

Risca Primary School

Autumn Term Newsletter No 3

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



Autumn is definitely here! I think that we have all noticed a shift in the weather, and we can see those dark mornings rolling in. As it is now getting colder, please could you give your child a gentle reminder about bringing a coat to school every day. Even though it is getting colder, as you know the children still go onto the yard each day, for lunch and break times, and our younger pupils have opportunities for outside play every day. If you could ensure that all children are wrapped up warm for the day we would be really grateful. Many thanks.

Harvest

As the leaves start to turn red we are reminded that it is nearly Harvest time. To celebrate Harvest we will be having a Harvest Festival assembly in the hall. Can I thank those of you who have already sent in some contributions to the Risca Food bank. We are really grateful. We know that the Foodbank is struggling to keep up with demand at the moment, so all contributions will be gratefully received.

Traffic and Access To Our School Site

As you know the safety of our children is of the utmost concern to us. Many of you will be aware that the road at the front of the school, Graig View, has restricted times of use. To keep our children safe, motorists without a permit are not allowed access to Graig View between the hours of 8.15 - 9.15am, and 2.45 - 3.30pm. Please be aware that we have regular visits from the local wardens, who are able to issue fines when appropriate for the misuse of the road. I wouldn't want any parent to be caught unawares, and inadvertently receive a fine.

Please also be aware that our car park is for staff only. We do not have the capacity for parents to use our car park. We have also had a few queries from parents about using our disabled bay. Unfortunately, our disabled bay is strictly reserved for pupils at our

school with disabilities. I am sure that you will appreciate that it is important that we have ongoing and continuous access to our site for pupils with mobility issues. Many thanks.

Water On Desks

Don't forget that we kindly ask that all children bring a filled water bottle with them to school, to ensure that they are hydrated throughout the day. We ask that the bottle is filled to avoid a rush to the sink first thing in the morning, but please be reassured that should the children need a refill, we have sinks in each classroom for this.

Covid

We know that Covid is very much on the rise again and therefore it is important that we are all vigilant. Many thanks to all parents who have informed us when children are poorly with Covid. It's really important that we keep an eye on our school community to ensure that Covid doesn't spread unnecessarily within the school. Just for you to be aware we are still expected to ensure that classrooms are well ventilated, and therefore at times during the day, we will be popping open windows to 'air' classrooms. If you could please consider this in the mornings I would be very grateful, and if the weather takes a turn it will be important that children are dressed warmly for school, so they aren't cold when rooms are ventilated. Many thanks.

If a pupil tests positive for Covid, then they will need to isolate for 5 days from the day of the test OR the day the symptoms started. In this circumstance, if you could contact the school we would be very grateful, this will allow us to be extra vigilant with all of the other children in the class, and if necessary keep parents fully informed.

See-Saw

I hope that you have all now been able to access See-Saw for your children. We have found that it is a fabulous way for us to communicate with parents, and a super way for us to share your children's work with you. Please be reminded that See-Saw is not a suitable method of communication for complaints. Should you have any concerns at the end of the day please either speak to the teacher at the door, or call the office to make an appointment with a teacher. Please be reassured that teachers will make an appointment to see you as soon as possible.

Whilst we are also aware that at times of emergency, you may need to send a message to a teacher out of working hours, we would expect that these circumstances would be rare. I would therefore kindly ask that all communication with teachers (except in

emergencies) is kept between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm. I am sure that you will appreciate that it is important for teachers to be able to 'switch off' at the end of the day, and therefore I really would like to keep out of hours messaging to an absolute minimum. Many thanks.

Christmas

We are already looking forward to Christmas, and we really hope that our Christmas this term is as normal as possible. We have therefore set dates for Christmas parties and concerts. Hurray!!! Please see dates at the end of this newsletter. These should help you to plan ahead for any forthcoming events. Don't forget that children may wear sensible party clothes on their party day. All parties will be held in school time. We will send you details of how to purchase tickets for our concerts later in the term.

And finally,

Many thanks to Miss Ross who has worked in our school over the past year. Miss Ross has been working in our school whilst Miss Crandon has been off on maternity leave. We would like to say a big thank you to Miss Ross for all of her hard work, and wish her all the best for the future. We also look forward to seeing Miss Crandon back on Monday morning ready to receive our Nursery and Reception children.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 28th October: School breaks up for half term

Monday 7th of November: School reopens after half term

Wednesday 16th November: Individual photo day

Friday 18th November: Children in Need - non uniform day

Friday 25th November: Rags to Riches clothes collection

Concert Dates:

Tuesday 13th December: Year5/6 Carol Concert: 1.45 pm and 6.00pm

Wednesday 14th December: Year 3/4 Concert: 1.45pm and 6.00pm

Thursday 15th December: Year 1/2 Concert: 1.45pm and 6.00pm

Friday 16th December: Nursery and Reception Concert: 10.00am

Party Dates:

Monday 19th December: Nursery and Reception Party

Tuesday 20th December: Year 1/2 Party

Wednesday 21st December: Year 3/4 Party

Thursday 22nd December: Year 5/6 Party

Friday 23rd December 1.30pm: Break up for Christmas holiday

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Arthur and Staff