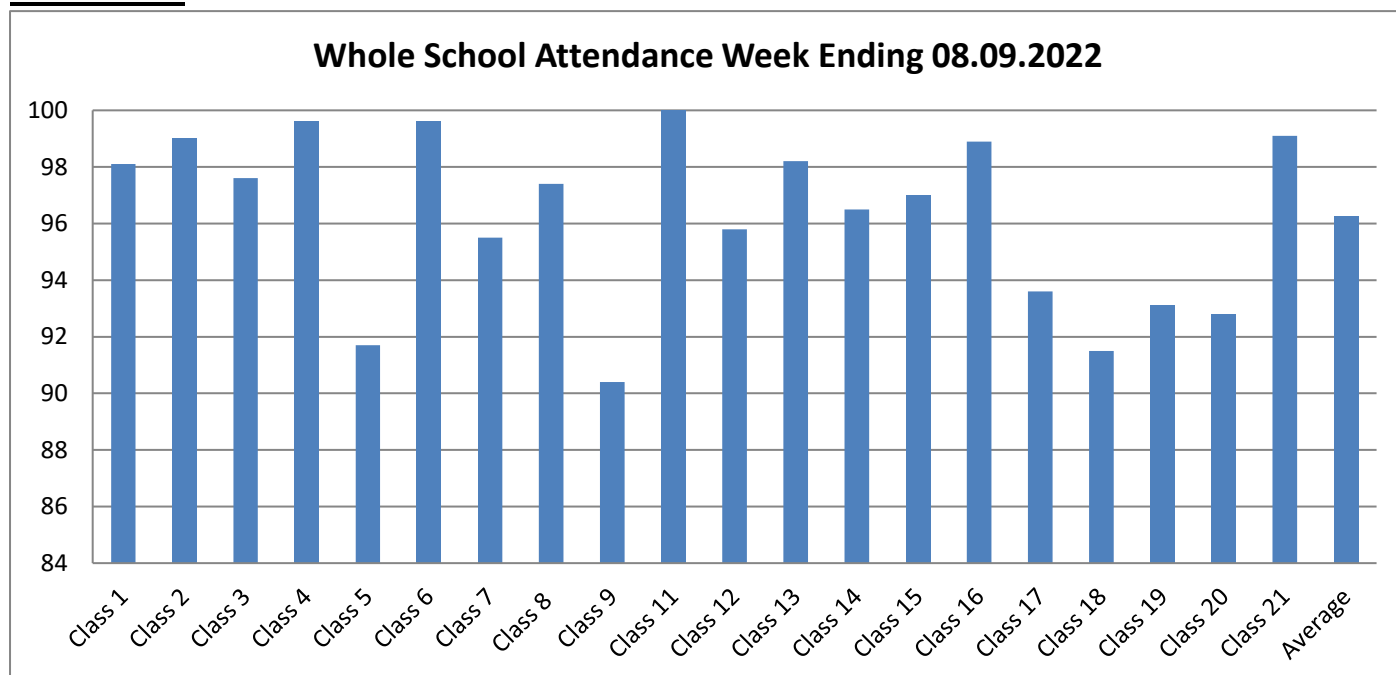




Parent Information Sheet – Thursday 15th September 2022

Attendance



Our target for the academic year is **95.7%**. Look at the graph above to see how your child's class is performing. The average attendance last week was **96.27%**, which is an excellent start to the new academic year and above our target. If you are having any issues with attendance at school, please contact Mr Jeff Hampshire who is our school liaison officer.

We will be contacting parents where there are any concerns around attendance at school. This includes pupils who are regularly late for school.

School Closure

Following the sad passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, Monday 19th September has been declared a National Bank Holiday. As a result, school will be closed on this day to allow all of us to pay our respects to Her Majesty and commemorate Her reign.

Prior to the summer holiday, we placed an order for book to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Sadly, the books arrived this week following the passing of Her Majesty. We will send the books home with pupils tomorrow as a celebration of everything the Queen has done for us during her long reign.

School Dinners

Attached to this parent information sheet is a letter from the Local Authority which explains the phased rollout of Primary Free School Meals for the youngest children from September 2022 onwards. If you have any questions regarding this information please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Parent Survey

The views of parents and carers are extremely important to us in assisting with our improvement processes. I would be extremely grateful if you could complete the survey by clicking on the link below:

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2F%2Fr5b2DXeVpk&data=05%7C01%7CGeorgeP6%40sch.caerphilly.gov.uk%7C6da7eb027a9c41c8ec8208da9635b067%7C4f3f0e52b734416494091b601d147993%7C0%7C0%7C637987454570644104%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=K25FaSpEfDc6Sx46qA%2FrttXZNQVn2W26yvJ9Ne%2BKlXY%3D&reserved=0>

Year 7 Applications

We are only at the beginning of year 6 but it is already time for you to apply for a place at your chosen High School. Attached to this parents information sheet is an information sheet, including a QR code, which explains how you can apply for a place. Please be aware that all applications must be received by 28th October 2022. Failure to apply by this date could result in your child not getting a place at your chosen High School.

Rock Stars

We have invested in a new maths resource to support our pupils in learning their times tables. This will be for pupils from year 2 to year 6. Rock Stars is a fun, interactive resource which I'm sure the pupils will really enjoy engaging with. Further information will be sent out from class teachers.

