

October 2023 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that we are already more than halfway through our first half term! So much has already happened with our new Reception and Nursery classes joining us, trips starting to support pupil learning, the use of our Now Press Play resources and lots of pupils preparing for positions of pupil leadership. Throughout the school we can see our values of Ambition, Resilience and Respect being shown all day- our pupils make us so proud!

**Prefects and Head Pupils**

It was a very special moment this week when we announced our head pupils and prefects for the year. Competition was fierce! We had 27 applicants from our cohort of 60- almost half of the children feel so passionate about our school that they want to take on a leadership role – this makes me feel incredibly proud. The calibre of speeches surpassed any that I have seen before. The children had put so much thought into what they wanted to say, how they could make a difference and had clearly practised their speeches in advance.

Unfortunately, not everyone can be chosen and so the school held a democratic vote. Next week we hope that the blazers will arrive so that we can share the photos of our new pupil leadership team.

**Reception Places**

It seems like the time at school passes in a flash – already it is time to start thinking about where your child will go to school if you have a child turning four before September. We believe that Conway offers your child the best start to their education and we will be holding open sessions: October 26th 10-11am and 1:30-2:30pm then 21st November 9:30-10:30 am. This will give you a chance to look around the school and speak to the senior leaders and Reception staff. There is no need to book – just turn up on the day.

**Year Six Secondary Transfer**

Thank you to all of the parents who attended our transition meeting last week, it was great to see so many of you there. As a reminder, you must submit your secondary transfer form by 31st October. This falls in the half term. If you require assistance to complete the form, please make an appointment to see Mrs Shafiq in advance. If you do not submit your form in time, you are unlikely to get your first choice and your child will be allocated a school that has spaces once all other applications have been processed.

**Attendance**

As a school we are aiming for all pupils to have a minimum of 97% attendance. It is vital that all pupils are in school and learning wherever possible to be able to provide the best possible attendance.

This week attendance has been:



Please work with the school to ensure that your child attends as much as possible to enable them to have the best possible education. We also have many children coming into school saying they are tired. It is vital that children get enough sleep – if you are struggling with bedtimes, please ask the inclusion team for advice.

**Mobile Phones**

When you come onto the school grounds, for safeguarding purposes, please do not use your mobile phone. We are finding that we ask parents as they enter the grounds, parents put their phone away and then get it out again once they have walked past. Please do not do this, it sets a very bad example to the children and also puts you at risk of safeguarding accusations.

**Parking**

Parking, particularly on the Conway Road, is becoming very dangerous. Please do try to leave earlier to allow time to park safely. If you block someone in – be prepared to apologise. This week we have had a parent block in a resident. When asked to not block them in they became verbally abusive. This is unacceptable and has been reported to the police. The police attended Conway at home-time on Monday and have begun issuing tickets for illegal parking. On the same note, it is important that the car park gate remains accessible at all times. We are finding more and more that staff are unable to access the car park in the morning - we start very early! It also means that should the emergency services need to access the site, they would be unable to.

**Uniform**

Most of our children are looking very smart in their uniforms and it is lovely to see the sea of blue across the school. As a reminder- skirts and trousers are not permitted to be worn together; it is one or the other. No hoop or dangly earrings can be worn – this is for safety reasons. School shoes should be plain black – no colourful trainers! On PE days all pupils should come to school in their PE kit. This kit includes wearing their blue school jumper – not a hoody or zip up top. On PE days these year groups may wear trainers.

**Stay and Play**

We are eager to engage more with our community before they even become a part of our #ConwayCrew and so we have been delighted with the success of our Stay and Play sessions. These are open to anyone in the community (you don’t have to have a child already at Conway) with a child from newborn to school age and will be free. There will be squash and a biscuit, lots of singing and stories with the children and a chance for parents to make new friends over a cuppa. Please do spread the word to anyone you know with a young child and join us every Friday from 8:45-10:00.

Best wishes,

Mrs Eaton