



## Head-lines

So here we are at the end of our first half term. It really does seem like only a short while ago I was writing to welcome you all back; now here we are one half term down! I hope the children have settled in well, and continue to enjoy the various improvements made around the school. Although I think I need to work on my table tennis as I have been beaten by every child I've played so far! I would say I let them win, but tragically that's not true (I can't even say that some of the matches have been close!). Perhaps I will spend my half term working on my spin serve....

Wishing you all a lovely, cosy half term

Mr Turner

I am often given reason to feel immensely proud of our children. I continue to be amazed by their talents, skills and achievements. However, earlier this term I was present at an occasion that I will remember for the rest of my life, and I don't think I have ever been prouder.

Last year I received an e mail from a Wirral Council Official asking me if our choir were able to sing at an upcoming event to Award the Freedom of the Borough to the families of those lost at the Hillsborough tragedy. He had seen our choir perform at the Spotlight on Youth performance at the Floral Pavillion.

We were honoured to be asked, and so Mrs Lester began rehearsals on the two songs we were asked to perform. On the evening of the event, our children waited in the Council Chambers (a fantastic experience in itself and

they had good fun sitting in the chairs of the Conservative and Labour councillors and learning about how council debates take place) before taking to the stage to sing. The evening was hosted by actress Sue Johnston and attended by Liverpool and Wirral dignitaries, celebrities, sports stars and of course the families of the 96.

Our first piece was a rousing performance of Paul McCartney's hit 'The Frog Chorus', chosen for its poignant line "We all stand together". This was followed by a song which needed no introduction; the Liverpool anthem 'You'll Never Walk Alone'. Even now when I think back to that evening the hairs on the back of my neck stand up; as soon as the opening bars started to play, the emotion in the room was palpable; chairs were moved closer to one another, families embraced and eyes were filled with tears. As the final notes echoed, the room erupted into applause and a standing ovation. That is a moment I will never forget. Since that evening, I have received several calls and letters from the families and Councillors

to thank our children for their wonderful performance. This was then topped off by a letter from Margaret Aspinall CBE, Chair of the Hillsborough Families Support Group, thanking the children and giving on behalf of the HFSG a donation to the school of £500. I plan to use this to create a memorial garden area on our playground and have invited Margaret to visit when it is in place. I just want to thank Mrs Lester for her hard work in preparing the choir, the parents for supporting their children in the performance, but most of all the children themselves. You made me one immensely proud Headteacher.



*I am sure you will join me in offering our prayers to those who were lost on that tragic day and all the families who miss their loved ones. Lord keep them in your care.*

## Important Information - I have been asked by a parent to make you all aware of the following information regarding her son.

He is currently in KS1 and has a quite severe allergy to nuts. As can be the case with allergies, the nature of it develops and alters, but at present, they are aware of a number of nut containing products which can trigger a reaction, ranging from mild to very severe and possibly life threatening. Whilst at the moment there are no plans to become a nut/product free school (as some schools now are), the parent did want to make you all aware, as in the past parents have kindly brought in food for various reasons, such as birthdays, celebrations etc. Please do not give out any food directly to children without consulting class teachers/office staff. We both thank you for your understanding and support in helping keep all the children as safe as possible at all times.

## Dates

As I have mentioned in previous letters, I have tried to set some important dates well in advance so that parents have as much notice as possible.

**Please do refer to these dates on the calendar section of our school website.**

We have also just confirmed with our school photographer that the date for individual and family photos is Monday 13th November.

One thing I would like to draw your attention to is an invitation to celebrate mass with us.

Throughout the year we have set some dates where mass will be celebrated in the school hall. The masses will be planned and organised by each year group. It would be lovely if you could join us



to celebrate together. Please note that it is a celebration of mass, not an assembly. Your child will have been involved in the planning and preparation, and may be doing a reading on the morning, but not necessarily. Therefore, you might not see your child 'doing anything', however they will have been actively involved in deciding the theme, choosing the readings, creating the powerpoint, dressing the altar etc. There will be other opportunities to see your child perform throughout the year, such as Christmas and Summer productions, Music celebrations etc. We hope that you are able to join us for these prayerful celebrations on the following dates -

10th November - Led by Y5  
15th December - led by Y1&2  
12th January - led by Y3  
28th March - led by Y4  
23rd July - Led by Y6

If you have been in to the school office during the last week, you may have spotted our two new 'pupils'. These two are with us modelling a new proposed school uniform. Please can I stress, this is just proposed, and there will be no changes this academic year. If the blazer were to be introduced, it would not be until September 2018. Please do come along to the office for a closer look and offer your feedback. There are two colours on display - a light grey and a dark grey. I would welcome your thoughts on colour preference. The majority of feedback I have had so far from parents who have seen the blazers has been positive and they are keen on them as they feel it looks very smart. The children like it too as they have said it looks really 'grown up'. As I say, this is just at the early consultation stage and prices would need to be confirmed, but would be approximately £25 for a blazer. Whilst I understand that may initially sound steep, I do believe it would be a saving in the long run as it would mean you are not purchasing jumpers (which are often lost), they are longer lasting as they are a thicker material, and would mean the children may not need lighter Autumn or Spring coats as they would be adequately warm in a blazer. I will run a more formal consultation procedure later in the term, but please do call in to the office to have a look at them.



