



Dear parents and carers,

We have come to the end of the first half term of the new academic year. Nights are closing in, the autumnal chill, wind and rain have arrived and we're all ready for a rest to recharge our batteries.

Keeping Safe and Safeguarding

- 1) **Changes to pick-ups:** Increasingly, arrangements are being made between parents/carers to collect each other's children without notifying the school office or telling the class teacher at drop-off. This is a **safeguarding issue** for school. In some cases, the adult who turns up to collect is not known by any of the adults in school eg a grandparent, an aunt. We CANNOT just hand over children to another parent/carer or unknown adult. The collector sharing a text message at the end of the school day is not the protocols we ask for. Even if we know both parents and know that you are friends, the same **'rules/protocols' for informing school must be applied**. Please phone the office before 1pm (where possible) if the usual pick up is being changed. *Note: on a Monday, there is no one in the school office after 1pm.* This change in pick-up arrangements applies to **The Nest** pick-ups, too.
- 2) **Parking and driving around/through village:** Always keep the area in front of school clear. Be extra vigilant now dark nights are creeping in when parking, pulling out and driving through village – pedestrians, especially our younger children, can be hard to see.
- 3) **Walking to school:** Ensure that if your child(ren) is walking to and from school alone they know how to keep safe. School should know who these children are. If children are walking with an adult ensure that they are fully supervised and are not allowed to 'run ahead'. There are several gateways / entrances to cross. I'm aware of a few 'near misses' especially with younger children not being 'road aware' – let's keep everyone safe. *Reflective straps on clothing are useful to ensure, as walkers, you can be readily seen.*
- 4) Some Y6 pupils have completed a school grounds **'Keeping Safe Outside'** walk and talk with me and have followed this up by leading an assembly for Y1-6.
- 5) **MUGA gate** – we are in the process of getting the MUGA gate changed to a 6-foot gate.

Things to celebrate

- A calm start to the school year – and a warm welcome to all our new starters in Little Wrens and YR and to Ruby and Ralphy, to Mia and Leo; to Paradise, Crystal, Isaac and Sampson
- Mrs Evans and Miss Gregory joining the team and settling well into our EYFS team and Mr H joining the Little Sports Coaching team in school alongside Mr Ellis and Mr Lucas, continuing to offer great PE lessons.
- A wonderful revamp of our EYFS outdoor provision. Many thanks to Miss Gregory, Mrs Charleswoth, Mrs Turner's father (fence painting) and FOWS for funding the changes.
- The school gathering with parents and grandparents for the Harvest service at St Margaret's – it was lovely. Thank you to Reverend Amanda for welcoming us.
- A damp but enjoyable visit by Base 3 to the Iron Age Hill Fort and to see the 'Iron Age' round house at Park Hall to enrich their learning and B4's visit to Wrenbury Station as part of their art lessons.
- Super swimming by Base 4 and 5; hockey competition participation; Bikeability for Y5 and 6
- Uptake of visitors to our YR 2023 Open Morning
- Our Y6 for being fantastic role models and their roles in leading Y6 ACHIEVE assembly, alongside the 'Friendship buddies' and lovely relationships being formed between YR and Y6.
- The receipt of 100 books by authors from different ethnic backgrounds to increase awareness and respect for diversity in school.
- Two new Scooter pods funded through the generous contributions during our sponsored Wrenbury Walk in Health and Wellbeing Week in the Summer term. The Scooter pods will be kept under the canopy in the School House outdoor area next to the backyard; access will be made available at drop-off and at pick-up.

Uniform / PE Kit Expectations:

Children should come to school in **full school uniform and PE kit**. We are increasingly getting a range of sports wear being worn, which is NOT the school's expectation for PE kit.

For all PE and games lessons and sporting after-school clubs:

- Red plain round necked t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black pumps for Reception and Year 1 (or trainers)
- Trainers for Year 2 — 6
- Tracksuit / joggers — black; grey or navy
- Longer hair to be tied up (every day)
- No jewellery to be worn (every day)

Sports logo/branded clothing is not an expectation of our PE kit.

