

# Newsletter July 2017

## Executive Head Teacher update

Having only just joined Weston St Mary Primary School, it seems strange to be writing the final newsletter of the academic year. However, as the term draws to a close we would like to take this opportunity to say that it has been a pleasure to get to know your children over the last month and that we are already looking forward to starting the next academic year with them in September.

As is often the case with leadership changes in schools, it has unfortunately not been possible to honour some of the dates that had already been set, such as the film night. We understand that these events are key to the school community and apologise that it has not been possible for them to go ahead this term. We will be planning many exciting events throughout the next academic year and look forward to working closely with the PTA to do this.

## School Values and Ethos

Last week a survey was conducted within school, asking the children about their views on our school values. The results of this survey showed that many pupils are unclear about the school's core values and ethos. We are pleased to announce that we will therefore be simplifying our core values to the following:

- Perseverance
- Compassion
- Forgiveness
- Courage
- Hope
- Respect

These values will be the termly themes for our Collective Worships, as well as underpinning our behaviour policy and the way we conduct ourselves in school. Our school ethos will be changed to 'Inspire. Believe. Achieve.'

## Leavers' Service

You are all very welcome to join us for the Leavers' service at St Mary Church on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm, during which the Year 6 children will have the opportunity to say their formal farewell to the rest of the school community.

## iPads for KS2

We are very excited to announce that we now have 30 iPads in school which are currently being used in Oaks class. Each pupil has their own device to use to enhance their learning and Mr Copeman has been visiting from Whaplode C of E Primary on Friday mornings to teach the children some new computing skills. The children have already created an 'All about me' e book using the BookCreator app.

## Autumn Term Swimming

We are very excited to announce that Key Stage 2 children will have the opportunity to attend weekly swimming lessons at Whaplode C of E Primary School throughout the first half term next academic year. More details on this will follow soon.

## School Fete and School Disco

It is with regret that we inform you that these events have had to be cancelled. Mr Webster has asked us to inform you that he is currently awaiting an operation and that it has therefore been very tricky to organise these events. We are sure you will join us in wishing him a speedy recovery and we look forward to working with him and the rest of the PTA to plan many exciting events in the future.

### **Social Media and Networking sites**

It has been brought to our attention that some of the pupils in our school are using social networking sites and apps such as SnapChat and Facebook. These sites have an age limit of 13 and failure to protect children from the risks that these sites pose can be seen as a child protection concern. If you would like any further advice or guidance on this issue please refer to our website, where we have recently posted lots of information to support children and adults with e safety.

### **Summer Projects**

Over the summer holidays we would like our pupils to complete a project inspired by their next topic. We will be sending further information out shortly about this, including an update on what your child will be learning about next term.

### **Roald Dahl Day**

This will take place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017. We will be celebrating the work of Roald Dahl and invite the children to come dressed up as their favourite Roald Dahl Character. More details on this will follow soon.

### **Safeguarding**

We believe that safeguarding is an important part of the work with children and young adults so will keep this reminder in all of our newsletters. Please remember that safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us. If we are concerned about the safety of any child, we should let somebody know. Mrs Flack is the designated safeguarding person in school. In her absence, contact Mrs Palmer who has now also been trained as a designated safeguarding person.

### **Goodbyes**

It saddens us to inform you that some members of staff will be leaving us at the end of this term. As you are probably already aware, Mrs Butterworth has been working at Weston St Mary for 5 years and will be retiring at the end of the year. Miss Bailey will also be leaving us at the end of the term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their contribution to school life during their time here and for all their hard work. We wish them all the best in the future.

### **Diary Dates**

7 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Spalding Academy taster day
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Last KS2 swimming for this term
11 <sup>th</sup> July	12 Noon - Whole school picnic lunch followed by sports afternoon – parents invited
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5 & Y6 – PGL Caythorpe
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Treat day
18 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm Leavers Service at Church
19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term
5 <sup>th</sup> September	Term 1 starts

### **2017/18 Term Dates**

<b>Term 1</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 to 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
<b>Term 2</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017
<b>Term 3</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2018 to 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
<b>Term 4</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 to 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
<b>Term 5</b>
16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 to 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
<b>Term 6</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018 to 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018