

Wicklea Academy

Newsletter No. 3

Date: 15th October 2015

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Dear Mothers, Fathers, Carers and Local Residents

In order for you to be able to order school lunches from next term please remember to create your **ParentPay** account as soon as possible. The recently issued letter contained your unique user name and password. ParentPay will help Wicklea become a cashless school as future trips, residential camps, swimming lessons, etc. will also be paid for on line. If you have any problems creating your account or have any questions regarding this system please contact the school office.



The **School Library** continues to be very popular with 80% of pupils already having borrowed a book. Many children have borrowed a book more than once – in fact 474 books have been borrowed in just over four weeks! The **travelling book fair** was also a great success, raising commission of £252, which we can spend on books. This will be used to add to the reading corners in each year group. Thank you to the Friends for their help with the book fair.



We are currently working towards recognition as a **Rights Respecting School**. This is an award which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF. In 1989, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted. These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow and fulfil their potential. This will help our pupils become more caring and responsible citizens, both at school, and within the wider community. As such, last Monday, we held a launch morning, with lots of activities to introduce this to the children. Please discuss this with your children at home, further helping them understand that having rights and responsibilities is not just for children in schools, but also every single person in the world.



During the week commencing 28th September each class held elections for their **school councillors**. In addition, every child in each house attended a 'House Assembly' where Year 6 children put their case forward to become House Captain. Congratulations to the following children that were elected:

Year 3 Oak – Julia Wojas & George Taylor
Year 3 Elm – Frankie Salmon & Will Osborne
Year 3 Yew – Daniel Barnes & Lola Richards
Year 4 Ash – Rimah Maaz & Liam Norman
Year 4 Willow – Daisy Routledge & Jonty Schuman

Year 5 Councillors & House Vice Captains:

Brunel – Shawn Rundaba
Cabot – Mohammed Hussein
Fry – Kaylee Knight
More – Ella Bessell

Year 6 Councillors & House Captains:

Brunel – Jesanne Carter
Cabot – Maddie Davies
Fry – Chloe Morgan
More – Izzy Swan

The School Council will attend regular meetings with Mr Hazard and Miss Moffat. They have already held their first meeting providing feedback on how playtimes could be improved further by purchasing new equipment and developing the playground. I will be following up these ideas in the coming weeks and months.

Since the last newsletter Year 6 and Year 4 have been away on **residential camp**. I know both year groups represented the school fantastically well and thoroughly enjoyed the variety of activities on offer. Photos of both camps will be on the website soon, but if you would like to purchase a disc of the photos taken at Year 4 camp you can order one by contacting the school office. If your child is currently in Year 3 or Year 5 look out for the residential camp information evenings, which will be held later in the year.

The **'How Are We Doing' meeting** held on Monday 12th October was very well attended. Thank you to those parents who came along. If you were unable to attend the following is a summary of the main points discussed:

- It was agreed that as many Inset days as possible will be the same as the infants school
- The Local Governing Body will explore the demand for an after school club
- Communication has improved, e.g. text messages each day that children were away on camps. The next stage to develop upon communication is the school website
- The school wide Rights Respecting Schools behaviour system was explained – this will be included in the next Year 2 induction meeting
- It was confirmed that swimming now only takes place in Year 3 (with the exception of catch up lessons in the summer for Year 5 & 6 children who cannot yet swim 25 metres)
- There were many positive comments shared surrounding a variety of topics including: curriculum breadth, single age classes, after school clubs, residential camps and the variety of rewards available (house points, certificates, awards, trophies, etc)
- It was agreed future meetings will also be held in the evenings for working parents

Please ensure you have activated your **Parent Mail** account as the next newsletter and future letters will be issued electronically. This will enable the school to become more environmentally friendly by reducing the amount of paper used in communications.

Dates for your diary

A full list of dates throughout the year is listed below. However, please note these upcoming dates and events:

Tuesday 20th October – Julian Trust Harvest Collection

Wednesday 21st October – Year 5 Ancient Greek Day

Wednesday 21st October – Last Day of Term 1

Monday 2nd November – Inset Day

Tuesday 3rd November – Term 2 begins

Tuesday 3rd November – Year 6 Lifeskills trip

Wednesday 11th November – Year 3 Caerleon trip

Wednesday 11th November – Parent's Evening

Thursday 12th November – Parent's Evening

Parent's Evening booking sheets will be available in the school entrance during the first week of Term 2.

