



Happy, Together, Learning and Caring.

Website: www.cwmffrwdolerprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @cwmffrwdoler

Parent/carer information – October 9th 2020

Class Newsletters

Please check the website for newsletters from each teacher with information that is specific to your child's class.

Head Girl/Boy positions

Pupils in Year 6 who were interested in becoming Head Girl/Boy have taken part in an application process which involved them delivering speeches to their peers. The children did this through Microsoft Teams which enabled other classes to watch the speeches before voting for their choices.

All children did so well in and were confident in giving their reasons for wanting to carry out these roles.

The successful candidates are:

Head Boy - Toby Malson

Head Girl - Lacey Rowlands

Deputy Head Boy - Lewys Jones

Deputy Head Girl - Kiera Parker

I was so proud of all children and their speeches.

All the children who applied will be offered other leadership roles if they didn't secure a role this week.

Pupil Absence - If your child is absent from school, please ensure you telephone the school office on 01495 742761 by 9.30am to advise us of the reason for the absence. Please leave a message on the answerphone if you are unable to speak to a member of the office staff.

The Torfaen Education Welfare Service (EWS) has provided important information for parents/carers which is available on our website with this newsletter.

The EWS states:

“Current evidence suggests that the health risk posed by Covid-19 to children is extremely low. However, children not attending school maybe at significant risk to their health and mental wellbeing, progress in their learning and ultimately the level of qualifications gained and future life chances.

Lockdown has already had a significant impact on their learning and engagement to date and further absence will further increase this, despite the best intentions of distance learning. On balance, school really is the best place for them to be. Your child has a right to an education, and there is a statutory obligation for parents to send their child to school.

I would encourage you to send your child to school on a regular basis and discuss any concerns you may have with your child's school.”





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If your child is absent from school as they are self-isolating, work will be set online through Hwb and Teams as the children are used to this process. Children's log in details must be used for this. All homework will also be set in this way. Teachers monitor all use of Hwb and Teams weekly.

Weekly class attendance awards have restarted this week. The best attending class this week are Dosbarth Abersoch and have received the Attendance Trophy in class and can wear non-uniform to school today.

Important dates for school in October:

Election of Pupil Leadership roles

Including:

School Council Leaders

Eco-Committee Leaders

Digital Leaders

Heddlu Bach

Pupil Equality Group

To continue throughout October 2020

Black History Month

October 2020

Wear Red Day

Wear Red Day is to raise funds towards anti-racism education by wearing any red item of clothing and donating £1.

'Red Card to Racism' are delivering sessions in school for pupils and staff in October.

Friday 16th October 2020

Donations of £1 will be collected at the gates in a bucket to minimise money being handled in school.

Parent Consultations

Target information will be provided to parents/carers the week beginning 12th October.

Parents will also be offered a telephone discussion with teachers.

Week beginning 19th October

Macmillan Cake Sale

Donations collected at gates (as above)

Cake will be 'sold' in classes.

We would appreciate any donations of cake which is shop purchased.

Unfortunately we cannot accept homemade cakes.

Friday 23rd October 2020

Halloween in class discos arranged by PTA

As you know, the PTA discos have long been a highlight of the year for our children. Although we can't hold a normal disco, the PTA are organizing discos in each class to continue to raise much needed funds

Tuesday 20th October 2020 (in school time)
£2 to be collected in buckets by school staff.





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for school.

There will be a cost of £2 for the disco. Children can wear Halloween fancy dress or disco clothes and there will be the usual disco snacks and drinks provided. Each class will have some prizes provided for games and best costume.

All money will be used by the PTA to purchase resources to enhance learning in school.

End of half term

Friday 23rd October 2020

PTA

Although the PTA haven't been able to put on events for the children, the PTA have still been working hard behind the scenes even during lockdown!

The PTA spend much time applying for grants and earlier this year they secured grant funding from two applications to Sports Wales and Bron Afon for new sports equipment for school. The PTA successfully secured grant funding of £2500, which has allowed us to purchase a wide range of equipment including combination football/rugby goals,

fixed basketball hoops, giant sized games, over 100 assorted balls (football, netball, rugby, tennis etc), a sports day pack, gymnastics balance beam, PE mats & storage trolley.

More recently the PTA have secured another grant of £1000 from Bron Afon which has allowed us to purchase forest school items. Since we have returned in September, forest school sessions have increased meaning that more equipment and storage was needed. The PTA have purchased many essentials for successful Forest Schools; A storage she, den building kit, a fire tripod, pen knives, peelers, bow saws and hacksaws, gloves, marshmallow toasting forks, a storm kettle and water carrier as well as handwash stations.

We are so grateful for this donation as a result of Bron Afon funding. All classes from nursery to year 3 are now receiving weekly forest school sessions which help improve self-esteem and wellbeing. This is a priority for us as a school, particularly in the current COVID-19 situation where children's lives and routines have been hugely disrupted. Forest School gives them the opportunity to work in a natural outdoor environment, which is universally accepted as being the best environment for increasing levels of wellbeing. All children have the opportunity to work in ways and at a pace appropriate to them in Forest Schools sessions as well as allowing the children to take managed risks. Most importantly, children have a great deal of fun and the photographs on Twitter definitely illustrate this.

Forest School is now so well resourced thanks to the PTA.

In other news, the PTA are currently waiting for news of a grant they have applied for through Asda - watch this space!

The PTA have also arranged a project for the children to do some Christmas artwork in class and the finished pictures will be sent to a company called My Child's Art, who make a variety of items with them - Christmas cards etc. The PTA regularly spend around £400 at Christmas time, helping Santa out with presents for the classes, so are hoping that commission from any purchases you make will help raise some very useful funds.

The usual PTA Christmas raffle will also go ahead - any prize donations would be gratefully received!





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Important information - Covid Symptoms

Any children displaying any of the Covid symptoms should be kept at home.

- These are -
 - ✓ new continuous cough
 - ✓ high temperature
 - ✓ loss of taste and/or smell

We ask all parents/carers to keep the school informed of any changes to your child's medical state.

- If someone in your household has a confirmed case and they may have been in contact with others in school, those in their class and whoever they may have come into contact with will be sent home and asked to self-isolate for 10 days.
- The other household members of that class do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member develops symptoms.

What happens if a child/staff tests positive?

- The identity of the child/staff will remain confidential and parents/carers will receive a message by text to say that a case has been identified in the school.
- All pupils who need to self-isolate as a result will be informed. Please note that his message could come at any time during the day or evening.
- Public Health advice states that other members of your household do not need to self-isolate if no one in the household has tested positive or has symptoms.
- You may receive a separate notification from the Test, Track and Protect (TTC).
- In the case of self-isolation, your class teacher will be in touch and work will be set through Hwb and Teams.

Safety in school

Staggered activities including lunch and break times are in place to reduce the number of people in shared spaces including around school entrances and exits.

Please be reminded to only pick up and drop off your children at the specified times given for the safety of all. Parents/carers should not congregate at the school gates.

Once children have been collected please move from the gates so other families can collect safely.

Payment of school dinners

- School is no longer handling the payment of school dinners.
- A cashless system for payment is now in place and parents/carers need to use the unique code to pay online for school dinners in advance.
- The school lunch menu can be downloaded from the Torfaen website.

Nut Allergies

We have a few children with severe nut allergies who have been affected this week by items that other children have brought into school in packed lunches. These include Nutella, Peanut butter, Kinder





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products and chocolate waffles. Please check the products that are sent into school because these allergies can be life threatening.

Best regards
Sarah Truelove
Headteacher

