

## Newsletter 9 - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Good afternoon everyone!

Happy New Year to you all! Well, we are now settled and back into a good routine after the Christmas break and a slightly staggered start to the Spring term! The children have, once again, taken everything in their stride and have started learning about their new topics with enthusiasm and a thirst for knowledge!

The one way system in and out of the school playground continues to flow well and you may have noticed that the children are now going straight into the school building upon their arrival at school. This was initially introduced due to the bitter weather and icy conditions but, as a staff, we feel that this is extremely beneficial on a daily basis, as children are not waiting outside in lines, but are instead in the classrooms getting a head start on their work for the day!

Unfortunately, we have been notified of several instances where parents/carers are dropping children off in a morning, blocking driveways along the Ludlow Road, and also making it difficult for pedestrians to pass by with their children and pushchairs, due to vehicles being parked up on the pavement. We understand that mornings can be extremely busy and families are often in a rush, but it is imperative that we all do what we can to ensure that our children can safely make their journey to school and we really do appreciate your co-operation in helping us to do this. Staff members are on the gates at the beginning and end of the school day so please let us know of any difficulties you encounter and we can try to deal with them at the time.

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022, we will be joining the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party of Mistar Urdd live on BBC Radio Cymru and BBC Radio Wales. We will be joining many schools over Wales to attempt two Guinness World Records of the largest number of videos of people singing the iconic song 'Hei Mistar Urdd.'



We are inviting your children to **wear red, white or green on the day (Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January)** and we have been very busy decorating our classrooms ready for the party. Please keep an eye out on our closed Facebook page and the School Website to see the children's attempts.

You can assist your child/children by practising this song at home. It is available on your child's Hwb account under Shared Files, Knighton CinW School, Hei Mr Urdd.

## Year 5 & 6 Oaker Wood Trip

Letters regarding our trip in May have been sent home with and emailed to all year 5/6 children today.

Friends of School are excited to announce that they will be hosting "Beefy Boys" on the playground on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March!

Keep your eyes peeled for more information.



## Online Safety

We have received the following from our Schools Police Officer, PC Viv Ainsworth.

As we start 2022 I wanted to highlight children's online safety with the possible arrival of new digital devices.

I really want to take this time and share these links and information around social media. The age of usage is getting younger and younger and therefore increasing risk to our young people through social media and gaming connections.

Please can I ask if your child is using social media, or thinking about it, you take 10 minutes with them in front of the devices and check settings on each and every app, as settings may vary.

We need to do all we can in helping safeguard children from online harm. Settings need to be set to private, friends only, ghost mode on Snapmaps etc.

All these links below will help you in limiting risk to our young people and actually assist in helping us as adults understand a little more, and allows outlets for reporting matters online should it be needed.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking/>

<https://oursafetycentre.co.uk/>

<https://swgfl.org.uk/>

## News from Aderyn Du (Mrs Rimmer) & Barcud Coch (Mrs Watts)

We have enjoyed embarking upon their new topic, 'What a wonderful World!' The children have researched countries around the globe and produced brochures about them. They have written poetry about their chosen country and performed their poems in front of their peers for assessment.

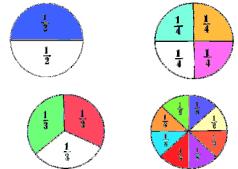


In maths they have focused on place value and negative numbers in real life contexts. We started our new PSHE programme of lessons (Jigsaw) and in PE Mrs Shaw has been focusing on improving skills in dodgeball and basketball over the last couple of weeks.

In science the children have had great fun investigating 'forces' with Mr Clarke!

## News from Cnoc-y-coed (Miss Jones)

We have been busy researching continents and rainforests. We have made a 3D map of the world using salt dough. All of our research has been collated to write information texts; we did a 'cold' write (no teaching of the text-type) then a 'hot' write (after studying information texts) to see how that helps the quality of writing! It REALLY helps! In Maths we have been working with fractions.....a tricky area of maths but the children have been so focussed and methodical!



