

Dear Parents/Carers

The following information will hopefully be of interest to you all...

MAT Update:

We have had lots of productive meetings with the MAT since joining on October 1st which have been really valuable. We feel very welcomed and supported as a school. We have fortnightly school improvement meetings with Adrian Martin and Claire Arnold and we have also benefitted from a wide variety of CPD for all staff and governors, such as Equality + Diversity, EYFS, SEND, Well-Being and curriculum areas. We have taken part in writing scrutinies, character education, safeguarding and attendance audits and core subject moderation. The move has been really worthwhile to us as a school staff but also to Thingwall pupils – already we have taken part in anti-bullying workshops and mental health awareness days.



Year Two Class Assembly:

Year Two's Class Assembly took place last week and we were all amazed by their clear speaking and acting about the very tricky topic of sanitation and sustainable development. They covered the history of Liverpoolian Kitty Wilkinson's important role in preventing the spread of cholera and Unesco's Rights of the Child. This assembly was cross-curricular, covering English, History, Science *and* PSHE. It tied in beautifully with World Toilet Hygiene Day, which took place last Sunday and complemented Unilever's germs and toilet hygiene programme which was delivered last week to Years 1, 2 and 3. Well done Year Two, this was an extravaganza from start to finish and a massive thanks to all Year Two staff, in particular Mrs Goulding for preparing the children so well.



Thank You Speare Gymnastics:

Mrs Speare has been coming into school over the last few weeks to deliver specialist gymnastics sessions to all of our pupils. So far, we have had brilliant lessons in Years 3-6 and our infant pupils will benefit over the coming weeks. We also have staff CPD planned in with Mrs Speare for the new year – gymnastics is a tricky subject to teach and we are all learning lots of top tips from her outstanding tuition. Many thanks Mrs Speare, we are looking forward to the next few sessions and our staff training!



Year Four Teacher Vacancy News:

We have been very busy in Years Three and Four over the last couple of weeks as we have been conducting interviews for the Year Four class teacher vacancy. The process has been rigorous and we have involved the children from both classes as candidates were asked to teach both year groups. We are pleased to announce that Mr Rees has been successful with his application and will therefore start as the Year Four Class Teacher after Christmas, when we return on Tuesday January 9th (Monday 8th January is an INSET day). Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Sheridan have done a sterling job caretaking the class for us this term and we have been very grateful to them for their adaptability and commitment to the class. A full handover will take place (as Mr Rees already works with us in Year Six we hope to have opportunities for him to work with the staff and Year Four before Christmas to ensure a smooth transition for the children). Mrs Mitchell will resume her substantive role as PPA cover teacher, Miss Yardley will be able to return to her role as PE specialist teacher and Mrs Sheridan will be able to return to her role in Year Two and management cover. Mr Rees will also take on the role of Music Lead.



Goodbye Mrs Hamel:

We are very sad to announce that our wonderful Mrs Hamel has decided that she will take early retirement at the end of this term. Whilst we are very sorry to see her leave us, we fully understand her reasons for doing so and wish her a very restful and happy retirement. Mrs Hamel has worked for us in the school office for the last 13 years and we will all miss her calm, good-humoured and thoroughly professional manner. She really has been a 5 Star Secretary! On a personal level, we will miss her very much indeed and have valued her greatly, not only as an integral member of Team Thingwall, but also as a friend to us all. We are sure you will all join us in wishing her nothing but the very best for the future.



Poppy Appeal News:

We were thrilled to be informed that Thingwall Primary raised a grand total of £242.18 from our most recent poppy appeal. Many thanks for your generosity and thank you also to our marvellous Year Six volunteers, who willingly gave up their lunchtimes to sell poppies to the children.



Celebration Corner (OR HUGGS – Huge Unbelievably Great Goals!)

This area of the newsletter is so we can celebrate children's achievements outside of school. If you would like your child to appear in this area of the newsletter, please let the school office know with the relevant details.

Freddie (Year Two), Oliver (Year Six) and Sam (Year Six) – Congratulations to these three children who have recently been awarded their Blue Peter badges for their commitment to the environment and improving our World. Thank you boys, as Mrs Goulding's Year Two Assembly reminded us, if we all do our little bit towards positive change, we can have a huge impact collectively. 😊



With Best Wishes

Mrs D L Evans