

Risca Primary School

Spring Term Newsletter No 1

Monday 16th January 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! Can I wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope that you all had a restful Christmas and peaceful new year, and are ready to start 2023 with a bang! It is so lovely to see all of our children back in school. Let's hope that this dreaded flu virus stays away now and that we can all have a healthy start to the new year.

School Dinner Payments

As you know we now operate a cashless system for dinner payments. Can I thank all of you who have signed up for the system, it really does support us in the office, as we do not have to manage large amounts of cash on a weekly basis. Can I please remind you that all dinners MUST be paid for in ADVANCE, before pupils have lunch. Unfortunately, we are experiencing an increasing number of parents who are paying for lunches in arrears. This is causing additional workload within the office as when parents pay in arrears we have to do a manual computer operation for each child. This is beginning to add to the workload of our Clerk, and is sadly hindering her from completing other tasks. I would be really grateful if you could please ensure that from next week all dinner money is paid up front. Many thanks.

Spelling and Handwriting

This term we are changing our methodology for teaching spelling and handwriting, and as of next week we will be combining our teaching of spelling patterns with handwriting practice. You will notice that when spellings are sent home, they will mainly contain a spelling pattern (e.g. how, now, cow, bow). When we are teaching this spelling pattern we will also be teaching the handwriting process alongside the spelling. We hope that this will be an additional way for us to develop good handwriting practices with our children. Please do not be disappointed if you think that the spellings are easy, and please keep in mind that there are two purposes for the practice; first to learn the spelling pattern, and secondly to reinforce the handwriting pattern associated with the phonic pattern. Occasionally, you will notice that your child brings home seemingly

unrelated spellings, which have no pattern whatsoever. If this occurs, these words will be high frequency words which do not naturally fall into an age appropriate pattern. These words are often quite tricky words, and any help that you can give your child to consolidate these words will be gratefully received.

Noah's Ark Appeal

Can I please say a big thank you to all of you who sent your children in on the last day dressed in their Christmas jumpers. And many thanks too for the accompanying donations. As a result we have sent £136.15 to the Noah's Ark Appeal, which I am sure you will agree is a very worthy cause.

Great News and Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs E. Williams, Year 3, who has just given birth to a beautiful baby boy. Mother and baby are doing really well, and we can't wait for that first mother and baby visit to school.

Car Park Safety

As you know we work very hard at our school to keep children safe at all times. Can I please kindly ask that you support us to keep children safe by ensuring that you do not use our car park when accessing school, Pedestrians are not allowed in our car park, with the exception of staff who use it. By keeping children away from our car park, this will ensure that pupils are never in the proximity of cars which may be leaving school at any time of the day. If you need to access the main door of the school at any time of the day please use the path at the front of the school, and not cut across the car park. Many thanks for your cooperation.

Message from Our PTA



RISCA PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN OUR FRIENDLY TEAM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED WITH THE PTA OR WOULD JUST LIKE TO FIND OUT A BIT MORE, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

ANY AMOUNT OF TIME YOU COULD VOLUNTEER WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS, MEET UP FOR A COFFEE AND GET INVOLVED WITH FUNDRAISING IDEAS AND ACTIVITIES TO RAISE VITAL FUNDS FOR OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN. WIN WIN!

OUR MEMBERS ARE L-R, SUZANNE, JEN, CLARE AND SUE. BETWEEN US WE HAVE 6 CHILDREN CURRENTLY ATTENDING RISCA PRIMARY IN YEARS 1, 3, 5 & 6.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE COME AND CHAT TO US ON THE YARD OR YOU CAN GIVE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS TO MRS WILMORE IN THE OFFICE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 3rd Feb: Wear Red for Velindre Day
Tuesday 7th Feb: Year 3 Golf Taster Day
Monday 20th Feb-Friday 24th Feb: Half term
Tuesday 28th Feb: Crucial crew Y6
Wednesday 1st March: School Eistedfodd
Friday 17th March: Comic Relief Day
Tuesday 28th March: Rags to Riches Collection
Thursday 30th March: Careers Fayre Y5 and 6
Friday 31st March: School term ends : @1.30

Mrs Arthur and Staff