

Risca Primary School

Autumn Term Newsletter No 5

Tuesday 6th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas seems to be coming at us so quickly this year. I can't believe that we have already had our Christmas Fayre and that we are heading into Christmas Concert week next week. In this newsletter you will find some information which should help you get you through the next few weeks. We are very aware that as we haven't had a 'normal' Christmas in our school for a number of years, that many of you will not be familiar with our Christmas routines. I hope that this newsletter will answer any questions that you have, and help you plan ahead for the next few weeks.



By HikingArtist

Scarlet fever and invasive streptococcal disease

As you are probably aware there has been an increase in cases of scarlet fever and streptococcal disease. Public Health Wales are advising that the characteristic symptom of scarlet fever is a widespread, fine pink-red rash that feels like sandpaper to touch. Other symptoms include a high temperature, a flushed face and a red, swollen tongue. I am sure that you will want to be a little more alert at this time when evaluating your child's health.

Christmas Fayre

Firstly, can I thank all of you who attended our Christmas Fayre on Friday. We all had a lovely time seeing you all, and it certainly got us in the swing for Christmas. We are so grateful as we made just over £800 profit from the Fayre all of which will be used for the benefit of the children. Many thanks.

Art Christmas Project

Can I also thank you for your support for the Art Christmas Project. I know that many of you supported us by purchasing cards, cushions, coasters and mugs. As a result of your support we raised a further £1,000 for our school fund.

Charity Work

We also supported two charities this term, the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. We raised £358 for the Poppy Appeal and £410 for Children in Need. I am sure that you will agree that these are both very deserving charities, and we are pleased to have been able to support them with such a generous donation.

Christmas Parties

On Christmas Party days, the children may come to school wearing sensible party clothes. Please can I give a reminder that whilst this is party day, pupils are still in school, and therefore we expect pupils to be sensibly dressed, with sensible clothing and shoes. We kindly ask that pupils do not wear crop tops, as these are not appropriate for school. We very much look forward to seeing pupils in their own clothes on party day, but ask that you support us in ensuring that pupils are still suitably dressed for school. Many thanks.

Christmas Concerts

For pupils in Year 1 to Year 6 you will know by now that they will have the opportunity to do two concerts, one at 1.45pm and one at 6pm. We ask that all children are brought back to school for evening concerts, as concerts can be spoiled if a number of pupils stay away. When concerts are held in the afternoon, children may go straight home after their concert, and should you wish to, you may take siblings too.

Please note that we are unable to keep children in school if they have an evening concert. Pupils need to be picked up at the usual time and then returned to school in the evening. Your child's teachers will See-Saw you with further details on timings for evening concerts.

When pupils come back to school in the evening, they will need to enter the school through the front door, where a member of staff will be ready to greet them.

Also, please can I remind you that you will need to buy a ticket for each person attending the concert, and this includes children. We have a limited number of people who we can allow into the hall, and therefore even children are required to have a ticket. Many thanks.

Videeing and Photography

For safeguarding reasons we do not allow photography or videeing of our concerts. Additionally, we have some parents who do not wish to have their children photographed whilst in school. However, we know that families all like to have a memento of their child's concert. Therefore, we always ensure that we take group photographs of pupils at our dress rehearsals, which we send out via Twitter/See-Saw.

Last Day of Term

Please note that on the last day of term, school finishes at 1.30 pm.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be on Wednesday 21st December. All dinners must be paid for in advance and using the UPAY App. If you would like your child to have Christmas dinner in school, but you have not yet set up the App, please contact the office to ask for your login details.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, there will be no charge, as these year groups are entitled to free meals, under the WAG's universal roll out of free meals for primary school children.

All pupils will bring home an order slip for Christmas dinner. If you would like your child to have Christmas dinner in school please complete the slip and return it to school by Monday 12th December.

On Christmas dinner day pupils are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper to school, and bring a small donation for the "Noah's Ark Appeal".

Dates for the Diary

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

Other dates:

Thursday 15th December: Change of school dinner menu "Burger Day"

Wednesday 21st December: Christmas Dinner

Christmas Jumper day - proceeds to Noah's Ark Appeal

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

Monday 9th January: INSET Day - School closed to pupils

Tuesday 10th January: School reopens to pupils

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Arthur and Staff