

# TENACRES FIRST SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER : SEPTEMBER 2013

### WELCOME FROM MRS WALTERS

Welcome back!

As we settle into a new school year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome old faces and new to Tenacres.

Welcome especially to our new Reception children and their grown-ups, who are fortunate to have a completed refurbished unit in which to learn

and play after extensive work over the summer holidays.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for their warm wishes and support as I take on the Acting Headship of what I believe to be a wonderful, happy place of learning. Rest assured that I will strive to ensure that the school continues

to achieve the excellent standards to which we have become accustomed.

On behalf of all staff, we look forward to working with you and your children and hope to see you at one of the school events in the coming year.

*Mrs J Walters*

#### Read all about:

- Our new Acting Headteacher, Mrs Walters
- School improvements
- Our new Home School Diaries
- Vouchers we are collecting
- Fundraising activities
- Staff vacancy
- A message from our Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator, Miss Begley
- Our upcoming Book Fayre
- Our latest speech & language tip
- Term and Diary Dates

### Message to our new Reception families

Mrs Poynton and Mrs Sabel want to say thank you to all our new families in Reception and well done to our new children for coming into class independently in the mornings.

They also want to thank everyone for coming along to Reception Reading Afternoon. It was such a successful afternoon they want to extend it and from next week start at 2.30pm.

*Mrs Poynton & Mrs Sabel*



## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

We hope you are as pleased as we are with the bright new Reception classrooms and sensory room. Apart from a few more window replacements these latest works complete our whole school refurbishment and we are sure you agree that Tenacres is looking fabulous!

You may have also noticed that we have a new traversing wall by the Tyre Park. This was



bought with money raised by Tenacres children during a 'Fire Fit Challenge' when they bravely completed circuits of our playground, some of it in the pouring rain! So we really hope they enjoy the fruits of their labour!



our bird feeder and beautiful sculpture that Tenacres pupils made at Arrow Vale last year.

This was very upsetting as well as very costly to put

On a less happier note, however, during the summer

when there was scaffolding on one side of our school, we had quite a lot of damage, mainly to the roof. New installations were ripped off and thrown into the courtyard, damaging

the damage right. Not only this but the individuals involved, some of whom it was reported were quite young, were putting themselves at great risk through climbing to such a height.

The Police are aware of and are dealing with the incidents.

## TUBS 4 TABLETS

Please collect [Tubs4Tablets](#) Tokens from special Flora tubs sold only at Tesco (they are on special offer at the moment, 2 for £2.00!). The tokens are on the internal foil cover, only on the special packs with the Tubs4Tablets logo on the front.

Please, please ask family and friends to collect them for us as

well. 100 tokens can be exchanged for an ASUS MeMO Pad touch-screen tablet!

Thank you so much!

**100 tokens = one brand new ASUS MeMO Pad™ 172.**



## GREEN FLAG SCHOOL

We are thrilled that Tenacres was recently awarded Green Flag for our ECO School efforts. The whole school continues to be involved with activities such as planting in the courtyard, developing our allotment area, recycling our waste paper and lots, lots more.

One activity which you can help us with and thank you to those

who already do, is to use the Textile Recycling Bank on our car park. It's a really good way of recycling clothing, shoes, handbags, towels, sheets, etc. and it helps raise funds for Tenacres. We have received £172.50 so far, since November last year!



'Helping tomorrow today'



Please collect/ask family and friends for Morrisons Let's Grow Vouchers for Tenacres. We always do really well and are able to order lots of resources for children to use in school from this promotion.

## HOME SCHOOL DIARIES

Thank you to everyone who came along to our year group meetings where we introduced this term's curriculum together with our new Home School Diaries.

We hope you have found the Diaries useful and we would appreciate any feedback you might have e.g. any other information that could be included next year.

They have gone down very well with the children and staff.

## Free school meals

If you qualify for free school meals (see below) and have not applied, please do so even if your child doesn't want to have the meals at the moment. School receives funding for all free school meal claims and children can choose if and when they wish to have a meal.

