



Headteacher's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and I hope that you all had a wonderful half-term break. All pupils have returned to school eager to learn – and I was so proud during Monday morning assembly to hear of some of the pupils who were volunteering during their break – well done indeed. There are several key events this half-term and all information will be shared with you in due course.

Welcoming new care staff

I would like to welcome Mrs. Sadler to the residential care team. Mrs. Sadler joins us with previous experience of working in care and is very much looking forward to working with all the residential pupils and staff.

Christmas Dates

Yes – it is almost that time again! There are some key dates and information you need to be aware of and a separate letter with all the information has been sent out alongside this newsletter. You can also access this letter using the parents tab on the school website. I would also like to thank parents and carers for their kind donations already towards Christmas events.

A ferry across the Mersey

It was a real treat this week to join S4/5 on their educational visit to the Liverpool Docks as part of their History and Geography curriculum. Firstly, as part of their History curriculum they visited the Merseyside Maritime Museum on the Albert Dock where they had a guided tour and talk about the Transatlantic Slave Trade and Liverpool's links to slavery.

They then walked around Pier Head and the famous Three Graces Buildings and stopped off to get a picture with the Fab Four at the Beatles statue, checking out other statues along the way.

To finish the day and as part of their Geography curriculum, which focused on rivers, they took a river cruise around the River Mersey on the famous Mersey Ferry. The weather stuck with us – and all pupils had a fantastic learning experience. Thank you again to staff for organising.

School House System

All pupils have now been allocated a school house (Oak, Ash or Elm) and will be informed of their houses on Monday during form period. Gaining points for their house can be achieved several ways, including, but not limited to: attendance, random acts of kindness, WOW pieces of work, sporting and other events and wider community impact. I am looking forward to following the progress of all the houses across the academic year – and celebrating all the achievements at the end of the academic year.

Amber Trust Music

For those pupils who will be involved in music sessions as part of the Amber Trust Grant this academic year – a separate letter has been provided for you by Mrs. McLaughlin. If you require any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact school.

S3 Geography Presentations

The assembly hall stage was set this week not only to judge, but to celebrate the wonderful landform models created by S3. I had the privilege of joining the judging panel – and all pupils excelled with their presentations. Points were given from creativity and originality to craftsmanship and explanation.

Interactive waterfalls, volcanos and beaches were all on display as all pupils proudly and articulately presented their work. Well done to all – and a brilliant way to end the week.

Wishing all staff, pupils, parents and carers a very restful weekend.

Best wishes,

Mr D Swanston

Interim Headteacher