

I can't believe it is Friday already! What a gorgeous week it has been!

On the subject of the weather, whilst we never quite know how long the sunshine will stay with us can I please remind you to ensure your child/ren has a water bottle in school and also a sun hat/cap that is named. We politely request that before school you apply sun cream to your child should you feel the need for it, as, unfortunately, our staff are not permitted to apply sun cream to children in school.

This week, the Y5 and Y6 children and staff were delighted to have the opportunity to experience the wonders of the universe inside a visiting planetarium, brought into school by one of our co-chair governors, Chris Marchant. This immersive experience allowed the pupils to explore stars, planets and galaxies in an exciting and interactive way, enriching their learning about space. We are extremely grateful to Chris and the team from the University of Liverpool for leading such a memorable and inspiring educational opportunity and huge thank also go to Mrs O'Hara for organising this unique science experience for our Y5/6 children!

We welcomed some new children into Squirrels this week and I am pleased to report that the children have settled in really well. Mrs Plage and her team report that the youngest children in our school are exploring their learning environment with confidence and the children are getting used to the routines of daily life in Squirrels – well done!

Mrs Ahmad has led outdoor sessions this week for children in Reception, Y1 and Y2. The children have been learning all about outdoor safety and Mrs Ahmad reported to me that it was wonderful to see the children working together to identify possible hazards to keep themselves and others safe in the forest school area. Whilst outside the other day in the KS1 playground and forest school area I noticed that the recently planted trees are taking hold and are growing at a pace – new shoots are forming on the developing stems – a great opportunity for the children to observe plant and tree growth over the coming months.

On Thursday, we welcomed a representative into school from Specsavers! Specsavers have kindly donated 100 hi-vis vests for the children to use when they go out of school on trips and visits. The Specsavers representative handed over the hi-vis vests to our pupil parliament members who, I am pleased to report, kindly thanked Specsavers for their generous donation.

You may have seen in the local press recently that as a school we have been successful in securing a government bid to enhance our on-site EYFS provision. To that end, yesterday Dr Carr and I met with 2 local authority early years advisors to discuss our new exciting venture to ensure that our proposed 9-24month provision is up and running as early as September 2025. If this provision is something that you would like more information about, please register your interest with Jann Bell, in the infant office.

Today, you will have received an email from school requesting that moving forward there will be no entry to the school car parks, even for dropping off and collecting children at Sunbeams before and after school club. The only exception to this is for the taxi escorts dropping children off who attend our resource provision classes. We have had to take this move as sadly we are finding that, despite several requests, some parents are dashing in and out of the car parks before and after school and we are concerned that there will be a serious accident. In addition to this, staff also need to be able to access the car parks safely and in a timely way to enable them to get into school to prepare for their days work.

A reminder that next week our Y2 children are off for their 1st residential visit to Anglesey. It is an exciting opportunity for the children to participate in both outdoor and indoor adventurous activities such as wall climbing and a low rope assault course. Hopefully the weather will continue to be kind and the sun will still shine!

Y6 are busy preparing the children for the upcoming SATs and, as part of this, Miss Tyrer and her team will be hosting a SATs breakfast club from Monday 12th May – Thursday 15th May inclusive. The SATs breakfast club aims to create the opportunity for the Y6 children to come together before school starts (8.30am, via the main junior office door) for a relaxed start to the day ahead of the tests themselves.

I am pleased to report that both staff and children are finding their feet with the new recycling scheme that has now been in place for a few weeks, although I have been caught out a few times pondering which bin my rubbish goes in! Children who are on packed lunch are still encouraged to take their recycling home in their lunch boxes and it also gives parents an opportunity to check on what their child is/isn't eating during the school day!

Academic clubs have resumed and it has been lovely to see and hear children around school engaged in their learning after school hours. A reminder that next Tuesday 6th May, clubs are cancelled due to staff attending training at another school in Chester.

I wish everyone a lovely, long bank holiday weekend and see you all on Tuesday!

Mrs Liversey