

# Brackenwood Junior School

## Learning for Life



Headteacher: Mr. C. Holmes MMUS.PGCE.NPQH

### Spring 2 News

March 2020

#### **Upcoming Events**

There are a number of events taking place this half-term. Next week, our Year 4 children have an exciting and informative visit to Knowsley Safari Park to look forward to, whilst our Year 5 children will be visiting the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to hear Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra in concert. Year 6 children have a visit from the Fun Food Chef, and Year 3 have a Mini-Olympics event to prepare for visiting Year 2 children.

#### **Staffing Updates**

It is with great pleasure to announce that Mrs Case has had a baby girl. Olivia Case was born just before the half-term holiday, weighing 6lb 6oz. I am sure the children will have the opportunity to meet Olivia soon. In other staffing news, Mrs McIntyre and Mrs Lees, who are both currently on maternity leave, both return to school later this half-term.

#### **World Maths Day**

Congratulations to all the children for their fabulous costumes on World Maths Day. The children had a very busy and full day participating in maths themed lessons and workshops. Thank you especially to the parents who volunteered to come into school to carry out maths activities and talks with the children.

#### **GB Athlete Visit**

We are very much looking forward to our visit from Great British Paralympian, Anna Jackson. Children will be taking part in sponsored fitness circuit training sessions and will have the opportunity to participate in a question and answer session. Further information regarding this event was contained in a separate letter, sent out early last week.

#### **World Book Day**

Just a reminder that World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This is always a hugely eventful and enjoyable day, and I am sure we will once again be very impressed by the costumes on show. Fingers crossed for good weather, so that our parade is able to go ahead.

#### **Swimming**

Classes 4C and 3W go swimming this half term. Class 4C will attend swimming each day during the week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Class 3W will attend each day beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. More information will follow soon.

#### **Y2 / Y3 Mini-Olympics**

We look forward to welcoming the Year 2 children from Brackenwood Infant School on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Year 3 children are busy planning and preparing a Mini-Olympics event, which they will run for the Year 2 children during the afternoon session.

#### **Whole School Attendance**

Whole School attendance has risen from 94.3% at the end of the Autumn term to 95.1%. Please help us to ensure this figure continues to rise by ensuring your child attends school whenever possible and by avoiding requests for authorised absence unless absolutely essential. Our current practice is to write to parents of any pupil whose attendance drops to below 92%. Any pupil whose attendance drops below 90% meets the government's threshold for a "persistent absentee".

### **Supporting Pupils with Reading**

I recently wrote to you with information regarding improvements to our provision for reading in school. We regularly speak to children about reading and we have seen a noticeable increase in the number of children who tell us they enjoy reading and who are reading regularly at home. If your child is not already doing so, please encourage them to read for a short amount of time at home each day, and to ensure their reading records are completed and sent into school. Thank you for your support.

### **Road Safety**

We have received reports from parents and local residents that the situation regarding parking and congestion on Norbury Avenue at pick-up and drop-off times has improved a little in recent weeks. Thank you to those of you who use Norbury Avenue for showing greater consideration towards the safety of our children and well-being of local residents.

### **Forthcoming Diary Dates:**

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February                             | Pupils and staff in                  |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February                           | World Maths Day                      |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March                                 | GB athlete visiting school           |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March                                | Y4 Safari Park trip                  |
| Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March                              | Y5 Liverpool Philharmonic trip (pm)  |
| Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March                               | World Book Day                       |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March                                 | 4C Swimming all week (2:00 – 3:00)   |
| Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March                                | 3W Swimming all week (2:00 – 3:00)   |
| Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March                               | Y2 and Y3 Mini Olympics (pm)         |
| Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March                              | Y6 Fun Food Chef<br>BFG Spring Disco |
| Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March                               | Y5 and Y6 to WGSB for music concert  |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April | School Closed for Spring Break       |