

# Parent Information Sheet - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017

# **Criw Cymraeg**

Our Criw Cymraeg have launched their own 'Twitter' page so you can follow their work in school. They are a team of pupils who are responsible for the development of the Welsh language throughout the school. Please follow them and keep up to date with developments.

#### **PTCs**

The Parent Teacher Consultations will be taking place on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th October 2017. Class 6 (Mrs Tudor) will hold their consultations on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Your child should have brought home a letter asking you to provide a convenient time for you to meet with the class teacher. Please contact the school office if you have not received a letter. Teacher's will be sending home appointment times this week.

Nursery will be holding an open evening on Wednesday 25th for morning pupils and Thursday 26th for afternoon pupils. Please see separate letter for further information.

#### **Homework**

As many of you will have noticed, the homework books have not been sent home from school this year. During the last academic year I established an 'Homework Working Party' within school to look at the impact homework has on pupils learning. They looked at research on the topic of homework and also undertook their own research by listening to the opinions of teaching staff, parents and the pupils themselves.

A number of recommendations have been put forward by the working party and I am now in a position to inform you that we will no longer be sending out the homework books each week. I will provide you with more detailed information regarding this next week and a task will be set for pupils to complete during the half-term break.

Please remember we place great emphasis on parents spending quality time as a family on the weekend. Why not go for a walk in an ancient woodland and talk about the things you see or visit a castle and develop your child's understanding of local history. There are so many wonderful learning opportunities right on our doorstep. Have fun together and enjoy that quality time.

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# **PTA Disco**

The PTA will hold its Halloween discos tonight! Both will take place in the main hall. Dressing up is very much encouraged!

Years One and Two should be brought to the main entrance of the school for a 4pm start. They should then be collected from their classrooms at 5pm, as you would usually do at the end of the school day. Entrance costs £1.50 and this includes a drink, crisps and sweets.

Junior pupils should be brought to the Y5/Y6 entrance for a 5pm start. Entrance costs £1. Hotdogs (50p), sweets, drinks, crisps and tattoos will be on sale! To collect these children, please come to the main hall at 6:15pm via the Y5/Y6 entrance. We will have one door for entry and one for exit, so allowing parents to walk across the hall collecting their children as they do so. Given the darker evenings, I ask for parents' patience and cooperation with collection arrangements. The pupils' safety is my main priority. Thank you.

# **Harvest Festival**

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Once again this year we are collecting food items which we will donate to a local food bank. <u>Please send any food</u> <u>donations into school as soon as possible</u>. I want to make this the biggest and best Harvest Festival ever held at Rhiw Syr Dafydd.

# **Parental Workshops**

We have now held four very successful parental workshops in school. These have been warmly received by parents who have engaged fully with the activities. We have one more workshop running this term; on Tuesday next week we have 'Adding it up'. This workshop will give parents an insight into how we teach mathematics at Rhiw Syr Dafydd. Please contact the school office if you would like to attend.

#### **Operation Christmas Child**

Please ensure that all shoe boxes for this appeal are sent into school by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November as they will be collected on this date. Thank you to everyone who has sent in shoe boxes already.

#### **INSET Days**

A number of parents have asked when our INSET days will be held. At the present time all of the days are not booked but I thought I would provide you with the dates I have, especially as two are at the end of the summer term. The dates booked so far are: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018. An additional two days will need to be taken.

# **Half Term**

A reminder that school closes for half term on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October and will reopen on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

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# **Nut Allergies**

Could I please request that pupils do not bring any products which contain nuts into school. We have a number of pupils who have severe nut allergies and coming into contact with one of the products has the potential to cause a severe reaction. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this.

# **South Wales Argus**

Pictures of the 'First Day At School' for reception pupils should appear in the South Wales Argus on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

# **Flu Immunisation**

A reminder that pupils from Reception to Year 4 will have the flu immunisation in school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October. If you have not already done so, please return the form to school as soon as possible to ensure that your child does not miss out.

# **Collection Times**

Would parents please inform the school office if they are going to be late collecting pupils from school. This is a safeguarding issue as we need to ensure that pupils are kept safe. If your child travels home from school on the bus, please ensure there is a responsible person available to collect them.

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