



Head Teacher's First Bulletin of 22/23

Welcome back!

Happy New Year to you all!! I must say how thrilled I am to see all of our learners back for the new school year. What a difference we've come back to; a brand spanking new building and site. As you now know, there are plenty of new systems, procedures, rules, routes and routines for us ALL to get used to. Last week, I sent out a site guidance video (longer than the epic movie, Ben Hurr – but vital to view!!). I can tell that many of you have viewed it and have taken heed of the advice given. However, it is also clear to see that the video has not been viewed or is being ignored by some.

Our learners are looking absolutely fantastic top to toe in their new uniform. The standard of uniform is excellent and I will be keen to maintain this throughout the whole year. The same goes for PE kit (See New Logo and Uniform section below), the current standard is brilliant and compliant; the children look great and are ready to get physical.

I will be soon be organising an open session for all parents and members of the school community to come and see our fantastic new school. The official opening of the new school by the Welsh Minister for Education will be taking place towards the end of this half term.

Thank you for your ongoing support, please ensure you invest some time to read and absorb the information in this bulletin so that we continue to align our direction. This is set to be a triumphant year and we need you all to be a valuable part of or new future.

Queen Elizabeth II

Following the announcement of the passing of the Queen, we enter yet another challenging time for the children. For some, the event will be keenly felt and perhaps difficult to process, for others it may barely register. In school, today, we provided our pupils with an opportunity to air their feelings in class circle time at an appropriate level dependant on age. For younger children, a brief recognition of the sad event at the start of the day was all that was appropriate: the teachers will judge the best response, dependent on the nature of their class over the coming days.

Queen Elizabeth has been a stable, civilised presence in the background of our entire lives. While WCBC may give some guidance for communal events, the teaching staff will begin to plan a celebration of the Queen's life for some point in the next half term, following which there will of course be the excitement of the coronation of King Charles.

New Logo and Uniform



Daily Uniform

Black shoes – (Velcro fastenings for younger children!)

Grey skirts, trousers or shorts

White shirt/blouse or polo shirt

A school tie (optional but looks dapper!)

PE Kit

Yellow PE top or plain yellow T-shirt

Black sports shorts and/or **Black** leggings or tracksuit bottoms

Grey school jumper/cardigan on top of the yellow T-shirt

Trainers or pumps

It is totally acceptable for children to continue to wear items of uniform showing the aeroplane logo! Please do not feel pressured into making this change to the bee until your child has outgrown their current uniform.

I am currently putting together a plan to provide an item of uniform for every child in school utilising some funding from the PTA account. This will be a welcome investment to all parents and children as I completely understand how expensive school uniform can be to replace. Information about this will follow once I've worked with Sarah's Embroidery on the most efficient way to do this so that all children get the size of sweater/cardigan they need.

Breakfast Club

Now that we are all on one site, Breakfast Club operates for the same duration in the same area of school for ALL pupils regardless of age. **Doors open at 7:50am and close at 8:30am.**

The first half-hour (7:50am to 8:20am) costs £1 – payable in advance on Parent Pay.

The second half hour (8:20am to 8:50am) is free – However, we are NOT able to let children into Breakfast Club after 8:30am.

If you have a child in Year 4 or above, you can enter the school site in a car and utilise our new STOP-DROP-GO bays to relieve the pressure on the front car park area. Just stop in a bay and let your child navigate his/her own way to the entrance at the side of the hall. Please instruct your child to use the zebra crossings and pavements.

School Term Dates for the Autumn Term – as it stands

First Day for pupils - Monday 5th September 2022
Last day for pupil ½ Term – Thursday 27th October
Pupils Return - Monday 7th November
Last day for pupils - Friday 23rd December

School Session Times

7:50am to 8:50am = Breakfast Club (not admittance to B.C after 8:30am)

Gates open 8:30am/8:35am (once Breakfast Club have gone back inside the hall)

Classrooms open 8:45am (or children start to line up or enter school as instructed) – Reception to Year 6

Registration 8:50am (“Train leaves at 8:50am” – arrivals after this time are late) – Reception to Year 6

9:00am – Nursery morning session begins.

Staff need to lock the school boundary gates at the side of the building in order for us to begin our journey. Please do not be offended if you are denied entry at the gates after 8:50am. The more parents/children we allow through after 8:50am, the longer the staff have to wait for parents to exit the site. This delays the staff returning to class to support the learning and morning routine.

If you arrive after 8:50am, you must report to the Main Office.

ALL TIMES ARE UNDER REVIEW AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS WE MONITOR THE ACTIVITY ACROSS THE SITE. ALL CHANGES WILL BE COMMUNICATED

Coats and Clothing

I have noticed that a few of our children have been caught out without a coat at certain times of day. As we all know, the Welsh weather is very unpredictable; much the same as Yorkshire! That said, please can you make sure that your child is equipped with a suitable rain coat as we do still go outdoors if it is a bit damp. We won't go out in a downpour, but a bit of drizzle is fine. “There's no such thing as bad weather; just the wrong clothes!”

