

## **Werrington Primary School**

### **Newsletter**

**March 2018**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have found myself looking back over this term wondering doesn't time fly? I cannot quite believe we are on the brink of the Summer Term. It seems that Winter has not quite finished – snowy weather is still in the forecast to coincide with the holiday period. If you are venturing out and about I wish you all safe journeys.

#### **WPS Fund Raising – NEWS**

I am delighted to share with you the total raised by you in respect of Sport Relief and NSPCC was a massive £2336.79. This is a truly massive total which we are delighted to be able to share with both charities. This really will make a difference and we can all feel very proud of the combined efforts and amazing support.

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Details of the FREE Easter Egg Hunt being held at Welbourne Primary School on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> 2-4pm, can be gathered from the School Office.

#### **Soke Education Trust – NEWS**

Since January the Pupil Ambassador initiative was launched – further activities are planned for the Summer term including sporting and singing inter school opportunities. The Teaching Staff from Werrington, Wittering, John Clare and Gunthorpe schools have met to moderate Teacher Assessment of English and Mathematics. This has enabled judgements to be confirmed and a valuable opportunity for sharing good practise.

#### **New Chair of Governors**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Simon Milburn who has given fantastic service to our school as Chair of the Governing Body over recent years. In the timely manner a new Chair has been appointed and without wishing to steal any thunder please see a message from Miriam Wood below.

#### **Summer Term**

We return to school on April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 the start of the Summer Term. All of the pupil's great efforts start to combine as Teachers skilfully navigate through to complete Teacher Assessments, Phonics Screening Checks and SAT's to name a few milestones. Well done everyone, we do appreciate your support working with school to ensure the children achieve their very best.

#### **Ben Wilding – Headteacher/CEO**

#### **Governors News**

**A message from the Chair of Governors – Miriam Wood:** I am proud and privileged to say that I am now the chair of Governors at Werrington primary school. I have a long association as a parent with Werrington as my eldest son, who started school in 2003, is shortly going off to University if all goes to plan. My middle son, who started at Werrington in 2006, is taking his GCSE exams this year and my youngest son is currently in year 5. There have been many ups and downs in their school journeys as I'm sure you have all experienced, with your own children, at some stage. One thing they all have in common is the enduring friendships they have all made at Werrington. They have also had some amazing and inspiring teachers along the way. In my opinion, this is what really sets WPS apart from other schools. Those other schools also look up to WPS as an example of great teaching practice. Our children could not be in better hands. We are now entering into a new phase now that we have become an academy. This can only lead to even more opportunities for the children and staff to grow and fulfil their potential.

### **Soke Education Trust – Chris Pennell Chair of Resources Committee**

On 1st January 2018, Werrington Primary School successfully converted into an academy as part of the newly formed Soke Education Trust multi-academy trust (MAT). The other schools joining the trust are John Clare in Helpston, Wittering Primary School, and Gunthorpe Primary School.

The new MAT means that there is now a new governance structure as the local authority is no longer involved in the funding of the school or providing many services. The MAT has a board of Trustees who are ultimately responsible and accountable for the whole trust; and each school retains its local governing body as before. The schools' local governing bodies continue to monitor and be accountable for individual school budget setting and review, achievement and standards in each school, and certain other delegated decision-making.

Parents should be reassured that the governors at WPS will continue to support and challenge the head teacher and work to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children at the school. The new MAT offers many new and exciting opportunities for WPS, such as inter-school collaboration, teachers and heads sharing best practise, economies of scale when purchasing external services, and the chance for future growth and expansion. All the schools will continue to retain their individual identities and character, and make the most of their new partners in the MAT.

**Chair of Achievement and Standards Committee Charlotte Ollerton** - I am a school governor and I help on the standards and achievements committee. Our conversations are all focused around the SIP – School Improvement Plan.

Each meeting we hear about the children's progress and the measures being put in place to ensure each child is meeting their potential. We also look at how areas of weakness are being strengthened. We check that all groups, genders and abilities are being given equal opportunity and that the children in this school are all safe and happy.

We also get to visit in school and hear more about the creative, memorable and relevant learning opportunities that are being put together for our children. (The best part!) It sounds like during Science Technology Engineering & Maths week outer space come to visit? The upper school have an amazing new book area. Reading interest is rocketing (excuse the pun!) and the amount of times tables rock-gods and rock legends in KS2 is on the increase. I am not sure how many triangles reception found on their shape walk around the village but this is evidence of another lovely learning opportunity being given to our kids.

This year we have popped in to hear about enterprise week, health and safety around the school, safeguarding, new reading and writing initiatives, sports funding and facilities, EYFS play provision, girls maths and pupil premium - to name a few.

It is great to be part of a school and team that is bursting with aspiration and energy for our children.

### **WPS Governors**