



# News from the Nest

6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers, Children and Families,



I hope you have had a good Summer holiday with your children and families, and that they return ready and refreshed for an exciting Autumn Term at Wren's Nest.



For me, the Summer break offers time for great reflection. It allows me to look at all we have achieved as a school community during the previous school year, but also time to plan and look at what we need to do next in the year ahead to continue to offer the best possible school and education for the families and children of Wren's Nest. Last year was another good year for the school and its community - for a number of reasons.

We have had lots of highlights throughout the school year - the King's Coronation Celebrations, Our Sports Festivals, our Year 6 Celebrations to name just a few, but for me, a particular highlight has been the children's attitude to school life. Throughout the year, I have had many requests from both other schools and professionals to come and visit Wren's Nest. Everyone who visits comments on the children's manners, their attitude to their learning, that they show they are proud of their school and are extremely welcoming to anyone who visits. That in itself makes me a very proud headteacher - that's what makes us as a school stand out and that is part of 'Being the difference in Dudley.'

At the end of the year, I shared our 'Highlights of the Year' assembly with the children (available on the school website if you too want to share our highlights.) It was a wonderful recollection of memories from the year, as well as celebrating another fantastic year of learning including the recognition of achieving both our Platinum Sports Award and our Gold Woodland Trust Award. The photographs inside this newsletter are some taken from that

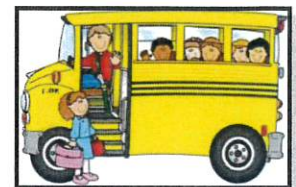


assembly (it was a tough job to choose only a few!) and highlight just how much enjoyment the children have with their learning - both in school and through a range of experiences - we couldn't be more proud of each and every one of them. Wren's Nest is well and truly on the map for great things and the recognition it and its community deserves. Thank you for everything you as families do to support us - we would not be the school we are without you all.



This coming academic year, our school curriculum will continue to develop and flourish, and we are very proud of the Enrichment Programme we offer our children. This wide programme of activities - which includes visits and enrichment experiences - motivate the children and enhance their learning within our curriculum. Our programme is highly regarded amongst other Dudley schools as one of the best Enrichment Programmes around, for both value for money and the range of experiences offered. We are excited to be offering our Enrichment Programme again for another year - full of visitors to come into school, after school clubs, in-school clubs, Breakfast Club, WOW Days, Enrichment Days as well as visits out to enhance the curriculum which take place outside of the classroom.

The recent years have brought many 'silver linings' to Wren's Nest - both in school with us finding alternative and better ways of doing things, and 'thinking outside the box' to achieve the best for you - our families - as well as highlighting the importance of community and community spirit. I talk to the children regularly about what the definition of community is and what it means to be a community member, as well as the importance of having respect for others and taking pride in the school community, again, 'Being the difference in Dudley'. As we begin another academic year together, it remains a privilege for me to serve you the school community as Headteacher, and for me and the whole school team to provide the best learning opportunities and school experiences for both your child/ren and for you as parents and carers.



I hope you and your child/ren enjoy a great start to the new term. Please, if you wish to discuss anything, don't hesitate to contact the school office. The door is always open, and I and the school team are here and happy to help.

As always, take care,

Sarah Parkes - Headteacher



### Important information - Letters and forms

Together with this newsletter, there is additional information for you.

We decided that it was easier to give you all the letters at one time in an envelope to prevent them getting lost in children's trays or book bags! All information you give will be updated and recorded in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations and the Schools' Privacy Notice.

Included in this pack, you have our **School Privacy Notice** and a **School Term Dates** card in addition to:

**Contact details - time to update!** (Green form) - Once again, we are updating the information record to ensure we have the most recent telephone numbers and contact details for you and your child. These details are essential in case we need to contact you urgently or contact a close relative if you are unavailable. **Please only complete and return this form if your details have changed since last September, either by giving it via their class teacher or by hand into the main school office.**

**Permission for local visits** (Blue form) - Each year we need to ask you to complete a permission form to enable your child to take part in activities in the local area outside the school gates. These activities are always planned and you will be informed before such activities take place. **Please complete this form and return it via your child to their class teacher. We have many local area visits to look forward to and enjoy during this Autumn Term.**

**Parental Contribution to Enrichment Programme** (Pale pink form) - Our Enrichment Programme will be continuing for the children here at Wren's Nest. This will include trips and visits to offsite venues, visitors and speakers into school, Enrichment Days, WOW days, our small group tuition programme, our Free Early Birds Breakfast club as well as a range of after-school clubs and activities for your children to take part in. This year, we are asking for a £20 monetary contribution per child to support us in allowing this wonderful and valuable programme to continue. As you can appreciate, sadly all costs across all sectors have increased. This year, school are providing £55,000 to fund the programme and your contribution will support us in trying to give your children as many enrichment opportunities as possible to support their learning. We really do value the contribution you are able to make on behalf of your child. Thank you for helping us do the best for your children's education. **Please complete the form and return it to the school office.**

#### Parents' Evening

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Year 3,  
Sunflowers and Rainbow Room

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October for Year 4, 5 and 6, Pumas,  
Shooting Stars and The Pod  
4pm - 6pm

Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!

At Wren's Nest, we really value the importance of a strong relationship between parents and our school. Your child only has one chance with his/her education and it is important that we get it right!

As we have done previously, you will be given a time slot for you to see your child's teacher. This is time for you to celebrate the achievements your child has had during the start of the new school year, as well as having dedicated time to talk to your child's class teacher.

Please take the opportunity to come and see your child's work and discuss their progress.

More details will be given regarding this closer to the time. **Watch this space!**

#### Useful Contacts:

School Website:  
[www.wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk)

School Email:  
[info@wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@wrens-nest.dudley.sch.uk)

School Mobile number:  
[07858 986604](tel:07858986604)  
[07856 674181](tel:07856674181)

#### Holiday Dates

Staff INSET days - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023,  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

Half Term: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

End of Term: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023, returning on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

#### VERY Advance Notice!

##### **Key Stage 2 SATs week:**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May - Thursday  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2024

##### **Year 4 Multiplication tests:**

Week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024  
(2-week period)

##### **Year 1 Phonics Screening Check week:**

Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024