



## Dates for your Diary

Our Christian value next term is **Justice**

Our Heartsmart principle will be  
"Don't hold on to what's wrong"

- 28<sup>th</sup> February Values day in school - Justice
- 4<sup>th</sup> March Shrove Tuesday pancakes after school 😊
- 5<sup>th</sup> March Y6 Residential
- 6<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening
- 20<sup>th</sup> March Parent coffee morning to plan Easter Bingo
- 21<sup>st</sup> March Non uniform day for Easter - chocolate donations for Easter Bingo
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April Easter Bingo 2 sittings 3.30pm and 5.30pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> April school closes for Easter break
- **TUESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>** April children return to school

Please can we remind all parents that 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.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we are halfway through the school year.

The children have had a fantastic half term with lots of learning taking place in school and out on residential too.

Please make a note of Parents evenings on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March where staff will be able to share with you the learning that is taking place, and how your child is getting on in school.

Beech, Oak and Maple have all been away to Burwardsley outdoor education centre to learn about the Stone Age. They have walked, explored, sketched, made clay pots and had a fabulous campfire led by Mr Hadfield. I particularly enjoyed the marshmallows and the hot chocolate when I visited. The children were a credit to you and school. Next term Year 6 have their turn away on residential. We also have Pancakes, World book day and Easter Bingo to look forward to.

Another school in Chester Diocese, Elworth CE, have asked if they could come and visit us as they have heard about all the things the children have been working on this year. They will be meeting with the school council and worship leaders to share thoughts and ideas about what it is like to attend a church school. We will be hosting them on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February. Please look out for a report from the children after half term.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and fingers crossed we have some nice weather.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Tomlinson

Forest school continues next half!

Please make sure you read the spider messages sent out by Mrs Winstanley in the office and ensure that your child is dressed for the weather!

Our Mini Police have had their attestation ceremony this week. We are very proud of the children and look forward to the work that they will do with PCSO Nixon in supporting our community.

We are celebrating Miss Ditchfield this week! We are very proud that she was nominated for an apprenticeship award after completing her School Business manager qualification. She won Apprentice of the year, and we are thrilled that she has achieved this and very pleased that she is ours 😊



*Little Seedlings is our weekly parent and toddler group that takes place every Friday morning, where the children have lots of fun taking part in different activities such as painting and water play.*

*Recently we received a donation from the Darnhall Exhibition Foundation to purchase new toys for our Little Seedlings to play with during the session, and we would like to thank them for this kind donation.*

*We have a lovely group of parents who regularly attend the group, so why not come along and join us, and enjoy a drink and toast whilst you and your child make new friends.*

*We look forward to seeing you 😊*

*Mrs Thompson and the little seedlings team*

*Come and join us every **FRIDAY** morning from 8.45 - 10.00am, starting on 16<sup>th</sup> 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'*

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, and a Co-opted governor. Someone with HR and finance skills would be desirable but not essential for this role.

Please contact school via [chair@wharton.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto: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.



**Important information.**

**Snack price list;**

TOAST	HALF A BAGEL	MILK	JUICE APPLE / ORANGE	FRUIT	<b>FRIDAY ONLY</b>
					<b>BACON BUTTY</b>
<b>20p</b>	<b>25p</b>	<b>25p</b>	<b>30p</b>	<b>30p</b>	<b>60p or £1:20</b>

**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 96%**

Class	Percentage
Peach	86%
Pear	83%
Cherry	83%
Damson	86%
Beech	84%
Oak	89%
Maple	96%
Willow	87%
Elm	80%
Sycamore	88%