



Gwernymynydd CP News

5 July 2021

Dear Parents,

School Reports

This week you should all receive your child's school report, in it there will be the following:

- School report, including child comment.
- Attendance report for the year. (marks recorded up to Friday 2nd July)
- Usually there would be End of Foundation Phase/End of Key Stage Two data for Year 2 and 6, these have not been done this year as directed from WG.
- Due to covid guidance and us trying to reduce items being sent to and from school please can we ask that you email the school office to let us know you have received the report. (We have sent paper copies of reports rather than emailed them as appreciate not every family has access to printers)

The WNT data for children from Year 2 to Year 6 for the online Maths Procedural tests will be shared with you via your child's Hwb account on Wednesday 7th July. These can be found in the 'Personalised Assessments' Tab. The Reading test data is not available until the Autumn term and we will notify you when these are released. We are particularly pleased with how much progress so many children have made knowing the many disruptions to learning during the year.

Meetings with teachers

If you wish to have a meeting with your child's class teacher please email the school office. We will be offering these using the SchoolCloud virtual platform during various sessions after school week commencing 12th July.

Onsite arrangements

FCC advice is very clear – we are not to hold any kind of events that involve bringing groups of parents, or pupils who have already left school, onto our site i.e. anything which compromises our Covid security. The rising case rate in Flintshire is a serious concern and the Delta variant is significantly more transmissible. FCC are seeing very quick spread of this variant in schools when the first case is identified resulting in large numbers of pupil isolations, disrupting pupils' education. This includes Sports day, leavers services, fairs or any gatherings.

Transition arrangements

Due to the FCC advice we are not able to allow children to visit their new classes or teachers. The current teachers will be talking to their classes about what to expect in September. New school guidance is being prepared for September which is likely to allow bubbles and contact groups to be larger. To reduce the uncertainty for our return on Friday 3rd September we will return with the staggered times as below. We will then communicate with children the changes we can make to ensure they are fully aware of the routines.

Year 5/6 arrive at 8.45 and leave at 3.10

Year 1/2 arrive at 8.50 and leave at 3.00

Nursery/Reception arrive at 8.55 and leave at 3.00 (please wait for class 2 to line up and walk in first then class 1 follow, at hometime, class 1 will lead the way down the path)

Year 3/4 arrive at 8.50 and leave at 3.15

For any Nursery children going home at 11.30am, parents are to wait outside the main front doors and children will be brought out to you.



New staff appointments

In a recent Governors meeting we discussed staffing and it was agreed for the next year to increase our staff, reducing our pupil:teacher ratio. I am very pleased to announce that we have Mrs Jennifer Beck joining us for 3 days, mainly based in Class 4 but also covering a little bit of work in Class 3. I am pleased to announce we have Mrs Cheryl Windsor joining us at Y Waun as a Class 2 teacher for 5 afternoons. Mrs Windsor will also be working 2 mornings a week on family engagement/nurture work. We have also appointed Miss Leona Gudger as the new administration staff member in the Ysgol y Waun office during the afternoons and she will also be covering the lunch duties in Foundation Phase each day.

September classes

It is good practice for staff and children to move around and work in different areas of the school. In September we have a slight change to the classes our staff will work in. Class 1 will be taught each morning by Mrs Martin as teacher and Mrs Denham as LSA. Class 2 will be taught by Miss Prosser with Mrs Hughes as LSA in the mornings. During the afternoon when there are only Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 the children will all work in one class under the direction of Miss Prosser, Mrs Denham and a newly appointed LSA. We plan to use the three staff effectively during the afternoons and have more of a free flow of learning experiences across the foundation phase with children working across all areas indoors and outside together. Mrs Hughes will be delivering language Catch up sessions during the afternoon. Class 3 will be taught by Mrs Newton and Mrs Adams and Class 4 by Mr Johnson and Mrs Beck.

5K for Kevin

Just a reminder that every day this week our children will be doing '5k for Kevin'. 1k a day is 5 laps of the track and each day these will become increasingly more challenging. On Friday 9th July there will be medals for each child who has taken part, kindly donated to us from Kevin's wife Sally.

I'm setting myself the challenge of completing 5k a day – surely that deserves a few extra pounds for the sponsorship?

Donations can be made directly via this link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hafod-federation1>

Sports Day reminder

Various races/events will be held on Friday 9th July. Children are to come to school in their black shorts/joggers and white PE t-shirt. FCC have said we are not allowed spectators, I know that many large sporting events are taking place however I cannot go against this FCC decision. This is the same for all Flintshire schools. Please do not congregate at the gate/fences as this will put us in a difficult position. Photographs will be taken by staff and uploaded to the Google classrooms.

