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Tuesday 12th of May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well in these difficult times – it really is a strange time for everyone.

With the Whitsun holiday approaching, I feel that the boys, girls and the teachers deserve a week off the hard work they have all been doing. So, for the week beginning the 25th of May to Friday 29th of May, no work will be set for the boys and girls to complete. The work will continue again the week after half term. If you have any problems with accessing the work or for any hints, tips or advice from the class teacher, please email melinprimary@npt.school. If your child has been accessing the Hub provision at Ysgol Bae Baglan, this will be running for children as usual.

You will have seen a lot of information in the media about plans for education around the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. However, education and schools are the responsibility of the Welsh Government and so we follow the rules that Mrs Kirsty Williams (MS and Minister for Education) and Mr Mark Drakeford (MS and First Minister of Wales) set out, and not Mr. Boris Johnson, the Prime Minister. At present, Kirsty Williams has set out five guiding principles which will determine when and how schools will return to providing education for most school pupils. She has recently released a statement at the following link which was sent by text message last week to parents and carers:

<https://gov.wales/situation-schools-will-not-change-june-1st-education-minister-says>

The Minister for Education has said that any decision to change the operation of schools will be shared well in advance with everyone. The Welsh Government, Local Authority and the School are aware of the ongoing challenge of COVID-19 and we will be preparing for a range of scenarios around school opening while keeping you informed, as parents, as best we can at the appropriate time without adding to your concerns and worries.

We will continue to update you via text message with a link to important information so I kindly ask you that you please do check and respond or you may miss something important. You can also check our Twitter feed @melinprimary.

Can I thank you all for your continued support at this difficult time and please, if you need us or want to provide feedback to us, get in touch by email at melinprimary@npt.school and we'll get in touch back as quick as we can.

Yours Sincerely,

T. Richards
Headteacher

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

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