Parent Evenings/appointments

These have been organised for 8 and 9 November. Preference for day / time slot should be made via Parentmail. Please can separated parents *who are able* to attend together do so as there are a finite number of appointment slots; we will accommodate separate appointments where this is not possible, with understanding. Face-to-face with your child's class teacher will be for an 8-minute appointment. Books will be available to look at before/after this time. Time slots will be allocated after the half term and sent by **text message**.

Y6 transferring to Y7 in September 2023

Our current Y6 are applying for school places at the local high schools for their Y7 school place.

School place applications must be made NO LATER than 31 October 2022. The portal for the application can be found here. <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx>

New Starter September 2023 Visits

We are hosting our second sessions on Tuesday 8 November. If you know anyone who would like to take up the opportunity to visit school prior to making their application for a school place, please do tell them to get in touch: admin@wrenbury.cheshire.sch.uk

Do note: Attendance at Little Wrens **does not** mean an automatic place at the school. Applications for admissions for Wrenbury Primary School must be made via Cheshire East Local Authority for Reception (new starters) 2023. The portal for the application can be found here.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx>

Applications via the portal must be made NO LATER than 15 January 2023.

Christmas Preparations

We will be starting our preparations for a Nativity and a Christmas Carol Service after the half term.

Nativity YR-2:

- Tuesday 6 December - afternoon performance at 2pm– younger, non-school siblings can attend this performance (sit on adult knee)
- Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 December – adult only, no children – at 6pm A creche/childcare can be available for younger / older siblings during the performance.

Attendance will be ticket only with a total of two tickets per child/family available; this is due to school hall capacity and safety. Tickets will be available to order through Parentmail closer to the date.

KS2 Carol Service:

This will be held at St Margaret's Church on Tuesday 13 December at **6pm**. YR/KS1 children will be warmly welcomed to attend and join in with some of the songs/carols.

In addition, we have also booked:

- Cheshire College South and West drama students, who will be presenting three story telling performances of James and the Giant Peach on 13 December to EYFS/KS1; Y3-4 and Y5-6. The group's teacher is a former Wrenbury pupil.
- A visit by Y2 to Broomhall Chapel for the **Hope Journey** on 7th December as part of their RE focus on Christianity (and an annual enrichment experience). They will be joined by Y2 pupils from Sound school as part of our partnership work.

We are hosting the annual **Christmas Lunch and parties** for the children during the last week of term. Booking your child's Christmas Lunch through Parentmail will be available closer to the date.

FOWS

Christmas Fair

We will **not** be hosting a Christmas Fair this year. The current energy crisis and inflation rises are impacting on all household costs. We do not feel it is morally right to add further financial pressure / expectation on you at this challenging time and hope that this will support you in being able to afford your own family Christmas.

Children's Film Nights – information to be sent out.

- LW-Y2 Film Night on 24 November
- Y3-6 film Night on 1 December

Governors

I am pleased to announce that Mr Eaton is our new Staff Governor. He was appointed at our FGB in the Summer term. Helen May (a former parent) and Tim Dean will be approved as new governors at the Autumn FGB. They are co-opted governors.

Staffing news

Mrs Wimpenny is moving to pastures new and a very different role in November. She has been a valued, lovely, nurturing, and bubbly member of our school team since joining the school from the Wrenbury pre-school as a 1:1 teaching assistant; then joining the Base 2 team last year and the EYFS team in September. We will miss Mrs Wimpenny but we all wish her the very best in the future.

I have to say a huge thank you to the incredible team at Wrenbury. They go above and beyond, and I feel privileged to work with such wonderful colleagues. I know that, like me, they would like to thank you for your continued support of the whole Wrenbury Team.

Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing half term.

We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 31 October ready for registration at 8.55am.

Take care,
Mrs Bessa Cadour