



# Barnston Primary School

'a health promoting school'

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## JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### January 2018

30th – 6pm in hall, 11+ and secondary transfer meeting for year 5 parents

#### February

6<sup>th</sup> – Open Assembly 9.10 am

8<sup>th</sup> F2 Writing/Physical Workshop 8.50-10.30am

16<sup>th</sup> Chinese New Year

Half term 17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

**26<sup>th</sup> – Staff and children back in**

#### March

8<sup>th</sup> Parent council 2.30pm

9<sup>th</sup> Competitive Sports day – children come in sports wear

14<sup>th</sup> (TBC later) F2 maths workshop 8.50-10.30am

19<sup>th</sup> – Open Assembly 9.10am

20<sup>th</sup> Leprosy Assembly for KS2

21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Parents' Evening 4-7pm to look at your child's progress - crèche in the hall

**INSET Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> –children NOT in.**

**Holidays Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March -15<sup>th</sup> April**

### Y6 ASSEMBLY ON POLLUTION

Y6 pupils worked hard to get the message across to the rest of the school on the topic of pollution and how we can do our part to save our planet. This followed on from the Science under the Stars event co-ordinated by Heswall Deputy/ Science lead, alongside the other federation Science leads – thanks to Mr Pipe for all his hard work and input. The event on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January had over 700 visitors and it was great to see so many of our pupils enjoy the science experience!

### CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Please see the attached letter which celebrates the academic success of the school and the consistency achieved by the staff across all age groups. The school received a letter from the Local Authority praising the achievements of the staff in providing this consistency for all pupils.

### WELL-BEING & MENTAL HEALTH



As you know we put all our children's well-being at the heart of all we do and believe that varied mindfulness activities/experiences throughout their school years will prepare them mentally and enable them to be resilient in their High School years and beyond. The Wirral Community NHS Foundation Trust have also acknowledged a need to support in this area and have started 0-19 weekly drop-in clinics to cover areas such as self-esteem, anxiety and any other mental health issues. Please see the attached flyer which gives times, dates and more information.

## E-SAFETY

Staff are constantly talking to pupils regarding e- safety in order to prepare them for the wider world of technology that they will experience beyond primary school. Please read the top tips below on e-safety and talk them through/act, to keep your child(ren) safe:

- **Explore e-safety sites** – There are lots of links to useful e-safety sites for children on the home page of this website. They are great fun to explore, so why not browse through them with your children?
- **Facebook / Bebo / Myspace** – Many of these sites have a minimum age limit of 13, so our pupils should NOT be using them. They can allow children to communicate with anyone and this puts them at risk.
- **Keep your computer in a shared area** – Talk to your child about what they are doing online and, if possible, set up your computer in a shared area at home so that you can all share in the wonderful sites that are available online.
- **Keep up-to-date with your child's development online.** Children grow up fast and they will be growing in confidence and learning new skills daily. It's important that as your child learns more, so do you.
- **Set boundaries in the online world just as you would in the real world.** Think about what they might see, what they share, who they talk to and how long they spend online. It is important to discuss boundaries at a young age to develop the tools and skills children need to enjoy their time online.
- **Keep all equipment that connects to the internet in a family space.** For children of this age, it is important to keep internet use in family areas so you can see the sites your child is using and be there for them if they stumble across something they don't want to see.
- **Know what connects to the internet and how.** Nowadays even the TV connects to the internet. Make sure you're aware of which devices that your child uses connect to the internet, such as their phone or games console. Also, find out how they are accessing the internet – is it your connection, or a neighbour's wifi? This will affect whether the safety setting you set are being applied.
- **Use parental controls on devices that link to the internet, such as the TV, laptops, computers, games consoles and mobile phones.** Parental controls are not just about locking and blocking, they are a tool to help you set appropriate boundaries as your child grows and develops. They are not the answer to your child's online safety, but they are a good start and they are not as difficult to install as you might think. Service providers are working hard to make them simple, effective and user friendly. There is a link on the 'Think u Know' website which can help you find your service provider and set your controls.
- **Help your child to understand that they should never give out personal details to online friends**—personal information includes their messenger ID, email address, mobile number and any pictures of themselves, their family and friends. If your child publishes a picture or video online, anyone can change it or share it. Remind them that anyone could be looking at their images!
- **If you child receives spam/junk email and texts, remind them never to believe them, reply to them or use them.** It's not a good idea for your child to open files from people they don't know. They won't know what they contain—it could be a virus or worse—an inappropriate image or film.

- **Help your child to understand that some people lie online and therefore it's better to keep online mates online.** They should never meet up with any strangers without an adult they trust.  
**Teach your child how to block someone online and how to report them if they feel uncomfortable.**

The children in school are guided to use the internet very carefully. Parents and families need guidance too. Do you know how old your child should be to access Instagram? Snapchat? Please look at the information below – it may surprise you.....



The 'Think you Know' website is a useful resource to help us all keep our children safe online. In school we use these safety posters with the children to remind them of how to keep themselves safe online. This website and other useful website are listed below.

- [Think U Know](#) – containing internet safety advice for those aged from 5 to 16, along with parents and teachers, this site is produced by CEOP (the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre).
- [Kidsmart](#) – An award-winning internet safety programme for children.
- [Know IT All](#) – lots of useful advice for keeping yourselves and your children safe on the Internet.
- [Bullying UK](#) – Information and advice about bullying for children, parents and schools.
- [Kidscape](#) – An organisation which helps to prevent bullying and child abuse.
- [Childline](#) – ChildLine is the free helpline for children and young people in the UK.

## ANTI-BULLYING CHARTER

The school holds various assemblies/visits/performances throughout the year to discuss bullying - what it is, how we can prevent it and how we all have a responsibility to make sure that it's not acceptable. To bring all this together, the children contribute their ideas and agreement to the school Anti-bullying Charter and sign to say that they agree that this is important that we all keep alert and tell, tell, tell if we see any incidents.

## PARKING NEAR TO SCHOOL

A neighbour has mentioned that many parents are parking opposite the school again and causing their drives to be blocked, or uneasy access through Sandham Grove. In addition, some parents have been seen by other parents actually stopping on the school side, outside the school gate to drop their children off and causing congestion. Please be considerate in where you park and drop off – the road parallel to Sandham Grove is much wider for parking and is 2 minutes away on foot. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Pearson