Junior Fruit

Junior pupils may purchase fruit from the fruit trolley on a daily basis during morning break. A piece of fruit is 20p and where possible, pupils should have the correct money to pay for their fruit on the day. This differs from the Foundation Phase where pupils pay for their fruit weekly or termly. Year 6 prefects will be on hand to support pupils and provide change when necessary.

INSET Day

Monday 7th November will be an INSET day in school. As a result school will be closed on this day.

Half-Term

School will close for half-term on Friday 28th October and reopen to pupils on Tuesday 8th November.

Mr C George
Headteacher

Mr G Jones
Chair of School Governors



Admission to Secondary School September 2023

As your child enters Year 6 it is now time for you to apply for
their place in secondary school

You must apply by 28th October 2022

You can apply by visiting www.caerphilly.gov.uk and searching for
school admissions or by scanning the QR code below
For help and support call the Admissions team on 01443 864870



Tŷ Penallta,
Parc Tredomen,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed CF82 7PG

Penallta House,
Tredomen Park,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed CF82 7PG



Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Addysg a Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol
Corporate Director - Education and Corporate Services

www.caerffili.gov.uk | www.caerphilly.gov.uk

9th August 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Phased rollout of Primary Free School Meals for the youngest children from September 2022 onwards.

As part of the Co-operation Agreement, Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru have announced plans and funding to offer every primary school pupil in Wales a free, nutritious school meal by 2024.

Please see timetable below for the roll-out of this scheme – please note this is subject to inset days for each school:

Information on Universal Pupil Free School Meals (UPFSM)

Year Group	Age Ranges	Expected Start Date of UPFSM	Comments	How to pay for school dinners and see the lunch choice of your child? (If you have access to the internet please log on to www.upay.co.uk to access the app).
Nursery	3 – 4 years of age	7 th November 2022	All registered nursery age pupils attending a maintained school for a full time session ie attends nursery both AM and PM will be eligible for a free school meal when in attendance on those days.	Up to 07/11/2022: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From 07/11/2022: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Reception	4 – 5 years of age	2nd September 2022	Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	From 02/09/2022: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner

Year 1	5 – 6 years of age	2 nd September 2022	Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	From 02/09/2022: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Year 2	6 – 7 years of age	7 th November 2022	Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	Up to 07/11/2022: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From 07/11/2022: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Year 3	7 – 8 years of age	Sep-23	For pupils that attend Special Schools - Eligibility for UPFSM will be based on the year group in which a pupil is currently being taught, not their age-based or 'expected' National Curriculum year group. Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	Up to Sep 2023: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From September 2023: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Year 4	8 – 9 years of age	Sep-23	For pupils that attend Special Schools - Eligibility for UPFSM will be based on the year group in which a pupil is currently being taught, not their age-based or 'expected' National Curriculum year group. Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	Up to Sep 2023: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From September 2023: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner

Year 5	9 – 10 years of age	Sep-23	For pupils that attend Special Schools - Eligibility for UPFSM will be based on the year group in which a pupil is currently being taught, not their age-based or 'expected' National Curriculum year group. Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	Up to Sep 2023: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From September 2023: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Year 6	10 -11 years of age	Sep-23	For pupils that attend Special Schools - Eligibility for UPFSM will be based on the year group in which a pupil is currently being taught, not their age-based or 'expected' National Curriculum year group. Please note that these dates are subject to change depending on any unforeseen circumstances that may arise	Up to Sep 2023: The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i> From September 2023: parents may download the app, to see what their child had for dinner
Year 7 to Year 13	11 – 18 years of age	Not applicable	UPFSM does not apply to these year groups	The preferred method of payment for school meals is the UPAY app. <i>Contact your school for other payment methods.</i>

Eligible Free School Meals (EFSM) and Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM) Understanding the difference

There are families who are already in receipt of free school meals and it is important to understand the difference between the two schemes.

Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM)

It is Welsh Government's aim that every child in primary school in Wales will be eligible for a universal primary free school meal (UPFSM) by 2024, regardless of household income.

Receiving a UPFSM in this way does NOT automatically entitle families to receive other benefits such as a grant for school uniform, equipment, sports kit and kit for activities outside of school for your child.

Eligible Free School Meal (eFSM))

Families who meet certain criteria, for example those on lower incomes or in receipt of certain benefits, are eligible for free school meals (eFSM). Families in receipt of eFSM are also eligible to receive the Pupil Development Grant to buy school uniform, equipment, sports kit and kit for activities outside of school for your child. This also directly benefits the school which the pupil attends. Under the new UPFSM scheme these benefits will not be affected. There is an application process for eFSMs and it is important that when the new UPFSM scheme is introduced, eligible families continue to follow the eFSM application process so as not to lose out on other benefits.

For more information about the eligibility criteria and the application process for FSM please follow this link

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/School-dinners-and-breakfast-clubs/Free-school-meals>

Please note the following:

- Primary Meals to be £2.20
- Nursery Meals (full time nursery only) £2.60

These have taken effect from 01/09/22.

Our IT web pages are currently being updated and will go live asap.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact us on catering@caerphilly.gov.uk or 01443 864055

Yours sincerely

Marcia Lewis

Principal Officer Catering