

Newsletter
Friday 28th
October 2016

● ● ● Blink and it's Over!

Well everyone it is hard to believe we have had 8 weeks or 2 months in our new school and have arrived at the end of a half term. What a wonderful time we have had and all of that possible due to your brilliant children who enthuse, excite us and keep us smiling every single day! A special thanks must go to all the wonderful adults in our school who have worked tirelessly since the end of August, staying full of enthusiasm and passion for your children and their learning. I wish all of you both children, adults in school and parents / carers, a well earned half term break.

● ● ● Teaching & Learning Review

As many of you will be aware, we could have an Ofsted inspection this year and in order for us to prepare for that, we had a 2 day teaching & learning review on Thursday and Friday last week. An ex-Ofsted inspector Ms Clarice Nelson-Rowe visited the school, observed lessons, met with children, staff and governors to see how well the school was doing. We treated it similarly to an inspection and it was an invaluable experience to help us focus carefully on what we can improve on. I was delighted that Clarice spoke highly of the quality of teaching and our children's understanding of their learning. She thought our children were fantastic and the way they could explain their learning was brilliant. Equally Clarice helped us focus on our curriculum and how we can make it link to other subjects more and hopefully you will see this impact early on next half term. We have a couple of areas to improve which we are working hard at currently and will share with you after half term, but the positives are that children's learning is strong alongside some very effective teaching. Well done to all the children and staff during these 2 days.

Year 2 Celebration Assembly ● ● ●

There is no better way to end a half term than a wonderful celebration assembly from the fantastic children of Venus and Mercury. Their assembly this morning, filled me with pride, delight and great humour. Well done to them all and the wonderful staff for their hard work too. Year 2's are pretty amazing and full of confidence and enthusiasm. Well done!



● ● ● Welcome Back Miss Harris

I am delighted to announce that Miss Harris is returning to school after half term following her maternity leave. Miss Harris will be working every lunchtime and afternoon, organising playtimes and equipment, teaching sport in the afternoons and managing our after school clubs. We are thrilled to welcome her back to school, she has been sorely missed and is coming back full of new and exciting ideas!



Parents Meetings & Appointments ● ● ●

After half term Mrs Gill will be sending a letter out to all our families regarding parents meetings this year. Please look out for these dates as they will be on our website too. We have increased the number of parents meetings so you have more regular opportunities to meet teachers and share your child's learning. Equally please feel free at any time to approach your child's teacher if you wish to discuss their learning. An appointment can be made and we will always try to be as flexible as possible and meet you at a convenient time. The door is always open for parents and carers so please come and talk to us.



● ● ● Exciting Art Projects Coming Up

I am delighted that during the next half term we have an exciting opportunity for some of the children of Dee Point to work alongside an artist to create some exciting work to fill the huge blank wall spaces in our school. Every Wednesday morning next half term we welcome Amanda Walker a teacher at Delamere C.E. Primary School to help us with a project. Alongside this we have Russell Kirk who will be starting another Art Project after Christmas. Hopefully in the coming weeks and months we will start to fill the spaces around us. Also Mrs Turnbull has been doing some wonderful work with Year 1 children and we hope to see this on display shortly after half term.



● ● ● Building & Demolition Update

I wanted to keep you all up to date with the new school building and the demolition of the old building.

New School Building

All of next week we have contractors in school to complete some of the snags and issues in the new school. Our library is finally being fitted with the correct ceiling and lights, we have painters, electricians and other contractors to replace flooring, stained ceiling tiles and to finish certain rooms. It will be a busy week but hopefully many of the snags will be completed.

Demolition

It would be fair to say that the last few weeks have been a little frustrating as the demolition is making slow progress. There are a number of reasons for this, but mainly to do with the amount of asbestos that has been located in the old building. Removing this is a very delicate and time consuming operation, however progress is now being made and you can start to see parts of the school being dismantled. We are hoping that demolition will start in the next few weeks, which will be both a sad and exciting experience for the children. Once this is completed we will start to see how the plans will look for our outdoor space. We may have to shorten paths in and out of school once the two storey part of the building needs to be demolished, but we will look at creating alternative routes into school and will safely manage the pedestrian access routes. Again, I will keep you up to speed with that as it happens. Some bats were found in the old building which has also delayed the process of demolition, however these have been saved and rehoused which is great news!!

Sports News ● ● ●



Dee Point continue to participate in as many competitions as possible. Last week our brilliant Year 3/4 footballers played in a mini tournament at Tattenhall Primary School. They won 1 game and lost 2 but all games were incredibly close. They looked smart in our brand new football kit, representing the school superbly. By the time you read this newsletter they will have played another match at Mollington St. Oswald's on Friday afternoon. Good luck everyone, you will be fantastic!! Next half term sees the return of some exciting basketball, a girls football tournament and more matches across the school. Good luck to all competitors!!



● ● ● Halloween Disco Success

What a fantastic evening it was on Wednesday as many of the children came back to school for the Halloween Disco, we had hundreds of you dressed in allsorts of scary looking outfits!! Thanks also to our brilliant fundraising team as they raised a wonderful £370 which will help pay towards some exciting activities for the children throughout the year. Thank you all for your support at this event too. A scary looking evening at Dee Point!



...And Finally ● ● ●

There we go everyone, that's the end of our half term; good luck to our choir who are performing at Blacon High School this evening, they will be amazing and I can't wait to see them. For everyone else, please have a safe and enjoyable half term, especially as we approach Halloween and Bonfire Night, I know the children will remember the messages given in our PCSO's assembly on Monday, please stay safe especially as the clocks change on Saturday night so days start to get shorter from now on! Can I also take this opportunity to thank you all, old parents and new for your tremendous support, patience and commitment to the school during our building work, hopefully by the end of term we will be closer to the finishing line!!!

Please have a lovely half term, remember you can always email me if you need to during the holidays: head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk. We look forward to seeing you all back here on Monday 7th November.

Happy Hols!

Kind regards

Dave Williams
(Headteacher)

