

NEWSLETTER - 10/09/21



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,



Welcome back and happy new school year! We hope you all had a lovely relaxing summer. The children have settled back brilliantly during the first week back and look amazing. Your cooperation at the start of the new school year has once again enabled the school to run smoothly. Thank you very much for your support.

The Local Authority advised schools to return this September with the same routines and risk assessment as we left in July until we have more information from Welsh Government. Over the summer a lot of decision making and changes have taken place regarding the use of bubbles in school and self-isolation. The legal advice is now:

- Under 18's who come into contact with a positive case do not have to self-isolate **UNLESS** they become symptomatic with a temperature, persistent cough or loss of taste and smell.
- Over 18s who have been fully vaccinated (both vaccinations) over 14 days ago do not have to self-isolate **UNLESS** they become symptomatic with a temperature, persistent cough or loss of taste and smell. Track & Trace are contacting close contacts of over 18's to request they self-isolate until vaccination status has been checked.

Please could you follow the above guidance if there is a case in your family. If you have any queries please contact the school.

Face masks are no longer required to be worn while queueing outside with your children, as it is now deemed to be safer outdoors than indoors and it is your personal preference if you wish to wear one. Please respect people's personal space when queueing to come into school.

We are awaiting a revised risk assessment from the Local Authority in order to enable pupils to mix again outside of their class bubbles. This should be with us very soon and will enable pupils to play together at break and also for several classes to attend after school clubs together. We will then be able to offer more variety and frequency of after school clubs than we have been, when we were restricted by bubbles. This information will come out to you in the next few weeks.

Pupils will be returning to swimming lessons this year with Year 4/5 starting next Monday for the week and Year 3/4 week commencing 20th September. Pupils will need to come into school with their bather already on every day, in line with the baths new changing arrangements; please also send you child in with a towel every day. The bus will leave at 9:15 a.m. from the school and is free of charge. If a child forgets their kit or isn't able to swim we are not allowed to take them to spectate and they will remain in school.



We will be holding a Jeans4Genes charity fund raising day on Friday September 17th; pupils can wear anything blue to school or school uniform if they don't have any blue clothing. We would be very grateful for any donations towards this very good cause. The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic disorder (Article 23).



Class assemblies have begun and pupils are looking at the theme 'New Beginnings'. We will look at the Creation story in different cultures, the Jewish New Year 'Rosh Hashanah' and the Christian festival 'Harvest'.



The infant's autumn term topic is 'Superheroes now and then' and the juniors are studying the Celts as part of their Welsh history topic (Article 29). Both phases will be going on visits to enhance their experience and to bring the topic alive.



Teachers will be sharing the autumn topic information and class routine by letter to parents, instead of the usual open evening sessions when you would normally be invited in to the class (pre-pandemic). As things stand at the moment, Parent's Evenings will take the form of a phone call at an agreed time with yourselves and these will take place during week commencing 22/11/2021. Keeping in touch regarding your children's progress regularly is really important to us - please use the KIT book and we will check them regularly.



Our Welsh patterns of the week are:
 Pwy wyt ti? *Who are you?* James dw i. *I am James.*
 Beth ydy dy enw di? *What is your name?* James dw i. *I am James.*
 We encourage you to practise with the children to develop their bilingualism (Article 30).



Parent Pay codes for Reception pupils were put in with the school reports in July. You will need the code to add a child to your account and to create an account if this is the first time you have used it. You can request a balance of your account in the KIT book and Mrs Thomas will text you back. Parent Pay does not give you an updated balance unfortunately which is one of the downsides of the system. If you prefer to pay by cash please send money in an envelope labelled with your child's name.

Credit Union will begin again Monday September 20th. If you would like your child to continue saving please could you send money to school in an envelope on that day. If you would like to begin saving, this is open to all full-time pupils, please note your child's KIT book.

Polite reminder to label your child's jumpers, cardigans and coats with their initials so that when they remove them we can ensure they bring the right uniform home. We appreciate clothing is expensive and want to ensure you get all of the clothing you purchase back at the end of each day.



Please get in touch with us if you have any queries, through the KIT Book or by telephone and we will do whatever we can to help you.

Links for information & application for :

Free School Meals <https://www.npt.gov.uk/1317>

Pupil Development Grant <https://www.npt.gov.uk/1316>

Or contact the Schools and Family Support Team on 01639 763515 or email: fsm@npt.gov.uk.

Tuesday 21 st September	Y5 & Y6 visit to Castell Henllys Iron Age Village- cost £10 per pupil
Wednesday 22 nd September	Y3 & Y4 visit to Castell Henllys Iron Age Village- cost £10 per pupil
Friday 15 th October	Rags2Riches Clothing Collection
Monday 18 th October	Fluenz Nasal Spray for Reception to Year 6
Wednesday 20 th to Friday 22 nd October	Year 6 Residential- Manor Adventure, Abernant
Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th October	HALF TERM
Monday 1 st November	INSET - School Closure

School Email: blaengwrachprimary@npt.school	School Website: https://blaengwrach-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/	Twitter: @BlaengwrachPri1
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------



Believe, Achieve, Succeed

Head Teacher
Mrs. S. Sharp