



## Newsletter – Autumn 2018

*Autumn is a bitter sweet time; enjoying the lingering warmth from the summer sun while knowing that those chilly mornings are a sign of things to come. We have been so fortunate this half term that the long summer has continued and even into October we are still playing on the field at Breaks and Lunchtimes and enjoying the restored play equipment, Forest Schools Area and Outdoor Learning on a daily basis. Harvest Festival was a little different this year with Foundation Stage enjoying their own celebrations of the season and sharing with family and friends in school; the songs and activities being enjoyed by all. At Harvest Festival in church Alan updated us of the ways in which we are making a difference to the children of the Liverpool Community School in Sierra Leone; our generous donations providing valuable water stations to improve sanitation at the school. Produce and dried food brought to school has now been carefully packed and sent to the Ashby Food Bank where it will make a big difference to the lives of children on our locality. Thank you for your support in both these projects.*

*Sue Rainbow*

### Safeguarding Updates

Safeguarding the wellbeing of all members of our school community is of paramount importance to us at Willesley. With this in mind we intend to include updates, on our newsletters, of any issues we feel it would be beneficial for everyone to know about.

### Allergies

There are many children with allergies in school. We are a **nut free school** and as such there should be no snacks or lunches that contain nuts. We also ask children not to share food so that the risks are reduced. For some children this poses a very serious risk to life.

### Images

Could we reiterate that images sent on Weduc should not be screen shot and used on other social media sites. There are families who do not want images to be viewed outside of school use. We would ask you to enjoy the photos but respect the privacy of others and not put them onto other areas.

### Transport to school

As the winter weather descends could we ask you to think carefully about travelling to and from school. If by car, please be courteous when you park. Our local residents are also our neighbours too. If on foot, please be aware of those walking alongside you; keeping footpaths clear for small children to walk safely. For those using scooters and bikes, we would suggest that after half term only those accompanied by an adult should be using this mode of transport. If you bring your dog to school please ensure it stays out of the school grounds; joining the Willesley Crufts line-up.

Thank you for your understanding in these matters.

**Harvest Festival** - We were thrilled to have Alan Wolstencroft join us during our Harvest Festival. He spoke about how our money has been spent and the positive impact our project is having on the Liverpool Community School in Sierra Leone. We have already raised a huge £1,200 and the money given in church will be added to that total. Our Harvest collection this year raised £364 – thank you. There will be a 'colourful' fundraiser next term to look forward to and we will be seeing Alan again soon. Thank you for your continued support.



**Year 6 Residential** – Year 6 enjoyed a return to summer during their first residential visit to Manor Adventure in Norfolk. It was a fun filled week for all involved – please enjoy the photographs on Weduc to see the full picture.

**Year 2 Tennis** – Year 2 have really enjoyed their tennis taster sessions with Alex and Tom from Ashby Castle Tennis Club



**School Administration** – a big thank you from the school office team for everyone engaging with the new Weduc app. Almost all parents are now using this to receive messages, letters and calendar events. As we move forward, absence reporting and event permission forms will start to be used.

A thank you too for enabling the school to become cashless by using ParentPay – this has made many efficiencies in the school office and is more secure for everyone.

If any parents need support with any of our new technologies, please see Lisa, Linda or Jo in the office who will be happy to help.

**The Local Governing Board of Ashby Willesley Primary School** met on 26 September 2018 and I am delighted to have been voted in as the new Chair of Governors. This comes at the start of my 7<sup>th</sup> year on the board, and having seen so many changes in those years, I am excited to be in the position as we embark upon the school's 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

At the same meeting Simon Thompson was voted as Vice Chair. I look forward to working with Simon to develop further the recent school success.

Please take a look at the school website and familiarise yourself with the members of the Board: the majority of us are parents/grandparents of children at Willesley and can be found at the school gates regularly. Please do approach us and talk with us. We are responsible for the strategic direction of the school and welcome the input of all stakeholders.

With 419 children now on role, the school is at near capacity and is thriving. Every member of staff works exceptionally hard and actively pursues the school's belief that every child matters - we are very lucky at Willesley to have such an experienced and committed team.

Enjoy the half term break!

