We are now 4 weeks into the new year and the time if flying by!

PCSO Karen Nixon was in school again this week to talk to our new Mini Police officers and give them their uniform. They will have an attestation ceremony on the 13th February at 5pm.

We are delighted to share that a member of our school family has been awarded the pupil of the year award. Please do check the Northwich and Winsford Guardian. We are very proud of Logan.

The Queensberry group have been into school to talk to year 6 about Risk taking and the risks that young people are subjected to. It was a very informative session for all.

The children asked me before Christmas if they could design a new logo for the school – they have shared lots of thoughts and ideas with me, they are now going to write to the governors with their ideas and a rationale. With that being said, there will be no changes to the uniform logo in the immediate future. These things take time, so don’t put off buying new uniform if you need it. September **2026** would be the earliest this would happen!

Please do come to our next parent coffee morning to be held in the school community room near the front entrance. We will be discussing Pancakes after school 😊

Mrs N Tomlinson

Forest school is going well, Year 2 and year 5 have had 4 fantastic sessions.

 Beech and Oak class are next. Please check you emails and school spider messages for specific times and dates.

Shane Weston our Parent governor has stepped down from his role this term. I want to thank him for his commitment and support to school during his term of office.

 This means we have vacancy for a parent governor in school. If you feel that you would like to know more please do pop into the school office and ask for more information. The forms for nomination’s will be coming out shortly.

**Dates for your Diary**

**Our Christian value this term is Perseverance**

**Our Heartsmart principle is** **“Too much selfie isn’t healthy”**

* **11th Feb Beech Residential**
* **12th Feb Oak Residential**
* **13th Feb Maple Residential**
* **13th Feb 9am Parent events planning team coffee morning in the community room**
* **14th February Break up for half term.**
* **4th March Shrove Tuesday pancakes after school – more information to follow**
* **5th March Y6 Residential**
* **6th March World Book Day**
* **21st March Non uniform day for Easter chocolate donations**

Please can we remind all parents tht when dropping children off at breakfast club to ensure that they walk the children onto the school grounds and see them across the zebra crossing – mornings are still dark, and they are crossing a carpark.

Thanks for your support

F

**Forest school timetable**



Do you want to support your local school, or do you know anyone who would be interested?

We have a vacancy for a PARENT governor. Someone with HR and finance skills would be desirable but essential for this role.

Please contact school via chair@wharton.cheshire.sch.uk to find out more. I’d be more than happy to have a chat with you about the roles and responsibilities of being a governor.

It does take time and effort, but it is a rewarding role.

Sue Tomlinson Chair of governors.

*Come and join us every* ***FRIDAY morning from 8.45 – 10.00am, starting on***

***16th January 2025,*** *at Little Seedlings, our baby and toddler group which is*

*held in our school library.*

*There will be singing, stories, craft activities and lots of fun!*

 *Come along for a chat and a play, whilst you have a drink and a snack.*

***Everyone is welcome!***

**Little Seedlings**



*‘From little seeds grow mighty trees’*



**Important information.**

**Snack price list; **

**Reminder; dinners are £2.65 per meal £13.25 per week.**

**PLEASE CAN WE ENSURE WE ARE ALL PAYING FOR SNACKS. WE HAVE NOTICED AN INCREASE IN CHILDREN SAYING THEY ARE PAYING ONLINE AND THIS IS NOT THE CASE.**

**There is no access on to school grounds unless you carry a blue badge. Parents MUST NOT park along the drive, down to the school! This is especially dangerous now for children coming in and out of school as parents are turning the road due to the barrier. This also reduces visibility crossing the road. Parents can use the public carpark next to the school. Please help us in keeping the children safe at drop off and pick up times**

**Attendance notice.**



The Education (pupil registration) (England) (amendment) Regulations 2013 came into force on 1 September 2013 and made it clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless ‘exceptional circumstances’ prevail.

Head Teachers are only empowered to approve a leave of absence when it is requested in advance by the parent or carer with whom the child resides and when circumstances of the requested leave are ‘exceptional’. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

If you choose to take a leave of unauthorised absence with your child the Local Authority will be informed as this will constitute an unauthorised absence. A Fixed Penalty Notice will then be issued in accordance with section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law stipulates that the current penalties payable by parents are £160 if paid within 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days per parent/carer per child.

You should be aware that the National Framework for Penalty Notices introduced a new national limit of 2 penalty notices that can now be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period. If a second Fixed Penalty Notice is issued to the same parent for the same child, within three years of a first Fixed Penalty Notice, the second Fixed Penalty Notice is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

If an unauthorised leave of absence is taken for a third time (or subsequent times) within 3 years of a first FPN being issued, another tool will need to be considered such as prosecution or other attendance legal interventions.

If a fixed penalty notice is issued to you and is not paid, this could lead to you being prosecuted in the Magistrates’ Court.

Please see Cheshire West and Chester Council’s code of conduct that can be found on the council’s webpage.

**Attendance Award.**

**Attendance Champions this week are Maple With 88%**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class  | Percentage |
| Peach | 82% |
| Pear | 84% |
| Cherry | 81% |
| Damson | 87% |
| Beech  | 85% |
| Oak | 85% |
| Maple | 88% |
| Willow | 85% |
| Elm | 82% |
| Sycamore | 85% |