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Weekly Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Children in Need

Friday 13th November was Children in Need Day. The children had a lovely day celebrating in school by dressing in PJs and bright, spotty clothes. Thank you so much for all of the contributions you have made to this very worthy charity. We have raised £287.00. This will be sent to Children in Need today.



Last day of term

We have an INSET day on Friday, 18th December. School will be closed to pupils. The last day of term will be Thursday 17th December when school will close at 1.30pm. We will be undertaking a deep clean of the premises.

We will however still be running our Swashbucklers club as normal until 6pm on 17th December and for those who cannot collect their child/ren at 1.30pm, we will have an extra SAS session available at a fee of £2.00 per child. Please book places through ParentPay.

Remembrance Day

Last week was Remembrance Day. It was very different as we could not gather together or sell Poppies like we usually do. We marked the day with a 2 minute silence to remember all the lives that were lost.

Each class was set an Art challenge by Mrs Billington to create our school display. In each session, the children learnt about the origin of the Poppy and why it is the symbol of Remembrance Day. As you can see it looks beautiful and a wonderful way for us to remember every day!



Flu Immunisation sessions

We are delighted to let you know that Wirral Community Health has contacted school to confirm that as part of Wirral's ongoing Nasal Flu Vaccination programme they will revisit Eastway Primary on Wednesday 9th December. They will complete vaccinations for children that were absent on the day the nurses were last here. If you had completed a consent form and your child was off, you don't need to complete another one. In the meantime, if your child/ren has attended the GP or other clinic for the vaccine, **you MUST** inform the Immunisation Team on 0151 514 2510.

Consent forms were sent home via email on Friday, please call the school office if you require a paper copy. For any parent or carers who didn't return a consent initially who now wish their child to receive the nasal flu vaccine, please complete and return the consent form.

Eyesight screening

On Wednesday, 18th December, all children in Year 1 will receive an eyesight test. The Nurses team are currently catching up with their backlog, this is the cohort that should have been tested whilst in

Reception. They are hoping also to come back after Christmas to test our current Reception class. Public health England are supporting testing again.

Free school meals

During the current climate, we know that many families' circumstances have changed. 3 million families have started to claim Universal Credit since March 2020. If this applies to your family, it may mean that your child/ren could qualify for free school meal. Eligibility for free school meals is based on if you receive one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If you think you may qualify for free school meals, we can check this for you. We emailed out consent forms to families last week, however if you would like a paper copy to complete, please call the school office.

School Photographs

A reminder that our school photographer will be here tomorrow, Tuesday 17th November to take pictures of your children. Due to COVID guidelines, we will not be able to mix siblings to have family photographs on this occasion. However we have worked with Academy Photography to use the individual photographs of your children to make family portraits for you. The photographers will offer a wide range of options for you to choose from. We hope you understand that as we always ensure bubbles are kept separate in school, this is our safest and only option.

Support for Children and Families

We are incredibly lucky to have a number of agencies working with us as a school and are able to provide expert advice, guidance and support in a number of areas. We work with Wirral Council, Library Service, Neo Community, Christ Church, FUPS, Moreton Outreach, Youth Service and Heswall Round Table (to name just a few!) to support our families most in need in the community, from providing emergency food, school uniform and Christmas Hampers to signposting for support when school is closed as well as Community Projects for families. If you would like further advice or guidance, see our school website and social media for links or call to speak to Mrs Dennett, our Family Support Coordinator.

For our children with additional needs we are very lucky to have regular visits into school from professional services, support for families and training for staff from the school nurse, educational psychologists, NHS Speech and Language therapists, ADHD Foundation, CAMHS Mental Health Team, Gilbrook Outreach, Wirral Early Years SEND Team, Elleray Park Outreach, Attachment and Trauma counsellors and the list goes on. As Mrs Brodie is currently absent from school, Mrs Morris will be overseeing all SEN and vulnerable children. A separate report will be sent out to parents/carers of children on the school SEN register before Christmas and if you would like to arrange an appointment to discuss your child's needs and how we are currently supporting them after receiving your report, please get in touch. Mrs Morris will be sending a termly SEN flyer to all families highlighting the agencies that can support our vulnerable children as well as top tips and resources, training for families, websites available etc.

We pride ourselves on offering the right support at the right time to all our children and believe that every child has the right to succeed. All staff work hard to identify children's barriers to learning, promote inclusion and acceptance and ensure that all children have what they need to enable them to fly high!