



Dear parent / carer,

We're very quickly heading towards the Easter break after what seems a very short but equally busy half term.

### The second half of the Spring term 2023...

- We finally received our **Ofsted** report. There has been tragic news and controversy around Ofsted and their inspections in recent weeks and, whilst this has affected some of us who know and understand these external pressures well, our own report and inspection should not be dismissed. If we do, it diminishes all the hard work, commitment, drive and ambition the team put in for our children and families every day of the week (and often the evenings and weekends). I am very proud of the team and thankful that our report goes some way to acknowledge lots of the very good things the inspection team saw and heard during their inspection. I also know that the school is more than an inspection report, and beyond their typed words there are countless other great things happening in our classrooms, in our relationships, within and between our school community, in a school where 'we all matter'.
- We welcomed **Ellie**, Charlie's sister, to Y4. We hope that she is settling in well and feels a part of the Wrenbury School family.
- We welcomed the return of **Imran Kowtal** into school to lead an assembly and two workshops on aspects of Islam to enhance our RE curriculum offer – one for Base 3 and the other for Base 4.
- The **Canal and River Trust** made a visit to Base 3 to lead a workshop supporting their Learning Journey work.
- We held a **World Book Day** (or two) event; met an inspiring, young local author, bought signed copies of her book, dressed up and held a Book Swap which raised £86 to buy lovely, new books for our children.
- A group of children represented the school extremely well at **Games For All**. Well done to Skyler, Scout, Leo, Scarlett and Evie in Base 3 and to Matthew, Aiden, Ethan and Lorelei in Base 4.
- We thought of others and raised money for the **Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief fund**. Evie and Skye raised £11 making and selling loom bands out of school and children made and sold loom bands in school. With the donations that also came into school, in total, we raised **£326.64**.
- We dressed in 'mix and match' or red for **Comic Relief** and gave a donation of **£204.74**.
- I attended a **special service** on Mothering Sunday to represent school in welcoming Reverend Amanda Pike (and one of our governors) as vicar of St Margaret's (previously Priestoin Charge).
- Broomhall and Sound Chapel members welcomed all our Y3 and 4 children to their **Hope Journey** event, helping the children understand the Easter Story through story telling and activities, including being able to stroke a lamb and see some chicks – the children's favourite part! We thank them for the lovely morning enjoyed by the children and for their generous donation toward the cost of the coach to help us all attend.
- **Clubs** : Art Club continued this half term. Mr Thorburn started a STEM Club whilst Mrs Evans started a Story Time Club. This week they were listening to The Gruffalo and making Gruffalo Crumble – oh, to be young again! An energetic Mrs Turner started a Zumba club this half term and LSC have led Dodgeball sessions for Base 3 and 4 and Multi-skills sessions for Y1 and 2. It's lovely to see the children taking up and enjoying these extra-curricular activities and many thanks for staff for hosting the sessions. It is appreciated.
- **Boosters**: Mrs Charlesworth and Mr Thorburn have led Boosters for the Y6 in preparation for their SATs in May and Y2 are having a short Booster before their SATs.
- We welcomed you, as parents, to **Parents Evenings** and hope that you found them helpful and informative. Thank you to the staff for their preparation and time.

### Staffing news

- Mrs Carden and I will continue to teach Base 4 to cover Mrs Dopierala's absence; we all wish her well.
- Mrs Knight and Miss Wilson leave us at the end of the week to pursue other job opportunities. We thank them for being part of the Wrenbury Team and the contribution they have made to our children's education and wellbeing. We wish them both well.

## Attendance and punctuality

Attendance continues to be a DfE (Department for Education) and hence a school focus. Attendance isn't an option; it is a statutory requirement. We have examples of really good attendance, some not-so-good and a lot that could be better. One of our concerns is the number of children whose absence is often reported in as 'feeling under the weather', especially in Y5/6. Please do consider the fact that as adults we often can feel like this but still turn up to work and, with a paracetamol, can 'get on' with the day.

