



Parent Information Sheet – Thursday 9th September 2021

Welcome Back – Croeso Nol

It has been a privilege to welcome everyone for the start of the new academic year. The children and staff have settled quickly and have already begun to work hard to further improve their standards. There are a number of exciting topics planned to inspire the pupils this academic year. I am very much hopeful that we will have a full year in school and will not be affected by Coronavirus!

I am grateful to our team of cleaners who have worked throughout the summer holiday to ensure the school was ready for the staff and pupils to return.

A very warm welcome to our new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Smith who has joined us from Langstone Primary School in Newport. I trust that you will all give Mr Smith your full support over the coming months as he settles into his new role.

Pupil Information

Your child should have brought home a Data Collection sheet, which outlines the information we hold on our system. It is imperative that this information is kept up to date and we would be grateful if you could please check the sheet carefully, making any amendments necessary, sign, and return it to school as soon as possible. Please return the sheet whether there are amendments or not.

We have also sent home a 'taste testing' letter, a 'walk to the village' letter and a 'photo permission' slip. We would be grateful if you could please sign all slips, ensuring you fill out the slips in full, and return them to school at your earliest convenience. Having these permissions on file reduces the amount of paperwork we need to send home, and avoids the difficulty of forgotten permission slips, which can result in pupils not being able to take part.

SeeSaw

A reminder that we have been using the SeeSaw app as an excellent way to show work that is being undertaken by pupils in school. If you haven't already signed up for this free app I would certainly encourage you to do so. I have asked teachers to ensure that one piece of work a week is put onto SeeSaw for each pupil. I appreciate that parents may wish to see more but it must be manageable for the staff in the classrooms.

Food Bank

The current economic climate makes it extremely difficult for many families. As a school, we want to do all that we can to help. We are collecting items for the local food bank in Blackwood. If you would like to donate any items, please send them into school with your child or bring them to the main reception. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Money

A reminder that school dinners are £2.10 a day (£10.50 a week) and fruit is £1 a week in the Foundation Phase. Please could all fruit and dinner money be paid on a Monday. All money should be placed in an envelope and clearly marked with your child's name and class. You are more than welcome to pay fruit money for the term if this makes things easier.

School Lunch

Please click on the link below to see a copy of the school lunch menu. Next week we will be on Week 1 of the menu.

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyDocs/Schools/Primary-school-meals-menu-A.aspx>

Coronavirus

The number of positive cases of Coronavirus continues to rise and it is imperative that we all work together to help limit the spread of the virus. None of us want to go back to a situation where we have to go into lockdown and the potential of school closures. This week I have observed a number of people not wearing face coverings on the playground and this has greatly concerned me. Whilst I am unable to legally enforce the wearing of face coverings, I am asking for parent's cooperation with face coverings being worn at all times on school premises.

The new operational guidance for school states if a child tests positive for Coronavirus they will be required to self-isolate for a period of ten days. However, any siblings of the child will not need to self-isolate and may continue to attend school as normal. The same is also true if a parent tests positive for the virus. I am aware that this has caused some concern amongst parents but this is the guidance we have been given to follow at the current time.

If your child is displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus, they should not attend school and you should arrange for a PCR test to be taken as soon as possible. If a child is displaying any symptoms of Coronavirus in school, you will be contacted and asked to collect your child immediately. Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Afghan Refugee's

I am sure that many of you will have followed the news over the summer holidays where a significant number of people were forced to leave Afghanistan. Many left with no belongings apart from the clothes on their back. We are supporting the Emergency Afghanistan 2021 Crisis Appeal. Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic, the appeal is only able to accept new items. The following is a list of things being collected: Deodorant for men and women, shaving supplies, nail clippers and manicure sets, underwear – socks and vests all ages with focus on adults, hand wash liquid, sliders for men, coats for men, women and children, baby clothes (up to age 2), boys and girls clothing – ideally long sleeves, jumpers, hoodies, fleece tops.

If you are able to donate anything to the appeal, please send it into school and we will arrange for it to be collected by the organisation.