

# **ST. PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HESWALL**

## **NEWS UPDATE – November 2014**

### **Busy Half Term**

As we return following the half term break there is much happening over the next couple of months both during November and also in December and the run up to Christmas. This month's update will highlight a number of events due to take place this month, but looking further ahead the key dates for our Christmas services can be found on the calendar of the school website. One key event taking place this month is our New Curriculum workshop on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November; please see below for further details.

### **Bonfire & Firework Spectacular**

This year's now legendary Bonfire and Firework Spectacular takes place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November with gates opening at 4.30pm. There will be a range of food and drinks available, as well as glow items for the children to buy. Thank you to Mrs Clayton's class for making this year's Guy Fawkes for the bonfire. Due to high winds and heavy rain last year, we had to postpone the event to the Sunday. It is very much hoped this will not be necessary this year, but any changes to the arrangements will be posted on the school's website home page. We hope you are able to join us with family and friends for what is always a great night and a key fundraising event for the Friends of St Peter's.

### **Staffing News**

I recently announced that Miss Kate Ball, our current Y5/6 team leader and Assessment leader, has been appointed to one of two new Assistant Headteacher posts to be taken up from January. The second Assistant Headteacher post will be re-advertised later in the year for a September start. We also will be welcoming Mrs Emma Birmingham as our new Foundation 2 leader and member of the Senior Leadership Team, who will also take up her post at the start of the spring term. Mrs Birmingham is currently working as the Early Years Advisory Teacher for the Local Authority and will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our Early Years team. I would like to congratulate both members of staff on their appointments and look forward to working with them as they take up their new roles.

### **Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy**

We welcome Mrs Paula Donnan, parent and school coordinator for Foodbank, who has recently been appointed to our lunchtime supervisor team. There still remains a vacancy to our team, supervising pupils during the lunchtime. The job involves supporting the children in the dining room, whilst they are eating their lunch, and also supervising their play outside on the playground. If you are interested in the post, or know someone who might be interested, please contact the school office for more information.

## **Remembrance Day**

We will be marking Remembrance Day and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War with a special service and two minutes silence in school. This year, to mark the centenary the children will be placing a poppy wreath against the recently refurbished memorial that is on the wall in the main corridor of school. Pupils in Year 6 will be selling poppies during the week and a suggested donation of 50p has been made to support the work of the British Legion.

## **Class Assemblies**

This month two of our classes will be leading Collective Worship. Parents and family from the respective classes are welcome to join us at 9.15am.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Mrs Clayton's Class 1/2C

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Mrs Allport & Mrs Penn's Class 5/6AP

## **New Curriculum Workshop**

We are running a workshop for parents on the New Curriculum on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November between 6pm and 7.45pm. The format of the evening will consist of three thirty minutes sessions that will include a presentation in the hall providing a general overview of the key changes, as well as age group specific workshops in each of respective year band. Parents will be invited to sign up to the sessions they wish to attend, in order to learn more about the key curriculum changes in your children's age groups. Further details are to be sent out separately, in the meantime please note the date in your diary.

## **Keeping our Children Safe**

I wrote to all parents at the start of this term asking for your cooperation in keeping our pupils safe, particularly at the start and end of the school day. The key ways in which you can support us with this is by:-

- Avoiding parking in the school car park (except by prior arrangement) at any time, including when collecting or dropping off from before or after school activities.
- Using the school crossing point at the top of the car park and avoid crossing the car park or at the school gates.
- Leaving the school grounds promptly at the end of the day and discouraging pupils from playing on the playground, play equipment or in the garden area at the top gate.

These arrangements help us to ensure all pupils have been collected and avoid unnecessary accidents from occurring. Thank you for your help in enforcing these requests.

### **Book Fair Week**

The Book Fair returns to St Peter's during the week 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November. Parents are invited to accompany their children to the book fair with the chance to view a selection of fiction and non-fiction books from a range of popular children's authors and new releases. The school receives commission for every book sold and this money is used to purchase new reading books for our school.

### **Children in Need**

Once again we will be supporting the BBC Children in Need charity. There will be a series of cake sales during the week, any donations will be gratefully received, and pupils are invited to come to school dressed in yellow, pyjamas, or onesies on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. The recommended donation is £2 per pupil, with half of the money raised going towards Children in Need and the other half to our school charity the Rock of Joy Trust and our partner school in Uganda. Further information about this will be sent out separately.

### **Friends AGM**

The Friends of St Peter's Annual General Meeting takes place at 7.30pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November in the Meeting Room at the St. Peter's Centre. All parents are welcome to attend and it's an opportunity to find out more about the work the Friends do and how the money raised throughout the year has been used to support the purchase of key resources for the benefit of our children.

### **School Meals**

Please could parents ensure that that money is placed in a small envelope that include your child's name, class and date(s) for which the payment is for when paying for school lunches on a daily or weekly basis. This enables money to be collected quickly and speed up the lunch service. Thank you.



**Chris Penn**  
**HEADTEACHER**