



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

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 11 June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have hit the ground running this week and are making the most of the time we have in this final half-term. Year 5 have enjoyed Coastal School visits this week and we will be following these with further trips to Rest Bay for Years 1 and 2 over the coming weeks. It has been great to see the enthusiasm of our children during these visits and to hear the positive comments from members of the public about the wonderful opportunity pupils enjoy and to share their compliments about the children's attitudes and behaviour.

HALF-TERMLY OVERVIEWS

All year groups have posted copies of this half-term's learning overview on the school website at <https://www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk/parent-zone/class-topics>. These will provide you with information about the learning that your child will be involved in between now and the end of term. Please do try to make time to have a look and speak with your child about what they are doing in school right now.



PE DAYS & CLOTHING

A further reminder that pupils are requested to come to school dressed in PE kit on the day they have PE (shown in the table below). Please note that clothing needs to be appropriate for taking part in sporting activity, including suitable footwear. This is not the same as a non-uniform day; crop-tops or jeans are not suitable for PE.

A reminder also that pupils are not permitted to wear jewellery (other than plain stud earrings when needed), make-up or false nails to school. Where pupils arrive with jewellery or make-up they will be asked to remove it and any items will be retained for safe keeping to be returned at the end of the day. Where pupils arrive with false nails, school will contact parents/carers to insist that these be removed. One pupil was injured this week as a result of wearing nails. These are not safe or suitable for school.

START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Please make sure that your child arrives and is collected at the appropriate time at the beginning and end of the day. A small number of pupils are arriving late or being collected up to 20 minutes after their allocated time. This is distressing for pupils and causes difficulties for staff who begin teaching as soon as the day starts and who have meetings and other activities to carry out at the end of the teaching day. It also makes it difficult for us to maintain bubbles when children are not collected on time and there is not enough room at collection points to keep groups separate.



Children who are brought to school late in the morning still need to enter school from the correct entrance. Please contact the school office and a member of staff will meet your child at the appropriate gate.

At the end of the day staff will remain at gates with pupils for up to 10 minutes after their agreed time. Where parents/carers have not arrived by this point, pupils will return to class with their teacher. Any parents/carers arriving late will then need to contact the school office using the intercom at the entrance to request pupils be brought from their class.

A reminder of start and finish times (and PE days) is provided below.

	Day begins at	Day ends at	PE Day
Nursery	9.00 / 12.45	11.30 / 3.15	Friday
Reception	8.50	3.05	Thursday
Year 1	9.00	3.15	Friday
Year 2	8.50	3.05	Wednesday
Year 3	8.50	3.05	Thursday
Year 4	9.00	3.15	Friday
Year 5	9.00	3.15	Tuesday
Year 6	8.50	3.05	Wednesday

TESTING / ISOLATION & FACE COVERINGS

It is encouraging that case rates in our locality remain low. However, you will be aware of the spread of the Delta variant in Wales which is now responsible for most new cases. It was a case of this variant that recently led to the closure of a primary school in Merthyr despite the area having among the lowest rate of community transmission in the country. It is essential then that we continue to follow the routine practices that we know help to reduce the spread of infection.

This includes testing of all individuals with symptoms. A list of relevant symptoms is shown on the school website homepage at <https://www.georgestreetprimary.co.uk>. Anyone experiencing symptoms needs to complete a PCR test at a testing centre and self-isolate at least until the result is known. All other members of the household must also isolate. Please note that this includes siblings of any pupil who is being tested. Children must not attend school while anyone else they live with is showing symptoms/being tested until a negative PCR result is received or the 10 day isolation period is ended.

Lateral flow tests (the sort used regularly by staff in schools and older pupils in secondary schools) are only to be used when individuals have no symptoms. These tests are not suitable for anyone showing possible symptoms. In this case you should arrange a PCR test at a testing centre. You can check the location and opening times of testing centres by visiting <https://abuhb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/testing-centres>.



VIRTUAL MEET THE TEAM / HOME LEARNING MEETINGS

We will be holding a whole-school Move-Up Day for pupils on Friday 25th June. On this day children will have the opportunity to spend time in their new classrooms with the teachers and teaching assistants they will be working with in September.

In the following week we will be running a series of virtual meetings using Microsoft Teams to provide an opportunity for carers/parents to meet with the members of staff who will be working with your child in September. You are invited to join these meetings at the following dates/times:

Nursery & Reception – meetings with parents/carers will take place in the week beginning Monday 28th June. We will contact all Nursery and Reception parents about these arrangements next week.

Years 1&2 Tuesday 29th June 6.00 - 7.00 p.m.

Years 3&4 Wednesday 30th June 6.00 - 7.00 p.m.

Years 5&6 Thursday 1st July 6.00 - 7.00 p.m.

These meetings will also provide an opportunity for us to gather your thoughts about how we can work together next year to support pupil's progress through home learning activities. As mentioned previously,

Together we live learn and value

we feel it is very important to consult with you as we develop our plans for a consistent school-wide approach to home learning.

In addition, we will dedicate part of each meeting to a Q&A session that will enable you to raise any queries you may have about arrangements next year. Please note that we will only be able to address general queries and cannot discuss individual pupils. If you have specific concerns that relate to your child you will be able to raise these before the end of term with your child's new class teacher.

Electronic invites to our 'Meet the Team/Home Learning' meetings will be sent by text in the week beginning Monday 21st June.



SPEEDCHECK CAMERA

We have received confirmation this week that a speed check camera will be installed outside school in the next 2-3 weeks. Highways police will use this to monitor and enforce traffic speed outside the school and along Wainfelin Road. We are advising all parents/carers to make sure that you observe the speed limit and drive with caution.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'A. Brasington'.

Mr A Brasington