



Parent/carer information newsletter October 2017

Building works

New cloakrooms in the Foundation Phase have been completed and the canteen is now open. Works are currently underway to extend the hall which means that space is limited. Work on the new extension continues.

National Outdoor Classroom Day – Thursday 12th October

All classes in Foundation Phase, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be prioritising lessons outside to celebrate and explore outdoor learning and play. Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play not only teaches important life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity and is central to children's enjoyment of school. Follow us on twitter @cwmffrwdoer to see lots of photographs of the day.

Dates for diary

Friday 13th October	School closed for INSET staff training
Thursday 19th October	Nasal Spray immunisation team in school as part of 'Fluena School Programme' Reception – Year 4
Monday, Tuesday 23/24th October	Parent/Teacher Consultations. Appointment slips will be sent home this week. If the time is not convenient, please send a note to the teacher to inform them.
Wednesday 25^h October	Harvest Festival in Ebenezer Chapel, Pupils and staff only.
Friday 27th October	Half term ends at normal time.
Wednesday 8th November	School photographs, younger siblings to come into school for 8:30am for family photos.

A separate letter will be sent home by the PTA with details of the Halloween Discos which will take place on the last week of half term.

Dates for the Christmas concerts will follow. Due to lack of space in the hall this year, concerts will be performed in phases in KS2 (Years 3/4 and Years 5/6). Letters to confirm arrangements for Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 concerts will be sent home later this term.

Santa in the Grotto 3rd December 11am-3pm

If you would like your child to visit Santa in the Grotto, please send your choice of time (15 minute slots) and child's name to santainthegrotto@gmail.com Be quick as spaces are filling up quickly.

Parking in school car park

The school car park is for staff and authorised visitors only. Currently, due to building works, not all staff are able to park in the car park. **Under no circumstances are parents/carers to park in the car park. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.**

School Uniform

Children are looking so smart in their uniforms. We ask for your support in all pupils wearing black/dark footwear.

PE kit

Please ensure all PE kits are in school for weekly PE lessons; PE kit consists of white t shirt and black/dark shorts for PE lessons.

Homework

At Cwmffrwdor we believe that homework helps pupils to work independently and develop self-discipline. Homework encourages children to be responsible for completing tasks. Homework also allows parents to have an active role in their child's education.

Many children complete homework regularly; in one class last week every child brought their homework in on time. Please support your child in ensuring they complete weekly homework as this benefits them in their classwork.

The Importance of Good School Attendance

I would like to remind you about the importance of good attendance and punctuality, which as a school we take very seriously. Days off school soon add up and missing lessons makes it hard to catch up resulting in pupils having to work harder when they come back even missing vital information that will prevent their progress. There are 175 non-school days a year for holidays and family time. It may be useful for you to know what attendance figures mean

Above 98%	Excellent attendance Less than 4 days absence in a year.
95%	Good attendance Less than 9 days absence in a year. SCHOOL TARGET
90%	Below average / low attendance 19 days absence over the year. Students with attendance 90% or below are persistently absent from school and parents of students with this level of attendance or below could be issued with a Penalty Notice.
85%	Exceptionally low attendance 29 days absences in a year.

for your child.

Reporting an absence

- All absences must be reported before 9.00am each day by notifying the school.
- To notify the absence either: Telephone 01495 742761
- If you know your child is going to be absent please let us know in advance.
- Unexplained absences will be unauthorised by the school.
- All requests for holidays during term time must be in writing on school forms.
- Informing school that your child will be absent without a reason will result in an unauthorised absence.
- Please support us and work together so that we can achieve our whole school target of 95% this year.



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