

# Gwernymynydd CP School

## AUTUMN TERM INFORMATION BULLETIN 2022

### **Sad news of the passing of our Queen**

In school today many children have shared their feelings and thoughts about this news and we continued to talk about her wonderful life. Whilst we feel sadness and loss, we also feel thankful and proud of the way she has led our country for so many years. We will continue to talk about her duties over the coming weeks and will follow the guidance of Flintshire in terms of any school closure or plans during this time. During the Jubilee celebrations schools were able to apply for a commemorative book for children registered in school. These will be sent home with children tonight. As nursery were not registered in June they were not included in the allocations, however if we do have some spares we will distribute at a later date.

**Please take time to read the information below – there is a lot of it so maybe make yourself a cuppa too!**

### **Welcome**

What a busy start we have had to the new school year and so many new faces. I would like to welcome Olivia, Sarah, Connie, Annecy, Teddy, Megan, Seth, Nixon and Lily to our school this year, they have made new friends already and are settling in well. We have also had Harlow join our Year 1 group.

### **Consent Forms**

Your child(ren) will be bringing home the 'Data Collection Sheet' week commencing 26<sup>th</sup> September, please check the details carefully and return the forms as soon as possible, even if there are no changes the form needs to be signed and returned. Please note that 'Grandparents' is not a choice on the system therefore they are registered as 'Other Family Member'. Year 3 and those who are new to our school\* will also have a copy of our 'Code of Conduct for Responsible Use of the Internet' and the 'Home School Agreement' to be signed and returned. It has been agreed these forms would remain valid during Foundation Phase or Key Stage Two, if you require another copy of these please contact the office. If there are any changes to your circumstances it is your responsibility to inform the school office.

\*Please note: The Code of Conduct for Responsible Use of the Internet' and the 'Home School Agreement' forms have already been sent out to our Nursery parents, please return them to school if you have not already done so. Thank you

### **Communications**

Should you require to contact the school, the office is manned from 8.30am to 12.30pm and from 1.00pm to 3.00pm. The answer phone is available if you call and this is checked regularly throughout the school day. If leaving a message please can you leave the time you called as well as your message. You can also email the office and these are checked regularly throughout the day. If your message/query needs actioning that day please can you ring the office rather than email to guarantee the message has been received.

### **School Uniform**

The children have come back to school looking very smart indeed. Thank you for ensuring the children have the correct uniform. For PE and Outdoor days, children are

to come to school in their black joggers, white t-shirt and black zip up jacket. Children can wear any trainers on these days and when the weather takes a more autumnal turn, wellingtons/old shoes and waterproof coats will be needed. Wellingtons/old shoes can stay in school for the term in a labelled carrier bag on their pegs. Please ensure all items of uniform are labelled.

### **Outdoor/PE kit days**

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 = Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 and Year 4 = Wednesday and Friday

Year 5 and Year 6 = Wednesday and Thursday

We do apologise for any changes your class may have had, we are just adjusting to timetables and trying to find which routines work best.

### **Tempest individual and family group photographs**

Tempest will be in school during the morning of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September to take photographs of children individually and with their siblings. Unfortunately, we are not allowed to invite younger siblings to school this year. Please can all children wear full school uniform that day not Outdoor/PE kits.

### **School Attendance**

If your child is unwell please do not send them to school. We have already seen an increase in sore throats, colds, sickness and diarrhoea. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea they are to remain at home for 48 hours following the last episode. This is to ensure they are fully better and that the bug is not passed onto other children or staff. Please can we ask for you to email or ring the office with details of all absences so that they can be coded correctly on the registers.

If children arrive after registration has closed (9.20am) this is an **unauthorised absence** unless a reason is given. **Arrivals after 8.55am are recorded as late.**

Holidays during term time can be requested. I can authorise a maximum of ten school days per academic year per child, however this is not the norm. If you take above this, the absence is recorded as unauthorised and monitored by the authority. Please can I ask you to try not to take your children out of school as this does disrupt their learning? If you choose to take your child out of school for holidays, staff will not send work home for them to complete.

### **Class Information – Autumn Term**

Class 1 morning = Nursery, Reception and Year 1 – Miss H Smith and Miss A Jones (morning)

Class 1 afternoon = Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – Miss H Smith, Miss A Jones and Mrs J Albrighton

Class 2 morning = Year 2, Year 3 and some Year 4 – Miss Prosser, Mrs Hughes and Mrs Wright (1-1)

Class 2 afternoon = Year 3 and Year 4 – Miss Prosser and Mrs Wright

Class 3 morning = some Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 – Mr Johnson

Class 3 afternoon = Year 5 and Year 6 – Mrs Newton

Mrs L Hughes is supporting children in small groups during the afternoons. Mrs M Newton is the ALNCo and works across the federation.

