



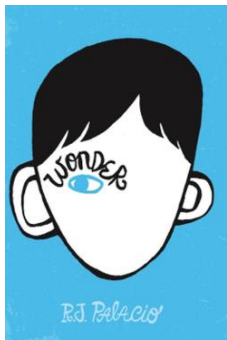
September 6th 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Year 6/5.

The aim of this letter is to provide the parents / guardians with information about your child's learning and ways in which you can support them at home.

2020 - 2021 will be a very busy year with a range of projects and activities planned; these are aimed at preparing your child with the skills and attitudes needed for a smooth transition and learning in the next phase of their education.



Belonging

Themes

Our whole school focus for the academic year stems from an Eleanor Roosevelt quote, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." To begin this term we will focus on 'Belong.' The children will be engaged in a number of rich task activities (literacy / numeracy and digital skills) using the book 'Wonder,' and the history of Wales as a starting point. The book Wonder will allow opportunities to develop their understanding of Health and

Emotional Well-being, linked to growing up, changes to their body, relationships and feelings. We will also focus on developing positive relationships, working as teams, anti-bullying and disability.

The work on the history of Wales will allow us to develop our understanding of our Welsh heritage will a focus on the history and geography of Wales.

Skills

There will be a big focus on developing independence and positive attitudes to learning in line with our work on developing the new curriculum for Wales.

We will focus on the four purposes of the new Curriculum for Wales, which are:

- *Ambitious, capable learners*
- *Enterprising, creative contributors*
- *Ethical, informed citizens*
- *Healthy, confident individuals*

We will continue to explore a range of Values and further develop our understanding of the UNCRC through our theme work.

Skills in Literacy and Numeracy will be developed through all areas of the curriculum. Language and Mathematics skills will continue to be taught and developed. Reciprocal Reading approaches will continue to be used to teach and develop reading skills. All children have access to a large range of reading materials including fiction, non-fiction in a range of genres and also newspapers, comic books, magazines and graphic novels that the children will be encouraged to borrow through our library scheme. These books / texts can

be changed daily if required. We ask that books be brought in to school daily in order to allow individual reading opportunities throughout the school day.

Communication

Details about our learning will be available via our monthly class newsletter/blog which will be uploaded to the class page on our school website:

www.swansea-edunet.gov.uk/en/schools/Glyncollen. If you require a paper copy please let me know. Join us also on twitter for regular class updates @GlyncollenYr6_5.

Glyncollen Primary operates on open door policy, where parents and visitors are welcomed into the school. In the current situation, it will not be possible to continue this practise. Parents and visitors will not be permitted to enter the school building unless by prior appointment for urgent issues only. If you need to speak to a member of staff, you will be required to make a phone appointment via the school office.

Medical needs

If your child has any on-going or newly identified medical needs that may require intervention, monitoring or medication whilst at school please let me know as soon as possible – this includes asthma and you will be required to check and update information on the Asthma plan held at school.

We continue to be a nut free school due to a number of pupils with a severe nut allergy. Please ensure that all lunchboxes are nut free.

Fruit snack: Fruit snack may be brought to school each day. Crisps, cereal bars or chocolate are not permitted during break time.

Water bottle: Please send a labelled water bottle each day which your child will be permitted to refill when needed. These must go home with your child every night.

Pencil cases: Please can you ensure that your child brings to school a pencil case with a blue pen, a pencil and if possible a sharpener, rubber, ruler and set of coloured pencils. Children will not be permitted to share their personal equipment with anyone else.

Drop off and collection: All children must be accompanied by an adult for drop off and collection to ensure social distancing is adhered to. We will inform you when this changes and children are allowed to again walk to and from school unaccompanied.

Mobile phones: Children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school for the foreseeable future.

Weekly Reminders

Monday: PE kit required – white t-shirt and black leggings or tracksuit bottoms and trainers. Due to current restrictions these must be worn to school on the day, as changing clothes is not currently permitted.

Thursday: Outdoor learning – Children to come dressed in old outdoor clothing on a Thursday. A water-proof coat and waterproof trousers (if available) and a spare old pair of trainers / wellies to be brought to school in a labelled bag. Please ensure that your child has a change of shoes as they are likely to get muddy. All waterproofs and outdoor shoes will be sent home at the end of the day.

Home tasks: Home tasks will be given as and when necessary, however it is far more beneficial for your child to focus on developing what is important for

them individually. Children should be encouraged to complete regular self-directed homework based on their own needs, with a focus on improving reading and recall of number facts. It is important that they have a confident, quick recall of number facts – addition and subtraction facts and multiplication tables. Spelling words will be sent home where relevant following a termly whole class spelling test.

Reading: Please encourage your child to read at home. Reading can take many forms depending on your child's interests but variety of materials should be encouraged. Please become actively involved in discussing your child's reading with them. This will help to develop higher reading skills such as inference and deduction. Reading books/ texts are available from the class library, which the children are able to access at any time.

Dates for the diary

Transition: Due to the current Covid Restrictions transition activities for year 6 and 5 have not yet been confirmed by the comprehensive schools. We will forward any relevant details to you as soon as they become available.

I look forward to working with you over the coming year and to share in your child/children's learning and achievements.

Kind Regards

Miss D Thomas

Year 6/5 Class Teacher