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YSGOL GYNRADD A MEITHRIN STRYD SIORS GEORGE STREET PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Thursday 16 July 2020

Dear parent/carers

Firstly, can I express thanks from staff for the thoughtful messages, cards and gifts received in school this week. It has been good to catch-up with lots of children before the summer break and especially to share our best wishes with our Year 6 pupils at the end of their time in George Street. We wish every one of them well.



SCHOOL STAFFING

We also have a few staff announcements to make before the end of the year. Mr Hares and Ms Larcombe will both be taking up new teaching posts in nearby schools this September. Ms Larcombe in Woodlands Primary in Cwmbran and Mr Hares in Goytre Fawr Primary in Penperlleni, Monmouthshire. Mr Hares and Ms Larcombe

joined George Street at a similar time and have made a wonderful contribution to the school during their time here. I know that they will continue to have a positive impact and to build many new and enduring relationships in their new schools and hope that they will continue to be as happy as they have been in George Street.

When we return in September Mr Taylor will take Ms Larcombe's class and then move with them into Year 3. Mr Gavin Edwards will take Mr Hare's class and similarly transition with them to Year 4. Mr Edwards trained as part of the Year 6 team in George Street last year and we are pleased to welcome him back in September.

Mrs Sharon Parker will also be leaving the school at the end of this term. Mrs Parker has worked as a midday supervisor for the last 12 years and has worked with literally hundreds of children over that time, helping to keep them safe and happy at lunch times whatever the weather. Our warmest thanks go to Sharon, one of our own Midday Marvels.

I am also glad to announce that Mrs Claire Tudgay will take up a teaching Assistant post with Year 1 in September. Mrs Tudgay has worked with our foundation phase team this year and as a midday supervisor and I am pleased that she will be continuing her work as part of our staff team.

Lastly, Ms Phillis, Mrs Jones, Mrs Bradbury, Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Simons will all take up roles as Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) in September. They will continue to use their many years of accumulated knowledge and experience to provide high quality support for pupils across the school.

Together we live learn and value

SCHOOL PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER

You will no doubt have watched, heard or read reports in the last few days about the return of all pupils across Wales to schools in September.



As I confirmed last week, we will be using the first week of term to ready the school and to provide an opportunity for all foundation phase pupils to return on Thursday 3rd September and all key stage 2 pupils on Friday 4th September. After two weeks in their previous classes, and a Move-up Day on Wednesday 16th September, pupils will then start in their classes for this school year on Monday 21st September.

Planning will continue across the summer to ensure that catering and cleaning provision is organised to meet the challenges of reopening at full scale. I can advise you at this point that many of the measures currently in place will remain in September. For instance;

- All parents/carers will be required to observe social distancing when travelling to and from school.
- Only one adult per household should bring/collect children.
- Where possible, parents are requested to walk to school.
- We will continue to run staggered arrival and departure times.

	Beginning of day	End of day	From
Nursery	9.00 / 12.45	11.30 / 3.15	Conway Road
Reception	8:50	3:05	Conway Road
Year 1	9.00	3:15	School Lane
Year 2	8:50	3:05	School Lane
Year 3	9:00	3:15	George St steps
Year 4	9:00	3:15	George St ramp
Year 5	8:50	3:05	George St steps
Year 6	8:50	3:05	George St ramp

- All parents/carers and children are to arrive at school via the appointed entrance.
- A member of staff will take charge of your child at the entrance gate.
- Parents/carers are not permitted to enter the school site.
- Parents/carers must observe the 2m distance markings on pathways while waiting for their child to enter/leave.
- The drop-off zone will be closed. Parents/carers are requested where possible to walk to school.
- Parents/carers of pupils in Nursery & Reception will queue on the path leading from Conway Road, observing the 2m rule.
- Parents/carers of pupils in Years 1&2 will queue on the path leading from School Lane (2m rule).
- Parents/carers of pupils in Years 3-6 will queue on either side of the drop-off zone in the marked areas (2m rule).
- Parents/carers are requested to use the surrounding space to maintain a safe 2m distance from others as they leave.
- Parents/carers must leave the areas surrounding school as soon as children have been handed over. Gathering with others is not permitted.

Most importantly, no parent/carer or child showing any symptoms of Covid-19 should come to school. Symptoms include a persistent cough and/or high temperature, difficulty in breathing and change to or loss of taste and smell. Any child with symptoms will be isolated and parents will be contacted to collect them immediately.

There will also be a number of changes in September including;

- Pupils will be organised into contact groups based on classes or year groups rather than the current 'bubbles' of 8 children.
- Social distancing for pupils will be reduced to enable classes of up to 30 pupils to be taught together.
- Pupils will be expected to wear school uniform.
- We will look to restart our breakfast club as soon as we are able.
- We will work with our wraparound and after-school provider to re-establish childcare as quickly as possible.



STAYING IN TOUCH

We will provide you with further information at the start of September. In the meantime, you can keep up to date with the overall picture for schools in Torfaen through the Local Authority's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/torfaen/>.

Torfaen will also be updating guidance and developing a list of frequently asked questions for parents/carers through the LA website at

<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/AboutTheCouncil/Homepage-Stories/Coronavirus/Education/Education-and-Learning.aspx>

To make sure that you see details of the school's communications before the start of the new school year please access the school's Twitter account [@georgestreetpri](https://twitter.com/georgestreetpri) and the school website (www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk). We will make letters available for all parents/carers through these two channels. We will use your primary contact number to send a notifications when a letter is uploaded.

For now we wish all of our children and families a safe and happy time over the summer break. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school next term.

Kind regards,

Mr A Brasington
Headteacher