



Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **Newsletter Number 1 Autumn Term 2023**

Dear families,

Welcome back to school after the summer break. Hopefully you all enjoyed the holiday and are all set for the new school year.

For families new to our school, an extended welcome to you. The school community is very friendly and I am sure you will settle into classes and routines really quickly and well.

These general school newsletters are usually produced fortnightly. They are always emailed to families and are also on the school website. Class teachers will communicate class details and information through 'Seesaw' and new children will receive a login to Seesaw this week.

Our admin team are now using Parent Mail for payments and communication. This information has been shared with our families last term and will be sent to our new families this week as well.

### ***School meals, milk and toast prices***

A reminder that our prices (that only cover costs) are;

School Meal - £2.50 per day

Milk – 20p per day

Toast – 30p per day

These are purchased through Parent Mail and Toast and milk need to be paid in advance half termly. The opportunity to purchase toast and milk for this half term has been extended to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. If you wish to order at this stage, you will now need to email into the school office and let them know as the Parent Mail system was closed at the original deadline. They will then, on this occasion only, override the system for you and place your order.

### ***Parking and use of the drop off area***

If possible please walk to and from school with your child. Please park on the roads around the school site with great care so as not to block our neighbour's driveways. Family cars come in and use the drop off. The drop off is where the cars pull up for the time it takes children to get out only! We will staff this drop off area and move on any users who try to leave their car, or leave an adult sat in the car and walk their children into school. Doing this causes a back log of vehicles to the site and means the children have to cross the road between cars – it puts the children at risk of harm so cannot be allowed.

### ***Start and end times of the day***

A reminder that arrival time is 8.40am and at 9.00am, the pedestrian gate is locked. Arriving after 9.00am is considered a late arrival at school. If you arrive after 9.00am. At the end of the day, the pedestrian gate is unlocked at 3.15pm for you to collect your child and is locked 3.30pm. You can arrive at any time in these time slots to drop off or collect your child. 8.40am and 3.15pm are the busiest times so if you wish to avoid that come a little later.

### ***Free School Meals (FSM) and Universal Free School Meals (UFSM)***

Your child might be able to get free school meals (FSM) if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022. More information can be found at:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/funding-and-financial-support/free-school-meals-pupil-premium>

### **Children who are eligible for FSM in Pensby Primary School get a 50% reduction on most costs in the school including school trips, school uniform and certain clubs and activities.**

ALL children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 are eligible for Universal Free School meals (UFSM). This means that every day they can have a free lunch in school if they wish.

Our school kitchen is fully run by the school and all food is cooked freshly on the premises. It's easy to let us know if your child wants a school lunch each day – just send them to school without a packed lunch! All children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 can have a free school meal daily – this is called Universal Free School Meals (UFSM).

### ***PTA events and meeting***

Our PTA has been very excited about the Autumn term as they hold their Fireworks evening, Film night and many other lovely events for our families to enjoy. Details of some of these are at the end of this newsletter. Our first PTA meeting of the year is on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 6.30pm. We hold our meetings virtually via Google Meet, so that it fits in with home life as much as possible. Everyone is invited – please join so we can make a difference for the children.

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/wpk-ekzs-ykz>

And finally,

At the end of every newsletter there is 'Dates for the term' table. This has all the dates for whole school events. It is updated with each newsletter and is really useful and means you can stay ahead and in the know!



Mrs K Brown, Headteacher

### **Dates for the term**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	All day	Year 5 and year 6 art workshops	To be sent home
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9am-11am	CAMHS parent coffee morning	
Week of Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	All week	Year 5 and 6 bikeability sessions	To be sent home
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	9.00am	Thrive workshop for families	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October & Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	From 2.00pm onwards	Parents meetings – choice of phone call or face to face meeting	Times TBC
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>All day</b>	<b>INSET Day – school closed to pupils</b>	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Half term break – school closed</b>		
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>8.40am</b>	<b>School reopens</b>	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	5.15pm	PTA Fireworks evening	To be sent home
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>All day</b>	<b>INSET Day – school closed to pupils</b>	
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	pm	Whole school Santa Dash	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	8.30am onwards	Individual and family school photographs	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	3.30 to 5.30pm	PTA film night	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	All day and evening	Christmas performances	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	<b>1.30pm</b>	<b>School closes for the Christmas Break</b>	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Christmas break – school closed</b>		
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	<b>8.40am</b>	<b>School opens for Spring term</b>	