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

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 09 October 2020

Dear parent/carers

We are six weeks into term and I am counting each week as a blessing! I think that recent experience has reminded us all just how important school is to our children, and to families, and there's no question that children are relishing being back in classes, with friends and with a real sense of purpose to their days. It is really uplifting to see what a power for good school is right now. On that note, I'd like to thank you as parents and carers for sending your children in and for helping us over this half term by adapting to the changes that have been introduced. Your support contributes massively to the smoothness of our day-to-day operations and is thoroughly appreciated.



WELL-BEING CALLS

Key to making school such a positive experience is our strong relationship with you as parents/carers. Most of you have spoken this week with your child's class teacher to touch base and I know from the feedback I receive that these well-being calls have been valuable to parents and staff alike. Having the opportunity at this early stage to catch-up helps to ensure that children feel settled and confident and that as parents/carers you can be reassured that you are well informed and that any concerns you may have can be addressed.

If, for any reason, you did not register for a call and would like to speak with your child's teacher, please contact the main office on the number above and we will follow up with you before half term.

Invitations to book a second 'progress' call in the week beginning Monday 23rd November will be sent out next half term.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION (WEST MON)

All Year 6 pupils have been provided this week with general information about West Monmouth School together with details of the school's transition arrangements for current Year 6 pupils.

Parents/carers can keep up to date with further information by following [@TransitionWestI](#) on Twitter.

The school will be hosting a virtual information evening for parents/carers to introduce the school and to answer FAQs from parents and pupils. The event will take place using Microsoft Teams at 6.00 on Wednesday 14th October. A link to access the meeting will be available on the above Twitter account and on the school's Facebook page.

We will share information from other secondary schools with parents/carers when it is available.

Together we live learn and value

FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Nasal flu immunisations are being made available for all pupils in Reception to Year 6 this autumn. An NHS immunisation team will be visiting the school on Monday 9th November to administer the vaccine which involves no injections and is a simple, brief spray in each nostril.



Information about the annual **Beat Flu campaign** is available on the Public Health Wales website at <https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/beat-flu/>

This provides parents/carers with answers to questions you may have. The site also includes a helpful video you can share with your child that explains about the virus and the immunisation process. Another animated video called **Flu Heroes** is also available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljHWwm8NQUw>

A useful leaflet is also available under the Parents section of our school website.

Consent letters for your child(ren) to receive immunisation will be sent home with children before the NHS team visit and we will text/tweet to notify you when they are sent out.



DRY HANDS

As you will know, children are washing and sanitising their hands frequently in school. This is making children's hands drier than normal and may cause soreness or cracking of the skin. Please can parents/carers be on the lookout for this, particularly as the weather becomes colder which can make things worse.

Children can bring a small individual hand cream with them to school if needed, though this cannot be shared with anyone else.

Given that children will continue to wash their hands throughout the day this will be less effective than establishing a good hand care routine at home in the evening. Doing this will enable parents/carers to help and supervise children to make sure that cream is applied properly and rubbed in well. It will also provide you with a regular opportunity to monitor the condition of your child's hands.

CONTACTING SCHOOL ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please make sure that you contact the school office on the first morning to explain the reason. If you need to leave a message, please be clear about the **reason for absence**, for example if your child is ill please explain the nature of their illness rather than simply saying they are unwell. This will save our office staff from having to ring you back to clarify details that we are required to record. Thank you.

INSET

School will be closed to pupils on the Monday after half term (2nd November) for staff training. The second half of the autumn term will then begin for pupils on Tuesday 3rd November.

Term dates for this year and next academic year, including other non-pupil days are available on the school website at: <https://www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk/parent-zone/term-dates/>

Kind regards,

Mr A Brasington