12th January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you had a lovely, relaxing Christmas and great start to 2017.

I am pleased to announce that we raised lots of money at the end of term merit assembly. The raffle, tombolas and auction raised £1085, the art sale £235 and the school magazine £50. Well done everyone for supporting school and a special thank you to the PTA for organising the activities. We still have some pupil’s framed art work, so if you would like to buy it for £5 just let the office know.

**PE Kits**

PE lessons have started again so please can you ensure your child’s PE kit is in school. Children need a white t-shirt, dark shorts and pumps or trainers. As the children often go out for PE they are allowed to wear tracksuits…some like to wear hat and gloves too!

**Medicine**

Occasionally your child may need to take medicine in school time. We can administer ‘over the counter’ Paracetamol and prescribed medication from a doctor if you have filled in a medication form. **We are not allowed to administer Ibuprofen**. If paracetamol is required for just one day then an accompanying letter stating when the last dose was given, when the next dose is due and how much is to be given, should be sent into school. All medication, in its labelled box, must be passed to the escort by parents to hand over to school. Medication forms can be obtained from the school office and sent home if you phone school.

**Absence**

If your child is unwell please can you notify school on 678 8070 before 9am. Our school protocol is if we have not heard from you by 9am then Michelle will ring you to see if everything is ok.

**Holidays**

Please may I remind you that I am not allowed to authorise holidays in term time unless there is an exceptional circumstance. Holiday forms can be requested from the school office. The government states that a child’s attendance should be at least 95%. If your child is to make maximum progress at Orrets they need to attend every day as our strategies involve overlearning techniques. Just one day off school can lead to your child falling behind and losing confidence.

**Barstondale**

Can I remind Year 6 parents that a £50 deposit needs to be paid before the end of February. School has already paid a large deposit at the end of December for each child whose parent confirmed they wanted to attend. Barnstondale residential is an exciting opportunity for pupils to gain independence, confidence, team building skills, outdoor skills and life skills. Please make sure you are putting money aside if your child is attending. At the end of Year 6 assembly Barnstondale is usually the children’s favourite memory of Orrets Meadow.

**High Sheriff Visit**

On the 27th January the High Sheriff is visiting Orrets Meadow to officially present us with ‘Primary School of the Year’ in the Merseyside Sports Awards. The High Sheriff is the Queen’s representative and he performs her duties in her absence. He will be attending in full costume and we are honoured that he is coming to our assembly. What an exciting event for all our pupils to witness.

**Dates for the Diary**

13th Jan Dance workshop – all classes

17th Jan Class 7 sketching of Liverpool waterfront

18th Jan 9.30am Parent coffee morning – Michelle leading

19th Jan Judo – 5 weeks x 1 hour – Class 6 (Mr Kophamel)

27th Jan High Sheriff visiting school

6th & 7th Feb Drama workshops @ Williamson Art Gallery – all classes

7th Feb 4pm PTA meeting – all welcome

14th Feb 9.30am Parent workshop – Supporting Maths – Mrs Billington

20th - 24th Feb Half Term

1st March 9.30 Parent workshop – Supporting Parent Mental Health – Thumbs UP

6th &7th March Emperor’s New Clothes Play @ Williamson Art Gallery – all classes

17th March Non Uniform Day – Bring in a bottle

22nd March Parent workshop – ASD and Sensory Processing – Mr Saul

24th March Non Uniform Day – Bring in chocolate

31st March 2pm End of term assembly

**Wednesday 19th April – school reopens for the Summer Term**

Thanks for your continued support

Mrs Duncan