

● ● ● Half Term Has Arrived...

I know what you're thinking... is it really half term already? Well we are officially half way through our school year today, which is pretty amazing and incredible, where has that time gone? By the end of the next half term our school building will be complete and we can start to plan our exciting official opening in the Summer Term! I hope you all have a lovely half term and as always thank you all so much for your continued support for the school. I have a few notices for you all.

Thank You Europa & Ariel ● ● ●

This morning was a wonderful way to bring the half term to an end with the fantastic celebration assembly for our wildly enthusiastic Year 4 children of Europa and Ariel. Thank you so much for bringing your learning to life with a brilliant performance. What an exciting bunch they are and so infectious to be around. Really proud of you all!

● ● ● Parent Questionnaires 2017

Can I say a huge thank you to everyone who returned their questionnaire to me. We have approximately 130 of them and I will spend some time over the half term doing the analysis of these and publishing them on the school website. I will also take on board your feedback and follow it up in school. I will keep you posted once this has been completed...Mr Williams' holiday homework!!



Newsletters & Whole School Information ● ● ●

How would you like to receive newsletters?

Email	101
Twitter	12
Text (to website link)	31
Paper copy	35

May I thank all the families who responded to my letter asking how you would like to have letters sent to you. The results are on the table opposite. From now on we will be emailing, texting and publishing all letters on our website. We will keep paper copies in the main entrance of the school if you wish to take one. On occasions if it is an important letter for the class, we will send it home with the children. Thanks for supporting us in reducing our printing costs and amount of paper created.

● ● ● E-Safety Parents Meeting

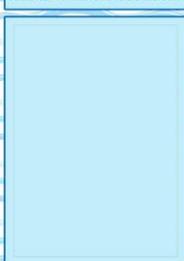
I wanted to say a huge thank you to the parents and both Miss Fellows & Miss Griffiths for their hard work on Tuesday 7th February for the e-safety parents meeting. We sadly only had 9 parents / carers turning up for this in the whole school. To make matters worse I have had to deal with the police this week following an incident involving children on social media. It is absolutely crucial all our children are safe online and that as parents we are checking their phones and tablets frequently but also for parents with younger children there is much to be aware of. If you need any guidance please check out the 'keeping safe' part of the school website or speak to Miss Fellows or Miss Griffiths who will be happy to offer you any support.



Attendance Incentives ● ● ●

As you are aware we have been busily trying to improve attendance figures across the school. Starting after half term we will be rewarding those children and classes who regularly arrive in school. Next half term we will be giving out prizes and rewards weekly to the class with the highest attendance (this will be displayed outside their classroom door). Every half term children with 100% attendance will receive a golden ticket that allows them a non-uniform day at the end of each half term and finally the class in Key Stage 1 & Foundation Stage and Key Stage 2 with the best attendance for the whole term, will win £250 for their class to spend on whatever they wish!!! Exciting opportunities but importantly a chance to celebrate the good attendance of many of our pupils.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE RECORD



● ● ● Building & Demolition Update

The building site has become a real place of interest yet again this last couple of weeks as the work really starts to accelerate to sort our outdoor play space. It is almost a distant memory now, where the old building once stood. The kerb stones are going in and we can start to see what is emerging out there! I am hoping that we will be granted planning permission soon for the front entrance and I am currently negotiating with the Local Authority and Morgan Sindall to finalise costings for all this. The proposed finishing date is still the 31st March which is only 6 weeks away!! Next week we will be having drainage installed across the back playground and across the field. We're nearly there everyone!!

Sports Update ● ● ●

It has been a busy couple of weeks since I last wrote to you all. We had our Dodgeball tournament at Blacon High School for Year 3/4 who performed brilliantly and finished a respectable 3rd in the competition. Last night our Year 3/4 footballers also played and finished 2nd in a BEV Football Tournament. A fantastic effort from them all! Well done sports stars. Shortly our school football team will be playing their final football fixture of the league season, and are currently lying 2nd in the league. They are also due to play in the quarter finals of the Chester Schools Cup. We will keep you posted on their progress.

**SPORTS
UPDATE
TODAY**

● ● ● Family Pictures – Please Support Us!

In school we are hoping to create a display that celebrates the diversity of our families. We have a whole range of families at Dee Point and I want to proudly show these off in a display on the ground floor of the school next to our community room but we need your help! We would love you to send us a photograph of your family that you would be happy for us to display. We want to celebrate that families come in all different shapes, sizes and arrangements. We have Mums and Dads, but also we have Nans and Grandads who are main carers. Single parents, same sex parents, step mums and step dads...you name it, we have it and crucially we need the children to see, share and recognise this. If you can provide us with a photograph that would be brilliant. These can be emailed to myself – head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk or dropped into the main office. Thank you so much for your support.



Slipper Survey ● ● ●

Many of you will know that I truly value the children's voice. I always say to them that it is their school, not mine, so crucially any decisions we make have to be owned by them! Our class names last year are a great example of this and the children voted. Well they've been at it again following a news report suggesting children learn better in slippers!! Have a look at this news link for more information <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-38812587>

Basically Miss Peach and her band of Pupil Voice experts have been around the school asking the children their thoughts. They have overwhelmingly said **YES** that they would like to wear slippers in school. So we are going to source some shoe racks and shortly after half term we will let you know when we can have slippers in school!! Look out for more information after half term!!

● ● ● ...And Finally

There we are everyone, another half term complete...3 down, 3 to go! Please can I kindly ask all parents and carers to be respectful when parking outside school and unless agreed with myself please do not park at the front entrance of the school as these are for children, parents and carers with physical / medical needs.

Have a lovely half term, Spring is just around the corner and we have plenty of work being completed over half term, ready for you all to arrive back on Monday 27th February. Happy and safe holidays everyone, we're missing you already!!!

Kind regards

D. Williams

Dave Williams
(Headteacher)