Qualifying criteria:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance—income based
- Employment and Support Allowance—income related
- Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act

1999

- Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit\*\* and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190.

\*\* children are eligible for Free School Meals for a four week period immediately after the parent/carer becomes unemployed, or reduces their hours to less than 16 hours a week, but is still in receipt of Working Tax Credit.

If you think you may qualify please collect a form from the Office.

## REMINDER - PAYING ONLINE

Please make use of our online payments facility where you can pay for all activities e.g. school meals, breakfast club, trips, etc. It is free and easy to use and saves us a lot of time and effort. Have a look at

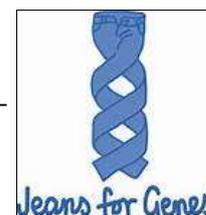
<https://www.civicaepay.co.uk/Worcestershire/>

[webpay\\_publicP4S/webpay/default.aspx](http://webpay_publicP4S/webpay/default.aspx)

You will need your child's PIN number; if you need reminding of this or want any help, please visit the office. Thank you.

## JEANS FOR GENES

Thank you to everyone who supported this event by wearing jeans to school. We are proud to report that Tenacres raised a grand total of £274 for this worthy cause. Well done everyone!



## A PLEA FROM STAFF

Please name all clothing, including P.E. kits and bags, lunch boxes and drinks bottles. It helps immensely in identifying stray items and returning them to their owners. Thank you.

## Join the team!

We are in need of Relief Dinner Supervisors to provide cover if needed. This would involve being called in to help children with their lunchtimes if we have a Dinner Supervisor absent. It is a really good way to help out at school, earn a bit of money and get a feel for working in a school environment. If you are interested, please give your details to Mrs Bacon, our Lead Lunchtime Supervisor which you can do through the Office if you wish.

## Book Fair

You are invited to our Book Fair after school on Monday 7th October in the School Hall. The popular Fair's are always a good place to grab some book bargains and dare we say it, start some Christmas shopping! School benefits from commission on every book sold so you will also be helping us to stock up on some lovely new books for our library!

## SPEECH & LANGUAGE TIP

**Sing together.** Learn the words to a song together. For younger ones it can be nursery rhymes, but pop songs can also work well. Learning songs involves listening, taking turns as well as singing.



## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR

Miss Begley will be starting her maternity leave at October half-term. During her absence Mrs Poynton (our Reception Teacher) will be taking over the role of Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. If you wish to meet with Miss Begley before she finishes, she will be available during our Parents Evenings on 23rd & 24th October. We wish Miss Begley, her partner, Dan and new baby all the best.

## Dates for your Diary

<b>September</b>	
Wednesday 25th	Year 3 visit to Hartlebury Museum
<b>October</b>	
Monday 7th	Book Fair
Tuesday 8th	Individual Photos
Wednesday 16th	Year 2 visit to Warwick Castle *
Wednesday 23rd	Parents Evening *
Thursday 24th	Parents Evening *
	Break up for Half Term
NB Friday 25th	Staff Training Day
<b>November</b>	
Monday 4th	Return to School
Thursday 7th	Open Day *
* more details to follow	

Check out our website at [www.tenacres.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.tenacres.worcs.sch.uk)

## Term Dates 2013/14

<b>Autumn Term 2013</b>	
Tue 3 September	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Wed 4 September	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Thu 5 September	Start of Term - School opens
Fri 25 October	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
28 October to 1 November	Half Term
Fri 20 December	End of Term - School closes for Christmas
<b>Spring Term 2014</b>	
Mon 6 January	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Tue 7 January	Start of Term - School opens
17 to 21 February	Half Term
Fri 11 April	End of Term - School closes for Easter
<b>Summer Term 2014</b>	
Mon 28 April	Start of Term - School opens
Mon 5 May	May Day Bank Holiday
26 to 30 May	Half Term
Mon 2 June	(Teacher Day - School closed to pupils)
Tue 22 July	End of Term - School closes for Summer



To  
Educate and  
Nurture  
All our  
Children to  
Realise  
Excellence and  
Success