In science we have begun work on magnets and forces. We used drama to complete a variety of different actions to help us decide whether the forces being used were pushes or pulls.



## News from Jac-y-do (Mrs Drakeford)

We have been looking at different rainforests around the world. We have researched facts and listened to sounds from the rainforest. We are in the middle of creating information leaflets on the rainforest.

We have also been reading a book about different colours and how they affect our emotions. We all picked our favourite animal and used colour to describe our feelings.

In science we have begun work on magnets and forces. We used drama to complete a variety of different actions to help us decide whether the forces being used were pushes or pulls.

## News from Hwyaid Bach (Mrs Evans) & Eryr (Mrs Blower)

The children are enjoying finding out about what Knighton would have been like a long time ago. We have found out about shops that would have been in Knighton in the Victorian times and looked at photos of them. We have made block graphs on Hwb, showing which is the class' favourite. It will be no surprise to learn that the sweet shop came out on top!



The children wanted to learn what school would have been like so we set up a Victorian classroom with our desks in rows and Mrs Blower and Mrs Evans pretended to be very serious at the front with canes. The boys and girls sat together and we had some very brave children who tried out the 'Dunces cap.' The children thought that they much preferred school as it is now!

## News from Gwennol (Mrs Fielding / Year 2)

We have been reading and discussing the Hindu story of Creation. We composed music to depict the story and we created our own dance to represent the key parts of the story. We also created a collage of Vishnu and Brahma.

Our topic for this term is all about Knighton in Victorian times. This week, we have enjoyed finding out about the shops that were in Knighton in Victorian times. We used some of the pictures from Mary Cadwallader's book showing what Victorian Knighton was like. We created a graph on HWB showing our favourite Victorian shops and posters to advertise them.

## News from the Children's Centre (Pre-school)



We are enjoying PE with Mr Rose on a Monday. Last Tuesday we had great fun having a dance session with Emily George, thank you to Sally Humphries for donating her raffle prize to us.

## News from the Specialist Centre

We have had a busy start to the term; daily sensory circuits, speaking and listening, Time to Talk with Ginger Bear, designing and building dens, sequencing Whistleless our new story, following instructions to make a bird feeder, place value maths and finding out about why Giraffes can't dance!



We will be continuing to send out reading books on a Monday and Friday. Please can you remind your children to bring them to school on these days. Our PE days are also Monday and Friday, so please can the children come to school in their PE kits on these days.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Rimmer (Acting Headteacher)

**Half Term - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

## **Free school meals**

If you are on a low income, you may be entitled to help with the cost of school meals for any child in full time education.

If you register for free school meals, even if your child decides not to have a school lunch, you can:

- Save up to £400 a year for each primary school child
- Help your school and other schools in Powys to benefit from funding because you have registered
- Registering for Free School Meals might also qualify you for other help and assistance.

To register is easy and confidential. You don't have to tell the school.

If your child decides to have the school meal on any day they just have the meal provided. Powys schools have systems which mean it is impossible for other pupils to know who is receiving free school meals.

### **Who can get free meals?**

To get free meals in Powys schools, the parents/carers must get one of the following:

1. Income Support
2. Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
3. If you are an Asylum Seeker getting support under the Immigration and Asylum Act.
4. State Pension Guaranteed Credit
5. Employment and Support Allowance - Income based
6. Child Tax Credit - as long as you are not getting an amount for childcare paid with your CTC, or getting Working Tax Credit. HM Revenue & Customs must also have worked out your household income as £16,190 a year or less.
7. Universal Credit - as long as your annual net earnings are £7400 or less

You can also get free school meals if you are entitled to a Working Tax Credit 'run-on' payment for four weeks after stopping work or reducing working hours to under 16 hours a week.

### **How to register**

1. If you already get Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction, you don't need to fill in a form. Just contact us and we will do the rest.
2. If you're going to apply for [Housing Benefit](#) or [Council Tax Reduction](#), we can sort out free school meals at the same time.
3. You can also just register for free school meals by completing a simple form online and clicking submit  
[Complete the Free school meals form online](#)