



# PENSBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs K Brown

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## Spring Term 2017 - Newsletter - Number 3

Dear families and children,

### **Online reports**

A reminder that the last newsletter detailed this terms online reporting arrangements. The reports will go live for you to access on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February and will be available for 2 weeks. You will notice that during this time, the reports from last year can be accessed too. 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**

The date of the parents evening is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Appointment times will go onto TUCASI and we will text to let you know when you can access them.

- 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;

### **New Parent Governors**

As detailed in last weeks text to you, we had 3 nominations for the 3 parent governor vacancies. We welcome Mr W Farrell, Ms J Lawrence and Mrs H McCauley to our Governing body.

### **Cleaning staff**

There are currently vacancies in school for relief cleaning staff. If you are interested, please contact the school office for an application form.

### **Christmas performances and school budgets**

Last year, for the first time ever, we charged for tickets for the Christmas performances. There were several reasons for this, the main one being the financial cost of putting on the performances. The additional cost of the performances had never been calculated before and it was quite a surprise. The financial detail is:

Cost of materials - £453.33

Costs of Brass band - £295.48

Additional staffing costs - £300.00

Overall costs £1048.81

Income from ticket sales £463.00

Final cost to school less ticket sales - £585.81



You will probably have read and seen in the media, the predictions for school budgets under the new National Funding formula that is due to come into force next year. Schools have already faced significant budget cuts over the past 5 years - budgets have remained the same but costs and inflation have risen significantly resulting in significant decreases of resources. We await the impact on Wirral schools budgets although it is clear that all schools are facing even more severe financial restraints. Whilst the governors of the school will do all they can to protect the services we offer, it is realistic to expect that tough times for all Wirral schools will remain.

### ***Soft Federation news***

Our work with our Federation colleagues continues to benefit all pupils in all 6 schools. So far this academic year the staff from the 6 schools have met to look at writing and maths in our schools and subject leaders have also met to share good practice. Events for the pupils have been planned and include:

Music Festival - hosted at Irby - April

Maths Bee at Thingwall (2 year 6 pupils) info to follow - March

Spelling Bee at Thingwall (2 year 6 pupils) info to follow - March

Dodd Cup (football) at Heswall - June

Netball tournament - June

Further details will be announced when known.

### ***PTA Sponsored Pancake flip!***

The PTA are to hold a sponsored pancake flip on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. The sponsor form is next to this newsletter. Funds are being raised to purchase a playground canopy so that the children have more shade in the summer - it's what they have asked for! Instructions and rules can also be found on the sponsor form.

### ***PTA Valentines Disco***

The Valentines disco takes place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February. As usual EYFS and years 1 and 2 will go straight after school and their disco finishes at 4.15pm. Years 3 to 6 disco starts at 4.30pm and ends at 5.30pm. Children are not allowed to walk home after the disco and must be collected by an adult. It costs £1 per child and some money will also be needed to sweets and drinks.

### ***Grapes in lunchboxes***

Our Kitchen Manager, Mrs Humphries, has recently qualified in Level 3 Hygiene - the highest qualification for a kitchen. In the training it was advised that when grapes are cut, it is safest to cut them lengthways - please do this if you can to avoid a possible choking hazard. Thank you.

*and finally,*

School closes for the half term break on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February and reopens on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you,



Mrs. K Brown - Headteacher