

Warm days at Dee Point!

Hi Everyone, it is lovely to be back at school after an awe inspiring few days in London with our incredible Year 6 children. It is always a real privilege for me to spend some quality time with all the children in school and always wish I could do it more often!! Anyway just a few messages and a quick request to ensure children have hats, sunglasses and sun block during the hot days of Summer. Have a lovely week everyone, I look forward to seeing you all again!!

Sports Days / Midsummer Watch

What a wonderful time I have had in the past couple of weeks spending time with the children outside of the classroom. I just loved our Reception & Key Stage 1 sports days, they were fantastic. Children really throwing themselves into the experience but also so many parents, carers and family members joining us, making it such a carnival atmosphere. Thanks to all the staff for brilliantly organising these, for you and your support but especially for your children and their fabulous efforts!! Alongside this we then had the fabulous Midsummer Watch Parade through Chester this weekend and how fantastic to see our children bouncing around the streets of Chester. Thanks also to all the staff for committing so much to this weekend and giving up their time at such a busy time of year.



Free Swimming Taster @ Total Fitness

Some of you will be aware that we have swimming lessons twice a week currently through Becky Adlington's SwimStars at Total Fitness in Chester. As part of this they are offering our families a FREE taster lesson at Total Fitness Chester on Tues 25th July. If you are interested please book now by following the link attached - <https://goo.gl/mcXxlK>



Important Advice re: Snapchat

We have received the following advice that we feel is crucial for all parents and carers, especially those of us whose children use Snapchat as a way of communicating with other children. Basically, snapchat now allows the children to see exactly where their friends are at anytime using a map. The main worry about this is have the children actually got just their friends on there? They are able to change the settings so that they set themselves to a 'ghost' so can't be seen. It is explained in more detail in this link below but we felt it was important that parents and carers were made aware of what the children can do: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2017/06/23/police-issue-child-safety-warning-snapchat-maps-update-reveals/>



Swimming Warning

Following some recent incidents that have occurred across the UK we have been sent a brief safety video for all children and adults who choose to go and swim in open water during the Summer. The video is from the Cheshire Fire Service and it highlights the dangers of this for all children and adults. Please follow the link to see the video, it is aimed at older children (Key Stage 2) in our school:



<http://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/news-events/latest-news/water-safety-dont-be-tempted-to-cool-off-in-open-water#5948e50b42e3e>

Chester Market 50yrs Celebration Card Competition



Just a reminder to everyone that you have just a couple of weeks to complete the 50 year old birthday card design. You have a chance to win tickets for Chester's new Storyhouse Theatre. If you still want to enter and don't have a form, then please contact the school office to obtain a copy. Good luck to all entrants, fingers crossed we get a winner!!



Rory McCann – Mural Artist

I just wanted to say a special thank you to you all for your incredibly positive feedback on the work that was completed by Rory McCann our artist who came in for a couple of weeks to complete a storytelling and space mural in the key stage 1 library downstairs. He was really inspired by the children in school too and we have already booked him in for some drawing workshops in November and again for some mural work after that linked to our new school motto: 'Dream, Believe, Achieve Together.' Please feel free to come into school to see his work.

Groundwork @ Dee Point

You will notice that we have started work at the front of the building to complete the final part of the groundwork. Here we are providing increased staff car parking and minibus parking. This work is due to be completed in the next 2 weeks. Once this is completed it means we can park all our staff cars in this part of the school and it should leave the top car park completely free for you to park in before and after school. Can I just reiterate that you park there entirely at your own risk and the school cannot accept any responsibility for any damage. We have had 1 parents car damaged already in there so please park respectfully especially as we are the 2nd only school in Cheshire West to offer this facility and it has cost over £100k to provide it.



Parent & Carer Conduct in School

The very best part of our school and something that makes us unique to many other schools is that we welcome parents and carers into school first thing in the morning through our open door policy. I don't have to do this at all and can have the school gate opening at 8.55am and have parents dropping children at the gate and not entering the school grounds or classrooms. However that isn't the type of school I want to create. I know how much many of you enjoy and appreciate the 'open door policy' we operate and equally both my staff and I love welcoming you in first thing in the morning. Sadly for the first time in my 14 years at the school we have banned a parent from entering the school premises due to their rude, aggressive and inappropriate behaviour. These circumstances are extremely rare however from September we will be asking all families to sign a Code of Conduct that reiterates the expectations we have of their conduct in school. If at any point you feel a parent or carers behaviour in school is inappropriate please let me know as I am determined this minority of people are not welcomed into the school as neither your children or my staff need to be subjected to it. Thank you to the vast majority of you who come in each and every day with the same positive approach as ourselves, it's what makes this school such a special place!!

KNOW THE
CODE
INTEGRITY • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY

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And Finally...

Thank you everyone for your continuing support. I cannot let this newsletter finish without mentioning the incredible Year 6 children who visited London last week. What a wonderful way to end their time in our school. Their behaviour, attitude and maturity was incredible and it was one of the best times we have ever had with a group of children...they made us all exceptionally proud! We are so lucky to have your incredible children in our school. In the next couple of weeks we will have finished report writing and collating end of year assessments. I hope there will be much for you all to feel proud of by the end of term with their school reports.

Have a lovely week everyone and good luck to Key Stage 2 children in the BEV Sports Day on Friday
Kind regards

Dave Williams (Headteacher)