### **Healthy eating and drinking**

Water bottles should be brought to school each day with your child's name on and stored in the tray in class, allowing your child to access throughout the day. Milk is given to FP children during morning break. Children are encouraged to bring fruit to school for snack time, we do find by 10.30am some are quite hungry! This can be a whole piece of fruit or prepared fruit in a tub/bag.

### **Reading and Spellings**

Over the next few weeks we are completing various tests to give us up to date information for spelling ages for Year 1 upwards. Following this, children will be allocated their spelling groups and weekly lists will come home to be learnt for the following week. These words will be from the high frequency lists or phonic spelling patterns which will be learnt during English lessons. Children will all have access to Spelling Frame at home to practice their spellings in preparation for the online test in school, details will be shared with those parents who this is new for. Information as to how to access this and which days the new words and tests will be given will be sent once the word lists are released

Nursery staff will be observing children while they complete the FP profiles.

Reading books will be sent home this evening, please can you read regularly with your child and comment in the record book. Reading books are to be in school each day so that staff can listen at various times during the week. If you feel your child needs a new book please speak to the class teacher.

### **Homework**

This year we are returning to the traditional homework book. Each week we will be sending home a piece of maths or language work, similar to the work children have been completing in class. This will be for children to complete and return by the following Wednesday. From this you will have an idea of work children are doing in school. It is hoped that children can complete this work independently as it will be revision of skills taught in school and teachers will have explained it, but we do ask that you read the task with your child to start them off. The first piece of homework will be sent on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September and is due in no later than the following Wednesday.

### **Outdoor Wear**

While I appreciate it is not always 'cool' to wear a coat, or if you come to school in the car you may not need one. However, when the children are outside for any length of time it can be cold. If it is damp or raining during a break, without a coat, children may not be able to go out. KS2 pupils are allowed to bring trainers to be changed into for lunch break and these are to remain in school for the term in a bag on their peg. All pupils should wear black school shoes when in the building – not trainers unless PE/Outdoor day.

### **Safeguarding / Child Protection**

All Parents/carers should be aware the school has a responsibility to ensure the well-being of all children. This responsibility means that Gwernymynydd CP must adhere to the following:-

1. Have a child protection policy and procedure;

2. Make parents/carers aware of the child protection policy through the school prospectus. The policy requires that a child is referred to the statutory child welfare agencies if the school believes or suspects that a child or other children may be at risk of harm or neglect;
3. Endeavour to work with parents/carers regarding the welfare of their child and remain impartial if their child is being, or has been referred;
4. Help parents/carers understand that if a referral is made to social services or the police, it has been made in the best interest of the child and that the school will be involved in any child protection enquiry or police investigation in relation to their child's welfare and educational progress;
5. Keep the parents/carers informed of the welfare and educational progress of the child.

You may find the following helpful:-

1. familiarise yourself with your child's friends and routine;
2. be sensitive to changes in behaviour;
3. teach your child to feel confident to refuse to do anything they feel is wrong;
4. be aware of your child's use of the internet and mobile phone to ensure they don't place themselves at risk.

Mrs Ankers, Mr Johnson and Mrs Sian Parry are all trained to Level 3 Child Protection and all other staff are trained to Level 1.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

### **Medical forms**

If your child requires medicine at all during the school day a member of staff will administer this once a medical form has been completed. These are available from the office. Please ensure you hand all medicines to a member of staff and not leave them in school bags.

For children who have asthma, please can we ask for a named spacer and Ventolin to be brought to school for us to keep in the staffroom.

### **Head lice**

Please can we remind you to check hair for lice and eggs regularly.

### **Flu Spray**

Before we finished for summer children brought home A5 envelopes with information about the Flu spray for children aged Reception to Year 6. These were collected by the School Health Team. We have been given the date of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December for our children to receive their spray in school if you gave consent. As these forms are not read by us we do not hold the information as to who is receiving them or not, the school health team manage it all on the day. We have been given the links below if you wanted to share a short video with your child before the day. Any information we receive from the health team we will share with you. For any new children to our school who were not with us in July I am waiting to hear about new forms for you.

- English subtitle: [https://youtu.be/0HX8Cvy\\_16A](https://youtu.be/0HX8Cvy_16A)
- Welsh subtitle: <https://youtu.be/UXHLIaMsv6c>
- English: <https://youtu.be/w5LBU9Klay8>
- Welsh: <https://youtu.be/4rBN-l1ahzc>

### **To confirm the school is closed to children on ...**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

### **Concerns/Complaints Procedure**

Should you have any concerns about the welfare of your child in school please do not hesitate to contact us – as we explain to the children if we do not know about things, we cannot make them better. The procedure for raising concerns is that you firstly approach the class teacher, this can either be done by sending a note in requesting a call or appointment or telephoning the office. We do find that on occasions children come home and retell an upsetting event from the day, if you contact us straight away we can usually put your mind at ease and resolve the situation. If you feel the situation has not been resolved, then please contact myself who will investigate further.