Where parents do send their children in 'feeling a little under the weather' the children are looked after by staff, monitored and in most cases are able to do a full day of school. This, in turn, stops the children missing important learning and reduces the unnecessary worries that children can develop through not being in school: worried about what learning they have missed; will they be able to catch up; will their friends still be their friends. Even walking into school a little late raises anxieties in our children. Please do what you can to help your child be in school on time and more often if they are falling into the attendance concern window or are often late into school.

## Reporting Absence

Whether in Little Wrens or main school, ALL absence must be reported to school NO LATER THAN 9.30am, preferably earlier. It is your duty as a parent to **report all absence** to the office **on each day of absence**. Administrative time is often wasted having to chase those parents who do not report their child's absence. Please help by making the call or emailing [admin@wrenbury.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@wrenbury.cheshire.sch.uk) at the earliest opportunity. Note: the office is open from 8am but voice messages can also be left by phoning 01270 260656. Thank you.

## Holiday requests

Please note that all holiday requests will be unauthorised and Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) will potentially be issued.

## Keeping safe - Parking

- We continue to respectfully ask that you **do not park** in the yellow marked area at the front of school or in **front of the double gates** onto the school site. Emergency service access must always be prioritised and was needed last week.
- If you live in the village of Wrenbury, **please can you walk to school**; it will help reduce the unnecessary congestion and potential 'idling' at drop-off and pick-ups; support cleaner, unpolluted air and give yourself and your children a healthier and mindful start and end to the day. There is currently a 'No idling' campaign asking drivers to switch off their engines to reduce the idle running of car engines and consequently the unnecessary and unhealthy emissions.

## Concerns / worries

- Parent partnership is a strength of our school. Please do feel you can share any concerns/worries you may have. We may be able to sign post you to advice or support.

## Income Related Free School Meals

Please do check out whether your child(ren) in Base 1-5 is eligible for **Income Related Free School Meals**. The following link will take you to more information.

[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free\\_school\\_meals.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx)

- Do note that if your child is in Base 1 or 2 (YR-Y2), they are **automatically** entitled to a **Universal Free School Meal**. Do take up this offer. **Additionally, the Income Related Free School Meal eligibility is available** to these year groups and brings income into school that can support with the children's education and wellbeing.

## Updates

- It is important that any **changes to your child's life/routines** are shared with us – in confidence. For some children these do have an impact on how children cope. Even if you think your child isn't aware, they can often sense something is different or mum/dad has a worry. We often notice a change of behaviour in a child, which prompts us to ask, 'What is the behaviour saying?' This could be more overt behaviours (visually upset eg crying, falling out with friends, being overwhelmed in day-to-day situations in school etc) or being more withdrawn, reluctant to participate in class and at playtimes. It is more challenging to support a child if we are not aware of what has triggered the change. Please do share family / pet illnesses, bereavements, change to routines – who children are seeing out of school, pick-up / drop-off changes, a parent who has been at home starting work, house move etc.
- Please **keep all phone numbers for yourself and other emergency contacts up to date** with the office so we can readily contact you, should we need to.

**Things we are looking forward to before we finish:**

- Mrs Davies, Rhys' mum, coming into school to share the **Easter Story** with our Little Wrens on Wednesday.
- Base 5 have a **virtual visit** booked with the British Museum tomorrow as part of their history learning.
- **A Spring/Easter Service** to be held at St Margaret's Church on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 10am: Y1-6. All are welcome to join us and we look forward to seeing you in church.

And, **during the Easter break...**

- **Nancy (Y6) being a mascot** for the Women's Rugby 6 Nations match on 2<sup>nd</sup> April when England play Italy. Enjoy this wonderful opportunity, Nancy.

Many thanks, **as always**, for your continued support of myself and the Wrenbury Team as we endeavour to offer the very best we can for your child(ren) and our families.

Enjoy a wonderful, relaxing and hopefully dry and sunny Easter break. We look forward to seeing all the children refreshed and back on **Monday 17 April** for a prompt start to the summer term and some super learning.

My very best wishes for a happy Easter,  
Bessa Cador