



PENSBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 6th January 2016

Spring Term 2016 - Newsletter - Number 1

Dear families and children,

Happy New Year to you all. It is good to have everyone back in school safe and sound after the Christmas break. This is a short newsletter to our new school term.

Building work

You will probably have noticed, by the pedestrian gate, that work has been going on for 2 days. The children have been very excited to see the digger there! This work is to extend the area by the bicycle shed, so that an extra blue bicycle storage rack can be relocated there. Hopefully this will then house almost all of the bicycles that the children bring to school.

In addition to this, I attended a meeting at Stanley Special School, where their imminent building work was discussed. The forthcoming closure of Lyndale Special School will result in several pupils joining Stanley School and 2 new classrooms are required. The site area will be on the top playing field and access to this will be via Kentmere Drive between 2 houses. This means that there should not be any disruption to the operation of either school and no increased traffic through the school site. This extension work is due to begin in the week of 18th January with the setting up of the site offices. The extension work should last about 17 weeks and after that we are hopeful that when the site is removed, the completion of the top field will finally take place. We are keeping everything crossed!

Part of the project will see the development of the shared playing area in the centre of the school (where the 'Telly Tubby' hill is!). This is a very open, spacey area and the plan is to create an exciting playing area to benefit both schools. This is very exciting news for the schools and we are eagerly awaiting the plans to see how this may look in the future.

Car Parking on site

This issue was also raised at the meeting yesterday as we do not have enough spaces for the staff of both schools as it is. A small car park extension may happen as a result.

It has been noticed that several families are trying to access the car park to park and collect children at the end of the day. Some get very upset when they are told they cannot do this. Please understand that at the end of the school day, 250 children leave Pensby and over 100 children leave Stanley. This means that up to 350 children are moving around the site. To allow traffic to come in to park and manoeuvre places these children in danger. The safety of the children comes before car parking.

Car parking in the morning operates in the same way. We staff the pedestrian gate at 8.40am so giving families a generous 15 minute window to bring their children in. This means we can allow a steady amount of traffic to use the drop off point. Stanley children arrive at school after our arrival time so this lessens the number of vehicles on site for our children while the drop off point is being used.



In the morning, we open the barrier to parents for drop off at 8.40am and in the evening we open the barrier at 3.45pm ready for the arrival of any users of the site.

Please can I ask you to explain to any grandparents, child minders or any drivers who come to school on your behalf. I know that you will want to help keep all the children safe by following our car parking processes. Thank you.

School Website

I have had a lot of feedback about the school website, the main feedback being how useful it is, especially the class pages and the new School Office page! We use the website all the time now and put all information on there. Do familiarise yourself with the website and let us know how we can improve it.

Dates for your diary

This term is getting busy already. The main dates for this half term are:

Wednesday 13th Jan - New Curriculum and New Assessment meetings for parents (see detail below)

Thursday 21st Jan - PTA meeting in school at 7.00pm

Tuesday 9th and Tuesday 23rd Feb - parents evenings - will be using online booking again

New Curriculum and New Assessment meetings

Last term, I let you know about these meetings so that you could save the date! There are 3 meetings planned and the times are 9.00am, 3.00pm and 5.30pm. The meetings are not long and last approximately 30 minutes. The aim of the meetings is to give you information about how the new curriculum operates and give you details of the changes and to explain how our new assessment system works. Please do come along as the information from this evening will help you when you download your child's spring term report from new online assessment system.

and finally,

On behalf of the staff, I thank you for your cards, gifts and kind words last term. It was very much appreciated.

Thank you,



Mrs. K Brown - Headteacher