



Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## **Newsletter Number 3 – Autumn Term 2021**

### ***New Schools Collaboration***

Those families, who have been with us at Pensby Primary for some time, will know that we have collaborated as a soft federation with 5 local schools. This Federation was known as the South Deeside Primary School Federation. It was a very successful working partnership and brought many benefits for everyone.

The landscape and needs for schools has been rapidly developing over the years and it is now known that the most successful collaborations need at least 10 to 12 schools to work together. So, I am very excited to let you know that we now are part of a newly formed Collaboration of 15 schools called Wirral Schools Collaboration. This new Collaboration includes 10 schools in the Deeside area of Wirral and some schools from other areas of Wirral too. We have always worked with our Deeside school cluster as well as the old Federation, so we already know them well and enjoy a very positive professional relationship. We do know the schools who work in other areas of Wirral, but perhaps not quite so well. Working with them is bringing us the experience of working with a much wider and diverse group of schools, with much to offer where perhaps we had been lacking.

This new Collaboration is meeting weekly and in a short space of time we have achieved a massive amount for our schools. For example, we have set up a Deputy Head cluster group, a SENCo cluster, we have organised an online INSET day in January and we have identified a range of staff in our schools who are experts in certain subject fields who can support us.

I will bring you more news of the new collaboration and how it continues developing – it really is an amazing time to work together like this.

### ***Parent's evenings***

In the last online meeting of the new collaboration, the head teachers discussed our upcoming parent's evenings and how these would be held.

Whilst every school favoured face to face meetings, it was clear that with the rise in COVID cases nationally and locally this was something we had to take into account. The closure or part closure of some local schools, due to the numbers of staff with COVID was the biggest concern – we want most of all to keep our schools fully open over the autumn term so every child can attend.

With this in mind the collaboration schools will not be holding face to face parents meetings this term and will move to online or phone call appointments. In Pensby we will offer a phone call and details of how to book your calls with teachers will be sent out next week.

We will still hold the evening to view your children's books (Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October) as we can offer better distancing for you. It is important you see your children's work and that you share this special event with your child. More details about how we will support this will be sent home.

### ***PTA support***

There are many ways you can help the PTA. If you work for Barclays or Tesco you may be able to access match funding for a PTA event. Please let us know if you think the company you work for can offer this to us.

This term the PTA will be organising raffles. Do you have or can you access a suitable prize for one of the raffles?

Finally, do you work for or have a company that offer something to add to an event? For example can you donate disposable coffee cups? Are you an accomplished 'face painter' and could offer this at a future event?

We have a school lottery that the PTA have accessed to raise funds. This is through 'Your School Lottery'. Just go to the home page and select 'buy ticket' then search for Pensby Primary school

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk>

Please get in touch through the school office email if you can help in any way – imagine what we could achieve

The next PTA meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm and will be an online meeting. The link for this is:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88545368893?pwd=bjY1RDZMVUZUY3FncFZsMzljSzcwZD09>

Meeting ID: 885 4536 8893

Passcode: 413830

### ***Behaviour policy***

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the staff has spent many months looking at the schools behaviour policy. We are already very proud of the excellent standard of behaviour our children have and this is down to good home and school support. The new draft policy can be found on the policy page of the school website. Please have a look at it and let us know your views through the school office email. Thank you!

You will notice in the policy that we have 4 school teams. These teams are named after 4 roads that surround the site – Kylemore, Kentmere, Penmon and Ashlea. Each team has a specific colour and throughout the year they take part in events and competitions. The children in key stage 2 (years 3 to 6) have been given new team badges to wear on their uniforms. These are very special badges and also very costly so please help your child to look after them. Lost badges can be replaced but there is a charge of £2.50 per badge.



### **Dates for the term**

The updated events for the remainder of this term are;

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 to 11.00am	Family workshop "Helping your child to thrive"	CAMHS run workshop open to all families
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30 to 5.30pm	Family invitation to look at books	Come into school with your child and enjoy looking at their work
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am to 9.30am	Face to face parents evening appointments CHANGED TO PHONE CALLS	Details of how to book an appointment/phone call to be sent home nearer the event
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	All day	Parents evening phone calls	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	All day	Parents evening phone calls	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	3.00 to 5.00pm	Face to face parents evening appointments CHANGED TO PHONE CALLS	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY		
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	5.00 to 6.30pm	Fireworks!	Come along and enjoy the best firework event for miles! Fireworks at 6.00pm for 15 minutes
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	SCHOOL CLOSED – INSET DAY		
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30 to 5.30pm	Christmas art exhibition	A great Christmas present – come and enjoy the event and buy the artwork!
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00 to 8.30pm	Pensby Winter Wonderland	Making last year's Lanterns event look small – a great family evening. Details to be sent nearer the time.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	All day	Christmas Jumper day – Save the Children	Wear your xmas jumper all day!
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	12.00	Children's Christmas lunch	Details of how to book to be sent home nearer the time
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Afternoon	Fun and film afternoon	Details of how to book to be sent home nearer the time
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm	Carol Concert	End the term with some festive cheer - Details of how to book to be sent home nearer the time
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	SCHOOL CLOSING FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK		

*And finally,*

Things are starting to come into school for us to distribute to families once again. An edition of the 'Primary Times' will shortly be sent home to all families and the children in Reception, years 1, 2 and 3 will be receiving a free oral hygiene pack from Colgate!



Mrs K Brown

Headteacher