



# PENSBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs K Brown

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016

## Spring Term 2016 - Newsletter - Number 5

Dear families and children,

### ***Online Reports***

Our new online reports system will go 'live' on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. From this day you will be able to access your child/ren's Spring term report using the login you have been given. If you were not able to attend the maths meeting and receive your login, you can collect it from the school office this week (details sent to you via text message yesterday). We would really like feedback about the online reports and will ask for this in the coming weeks. As we explained to you in our New Curriculum and Assessment meetings earlier this term, it has taken us some time to add all the necessary historical information to the report system that we need. This may affect the accuracy of some of the reports, but this should be very few. In addition to this the raised standards in the New Curriculum will mean that attainment may seem to 'dip' a bit for the children. This is the same nationally for all schools. Do contact your child's class teacher if you wish to discuss any aspect of the online report.

### ***PTA Events***

Sadly our Quizingo Event, planned for this Friday has had to be cancelled. If you purchased tickets you will get a refund. Please see the member of the PTA who sold you the tickets for the refund. The PTA will now be focusing the main event of the year - the Summer Fair. Last year we really missed having a Summer Fair so we are really looking forward to one this year.

### ***PTA Easter Egg Competition***

Two years ago the PTA ran an Easter egg competition and this year it is back! The children are asked to boil an egg, wait for it to cool and then decorate it as imaginatively as they can! The eggs need to be brought into school from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March and they will be judged. The winners, one from each class, will be announced on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Every entry will receive a small Easter egg prize!

### ***Special Visitor***

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, years 5 and 6 are in for a real treat...and so is the school! We have been very lucky to have been chosen as one of only 4 schools in Wirral to have a visitor from Parliament's Outreach team. Rachel Dodgson will start that day with an assembly to the whole of KS2. The assembly will give the children in KS2 an Introduction to Parliament and an overview of the three key parts of Parliament and how they work together to make laws. Next she will deliver the 'Campaign for Change' workshop to our Y6 children who will gain knowledge and skills in how to campaign, looking at changes from historical campaigns and then designing their own campaign around a current issue. Finally she will deliver a 'Debate' workshop to Y5 children who will gain knowledge and skills in the art of debating, holding a House of Commons style debate on a current issue or Bill from Parliament. We are incredibly fortunate to be chosen to have this wonderful experience and are looking forward to it very much.

### ***World Book Day***

Thank you for the huge effort made on World Book day - it is always such an enjoyable day. This week the children have been sharing their favourite books in assembly and that has been lovely too.

### ***Inter Schools Competition***

As many of you know, all the staff in the local schools work very closely together and we know each other rather well after all these years! Our friends at Thingwall Primary have organised a Spelling Bee competition for children in years 5 and 6 in our cluster of schools. After Easter, the Final of our Year 5/6 Spelling Bee Competition will be



held at Thingwall Primary. ... with a prize awarded to the most accurate Year 5 and 6 spellers.

Spellings are an essential part of the new English curriculum and hopefully, by providing children with a chance to compete against their friends and other year groups, it might encourage them to want to improve their spellings and it will also be a fun way to compete for year group prizes.

Round One of the Spelling Bee will be held in our school in a special assembly on Wednesday 16th March and we need to find the best speller in year 5 and year 6! The final at Thingwall Primary School takes place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Further details will be put on the year 5 and 6 class pages on the website. The other classes in the school are looking at possibly conducting their own class Spelling Bee, so keep a look out for details on the class pages of the school website. How exciting!

### ***Pensby and Stanley***

Those of you who lived through the building of our school will sympathise with the fact that Stanley's extension is about 5 weeks behind schedule! I have been informed that further fencing will be erected around the field in preparation for the arrival of the steelwork, and its construction during the Easter Holidays.

### ***Polling station***

You will be aware that the school is used by the Local Authority as a polling station. There are now two elections this year when this will be required - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May (local councillor elections) and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (EU referendum). The school will remain open to pupils on both dates and we will lock the hall off so that the elections are separate to the children, as we have done in the past.

### ***Year 4, 5 and 6 visit***

Years 4, 5 and 6 travelled to the Floral Pavillion on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March to watch a production of 'The Wind in the Willows' by the students of Caldby Grange Grammar School. They had the best seats in the house!



*and finally,*

Our 'Fish and Chip' Friday lunches in Stanley school are going so well that this week we are allowing some of our children to join them for 'Roast Dinner' Wednesday! It's a popular event and it is so wonderful to see all the children enjoying each others company! Mr Roberts, the Headteacher of Stanley, is enjoying it so much, he had just ordered new state of the art dining tables for his school hall - it looks like the children will be meeting for lunch more often!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Brown'.

Mrs. K Brown - Headteacher