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[www.walesbyschool.org.uk](http://www.walesbyschool.org.uk)

28<sup>th</sup> September 2011

## **Autumn Term Update 2011**

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to our first termly update of the academic year. Now into week 4 of the Autumn term and the summer break seems a very distant memory! We have had a great start, with successful activities such as Tudor Day and last week's European Day of Languages. Thank you to Mrs. Abbott for her role in organising these events.

### **Summer Buildings Work**

As I'm sure you're all aware, there has been substantial buildings work completed over the 6 week break, with the office and staffroom being relocated and a new parent entrance built. I hope you agree that they have been a worthwhile undertaking and have improved the layout and functionality of the school. We are just awaiting a few finishing touches such as new signs for the entrance, but we're almost there!

### **School Grounds**

As part of the continued site improvements we have also looked at how the school grounds are used. The previous 'wildlife area' & pond have now been levelled in preparation for a new 'quiet zone' for pupils, which the School Council are currently designing. This will be a landscaped area providing shelter and seating, where pupils are able to sit quietly at breaks, read & talk together. It may also be used as an outdoor classroom. My thanks to the 'Friends of Walesby' PTA who have agreed to fund the project.

The previously unusable football pitch at the rear of the school has now been levelled and re-seeded and we will be having some new permanent goalposts fitted. Not only will this area be used for football, but also P.E and other sports. This should be ready to use by the Spring half-term and provide a better location for our Summer sports day.

### **Site Access**

The additional security fencing, gates and intercom systems are now complete. There are now only two points of access into school during the day. Can I ask that all parents & carers please use the pedestrian entrance on New Hill. The gate is on a time-lock, so will be open for morning drop off from 8.30a.m to 8.55a.m and from 2.55p.m for pick up. If you are running late or the gate is locked for any reason, please press the intercom button to be let in.

## **Safeguarding**

We are currently updating our Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy and procedures in line with new county guidelines. Once complete, this will be placed on the Child Protection section of the school website ([www.walesbyschool.org.uk](http://www.walesbyschool.org.uk)). I would be grateful if parents & carers could please take time to have a look. A text will be sent to let you know when it is available.

For your information, there are three designated members of staff for Safeguarding. These are myself, Mr. Buckley and Mrs. Cooper. Should you have any concerns regarding a child at our school, then please let us know. It is our 'duty of care' to act upon the information you give us.

## **New Appointments**

Congratulations to Mr. Buckley, who has just been appointed as Assistant Head. The role will officially begin at the start of next term, January 2012. Mrs. Cooper has been appointed as senior teacher for the school management team. My thanks to them both for their support during their time as Acting Deputies.

## **School Uniform**

The new uniform is now in stock and available from Mrs. Booth in the school office. For any new starters or parents unsure of correct uniform, the guidelines are as follows:

- **Plain white shirt / blouse / polo-shirt**
- **Navy blue jumper / sweatshirt / cardigan**
- **Dark grey or black trousers / skirts / shorts (summer term only)**
- **White, black or grey socks**
- **Black indoor shoes (plus outdoor shoes for journey to school, breaktimes etc.)**
- **P.E Kit – Plain white t-shirt and dark blue or black shorts, with plimsolls or trainers.**

Please could all uniform have children's names written in as this ensures that any clothing left around school is returned to the correct owner. Can we also ask that all skirts & shorts are of a reasonable length i.e. just above the knee. Thank you.

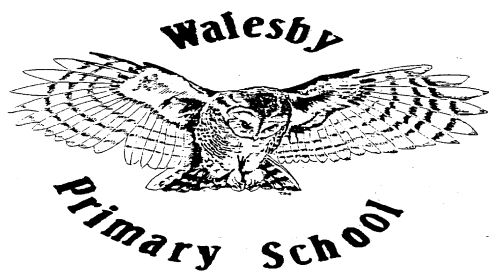
As a school, we are hoping to build on the success of previous years and are working hard to raise the already good standards. Should you have any comments or suggestions, please complete the attached parent feedback form.

May I take this opportunity to say thank you for the support you gave us last year. I look forward to seeing you around school and at the many events that are taking place. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me if you have any queries regarding this letter, or wish to discuss any matters with myself or our staff.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. P. Rust  
*Head Teacher*





## Diary Dates 2011/12

- 4<sup>th</sup> Oct – Friends of Walesby (PTA) Annual General Meeting 6p.m in school.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Oct – Harvest Festival 2p.m at St.Edmund's Church.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Oct – NSPCC sponsorship money collection.
- 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Oct – School Bookfair.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parents' Evening (General Progress) 3.30p.m – 6p.m.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Oct – Parents' Evening (continued) 3.30p.m – 5p.m.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Oct – Friends of Walesby Halloween Disco 6.30p.m – 8.30p.m.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Oct – Last day of half-term.

### HALF-TERM BREAK

- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct – INSET training day (*school closed for pupils*).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – School Re-opens for pupils.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nov – Christmas Fayre 6p.m-8p.m.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec – Nativity Play at 1.30p.m (Classes Palmer/Downes & Sutton).
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec – Nativity Play at 6p.m (Classes Palmer/Downes & Sutton).
- 9<sup>th</sup> Dec – Playgroup Nativity 11.30a.m at St. Edmund's Church followed by Christmas Party at the Village Hall.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Dec – School Christmas Dinner.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec – Classes Abbott, Cooper & Buckley Christmas Party.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec - Classes Palmer/Downes & Sutton Christmas Party.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – Carol Service 2p.m at St. Edmund's Church / Last day of term.

### CHRISTMAS BREAK

- 4<sup>th</sup> Jan - School Re-opens for pupils.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Feb - Last day of half-term.

### HALF-TERM BREAK

- 20<sup>th</sup> Feb - School Re-opens for pupils.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar – Parents' Evening (Maths/English) 3.30p.m – 6p.m.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Mar – Parents' Evening (Maths/English) 3.30p.m – 5p.m.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Mar - Easter Service 2p.m at St.Edmund's Church.
- 30<sup>th</sup> Mar– Friends of Walesby Easter Egg Hunt (p.m) / Last day of term.

### EASTER BREAK

- 16<sup>th</sup> Apr – School Re-opens for pupils.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> Apr – Year 4/5 residential to Ilam Hall.
- 14<sup>th</sup> May – SATs week.
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May – PGL Activity weekend.

- 21<sup>st</sup> May – Walesby Scout Camp Activity day (for Year 3/4/5/6 pupils not on PGL).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Jun - Last day of half-term.

#### HALF-TERM BREAK

- 11<sup>th</sup> Jun - School Re-opens for pupils.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Jun - INSET training day (*school closed for pupils*).
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Jun – Year 6 Residential visit to Lulworth Cove.
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Jul – Year 3 Residential visit to Sherwood YHA.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Jul – Sports Day (a.m).
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jul – Year 6 Leavers' day out.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Jul – Leavers' Assembly (p.m) / Last day of school year.

*Please Note:* We will let you know of any amendments or additional dates as soon as possible throughout the year.