



Gwernymynydd CP News

3rd November 2020

Dear Parents,

Some sad news

It is with great sadness that after many, many years of commitment and dedication to Gwernymynydd CP School that Mr and Mrs Droog will both be finishing with us later this month. I recently learnt that Mrs Droog was a pupil at Gwernymynydd herself and has many fond memories of the school as a child, a parent and member of staff. They will both be very much missed but are looking forward to spending some quality time together. Their last day is Friday 13th November, if you would like to send in any money for their collection you are most welcome to, in a labelled envelope, and we will ask your child to sign the card.

Children in Need – Friday 13th November

We recognise that it is not so easy to buy promotional items for Children in Need this year so thought as everything is a little bit 'odd' at the moment we would invite the children to come to school dressed 'in something odd'. That can be as simple as odd socks or shoes or use your imagination and go wildly odd. We are currently setting up a 'Hafod Federation Just Giving' page to allow you to donate to Children in Need directly, the link is <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hafod-federation> and we will also post the link on our school twitter page. Foundation Phase children will still be doing their outdoor learning in the afternoon so please be mindful that they will be outdoors for part of their day.

Anti Bullying Day – Monday 16th November

Children are invited to wear odd socks for this day, work will be done in lessons to mark this event.

COVID symptoms

I want to reassure you that following a positive case in the Foundation Phase at Ysgol y Waun, before half term, pupils and staff completed the isolation and have all returned safe and well to school. I feel that the key to reducing spread was the efficiency of us being informed from TTP, collecting children quickly from school and ensuring that isolation took place keeping children in their homes and gardens for the isolation period. I have now learnt that the 14 days isolation is calculated from the last day of contact with the positive case, this is why children were not asked to isolate for 14 days from the day of the information being shared so if you are confused that is why! It is essential that you do not send your children to school if they have any symptoms but that you arrange for a COVID test and all your household isolate until you receive the results. If you are waiting on test results please let the school know and also once you have received the result (usually via text or email) that you inform the school of the outcome. Should we feel that a child in school is presenting with symptoms we will continue to send them home for you to arrange a test. This is for the safety of all children, staff and our community.

Vacancies

While we are still processing the news of there being no Mr and Mrs Droog we must also look to fill their school positions.

The advert for Cleaner/Caretaker has been posted on the FCC Eteach website, however they have put up the Ysgol y Waun school logo so please do not be mistaken. The vacancy is also being advertised on the twitter page and locally. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this job please ask them to get in touch for further details. The closing date is Monday 16th November.

For Mrs Droogs position of Learning Support, I am working with Governors and this will be advertised in the new year. We will use a supply member of staff up until Christmas and once they have been confirmed we will share those details with you.

Mrs Newton has also handed in her resignation from Breakfast and After School Cub each Wednesday and Thursday. If you are interested but are concerned as you have a school aged child(ren), they are most welcome to attend while you work! Again, if you know anyone who would be interested in these hours please contact the school office.



Autumn term parents' evenings

As I am sure you are aware we are not able to hold parents' evenings as in previous years. Teachers are currently writing a mini autumn term update for your children based on how they have settled, what they have been doing in class and what they are to focus on. These will be sent out week commencing 23rd November. Should you wish to speak to your child's class teacher at any point, please email the office and we can arrange a telephone appointment.

Christmas Holidays

The last day for children is Thursday 17th December and we re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2020. There will be **NO after school club on Thursday 17th December**, the last day for after school club will be Wednesday 16th December.

No After School Club / Breakfast Club

Reminder: There will be **no** after school club on Tuesday 17th November and **no** breakfast club on Wednesday 18th November due to staff training.

L Ankers
Head teacher