



### Dates For Your Diary

#### January 2015

5th - INSET Day (School Closed for Staff Training)

20th - Young Voices at Sheffield Arena

#### January 2015

From January Miss Pendrigh and Mrs Warner will be on hand to answer any questions you may have in the absence of the Executive Head teacher Mrs Underwood; who will be in school and available on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

The day to day running of the school will continue as normal with all school policies and procedures remaining consistent. If you have any queries then please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance either at Meet and Greet or by email at [headteacher@parwich.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@parwich.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Don't forget you can also visit the school website at [www.parwich.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.parwich.derbyshire.sch.uk) for up to date information and advice regarding school life.

### Teaching Assistant Appointment

Miss Pendrigh, Mrs Tomblin and members of the governing body carried out interviews on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December to appoint a teaching assistant based primarily in KS1. They are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Samantha Lomas as the new permanent teaching assistant at Parwich Primary School from January 2015.

The temporary teaching assistant post to cover maternity leave in KS2, that was advertised with a closing date of December 14<sup>th</sup> 2014 will be shortlisted and interview arrangements will be made in January 2015.

### Lunch / Fruit Money - Junior Class only

For parents who wish to pay for their child's lunches for the half term the amount is £1.95 a day for 29 days at a total of **£56.55**, cheques payable to **Derbyshire County Council**. (If you are in credit/arrears you will receive a note home). A reminder to parents who pay weekly, please send payments for dinners to school on

**Monday morning** for the beginning of each week and that we need a weeks notice to swap to or from lunches to sandwiches.



Could all fruit money please be paid half-termly, at a total of **£2.90** (29 days x 10p), cheques payable to **Parwich Primary School**.

Dear Children and Parents,

As I prepare to leave Parwich Primary School may I take this opportunity to thank you for all the support and encouragement that you have offered to me throughout my time as Head teacher of Parwich Primary School. It has been an absolute privilege and pleasure to work with you all and I am genuinely sad to be leaving this wonderful school community.

Parwich is a very hard place to leave. It represents the very best of school communities, with charming children full of character, potential, and great compassion. Parwich parents have always been supportive, interested and proactive and have helped us to improve everything we do as the years have gone by. I will always be grateful for your encouragement; I very much appreciate that every success the school has achieved has been a result of our strong partnership.

I must put on record my deep appreciation of the unstintingly loyal support I have received from our staff who have shared the same deep commitment to the care and achievement of all our children. They are the most dedicated, nurturing and caring team of professionals any Head teacher could have wished to work with.

Behind the scenes, I have received loyal support from our Governing Body who cherish and care for Parwich Primary School and this community in a totally selfless and admirable way. I know they will continue to act as the critical friend steering the school to ensure it achieves the very best outcomes for all our children.

It matters greatly to me that Parwich continues to thrive but especially that it continues to put care for children's well-being, creativity and happiness first among all its priorities. As we have proved, academic success will follow if we stick to these principles. It is for these reasons that our Chair of Governors, Gill Harrison and I are delighted to confirm that Mrs Wendy Underwood will be the Executive Head teacher from January 2015 until Mrs Fiona Tomblin takes up the post permanently in April. I could not be leaving the school in safer hands and I know they will lead Parwich to even greater achievements next year and beyond.

Thank you for all your lovely gifts, cards and messages, I will miss you all very much.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. With thanks and every best wish for the future.

Caroline Rodgers  
Head teacher

### Relief Catering Assistants Wanted for Local Area

No guaranteed hours. £7.65 per hour including a living wage allowance.

Telephone: 08456058058 quoting DCC/14/1798 for an application pack or 01629 533891 for more information.

You can also look online at [www.jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk)

## **Parent Questionnaire Responses**

The questionnaires returned suggest that parents and carers are pleased with the aspects of our school that were surveyed. Parents are happy with the school, they believe their children feel safe at school and are making good progress. The children are well behaved and we do not tolerate bullying.

The vast majority of parents felt that the school was led and managed and that staff are approachable and provide a warm welcome. It was pleasing to know how well the school is thought of in the local community.

Like Marmite, homework was an area that was slightly more divisive. Although families were positive about the type of homework set, some families believe that there is too much whilst others believe that there was not enough. We must stress, that if you have issues with homework, then you must keep an open dialogue going with your class teacher, who will be receptive to your concerns and try to reach a happy compromise.

The governing body are continuing to raise their profile and the role they have in the strategic direction of school. Some parents seemed unsure of the governing bodies' role and questioned the impact the Parents Forum had on the development of the school. The Chair of Governors is currently looking at new approaches to ensure the partnership between parents and governors continues to go from strength to strength.

We appreciate the time that you have taken to complete our autumn questionnaire and the comments that you have made. We believe that as a school we are very fortunate to have such enthusiastic children and supportive parents, and we know that we can rely on your continued support into the future.

Please see the attached collated document with parent comments and the overall scores for each area.

Remember you can leave your views about Parwich Primary School anytime by visiting [www.parentview.org](http://www.parentview.org) – this is an area Ofsted use when they inspect schools to gauge the views of parents and carers.

## **Show and Tell/Personal Belongings in School**

Please gently discourage your child from bringing personal belongings into school unless it is a Show and Tell day. School days are extremely busy and staff need to ensure that lessons begin promptly and whilst it is wonderful to hear your child's enthusiasm for their possessions it can be a distraction and cause upset amongst the class. Can I also remind you that if items are brought into school staff cannot be held responsible for their safe keeping and again this can be distressing if objects go missing.