



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

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 30 April 2021

Dear parent/carers

Another busy and successful week has been enjoyed in school. We are continuing to maximise time outdoors and to benefit from the largely dry conditions. It looks as though these may take a bit of a turn at the weekend but I hope that it won't spoil anyone's plans too much and that you can enjoy the long weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

### EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

It is good to see that low case rates have enabled a number of restrictions to be eased recently. While this is very welcome news, please be mindful that gatherings indoors are still not permitted. Staff in school inevitably hear about children's activity at home and it has come to our notice that a number of children are being invited to birthday parties / sleepovers etc that should not be taking place. We all understand the wish to make sure that children have a special day for their birthday. Please make sure that any plans you make meet with the current regulations. If you need to check these you can do so at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-55333756>

I am aware of positive cases in our community at present, some of who have been asymptomatic. For this reason, please do not assume that low case numbers now mean it is safe to act outside the rules. Infections among children at this stage could still result in classes being closed and children losing very valuable time in school.

### ROAD SAFETY

Please can all parents/carers take careful note of the following two points for your own and children's safety.

1. There was a close call at the end of the day yesterday when a car reversed in front of the school, nearly hitting a grandparent who was crossing the road from the layby towards the drop-off zone. Thankfully the car was moving slowly and no harm was done though the incident was clearly frightening for all concerned.

In this instance there was a specific reason for why the crossing was not used. However, on numerous occasions every day I witness adults and children crossing the road without using the patrolled crossing which is only metres away. In some instances, parents/carers parked in the layby actually call pupils across the road and encourage them not to cross in the safest place. This places children, adults and drivers at an unnecessary and increased risk.

For everyone's safety, can all parents/carers please use the patrolled crossing and ensure that children are clearly supervised to do so safely.

2. A small number of parents and children have been walking around St Alban's Church, using the steps up from George Street to avoid the blind corner at the junction with Conway Road. Canon David has contacted us this week to say that he is happy for pupils and parents to use this route as it may prove safer. He has also requested that anybody doing so treat the area with respect – I understand that at one point last

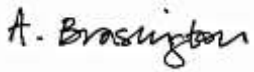
week a pupil from school was jumping between one of the boundary walls and the run of steps down to George Street. This action is both likely to lead to injury and to cause concern to Church staff living there.

### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS**

We will be reviewing our arrangements for Wednesday afternoons at the end of next week. Given the current guidance, it is unlikely that these will change before the end of this half term. However, we will keep you fully informed of any alterations before they take place. In the meantime, children will still need to be picked up at 12.30/12.40 from their usual collection point each Wednesday afternoon.

I should like to thank all parents once again for your support with these arrangements.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Brasington". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'A'.

Mr A Brasington