 2017**

Pupils from FS2 to Year 5 will be taking part in a range of fun activities on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March as we support the fundraising efforts of the Comic Relief Charities. Children are invited to come to school dressed in red and to make a voluntary donation of £2. All of the money raised from this event will be split between Comic Relief and our school charity the Rock of Joy Trust supporting our partner school in Uganda. Year 6 pupils will be away on their residential on this day.

### **Concordia Choir to sing at Mothering Sunday Service**

This year's Mothering Sunday Service at St. Peter's Church is on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Our school choir, Concordia, will be supporting the service, led by Mrs Chetwood our Music leader. This is an opportunity for the children to say a special 'thank you' to their mums for all that they do during the year.

### **End of Term & Easter Service**

Pupils will finish for the spring break holiday on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 2:30pm. This year, Easter falls at the end of the two week 'spring break' and so there will be no class-led service at church this year. However, we plan to have a whole school service following Easter on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, which will be led by the clergy. The summer term commences on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April following Easter Monday.

### **Term Dates 2017/18 & INSET Days**

The term dates and INSET days for the next academic year have now been confirmed and are shown on the next page.

**Chris Penn**  
**HEADTEACHER**

**St. Peter's CE Primary School, Heswall, Wirral**  
**Academic Year 2017-18**

**Autumn Term 2017**

**INSET Monday 4 September 2017 – school closed to pupils**

Open Tuesday 5 September 2017

Close Friday 20 October 2017

**HALF TERM - Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October**

**INSET Monday 30 October 2017 – school closed to pupils**

Open Tuesday 31 October 2017

Close Friday 22 December 2017

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – Monday 25 December – Friday 5 January**

**Spring Term 2018**

**INSET Monday 8 January 2018 – school closed to pupils**

Open Tuesday 9 January 2018

Close Friday 16 February 2018

**HALF TERM – Monday 19 February – Friday 23 February**

**INSET Monday 26 February 2018 – school closed to pupils**

Open Tuesday 27 February 2018

Close Thursday 29 March 2018

**SPRING BREAK INCLUDING EASTER BANK HOLIDAYS – Friday 30 March – Friday 13 April**

**Summer Term 2018**

Open Monday 16 April 2018

**MAY DAY – Monday 7 May**

Close Friday 25 May 2018

**HALF TERM – Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June**

**INSET Monday 4 June 2018 – school closed to pupils**

Open Tuesday 5 June 2018

Close Tuesday 24 July 2018