



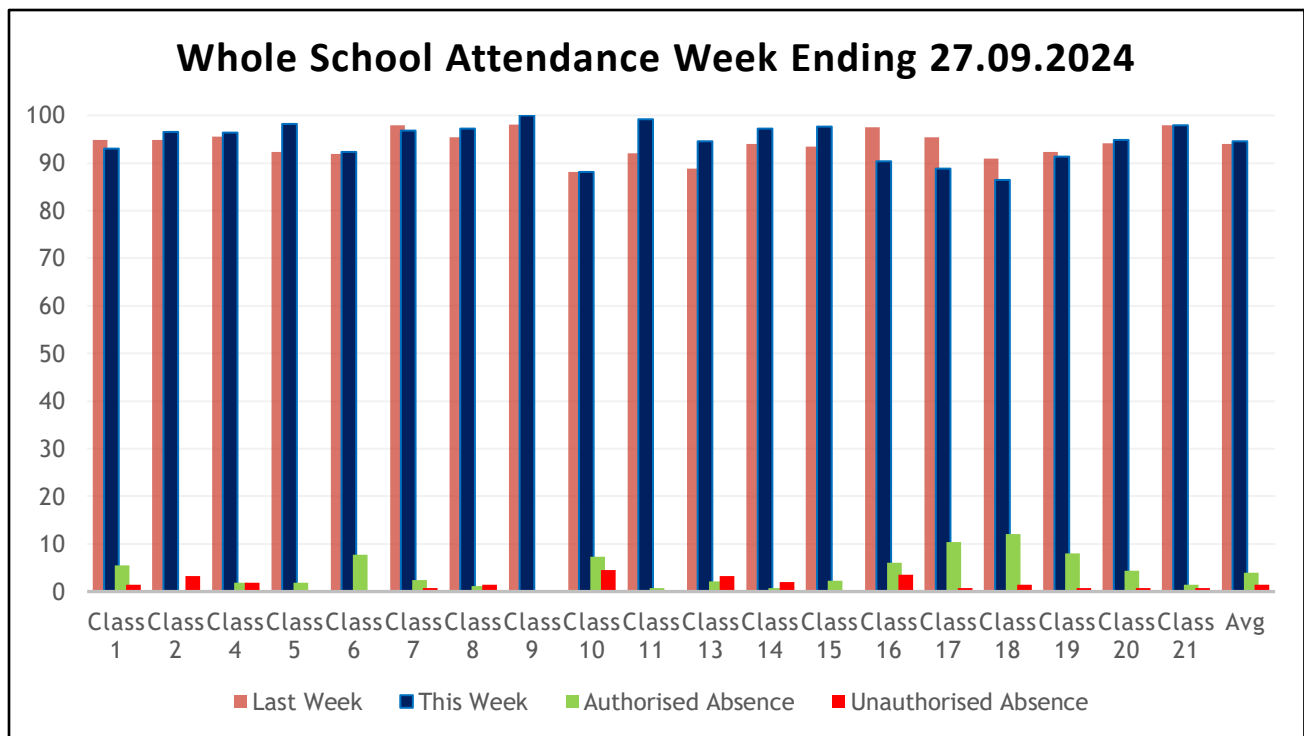
Parent Newsletter



Friday 4th October 2024



Attendance Matters



Our attendance 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 across the school last week was 94.60%, this is below our whole school target but a very slight increase on the previous week.

Authorised absences were: **4.0%**

Unauthorised absences were: **1.40%** - All absences **must** be reported to the school office.

It is imperative that all absences from school are reported to the school office. This will help to reduce the percentage of unauthorised absences at the school. Failure to report your child's absence from school could result in a prosecution from the educational welfare officer.

Secondary School Applications

Applications for secondary school places are now open. To secure a place for your child at secondary school you will need to complete an online application.

