



## Parent Information Sheet – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### **Happy New Year – Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!**

It has been a real pleasure to welcome everyone back to school for the spring term. In our assembly on Monday we focussed on the importance of being kind and how using positive words can brighten up someone's day. It has been so pleasing to see the children reflecting on the assembly and their random acts of kindness around the school.

The children and staff have settled well after the Christmas break and staff are hard at work driving up standards. The quality of work being produced in the classes is excellent. I very much hope that 2019 will be a very successful year for everyone associated with our school.

### **Attendance**

Our attendance for the autumn term was 96.11% which is above our target (95.8%) for the current academic year. I am grateful to parents for ensuring that pupils are at school to learn. Naturally events such as illness means that there are times when children need to be absent from school.

I will be asking Mr Hampshire to arrange meetings with the parents of those pupils with the lowest attendance levels to see if there is anymore that we can do to ensure that the children are at school. We are always happy to help in any way we can.

Pupils only have 190 school days each academic year. Each is precious and contributes to the education of the child. We can't raise literacy and numeracy standards if the children are not here.

### **After School Clubs**

After school clubs will begin next week (w/c 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019) as normal. If you would like your child to attend a club please contact the school so the necessary information can be provided.

### **Butties and Blocks Club**

Our first Butties and Blocks club of the New Year will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January starting at 10:30am. The club is open to existing and new members so if you have never been before why not come along and get creative! Mr Potter will be able to provide you with further information.

**Respect**

**Share**

**Determined**

**Passionate**

**Successful**

## **Free School Meals**

Could your child be entitled to free school meals? If you think you may be eligible, click on the link to find information <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

All applications can be completed electronically on line. Pupils entitled to free school meals may also be eligible for some additional support in school. The school also receives funding for resources based on the number of free school meals pupils in attendance.

## **Cheques**

If you are sending a cheque into school to pay for dinners or music lessons please make the cheque payable to CCBC. If you are paying for anything else by cheque please make the cheque payable to Rhiw Syr Dafydd Primary School. This is due to new regulations with the banks. In addition, please only send one cheque a week per child to pay for dinners as the dinners system will not allow more than one cheque to be entered per child. However, if you have more than one child in the school you can submit one cheque covering all your children's dinner money. On the back of the cheque please write a breakdown of the children's names, classes and monetary amount for each child.

## **INSET Day**

Please be aware that we have a school INSET day on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019**. On this day school will be closed to pupils as staff will be undertaking training.

## **Dates for your dairy**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February / Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Year 4 Cardiff Bay Residential

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Year 6 Crucial Crew (am only)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February – PTCs

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February – PTCs

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Non uniform Day

## **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Half Term**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – School Eisteddfod

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Non uniform Day

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays