

Dear Parents/Carers

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

**MAT Update:**

We are very pleased to inform you all that Thingwall Primary School converted to become an Academy on October 1<sup>st</sup> and, as such, will now be a proud member of the Oak Trees Multi Academy Trust. If you would like to know a little more about the trust, please click on the following link <https://www.oaktreesmat.co.uk/> for information. Hopefully, you all received the official conversion letter which was emailed on Monday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. We look forward to working with Tony Lacey and the trust and we have already begun to attend meetings with our Oak Trees Colleagues.



**Mrs Williams-Gillooly's Marathon Challenge:**

We are extremely proud of Mrs Williams-Gillooly, who has been training very hard and will be entering the York Marathon on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October to raise much needed funds for our school (you may remember that POTS has charity status).

Mrs Williams-Gillooly is working very closely with Anna Barnish to use the POTS charity status to set up a Just Giving page so you can donate and leave encouraging messages of support if you would like to. As soon as this link is set up we will send it out via text message.

All at Thingwall wish you the very best of luck Mrs Williams-Gillooly, we are in awe – 26.2 miles is a VERY long way indeed! We will have a pair of comfy slippers waiting for you on the Monday morning!



**Long-Term Year Group Overviews:**

Each year the teachers update their year group overviews, which are then available for parents on the school website. Here are the links below for you to click and read what your child's year group will be studying this year...





Year 1 Curriculum Map 23-24.docx



Long term plan Year 2 2023-24.doc



Long Term Plan Year 3 2023-2024.doc



Long Term Plan Year 4 2023-2024.doc



Y5 Curriculum map 23-24.doc



Long Term Plan Year 6 2023-2024 (1)

### **Attendance – Holidays in Term Time:**

Please be aware that we are unable to allow holidays to be taken during term time and we will be referring all holidays to the Local Authority for possible fining. It is of note, that the MAT stance is the same as Wirral LA's and the Oak Trees management scrutinise attendance very closely. This year, we will be working very hard with our families to ensure that our persistent absenteeism is decreased. A child with attendance of less than 90% is classed as a persistent absentee.

## Attendance Matters



### **Mr Lester Thanks:**

This week sees Mr Gordon Lester step down from our governing body after 12 years of service to our school (including 4 years as Chair). We will miss Mr Lester very much indeed but we know that he will keep in touch with us via Mrs Lester who will still be coming in to hear readers every week in Y3/4. Mr Lester has been a very knowledgeable member of the Governing Body and we have greatly benefitted from his wealth of experience in the education sector (he is the previous Head Teacher of Barnston and Egremont Primary Schools) and from his spell working for Wirral local authority as Seconded Head Teacher and latterly as Traded Services Lead for Edsential. Thank you Mr Lester, we will miss you. Please keep in touch!



### **European Day of Languages:**

We really enjoyed celebrating the European Day of Languages this week, with every class finding out about a different country. Many thanks to the staff for making this a memorable occasion for all concerned.

*FS2* found out about England and were able to tell us the name of our King and where he lives.

*Year One* found out about Wales and enjoyed learning key phrases in Welsh.

*Year Two* found out about Spain, in particular language, foods and geography.

*Year Three* found out about Italy and enjoyed learning the Tarantella, which is a traditional Italian dance. They also learned about Mount Vesuvius, which is an active volcano and links nicely in with their science topic and with their unit of work on Pompeii.

*Year Four* found out about Turkey, in particular the Turkish language, the geography/heritage of the country, key words (colours, numbers, greetings etc) and foods. Please note, we are aware that Turkey isn't actually in Europe but the Year Four class has a special interest in this country and we have decided to bend the rules on this occasion!

*Year Five* made pizzas and located Italian cities on a map and learned key words.

*Year Six* learned all about France and gave a wonderful rendition of "Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" or, as they say in France "Tetes, Epaules, Genoux, Pieds".



### **Mental Health Day:**

We loved marking Mental Health Day on Tuesday by reading *The Colour Monster* by Anna Llenas and discussing how various colours can reflect our emotions. We also enjoyed wearing our comfiest clothes today because, as everyone knows, there's nothing better than being able to wear your favourite clothes to school for the day!



### **Year Six Responsibilities:**

We are so thrilled with the way that our Year Six pupils have taken to their role of Year Six Buddies and Playground Managers on the front playground. They are helping the staff on duty brilliantly and they are really looking after our younger pupils, organising games, modelling how to take turns etc. It is lovely to see our infant pupils look up to our older pupils and respond well to their positivity and enthusiasm. Year Six have thrived on this responsibility and they have even written a rule book to help future classes understand the role and the Thingwall expectations. Well done Year Six, we are really proud of you and think that you are all great ambassadors for Team Thingwall!

In addition to this whole class responsibility, we have also allocated individual roles to the Year Six children. Please find how we have shared the following responsibilities across the class...

Head Boy	William H
Head Girl	Poppy
Deputy Head Boy	Alex
Deputy Head Girl	Charlotte
Technical Whizz Kids	Jack J (and Henry from Year Five so he is trained up for next year)
Equality & Diversity Reps	Rory, Erin, Emily and Omar
Saxons Team Captains	Mila and Reuben
Normans Team Captains	George and Harriet
Romans Team Captains	Charlotte and Sam
Vikings Team Captains	Chase and Jack J
Prefects	Zeid, Aiden, Lottie, Tommy, Max, Charlie, William K, Inoa, Grace and Luca
KS2 Librarians and KS1 Reading Buddies	Lucas and Jack H
Maths Monitors	Sadie and Skyelah
Ethos Reps	Oliver and Harriet
Eco Warriors	Poppy and George
School Councillors	Leon and Mila
All Year Six Pupils	Buddies and Playground Managers

### **Charles Thompson Mission – Harvest Collection:**

As in previous years, this year we are once again supporting the Charles Thompson Mission with our Harvest Festival collection. From 09.10.23, families are invited to bring in tinned, dried or carton foods and small items of toiletries. The Charles Thompson Mission is a very worthwhile local charity who support people in need in Wirral and surrounding areas. Please donate from Monday onwards if you are at all able, every little counts. The Harvest Festival is planned for 2pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October – all are welcome to attend if you wish. This year, Bernie from the Mission is able to attend the service so we will be able to hear first-hand how are items are put to good use.



### **Whole School Responsibilities:**

Congratulations to the following children who have been nominated by their classmates for the following roles. We are very proud of you all and we are sure that you will do brilliantly!

Year Group	School Council	Eco Warriors	Ethos Reps
FS2	Marlé and Arabella	Huxley and Chloe	Edward and Abigail
Year 1	Jacob and Sophie	Betsy and Alex	Andrew and Lily
Year 2	Penny and Joseph	Grace and Isabel	Seth and Maisie
Year 3	Ava and Teddy	Daniel and Gabriella	Theo and Amy
Year 4	Emily and Baha	Fran and Jude	Archie and Lauren
Year 5	Ozzie and Spencer	Violet and James	Mollie and Jaxon
Year 6	Mila and Leon	Poppy and George	Oliver and Harriet

## 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.

Previous Pupil, Amber, has been crowned the 2023 English Judo Champion in London recently. Well done Amber, we are very proud of your mammoth achievement!



With Best Wishes

Mrs D L Evans