Please visit the Caerphilly.gov website, search for school admissions and click to 'Apply for a place at school.' The actual web address is www.caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

The closing date for applications is **25th October 2024**.

Parking

I have received several complaints from parents regarding parking in the school car park. There are a number of vehicles parking in the disabled parking bays without the relevant blue badge. We have a number of disabled children and parents who need to park as close to the school building as possible. Please be respectful when parking your vehicle.

School Dinners

Next week, we will be on Week 3 of the menu. Please check with your child that they like the menu option before they come to school.



LUNCHTIME MENU WEEK 3



| Week 3 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Choice 1 | Welsh Pork Meatballs with Tomato & Basil Sauce | Welsh Sausage Roll | Chicken, Yorkshire Pudding, Seasoning & Gravy | Minced Beef Pie & Gravy | Fish Bites |
| Choice 2 | Vegetable Nuggets (V) | Ravioli in Welsh Cheese Sauce (V) | Vegetarian Cottage Pie (V) | Margherita Pizza (V) | Cheese & Potato Pie (V) |
| Choice 3 Daily Special | Filled Jacket Potato | Lemon Sole Non-Fried | Welsh Vegan Sausage Roll (V) | Filled Jacket Potato | Filled Baguette |
| Accompaniments | Mashed Potatoes Pasta Salad Bar Cheesy Coleslaw Peas & Sweetcorn | Mexican Bread Potato Croquettes with Various Sauces Salad Bar Baked Beans Sweetcorn | Oven Baked Dry Roast Potatoes Boiled/Mashed Potatoes Salad Bar Cauliflower/Swede Peas | Savoury Herb Diced Potatoes Non-Fried Seasoned Wedges Non-Fried Salad Bar Peas Farmhouse Mixed Veg | Boiled Potatoes Chipped Potatoes With Various Sauces Salad Bar Baked Beans Peas |
| Desserts | Sticky Orange Date Brownie & Orange Wedges | Various Fruit Crumble & Custard | Various Flavoured Mousse | American Pancake with Fruit & Ice Cream | Chocolate Cookie |

A Selection of Filled Jacket Potatoes, Sandwiches, Baguettes or Wraps are also available daily
Please note: The above menu contains allergens

Asda Cash Pot

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to support our school via the Asda Cash Pot scheme. At the current time, our balance is well over £700. There are still over 55 days left to collect money in the cash pot so please remember to scan your Asda reward card.



School Trips

I am aware that in the current economic climate, many families are struggling financially. This is also true in schools, where budgets are stretched to the maximum. Unfortunately, we are losing a significant amount of money on school trips and may have to cancel future trips if we are unable to cover the cost. Last year, we lost over £3000 on school trips which had to be funded from our budget. This then takes away resources from the children. Already this term, we have lost £1500 on school trips.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 18th October. Once again, this year, we are asking parents to donate food items such as tins, cereals, pasta, etc. All items collected will be donated to the HTC charity and will help homeless people across the Gwent area. If you would like to donate any items, please send them into school with your child. Alternatively, you can drop items off at the main school office. Thank you for your anticipated support.

Parent Teacher Consultations

Our parent teacher consultations will take place on Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th October. Letters will be sent home with pupils next week for you to book your appointment. Please make every effort to attend the as it is important we work together. Once again this year, the friends of Rhiw Syr Dafydd will be selling refreshments on the evening.

Hearing Screening

The nursing team will be in school on Tuesday 8th October to undertake the hearing screening with Year 1 pupils.

School Photographs

Following a number of complaints from parents regarding the quality of school photographs, we have decided to go with a new company this year. This year we will be using Tempest, and I would really appreciate feedback from parents.

The photographer will be in school on Friday 11th October.

We will be offering the following service:

- All children will have an **individual photograph** taken.
- **Sibling photographs** will be offered. You will need to complete a request slip for this. This is for siblings who are currently attending Rhiw Syr Dafydd.
- **Family photographs** are for any combination of adults and children, including children who are not in this school. These are available before school from 7:30 – 8:30am.
- All photographs will be taken in the large hall.

