



Newsletter 6: Monday 7th December 2020

News: our school during COVID-19.

As more and more schools in Powys send classes home due to COVID-19, we are keeping our fingers crossed that all our classes can continue to stay open. I hope that everyone can continue to help by standing 2m metres apart and wearing a facemask when you pick children up. **1 family member only** should be queueing up. If you need to let us know about COVID in your family out of office hours please use this e-mail:

COVID@knighton.powys.sch.uk

Sadly, we have been contacted by parents/carers who are concerned about the number of parents who are 'jumping the queue' by joining friends rather than queueing from the back.

Our Pre school children have been using lots of glitter to create Christmas decorations! They have made their own cards; a brilliant reason to practise writing their names.

In **Hwyaid Bach** our Reception pupils are sequencing the story of 'Funnybones' and learning the days of the week and the months of the year.

Y1/2 Christmas Plans. This year Christmas will be different at school. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our annual Foundation Phase nativity for families. However, staff are working hard to ensure that Christmas time is still a fun and enjoyable time for pupils. On Friday 18th December, Foundation Phase pupils will be invited to wear their 'party' clothes into school. Please be aware that children will still be spending time outdoors, so these clothes may get muddy! Father Christmas is planning to come and visit our pupils in the Foundation Phase but, as things are different this year, he won't be coming into the main school building or be giving out gifts. He has decided to see the children in a socially distanced way outside.

Yr 3 children in **Jac-y-Do** have been producing Fact Files about dragons in movies.

Y4: Cnoc-y-Coed, who are also our Eco Council, have written the following message to parents/carer:

After collating information about the contents of lunches for data collection and graphing in a Maths lesson, a discussion about their content was triggered. Year 4 made observations and as a result asked the rest of the school to do the same.

Approximately 150 pupils took part in surveying the contents of their lunchboxes and we have found out the following information:

Total fruit & vegetable portions in a week: 772

Total of high in salt/fat/sugar (cakes, chocolate bars, biscuits, crisps) items in a week: 857

NB: As you can see, there are more 'high in salt/fat/sugar' items than fruit and vegetable portions in lunchboxes.

We have discussed the findings with the classes and talked about the idea of balancing the content of lunchboxes, considering that it is recommended we eat at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables a day and that we limit high in salt/fat/sugar items to occasional treats.

We would like to remind parents that children are not allowed to bring sweets, chocolate, canned or fizzy drinks into school, as highlighted in the school prospectus.

Our aim is to increase the number of fruit and vegetable portions and to decrease the number of high in salt/fat/sugar items. Our Eco-council are thinking of ways we can do this and will be trialling the suggestions next term.

If you have any queries or suggestions about this project, please contact our Eco-council at: jonest499@hwbcymru.net

Y5/6 in **Barcud Coch and Aderyn Du** have enjoyed working in teams to solve algebraic, ice-hockey themed, problems. They have also found the topic work around medieval medicine fascinating. Following their research they wrote explanation texts. They have enjoyed trialling 'Flipped Learning' and shared lots of ideas during their pupil voice sessions.

Mrs Warner and Mrs Lowe gave me this news from the **Specialist Centre**: "The children have been writing instructions about their magical cloaks and shoes. They had some amazing ideas. In maths, we have been exploring larger numbers and looking at doubling and halving numbers. You will have all noticed that the mud kitchen is a real hit. Homemade mud and stone soup is definitely my favourite!"

Criw Cymraeg: Over the last few weeks every child has completed a questionnaire to help us think about new activities to promote the Welsh language. County are very impressed that we are continuing to promote Welsh in our school. Y5/6 pupils will be shortly be involved in a live distance learning activity, based around the Christmas story, with our Welsh support teacher.

Information

Due to COVID-19 our Christmas performances will take place virtually this year and will be posted **on our closed Facebook page**. No children will be named and the recording will only be used to allow parents/carers to see their children perform. It will be pre-recorded. This activity will develop and showcase our pupils' creative skills and improve general wellbeing; part of our educational function.

Any parents/carers who DO NOT want their child/ren involved should put their reasons in an e-mail to office@knighton.powys.sch.uk. There is no need for consent in this instance because it is a public task.

Christmas Jumper Day/Non-Uniform Day in aid of the Air Ambulance (suggested donation of £1) is this Friday, 11th December. There will be a donation pot in each classroom.



Sponsored **Reindeer Run** in aid of St Michael's is next Monday, 14th December. Please ask your child to hand their sponsor form in to their class teacher.

Christmas Lunch is on Thursday, 17th December. Thank you to everyone who sent in their child's reply slip, 187 responses received out of a possible 189!



The **classroom post box** is now open for Christmas cards if your child wants to give a card to another child. Children are not to give their cards out on the playground or in the corridor. The post box closes on Friday, 11th December and cards will be distributed early next week.

Could everyone please check their **Parentpay** account before the end of term and clear any outstanding balances.

Year 5 & 6 Trip to Oaker Wood – the next instalment is due by Thursday 17th December which should mean that you will then have paid a minimum of £60.

Can we please remind parents that they are not permitted to park in the **staff carpark** between us and the Sports Centre at drop off/pick up times unless they are collecting a child who is ill.