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Thursday 27th September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It's been a fun and active first few weeks of the school year, with plenty happening in addition to lessons.

Year 6 spent three days at the Conway Centre in Anglesey, rafting, canoeing, swimming in the Menai Straits (!), going on a night time assault course, via ferrata, singing around the campfire, enjoying a disco and staying up very late! The children were superstars giving everything a try. Thank you to Mrs Hall, Miss Evans and Mrs Allen for giving up their time to attend.

Year 5 visited the Petty Pool Activity Centre, courtesy of Northwich Rotary Club, and spent the day enjoying archery, rock climbing, using the zip line and climbing the Crate Stack! Year 5 also completed their Bikeability training last week, learning to cycle safely on the road.

Year 4 have been to St Luke's Church, where they completed some lovely activities on the theme of Harvest and were made to feel very welcome by the volunteers – thank you to all the parents who volunteered to make the trip such a success.

Year 1 are looking forward to their walk around the local area next week exploring the different types of buildings in which we live, and all classes are looking forward to their open mornings next week.

If your child is in Nursery or Reception keep your eyes open for the invite to the Grandparents' mornings!

School Games Mark Platinum Award We are very proud to have achieved the School Games Mark Platinum Award, after achieving the Gold Standard for four consecutive years. Thank you very much to Miss Evans, Mrs Hainsworth and Mrs Ford for their hard work in raising the levels of participation in sport across school and to all the staff and parents that have supported the children's participation in the different sporting activities and events that were available last year.

Nursery and Reception Open Mornings for New Families We are holding two open mornings for new families who would like to find out more about our Nursery and Reception on: Saturday 7th October 9.30am-11.00am and Saturday 11th November 9.30am-11.00am. If you are a new family and would like to meet the headteacher and staff and have a tour around school during the school day, please call the school office. Please spread the word to your family and friends!

Applying for Reception and Secondary School Places The closing date to apply for a September 2024 Reception school place is 15th January. Parents of children who attend our school Nursery will still need to apply for a school place. The secondary school place applications closing date is 31st October. All applications should be made online through the local authority [CWAC School Admissions](#)

PTA Update Amanda Nolan our long standing PTA chairperson has stepped down after an extraordinarily successful three years in post. Amanda's work, along with that of her team, saw the PTA go from strength to strength raising an incredible amount of money to support the education and experience of all pupils in the school for which we are all very grateful. Our thanks go to Sherryl Stubbs-Gibson and Lisa Oliver for taking on the role as Co-Chair and to Becky Forrest stepping into the role of Vice Chair. Thank you to our PTA volunteers for running a very successful cake, Maths book and uniform sale last week, raising over £200 pounds for school.

Year 4 Delamere Residential Visit The children in Year 4 will be visiting Delamere Forest for their residential at the end of this half term. There will be an information sharing meeting for parents on Wednesday 11th October after school.

School Uniform Our school uniform policy is inclusive, flexible and allows choice. When children have a genuine difficulty with aspects of the uniform policy we work with families to find sensible compromises to support them. Unfortunately, more and more children, especially in key stage 2 are wearing trainers to school. This is not supported in our school uniform policy. Please send your child to school in black shoes.

Flu Vaccinations Letters were emailed yesterday about flu vaccinations happening in school on Wednesday 11th October and paper copies will be sent out this week.

Lost Reading Books As you will have seen in our Reading Newsletter, we are regrettably in the position where we will have to ask parents and carers to pay a standard £5 charge to cover the cost of lost and damaged reading books. Please do your very best to take care of the books that come home. Our phonics scheme reading books in particular are very expensive to replace and other children need to use them to practice and improve their reading skills too. Thank you for your support.

Governing Board Position Our governing board is looking to recruit new members with expertise in business and/or finance. Governors typically meet six times a year and have a role in full board meetings and a position on a subcommittee such as 'Curriculum' or 'HR and Finance'. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the workings of the school, to contribute with your own expertise and experiences, and to offer professional support and challenge to the leadership of the school. If you think you might be interested please get in touch for an informal chat or speak to Jem Davies (Chair) on the playground.

Parentalk Mrs Nicholas will be running Parentalk this November on Wednesday evenings. Parentalk is an opportunity for parents to meet in a supportive, confidential, relaxed and informal group to learn from each other as well as explore a range of practical strategies and tips to help at home. It will support you to build on your strengths as a parent and discover strategies you might want to start or to do differently. Please contact school if you are interested in attending.

Staff Car Park Please do not park in the staff car park at the end of the school day. Parents and family members have been parking in front of the green playground gates, across the hatched areas, and in between rows of parking bays. These areas need to be kept clear at all times to allow emergency response vehicles access to the school site. There is plenty of parking space at Moss Farm and in the gravel car park next to the FA building.

Disruption to school phone lines Monday 9th October New phone lines are being installed and there may be disruption to our service on this day. Please would you limit incoming calls to only those that are absolutely necessary – thank you.

Individual and Sibling School Photographs Tempest Photography will be coming to school on Tuesday 10th October to take the children's individual and sibling photographs. If your child is in Nursery and doesn't attend on Tuesday, bring them to the school office at 8.30am if you would like their photograph taken.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rob Cole
(Headteacher)

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