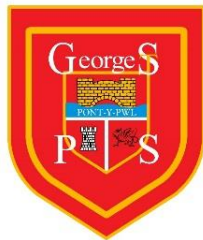


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**YSGOL GYNRADD A MEITHRIN STRYD SIORS
GEORGE STREET PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL**

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 15 January 2021

Dear parent/carers

Thank you to all of our families for the support you are providing for children learning at home. We do understand what a difficult task this is, even in ideal conditions, and your effort is greatly appreciated.

We are also aware that because of the many different circumstances families find themselves in there is no one-size-fits-all approach to meet everyone's needs; work and family commitments, access to reliable technology, number and ages of children, available space and resources, individual skills and confidence are just some of the variables that make home learning such a unique challenge. Nor is the motivation and enthusiasm of children a given. We are therefore keen to do whatever we can to support you in helping your children to continue learning during this difficult time.

For this reason we are providing a mixed diet of core (must do) and additional (can do) activities through Seesaw, a variety of live sessions in key stage 2 and paper resources for home use where these have been requested because of difficulty in accessing materials online. We are also aiming to achieve a balance that provides sufficient work to support pupils to make progress without overwhelming children or parents.

We are keen to receive your feedback on how all of these aspects are working and welcome your comments via the email above or through calls to the school office. I know that some of you have already commented positively on the live sessions that started this week with our older pupils. Thank you.

We are monitoring children's activity on Seesaw which also enables staff to comment on pupil's work, and by logging attendance in live sessions. Where pupils appear not to be engaging we are contacting families to offer practical guidance to encourage pupils' participation. This contact is for support and not as a means of chasing compliance. We understand that individual circumstances are complex and are solely looking for ways in which we may be able to help pupils in the weeks ahead.

Meanwhile, staff are also continuing to run face-to-face provision for vulnerable pupils and keyworker children. As a result, there are always staff on hand in school during normal school hours who are available to provide support as needed. You are welcome to use the phone number or email at the top of this letter to make contact. If you need to speak directly with your child's class teacher this can be arranged.

LIVE SESSIONS FOR NEXT WEEK

Details of next week's live sessions being run through Microsoft Teams are listed overleaf.

There are lots of videos about Teams available through a simple search on the internet. These explain how to download the Teams app and how to access sessions. Videos also provide an introduction to the tools and features within Teams.

If you are struggling to access live sessions then please contact school and we will assist.

Together we live learn and value

w/b 18.01.2021	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
Monday	11.30 Check in/weekly planner	10.00 Check in/weekly planner	11.00 – 11.30 Penfro 11.30 – 12.00 Caerdydd Check in/weekly planner	14.00 Check in/weekly planner
Tuesday		10.00 Literacy		09.30 Literacy
Wednesday	11.00 Maths session	10.00 Maths	11.00 - 11.40 Literacy/Forest School session	
Thursday	11.00 Literacy session		11.00 – 11.30 Penfro 11.30 – 12.00 Caerdydd Maths Bingo session	10.30 Maths
Friday	11.30 Check out for the week		11.00 Penfro 11.30 Caerdydd Spellings/ Check out	10.00 Check out

A reminder that pupils accessing live sessions are expected to observe the school agreement for the use of Teams. You can access a copy of this agreement on the school website at:

<https://www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk/media/3737/gsp-user-agreement-live-streaming-lessons-2020.pdf>

Where pupils fail to follow this agreement or behave inappropriately during live sessions they may be blocked from joining future sessions.

Lastly, we are keeping all of our provision under constant review. Where things are working well we will look to maintain consistency so that pupils and parents can be confident about expectations. We will also make improvements where possible and I will keep you informed about any changes as we move forwards.

Kind regards,

A. Brasington

Mr A Brasington