Friday 13th November is **Children In Need Day**. To raise funds for this worthwhile cause we will be hosting a film night in the hall after school (3:30-5:30). **Big Hero 6** (rated PG) will be shown on our giant screen, with popcorn and squash being provided. Entry will be £2 per child (Wicklea pupils only) and all profits will go to Children In Need. Tickets are not required – you will be able to pay and sign your child into the showing straight after school.



2015-16 Academic Year Dates and Events

October 2015

21.10.15
26.10.15

End of Term 1
Enrichment Week – 5 days

November 2015

02.11.15
03.11.15
03.11.15
10.11.15

11.11.15

11.11.15
12.11.15
13.11.15
16.11.15
17.11.15
20.11.15

Inset Day

Term 2 Begins

Y6 attending Lifeskills

Shakespeare production of 'The Tempest' @ The Egg Theatre

Y3 trip to Caerleon Roman Legion Museum

Parent's Evening 3.30pm to 6.30pm

Parent's Evening 3.30pm to 6.00pm

Children in Need

One Tree per Child Assembly

Governors Meeting – 4.00pm

Friends Christmas Fair 3.30pm-6.00pm

Please remember to provide your child with a water bottle for use in class as it is extremely important to keep hydrated throughout the day. Please note if your child has a packed lunch it is a good idea to include a drink with their lunch as water bottles are kept in classrooms during the school day.



December 2015

01.12.15

Open Day for current & prospective parents

07.12.15

Last week of clubs

07.12.15

Last swimming lesson for Elm Class

14.12.15

Carol Concert for parents/carers with toddlers – 2.00pm

15.12.15

Carol Concert – 6.30pm

16.12.15

Carol Concert – 6.30pm

16.12.15

Interim reports go home today

18.12.15

End of Term 2

April 2016

11.04.16

18.04.16

Start of Term 5

Oak Class swimming begins

May 2016

02.05.16

09.05.16

17.05.16

26.05.16

27.05.16

Bank Holiday

Year 6 SATs Week

Governors Meeting – 4.00pm

End of Term 5

Inset Day**January 2016**

04.01.16

05.01.16

07.01.16

Inset Day

Start of Term 3

M&M Productions – Hunchback of Notre Dame

11.01.16

Yew Class swimming begins

11.01.16

Clubs restart

26.01.16

Governors Meeting – 4.00pm

June 2016

06.06.16

07.06.16

Start of Term 6

Induction meetings for parents of children in Year 2 – 2pm & 6pm

22.06.16

Sports Day – 9.15am Start

28.06.16

Governors Meeting – 4.00pm

February 2016

02.02.16

Paintworks – Local schools art exhibition running this week

05.02.16

End of Term 3

08.02.16

Enrichment Week – 5 days

15.02.16

Start of Term 4

July 2016

02.07.16

04.07.16

04.07.16

12.07.16

Friends Summer Fair

Last week of clubs

Oak Class final swimming lesson

Induction meetings for parents of children in Year 3, 4 & 5 – 6pm & 6.45pm

15.07.16

Inset Day

18.07.16

End of Year Reports sent home

19.07.16

Year 6 Leavers' Service – 2.00pm

20.07.16

Report Evening for parents – 3.30pm

21.07.16

End of Year Awards Ceremony – 2.30pm start, invited guests only

21.07.16

Year 6 Leavers' Disco – 6.30pm – 8.00pm

22.07.16

End of Term 6

March 2016

09.03.16

Parent's Evening 3.30pm to 6.30pm

10.03.16

Parent's Evening 3.30pm to 6.00pm

15.03.16

Governors Meeting – 4.00pm

21.03.16

Yew Class final swimming lesson

23.03.16

End of Term 4

24.03.16

Inset Day

Yours sincerely



Matthew Morgan (Assistant Principal)