Year 6 arrangements

A favourite tradition for Year 6 children is having their school t.shirts signed. Please can we ask that clean t.shirts are brought into school on Tuesday 13th July for Class 4 children to then sign during the last day.

Parent questionnaire

Please follow this link to complete an online questionnaire <https://forms.gle/fW31bWSaKxCP8dpa6> Governors are keen to use the findings from this to plan for future improvements. This will close on Thursday 15th July.

This is an exciting time for the children and young people of Wales. Education in Wales is changing. In 2022 we are going to change the way children and young people learn in schools. Schools will now be in charge of writing their own curriculum. A school's curriculum covers what children learn, how they learn and the reasons why they should learn. The current curriculum was first developed in 1988 so it's time to make a change and bring the curriculum up to date! Please click on the links below to find out more information.

This first link takes you to a guide for children and families:

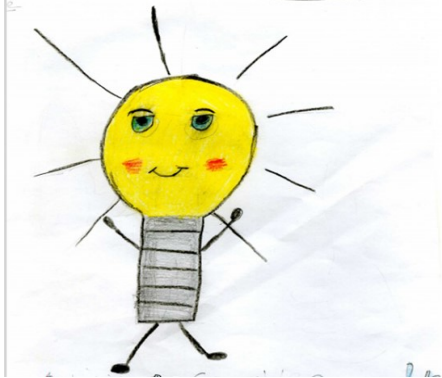
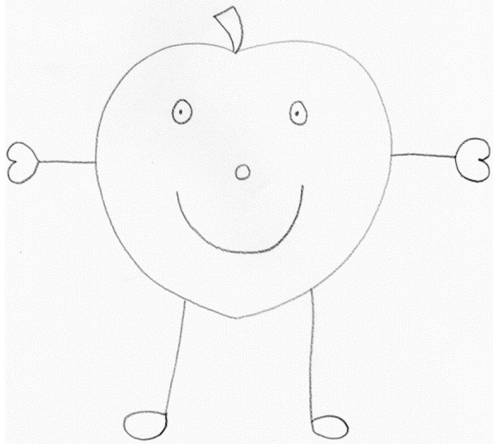


<https://hwb.gov.wales/api/storage/44b74558-5d89-4a5b-bf54-32bd6dcad1c0/a-new-curriculum-in-wales-a-guide-for-children-young-people-and-families.pdf>

This link takes you to a short video animation to explain the main changes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Am1wg46OsCE>

We are really excited about the possibilities the new curriculum offers and across the Hafod federation we have already begun work preparing for 2022. Together we have designed our own logos to represent each of the 4 purposes. Each class has also been working on understanding what each purpose means and have changed the wording to 'child friendly speak' so that we all understand what it means to develop as the 4 purposes.

I am hugely passionate about the new curriculum, having worked on the creation of this in my previous role. We hope to bring you more information as the work progresses but, in the meantime, don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

	
Ambitious and Capable Learners	Healthy and Confident Individuals
	
Ethical Informed Citizens	Creative and Enterprising Contributors



School Uniform Grant and Free School Meals

WG have extended the school years who can apply for the Uniform Grant. You can apply for a child that is in any of the following years: Reception, Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11. Funding becomes available mid-July. Full details can be found on the FCC website along with the link for you to apply.

If you feel you are eligible for free school meals this information and link to apply can also be found on the FCC website. If you are eligible to receive free school meals it is very important to school that you apply. We can access funding for children who qualify for free school meals that will allow them to provide targeted support programs, buy equipment and resources etc. If your child prefers to take a packed lunch or make other arrangements it is still important to register for free school meals so the school can access funding.

In order to be eligible to apply, parents must already be in receipt of, or applying for Free School Meals based on the following income;

- Income Support,
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance,
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999,
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance,
- Child Tax Credit,
- provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190,
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit,
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit.
- Universal credit (If earned income is included in the assessment of UC it must be less than £616.66)

School Watch

Please could we ask you to be vigilant and report any incidents you may see around the school over the holidays.

101 is a non-emergency number which provides the police with information regarding our site. Over the last week there has been a reported incident of attempted fire building with lighter fuel and alcohol bottles. We are hoping that having reported this, the local police officers will be extra vigilant.

Term Dates for next Academic Year

Please note: The school is closed to children for **six** staff training days during the school year.

**These are 1st and 2nd September, 22nd December, 25th April, 6th June and 20th July.
(please note the additional day on 6th June)**

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during this busy year and wish you all an enjoyable summer break. School reopens on Friday 3rd September.

Please note: The first day for Nursery children is Monday 6th September.

L. Ankers - Head teacher