Lynn Knox  
Chair of Governors  
[lknox@willesley.leics.sch.uk](mailto:lknox@willesley.leics.sch.uk)

**Willesley Association of School and Parents (WASPs)** – Last year was a successful year for us and with the support of family, friends and staff, we raised an incredible £5,600 to enable us to fund 16 iPads, playground equipment, interactive whiteboards as well as welcome and farewell events and gifts for our oldest and youngest pupils at school. In addition to this, £1,760 has already been allocated this term to help fund the whole school biannual pantomime trip.

We have had another great start to the new school year for WASPs. Lots of new faces attended our first meeting of the year last month. A big thank you to all of the enthusiastic new members who joined us and have already become fully involved with events, ideas and planning. We love to see new faces and hear new ideas, so if anyone else would like to join us, come along to our next meeting or just send us some new fundraising ideas, please contact us at [ashbywillesleywasps@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ashbywillesleywasps@hotmail.co.uk).

In addition to our WASP members, who attend our meetings, we have a dedicated team of parents and friends who form an invaluable group of helpers at events. Without this team of willing volunteers, it would not be impossible to run the larger events during the school year. Please email us if you are able to help us at any events this year. **The continued support from family and friends is greatly appreciated and integral to the continued success of fundraising for Ashby Willesley Primary School.**

Our first event this year was the 'Welcome to Willesley' party for the foundation children and parents. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the event and to the parents, friends and children who attended. Fun was had by all!

The WASPs noticeboards (on the wall by the purple gates and outside the Acorns' playground) have recently been updated with key up-to-date information. They tell you who is on our team, give event information, dates for your diary, as well as other useful information.

We have a 'Star Foundation' red donations container next to the parent shelter. The Star Foundation recycles unwanted items including clothes, shoes, CD/DVDs, books and videos and the school receives a donation linked to the weight in kilograms of the items we collect. As well as this monetary donation, the Star Foundation provides the school with 3 free activity days per year. Therefore, the more donations we receive for the Star Foundation, the more our children benefit. Please support us by donating as much as you can!



Second hand uniform sales have been held this week at school. We aim to hold another sale at some point towards the end of the Autumn Term, so please save any unwanted items of uniform that are in good condition and leave them in the school office. Any items we cannot sell will be donated to the Star Foundation.

**Christmas Fundraiser:** Due to the popularity in previous years, a local company will again this year turn your child's artwork into unique personalised items. In the past, these have made beautiful Christmas presents for family and friends. For your convenience, all orders will be made online and either delivered to school or your home address. More information will follow shortly.



**Diary Dates** – More information to follow

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December - Festive Fair

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Chocolate Bingo

**As always, thank you to all for your continued support/help with our fundraising. With your help, we will continue to raise as much as we can to benefit our school.**

*Have a restful half term and we will see  
you all back in school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup>  
October*



Dear Parents.

Concerns have recently been brought to my attention regarding vehicles at morning drop-off and afternoon collection times.

The issues include vehicles obstructing the footpaths, blocking resident's driveways, and parking at the junction of Packington Nook Lane and Tamworth Road which causes poor visibility for drivers who are looking left, whilst trying to turn right onto the main road.

The main concern is for the safety of the children and their parents or carers who are pedestrians.

The second concern is for other road users.

And last but not least, the third concern is for local residents who understand the need for parents to drop off and collect their children, but at the same time are frustrated that their access is being blocked and that vehicles are being parked in dangerous/poor positions.

I would therefore appeal to parents who convey their children to school by vehicle, to consider the issues that I have mentioned above.

Please can I remind you that Rule 243 of The Highway Code states:

**DO NOT** stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
- on the approach to a level crossing/tramway crossing
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- near the brow of a hill or hump bridge
- opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
- where you would force other traffic to enter a tram lane
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property
- on a bend
- where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities

**except** when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

Also, drivers of vehicles who cause Unnecessary Obstruction face being issued with a £30 Fixed Penalty Notice.

My colleagues and I will be carrying out patrols of the area when possible, to ensure drivers are parking safely and with courtesy.

Thank you for your help in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

PC 1667 Mark Arjoo  
North West Leicestershire Police

Dedicated Neighbourhood Officer - Ashby.