



PENSBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 24th January 2017

Spring Term 2017 - Newsletter - Number 2

Dear families and children,

Science Under the Stars

This amazing event is fast approaching!! It is taking place this Thursday (26th January). Workshops include Chester Zoo, Martin Mere, Sphere Science, Wirral Rangers, Stardome Planetarium, Lingham Books, Wirral Fire Service, Daresbury Labs, Zoolab, Raptop Aid, Cheshire and Wirral Wildlife Trust, Planet Heswall, Techniquet, Impossible Arts, Lumin8, Liverpool Astronomical Society, Inspiring Science, Eco Explorer, Edge Hill University and ... The European Space Agency!!!! Visitors to the event will be able to take part in hands on activities provided by these exhibitors and see many interesting things including exotic animals and birds.

The event will be extremely popular so parking may be difficult - a brisk walk 'Under the Stars' to the event would be advisable! This is an event not to be missed and it takes place between 4pm and 6pm at Heswall Primary School. Please go along and have fun!

3rd Heswall Scout Group

This local scout group is currently seeking leaders to help with the running of their sections. In particular they are looking to recruit a Scout Leader. They run an exciting programme including camping for children from our local community and are hoping to find an outgoing person to join the team. Anyone interested in this can contact Louise on 07878805524 or email louisecl3rdheswall@yahoo.com.

'Musical.ly' and 'Five Nights at Freddie's'

'Musical.ly' is an application that many children are using. Sadly, there are many safeguarding concerns regarding this application and it exposes young people to the open internet. Reports are that children are being targeted through this application. Is your child using it? 'Five Nights at Freddie's' is a horror video game that many children are accessing. It is not suitable for primary aged children and staff have noticed some children becoming scared after viewing this game. Is your child accessing this horror game? Please be vigilant and check what your child is accessing.

Parental controls

There is a very short video on the school website showing you how to set up parental controls on an iPhone and iPad. Go to <http://pensbyprimaryschool.org/category/classes/year6/> to watch this video.

The video has been made through a partnership between O2 and the NSPCC. Further advice and guidance can be found at <http://www.o2.co.uk/help/nspcc>

Online reports

Last year we trialled mid-year reports through our online assessment system. We will be doing the same again this year. The reports will go live for you to access on Thursday 16th February and will be available for 2 weeks. You will notice that during this time, the reports from last year can be accessed too. You will have kept your login details and these remain the same. New families to the school will be issued



with their login details. The school office will text you to ask you to come to collect them when they are ready. Because the logins enable the user to access personal data we cannot send them home with children and they must be collected.

In the rare event that a login has been lost you must inform the school office. It takes several days to issue new logins.

Spring term parents evenings

At the autumn term parents evening we had over 92% attendance by families. This is incredible - thank you. The first parents evening is particularly important as it is the basis for the rest of the academic year. For many of you, the online reports, later this half term, will tell you all need to know and you may feel that you do not need a parents evening appointment. For others you will have things you wish to discuss and you will want a parents evening appointment. Staff will know who they need to speak to as well and they will let those families know they wish them to attend. So to make things a little easier this term we are going to try a different approach to parents evening:

- All children's books will be available for the whole evening and parents can just come and look through work if they wish;
- Families will be sent a text if staff have a need to meet with them through an appointment;
- Families can request an appointment if they wish to see the class teacher;

The date of the parents evening is Wednesday 1st March. Appointment times will go onto TUCASI and we will text to let you know when you can access them. We hope that this approach will suit all families and staff and we will seek your feedback on it after the event.

Parent Governor Nominations

Last week we sent you a text letting you know that you can now nominate prospective parent governors. This must be done by Friday 27th January. Details can be found on the website -

<http://pensbyprimaryschool.org/category/community/governors/>

Sign to sing

Details of the 2016 'Sign to Sing' event was shared last week. Details can be found on the website -

<http://pensbyprimaryschool.org/school-office/>

Field update

This week the temporary fencing on the field is being removed. I am taking this as a positive sign that the next stage of the field improvements will begin! I have no dates as yet but will let you know as soon as I have news.

and finally,

Two weeks ago we emptied the lost property box and it is already more than half full again. Lost property is situated in the main entrance area. Please come and reclaim your child's lost items!

Thank you,



Mrs. K Brown - Headteacher