So far this week, we have had eight lost jumpers/ cardigans, four lost coats, two lost lunch boxes, a pair of leggings and three coats. Staff have also found numerous items of clothing left lying around in various places around the site as the children often forget them. All items of clothing were returned to the owners IF they had a name. Other items were impossible to relocate. I will stress the importance of writing your child's name in all items of clothing, bags and coats. I know it's uncool for older children, but it is still vital if we stand a chance of reuniting left/found clothing.

New Class Names - Reminder

To fit in with our new logo and theme, we are moving away from hills and mountains of Wales as the names for the classes. Instead, we are naming each class using the Welsh name for flowers. We will all have to get used to learning the new names from September but in time, it'll become second nature to us all!

To start with, you need to be able to say and recognise the class name belonging to your child in Welsh. Then, build up to the other class in the year group before trying to learn the classes in Foundation Phase or Key Stage 2. You could even be a real bright spark and master the names for the entire school!!! Remember, we will be using the Welsh version of the flower and not the English version! Each class will have the word “Dosbarth” (Class) in front of it.

Year Group	Current Class Name	Class Teacher Sept 2022	New Class Name In WELSH	New Class Name English Translation
Nursery	Glas	Miss Goodchild	Tiwlip	Tulip
Reception	Coch	Mrs Richards	Ffrisia	Freesia
Reception	Melyn	Miss Dale	Lafant	Lavender
Year 1	Moel Famau	Mrs Edwards	Eirlys	Snowdrop
Year 1	Brecon	Miss Rodenhurst	Rhosyn	Rose



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Year 2	Gron	Mrs Stapeley	Eithin	Gorse
Year 2	Fferna	Mrs Beake	Ceian	Carnation
Year 3	Arenig Fach	Mr Stock	Saffrwn	Crocus
Year 3	Tarw	Miss Kelso	Fioled	Violet
Year 4	Cribyn	Miss Jones	Blodyn Haul	Sunflower
Year 4	Cadair Bronwen	Mrs Gough	Blodyn Menyn	Buttercup
Year 5	Tryfan	Mrs Kyffin	Briallen	Primrose
Year 5	Cadair Idris	Mr Hughes	Cennin Pedr	Daffodil
Year 6	Glyder	Mrs Davies	Gwyddfif	Honeysuckle
Year 6	Yr Wyddfa	Mrs Small/ Mrs Wynn	Llygad y Dydd	Daisy
N - Yr2	Y Garn	Ms Ellis	Pabi	Poppy
Yr3 -Yr 6	Pen y Fan	Miss Loney	Lelog	Lilac

Snack Money, Lunches and Snacks in General

Snack for children in Nursery to Year 2 comes at a cost of **£10 per half term**. This is a very reasonable amount given the kind of snacks that we give the children access to. Parent Pay has now been set up for you to pay for this half term, the full term or whole year, it's up to you. We will be chasing up any outstanding payments at the end of this month. – Thank you.

Children in other year groups bring in their own break time snacks. We have to deploy strict and simple rules for this kind of snack from home. Only fresh fruit or vegetables can be consumed. Fruit Winders, fruit bars, breakfast bars, yoghurts, Frubes are not permitted.

Please make sure your child can tell the difference between what food has been provided in their lunch box from the food you have provided for their morning break time snack.

Ideally, a child's lunchbox should contain a balanced diet. Sandwiches/ wraps etc, some kind of dessert (chocolate bar, cake, yoghurt etc) and a drink. Crisps are also allowed (unless they are Flaming Hot Monster Munch as I like these too much and I may be tempted to take these!).

If you are giving your child grapes to eat for snack or lunch, please can they be sliced in half lengthways in order to vastly reduce the chances of choking. Choking on grapes is one of the most common causes of choking amongst young children, but this risk can be greatly reduced if a grape is sliced.

SMILE PLEASE!! Pupil Photos – Monday 12th September

Kittle photography will be in school for the day to take individual and school sibling photos. Please make sure your child/ren are in full uniform, hair done and in the best shape for their photo shoot! Given the timescale and tight logistics in place to run the day smoothly, we will not be in a position to offer any sibling photos of non-school age i.e. babies and toddlers.

On the day, your child will be given a unique order slip with a QR code or link to the Kittle website in order for you to order the photo pack you need.

SITE REMINDERS!

1. Please do not park or stop on any double yellow lines on the school site, outside the school site or on Cherry Hill Drive.
2. Please do not park across or block/ obstruct any driveways belonging to the school neighbours.
3. Please do not cross the road opposite Cherry Hill Drive to get to the path to school. You must walk to Carole the Lollipop Lady and cross safely. You can then enter the school towards the Main Entrance, turn left and make your way around the site.
4. To avoid using the pavement next to car park entry gate, please use the safer footpath that leads around the edge of the staff car park to the rear of school.
5. Parent of children in Year 4+, please use the STOP-DROP-GO bays for Breakfast Club before 8:30am.
6. Car access for home time pick up is for school taxis and Blue Badge owners only.
7. **If you do have a Blue Badge, please do not block a disability parking space or wider parking bay if you are NOT getting out of the car. You must use the STOP-DROP-GO bays for Blue Badge waiting if your child comes to meet you at the car.**

Dioch am eich cefnogaeth – Thank you for your support ~ Mr Nicholson