All photographs will be offered via an on-line proof service.

Please complete the reply slip below if you require a sibling photograph.



Sibling Photograph

I would like my children to have their photograph taken together. Please **list all** children to be included in the photograph, starting with the eldest.

Name of child / class:

-
-
-
-

Dates

| Event | Date | Year Group |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Swimming | Monday 30 th September - Friday 18 th October | Year 4 |
| School Photographs | Friday 11 th October | Whole School |
| Spooky Disco | Thursday 17 th October | Year 1 - Year 6 |
| Parent Teacher Consultations | Tuesday 22 nd October | Whole School |
| Parent Teacher Consultations | Thursday 24 th October | Whole School |
| Half-Term | Mon 28 th October - Fri 1 st November | Whole School |
| Christmas Fayre | Friday 29 th November | Whole School |
| Christmas Concert | Tuesday 10 th December | Nursery |
| Christmas Concert | Tuesday 10 th December | Reception |
| Christmas Concert | Wednesday 11 th December | Reception |
| Christmas Concert | Wednesday 11 th December | Year 1 |
| Christmas Concert | Thursday 12 th December | Year 1 |
| Christmas Concert | Thursday 12 th December | Year 2 |
| Christmas Concert | Friday 13 th December | Year 2 |
| Christmas Dinner | Friday 13 th December | Reception - Year 6 |
| Christmas Concert | Tuesday 17 th December | Year 3 / 4 |
| Christmas Concert | Tuesday 17 th December | Year 5 / 6 |
| Christmas Concert | Wednesday 18 th December | Year 3 / 4 |
| Christmas Concert | Wednesday 18 th December | Year 5 / 6 |
| Christmas Holidays | Monday 23 rd December - Friday 3 rd January | Whole School |
| INSET Day | Monday 6 th January | Whole School |
| Valentine Disco | Thursday 13 th February | Year 1 - Year 6 |
| Half-Term | Monday 24 th - Friday 28 th February | Whole School |
| School Eisteddfod | Friday 7 th March | Whole School |
| Mother's Day Stall | Monday 24 th March | Whole School |
| Parent Teacher Consultations | Tuesday 8 th April | Whole School |
| Parent Teacher Consultations | Thursday 10 th April | Whole School |
| Easter Holidays | Monday 14 th - Friday 25 th April | Whole School |
| Bank Holiday | Monday 5 th May | Whole School |
| Cardiff Bay Trip | Tuesday 6 th - Wednesday 7 th May | Year 4 |
| Half-Term | Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th May | Whole School |
| Summer Disco | Thursday 5 th June | Year 1 - Year 6 |
| Father's Day Stall | Monday 9 th June | Whole School |
| Sports Day | Tuesday 10 th June | Nursery |
| Sports Day | Wednesday 11 th June | Reception |
| Sports Day | Wednesday 11 th June | Year 1 |
| Sports Day | Wednesday 11 th June | Year 2 |

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|--------------------------|---|--------------|
| Sports Day | Thursday 12 th June | Year 3 / 4 |
| Sports Day | Thursday 12 th June | Year 5 / 6 |
| Sports Day | Friday 13 th June | Rising 3s |
| Reserve Sports Day | Friday 13 th June | Various |
| PGL Residential | Wednesday 18 th - Friday 20 th June | Year 6 |
| Transition Day | Tuesday 24 th June | Whole School |
| Rainbow Raffle | Friday 27 th June | Whole School |
| Reports | Friday 4 th July | Whole School |
| PTA Summer Fayre | Friday 11 th July | Whole School |
| Year 6 Leavers' Assembly | Tuesday 15 th July | Year 6 |
| INSET Day | Monday 21 st July | Whole School |

Parent Newsletter

Mr C George
Headteacher

Mrs S Windsor
Chair of Governors

