

# Risca Primary School

## Spring Term Newsletter No 12

Friday 26th February 2021



Dear Mums and Dads,

What a super week back we have had! It has been lovely to welcome our Foundation Phase children back into class, and having spoken to the teachers, I am pleased to say that all of the children have settled in really well. It's as if they have never been away from us. I know that having the children back has really put a smile on our faces and hopefully, fingers crossed, we will begin to see our KS2 pupils after March 15th.

As we begin to prepare for the return of all of our children, we are beginning to re-establish old routines. As you know a big adjustment that we made to ensure that our school site was safe was the introduction of a staggered start. As a reminder, our full school opening times are:-:

Nursery pupils: 9.10-11.50

Foundation Phase: 9.10 - 2.50

Year 3 and 4: 9.00 - 3.10

Year 5 and 6; 8.50 - 3.00

Hub class: 8.50 - 3.10 (please note that our Hub class doors will close in the morning at 8.55 am. We kindly ask that all parents deliver all hub children to the junior yard and ensure that they are safely taken into the building. If you are late to a hub class, please bring your child to the front doors). Many thanks.

### Keeping Children Safe

We are very aware that we are returning to school in an environment where we are dealing with the new, more transmissible virus. Therefore, when we re-open fully, we have to be extra cautious and ensure that we are following all guidelines as best as we possibly can. It is worth noting that it is now known that although overall Covid infections have fallen by two thirds, the virus is now most prevalent amongst those aged between 5 and 12,( and 18-24) As a result, we know that we will have to continue to be extra vigilant when opening our school. We will

continue to operate strict bubble systems throughout the day and children will continue to be segregated at lunch time and playtime.

To ensure that our bubble system works effectively, can I please ask that we all make a huge effort to be on time when coming to school. This will ensure that all children use the correct doors when entering the building and that we minimise the crossing of pupil bubbles. We really want to avoid a large number of pupils entering through the front of the building. Many thanks.

As a reminder, when you arrive at school, please wait on the green astroturf areas and wait for your child's teacher to arrive on the yard. This will keep everyone safe and ensure that we can manage all children effectively. Pupil toys, scooters and bikes are not permitted on our yard, and I would be very grateful if these could be left at home.

**Please can I also ask that you socially distance when on our school site and keep at least 2 m apart from other families. May I also ask that you keep your children with you when you are waiting for class doors to open.** It is very important that the children do not have opportunities to play outside of their bubble whilst waiting for doors to open. If children are playing with other children whilst waiting for doors to open, this will negate any strategies that we have put in place to minimise the mixing of bubbles whilst in school.

We also ask that as soon as you have picked up your children you leave the school site. This enables us to minimise the crossing of pupil bubbles at the end of the day and ensure that any congestion on our yard is kept to a minimum. **Can I also ask all adults to please wear a face covering. Please do not enter our school site without one.** Many thanks.

Don't forget, should your child have a positive coronavirus test whilst in school please contact us as soon as possible, via See-Saw, e-mail or telephone in order that we can start self isolation procedures immediately, and where possible limit any potential transmission.

### Catering

We will start serving hot meals from the beginning of next week. Please send your child's dinner money in, on Monday, in an envelope labelled with your child's name, class and days that they require lunch. We are unable to accept loose change which is not properly labelled. This enables us to adhere to the risk assessment for handling monies, provided to us by the Local Authority. Many thanks.

### St David's Day

This week we have been celebrating St David's Day in school and the children have had super opportunities to celebrate our Welsh culture. As we are unable to come together as a whole school this year we will not be holding a formal Eisteddfod and therefore we ask that children attend school in their usual school uniform on St David's Day. Many thanks.

Once again can I thank you for your patience and understanding and thank all of you who continue to work with us to do the best for all of our children in these difficult times.

Many thanks

Mrs Arthur and Staff