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October Newsletter

Dear Families,

Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming you to parents' evening next week. We have made a few changes to the arrangements for parents' evening this term.

Children's books will be set out at their tables in their classrooms, giving you the opportunity to look through their work in the environment where they learn each day.

Your conversation with your child's teacher will take place in the atrium, rather than the hall as this offers more space for appointments and will help reduce crowding in quite a tight space.

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing how your child has settled into their new class. Please be mindful of the 10-minute allocation whilst meeting with your child's class teacher. This will help to keep the evening running as smoothly as possible.

Harvest Festival

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community and the number of Harvest donations we have received for Wirral Ark. The charity will be collecting donations next week and we are sure they will be thrilled when they come to collect all of your donations. Thank you.



Parking, zebra crossing and gates

I remain concerned about dangerous driving and inconsiderate parking around Pensby and Stanley, particularly at drop-off and collection times. We have requested community police support to help address these issues and keep children and families safe.

Please play your part:

- Slow down and stay alert for children crossing on the zebra crossing.
- Keep pavements, crossings, entrances and local residents' driveways clear.
- Park further away and walk where possible.
- For families of older children, please make use of the drop-off area.
- The disabled bays remain for use by families in receipt of a blue badge.

Pedestrian Gate

It has been reported that at school collection time the pedestrian gate from Kentmere Drive onto the school site is being propped open to allow pedestrians free flow onto the site. At that time Stanley School staff are escorting children from the classrooms in the car park to the transport buses and taxis. For their safety the gate must be kept closed. Please refrain from propping it open for other pedestrians. Stanley School staff will do this once all of their children have left the school site.

Water bottles

We would like to remind families that we do not encourage juice in water bottles from home. We have always requested that only water is brought into school and for lunchtime, cartons of juice can be brought in your child's packed lunch.

We appreciate that in some cases children may prefer juice, but this can usually be adjusted over time. If this would be difficult for your child and there are circumstances that you would like us to be aware of, please speak with your child's class teacher.

We reviewed the location of water bottles in classrooms at the beginning of the year so that classroom desks could be free from distractions and from potential spillages. Children can still access water throughout the day, but we felt that consistent routines between classrooms would help the children as they move between year groups. Please be reassured that children continue to have access to their bottles. They are regularly reminded to drink and can have a drink when needed.

Toilet use during lesson time

We are working hard to encourage children to use the toilet at regular intervals throughout the day and when learning is least disrupted. Frequent interruptions can mean missed explanations and make it harder for the children to follow the learning.

Children are able to use the toilet when they need to and we will never prevent a child from going to the toilet but it is important that toilet use is planned into classroom routines at the right time to avoid missed learning.

Obviously, we recognise that some children need more regular reminders and may need to use the toilet more frequently than their peers so please speak to your child's class teacher if this relates to your child.

Both the revised water bottle and toilet routines are a conscious effort to protect learning time while ensuring children's needs are met.

Poppies



Poppies have arrived in school and will be on sale from **Monday 2nd November.** There are no set prices for each item, just a donation. Year 6 children will set up a poppy stall in the atrium each afternoon for children to purchase their poppies and/or other items.

Cross Country News

Well done to all our cross-country runners for your fantastic effort and determination so far this season. You should all be proud of yourselves and your commitment to your running and your placings. We look forward to seeing what you can achieve as the season continues.

A special congratulations to Xanthia, Gabe and Sophie, who have been selected to progress to the regional cross-country trials at Sefton Park on Saturday 29th November. You have shown real talent and we wish you the best of luck at the trials.

Houlihan Cup Football

On Wednesday 15th October, Pensby played St. Peter's Primary in the first league match of the Houlihan Cup. What a thrilling game it was! We were excellent and showed such fight, determination and great skill against a far more experienced team. St. Peter's scored in the closing minutes making it 1-0 to them but staff and parents were treated to an excellent game and we cannot wait for their next match.



PTA Event Friday 23rd October

The PTA has organised a 'Break the Rules' day on **Friday 23rd October**. The children can choose from the list of rules to break shown on the poster. The cost of each rule break is 50p so the children can choose how many rules they want to break and how much money they want to bring in.

Full of Beans Camp

Places are limited for the Full of Beans October camp so don't leave booking until the last minute if you wish to sign your child up. Please follow the QR code shown to make your booking.

There are lots of fun activities planned from Monday 26th October to Thursday 29th October.



Secondary school applications

A reminder that the deadline for applications to high school is 31st October. If you have not yet made your choice, please follow the link: https://www.wirral.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/step-by-step/apply-secondary-school-place

PTA Fireworks Event

Come and join us for our fantastic fireworks event on **Wednesday 4th November. Doors will open from 4:30pm and will close at approximately 6:15pm before the display begins at 6:30pm.**

There will also be a selection of goodies and glowsticks all on sale through the night and lots of lovely food and drink.

We hope you can join us.



The dates for the remainder of the term are attached below. We are still awaiting the Christingle Service date and the Y3 & Y4 team will let you know as soon as this has been confirmed.

Collecting from classrooms

We appreciate that from time to time you may have important information that you need to share with class teachers or other members of staff. Whilst class staff are prioritising the safety of the children and releasing them from their classes, please refrain from approaching staff and trying to engage in conversations with them until all children have been released to their grown-ups.

Staff will be happy to discuss any concerns you have once all the children have been collected. Alternatively, you can email the school office for the attention of the member of staff you wish to talk to.

Dates for your Diary

22nd October	F1 Stay & Play session
23rd October	**PTA Break the Rules Day** Park ranger visiting Y2 for hibernation session **SCHOOL CLOSES FOR HALF TERM**
31st October	Deadline for secondary school applications

2nd November	**SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR AUTUMN 2**
4th November	Pokemon Primary Schools Cup - football Y5/6 PTA Fireworks night
5th November	Y1 & Y2 Safari Park Trip
9th November	F2 & Y6 Heights and weights
16th November	Anti-bullying week begins
18th November	F2 family roast dinner
19th November	Individual and sibling photographs
30th November	KS2 Languages Day
1st December	KS1 Dress rehearsal
4th December	Y3/4 Christingle at 1:30pm
8th December	Key Stage One Production at 9:30am and 5pm
9th December	Children's Christmas dinner & Christmas jumper day
11th December	Rock Steady Concert Santa Dash
15th December	Key Stage Two Christmas carols at 5pm
16th December	Choir singing at Ridgewood Care Home
18th December	**SCHOOL CLOSES FOR CHRISTMAS AT 1:30pm**