### **Safety**

Following County and WG safeguarding procedures the school vehicle gates are closed between the hours of 9.00am and 4.30pm daily and pedestrian gate from 8.55am for the full day, with the exception of when staff are dismissing children at home time.

Please can I ask you to consider the residents of Gwernymynydd when parking your car and ensure you are not blocking driveways or park on the large pavement area outside the pedestrian gates.

### **Breakfast Club**

This club is partly funded by a grant from the WG to Flintshire Council. We have two members of staff each day who work in the hall. Children are invited to attend from 7.45am until 8.45am. All children require an adult to bring them to the door with the exception of Year 6 pupils who can arrive independently and with a KS2 sibling. Children are supervised until the start of the school day when teaching staff are on duty. Due to WG funds, as of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, only 30 minutes per day are funded, therefore, children arriving before 8.15am will be charged £1.50 per child, this provision is 'Early Risers'. Children arriving between 8.15am and 8.30am will access the WG 'Free Breakfast Club' and be supervised until they go to class at 8.45am. Payments are made via the Parentmail app.

### **School dinners**

All meals are £2.50 per day £12.00 per week. The menu is also sent as an attachment to this email. Please ensure that payment for school meals is made promptly. Attached to this email is the 3-week rolling menu for the term. Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September is week 3, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> week 1 and it continues.

### **After School Club**

After school club is open Monday to Friday 3.00pm – 5.00pm in the School hall for all full-time children. This is run by Miss J Homersley, Mrs B Williams and Miss C Jones. Registration forms will be sent home, please can you complete and return to ensure we have up to date details on record. Please can we remind you that children must be booked into the club, ideally by completing the weekly Google form which is sent from the office on a Monday or telephoning the school office for short notice requests. If you have booked your child in and no longer need the place please can you let school know as someone else may want the place.

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

These will start week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Monday – Football	Mr Johnson for Year 3-6	3.15 - 4.15pm
Monday – IT	Miss Prosser for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	3.15 – 4.00pm
Tuesday – Track	Mrs Newton for Year 3-6	3.15 – 4.15pm
Tuesday – Craft	Miss Smith for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	3.00 – 4.00pm

It is hoped we will be able to offer an orienteering club held at Ysgol y Waun on Fridays but I am just waiting for confirmation from Aura.

### **Hafod Federation Code of Conduct**

Should any parent/visitor to the school exhibit disruptive or abusive behaviour on school premises the school will contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary refuse the offending person/s entry to the school grounds.

### **Hafod Federation Social Media**

The Hafod Federation endeavours to provide the best service we can to our pupils and families. Unfortunately, on occasion, you may feel that we have not achieved this. Should this be the case, we request that you contact the school directly to discuss the situation rather than sharing your comments on a social media platform.

If we become aware that inappropriate content has been posted online (this includes defamatory statements or personal comments, particularly those concerning violence) then we will ask you to attend a meeting to discuss the situation.

### **Diary dates**

Details of all the following events will be shared nearer the time

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 6pm at Y Waun – New Curriculum information for Parents evening

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September Children receiving First Aid training during the day

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 3.15 – 4.00pm – Family Friday. We are inviting parents and children into school to come and have a look at the new classrooms, look through books and meet the teachers.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2.15 – 3.00pm – Coffee afternoon in the hall with Mrs Windsor, we are inviting all parents to come and have a chat, discussing ways we can work together during the year to deliver workshops etc.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am Year 5 and Year 6 class assembly, parents and grandparents from that class are invited to the school hall to watch an assembly led by the children where they will share their learning.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Hedgehog sanctuary visiting Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Y3/4 class assembly

Week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December – Enterprise week for KS2

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December – FP Christmas Concert – dress rehearsal

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – FP Christmas Concert

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December – FP Christmas Concert

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Party day – children to plan

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Family Friday

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February – FP class assembly

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Parents eve

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Parents eve

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Gwernymynydd's Got Talent  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Family Friday  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 dress rehearsal  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 performance  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 performance  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Sports day  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Family Friday  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Summer fair  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers services

**Staff Absence**

It is not timely, however I am going into hospital next week for a small operation to my foot. Whilst I will be off my feet for a few weeks I do plan on working from home and as soon as I am mobile I will be getting a lift to school for a couple of days each week. In my absence, Mr Johnson is the senior leader and please contact him with any concerns you have.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for the continued support shown to us and to say how much I am looking forward to this new school year.

L.K Ankers  
Headteacher