



*Headteacher
Mrs Gill Price*

*WEAVER PRIMARY SCHOOL
WESTERN AVENUE
NANTWICH
CHESHIRE
CW5 7AJ*

Tel: 01270 626335

Fax: 01270 629322

e-mail: head@weaver.cheshire.sch.uk

Thursday 7th September 2017

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a restful and enjoyable holiday over the past 6 weeks. The children have started back to school quietly and purposefully and seem to be enjoying being back into a routine with their friends and new teachers -long may it continue.

New staff

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Elsie Jones, Mrs Jackie Evans and Miss Emma Beckley into school together with Mrs Elizabeth Wright as 1:1 TA's for pupils in our reception class. They will be working alongside Mrs Hart and Mrs Ronson, who will also be working in the reception class for one day per week, as Mrs Hart has reduced her working commitment to 4 days per week.

As ever Mrs Legge and Mrs Carter will continue to be TA's within in the Reception team.

Music lessons

After the retirement of Mr Robinson in July, I have been busy trying to find a suitable replacement who can take on the large numbers and diverse abilities of the instrumentalists we have in school. Details of our music tuition programme will be available soon, once contracts and timetables have been established.

Mobile replacement project

Our 'orange mobile' (Years 3 & 4) is due to be replaced this year. Two new classrooms will be added to the main school by September 2018. Initial plans are being prepared and as soon as we have an agreed scheme, I will be letting parents know what is proposed. The project will cause unavoidable disruption to the school as we have a tight entrance and exit and very little space to manoeuvre trucks and builders equipment. However, this will be managed by the Local Authority and plenty of notice will be given to the school community beforehand. This is an exciting time for the Weaver and is something I have been championing for the last 11 years. At last, most of our pupils will be taught in accommodation suitable to modern day education and commensurate with the standards enjoyed by academies and other schools locally!

Holiday dates

Holiday dates are available on the school website for 2017/18 and 2018/19. Please look closely as they do not always follow the Cheshire East holiday pattern. As a Nantwich Education Partnership we try to align our holidays with Nantwich schools to ensure less disruption to families and pupils. However, they do not always follow the pattern of Crewe schools or other Cheshire East regions. Please check before making holiday plans and booking breaks as holidays in term time will be counted as unauthorised and may incur a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN)

Absences in term time

As usual any absence will require an explanation. If pupils are absent through illness or medical/ dental appointments, a simple phone call to the school office each day, explaining the absence are sufficient. For other absences such as weddings, funerals or other circumstances, a request in writing using the school Request for Absence in Term time form must be used. These are available from the school office.

Holidays are unauthorised in term time. Cheshire East are now resuming their FPN Policy after the Isle of Wight V Platt court case found in favour of the Isle of Wight local authority. As from 1st September 2017 any requests made for a holiday to be taken in the academic year 2017-18 or thereafter which is not considered by the headteacher to be exceptional in circumstances, will be recorded as unauthorised, and a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued by the LA .

Exceptional circumstances can be found in the school Attendance Policy 2017 on the school website.

School starts at 8.45 am for KS2 and 8.50am for FS/KS1. The register will be open until 9.05am for KS2 and 9.10am for KS1/FS pupils. After this time it will be closed. Any pupil not present will be marked as absent and any child arriving afterwards will be given a late mark.

Pupils need consistent and regular attendance at school to make progress. The national expectation is that pupils should have a **minimum** attendance of 90%. Anything less than this, will invoke the involvement of the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) who is also able to issue fixed penalty notices. The school will write to parents once attendance becomes an issue to discuss reasons why and investigate ways to improve attendance.

The school target for attendance is 97%.

Meet the Teacher evening

The first of our Parents' Evenings for this academic year will be held on **Monday 2nd October** 3.30pm -5.00pm and 5.30pm -7.30pm. The second day will be **Tuesday 3rd October** at the same times. Letters will be sent out beforehand to allow parents an opportunity to book an appointment.

Class Letters

Staff will be publishing their class letters on their web pages this week, please keep a look out as these will inform you of topics covered this term, PE days, forest school times, home tasks and other general information relevant to a particular year group.

Planning will also be published on these pages to give you an outline of what your child will be taught in maths and English this term.

There will also be a series of 'Help Your Child at Home Evenings' this term. These are designed to give you an overview of the type and level of work expected in each year group, provide advice in supporting your child through home challenge tasks and helping pupils to capitalise on what they are learning at school. For those sitting national tests this year, there will also be an opportunity for parents to see what is required for the end of Key Stage tests. Individual staff will contact you with these dates.

Burwardsley Visit.

Year 4 will be trekking off to Burwardsley on October 4th for two nights. More details to parents will follow soon.

Harvest Festival

This year we will be collecting contributions again for the Nantwich Foodbank. Our harvest assembly will be on 25th September and afterwards we will be asking for contributions for this worthwhile cause. I do hope you can support us as we have some families who have been dependant on the Foodbank in the past. I will write to you again asking for contributions once I have spoken to the Foodbank to find out what items they require.

School clubs

Sportscape after school clubs will begin again next week whilst Vocal group which will begin Monday 18th September. If your child does not want to be part of vocal group this year, please let Helen, Thea, Nancy or Nigel know as soon as possible or leave details with the office. Equally, if you would like your child to be part of Vocal group (Years 3-6 only) please also leave your child's name at the school office and we will operate a first come first served waiting list.

And Finally...

We operate an 'open door' policy here at The Weaver -no concern is too small. Issues and problems can be sorted out very quickly and it is always best to deal with things as soon as they arise to prevent bigger problems later. Please see class teachers or myself if you have any worries or questions.

I look forward to another very successful year and hope to see our school continue its excellent reputation in the community and go from strength to strength with your fantastic support and involvement.

Kind Regards

Gill Price

Headteacher