



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

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 01 October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have certainly tipped into autumn this week but it hasn't dampened our spirits in school. Children and teachers are continuing to work with energy and enthusiasm and the current of school life is in full flow. This week elections have been held for our School Council – please see the report from our School Council Chair below. Congratulations to all the children who put themselves forward and prepared for the ballot. Many thanks to Maizie-June and to Mrs Fisher for coordinating this important activity. I am sure that our new council members will embrace their roles positively and represent their classes with pride.



LONDON MARATHON FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Many thanks to everyone who helped Mrs Ralph's fundraising for Nerve Tumours UK by making a donation as part of our Dress Blue day this week.

We will all be cheering for Mrs Ralph on when she takes part in the London Marathon this Sunday morning. You can watch the event live from 8.00 on BBC Two and then from 10.00 on BBC1. Highlights will also be shown on BBC2 between 6.00-7.00 on Sunday evening.

If you weren't able to support Mrs Ralph with a donation through school earlier this week but feel inspired to do so at the weekend then you can boost the fundraising for Nerve Tumours UK by visiting Mrs Ralph's London Marathon Justgiving page at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-portal/fundraiserPage?pagelId=1112848>. Thank you for your generous support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

This week the children in school were very excited when they were asked to prepare a speech for School Council. Yesterday we held our Election Day. I visited each class with a mobile polling station. Each class had their own ballot paper that I designed and were asked to put a cross next to the person that they wanted to vote for. They then posted their vote into the ballot box. It was a secret ballot and we used a screen to keep it private when children were voting. All votes were counted and the person with the highest vote was given the very important job of being part of the School Council. Today, we held a special assembly on TEAMS to announce the winners. This went very well and we all got to see the new school councillors and their faces. There were lots of smiley faces when their names got announced. The classes all clapped and it was lovely to see lots of support.

I look forward to having our first meeting with the school council group and can't wait to organise lots of events and listen to all the ideas.

*Thank you,
Maizie-June
School Council Chairperson*



NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following children who have been chosen by their peers as School Council representatives this year.

Year 2

Tomos Manley (Daisy)
Skye Lewis (Daffodil)

Year 3

Scarlett Morgan (Coch)
Amelia Lloyd (Gwyn)

Year 4

Lacey-Jae Rogers (Y Fenni)
Felicity Tudgay (Rhaglan)

Year 5

Jenson McFarlane & Brook-Mae Jones (Caerdydd)
Chloe Chen (Penfro)

Year 6

Isaac Bustin (Harlech)
Bailey Nixey (Caerffili)

YEAR 2 FAIRY-TALE FANCY-DRESS DAY

Year 2 will shortly begin preparing for a panto they will be creating next half term. To kick-start this activity the children are invited to dress in a favourite fairy tale outfit for an immersion day that Year 2 are holding on Monday 11th October.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

You will have received a text this week inviting you to sign up for a **telephone parent consultation** with your child's class teacher. The dates of these appointments for children in Years 1-6 are given below.

Individual ten-minute appointments are available and you can book these by clicking the link provided in the text and then entering the details of your child.

Class	Date 1	Date 2
Snowdrop – Mrs Williams	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Poppy – Mr Keir	Wednesday 13 th October	Thursday 14 th October
Tulip – Miss Bodger	Wednesday 13 th October	Thursday 14 th October
Daffodil – Miss Thomas	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Daisy – Mrs Larcombe / Miss Shott	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Coch – Mr Taylor	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Gwyn – Mrs Harris	Monday 11 th October	Tuesday 12 th October
Rhaglan – Miss Bowden	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Y Fenni – Mrs Davies	Wednesday 13 th October	Friday 15 th October
Penfro – Mrs Lloyd	Tuesday 12 th October	Thursday 14 th October
Caerdydd – Mr Eastman	Monday 11 th October	Friday 15 th October
Caerffili – Mr Bowen	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October
Harlech – Mr Edwards	Tuesday 12 th October	Wednesday 13 th October

Parents/carers of children in Reception (Bluebell and Sunflower) please note that Mrs Williams and Mrs Davies are arranging telephone appointments directly. You will not need to use the online booking system.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS – Monday 4th October

Tempest Photography will be taking individual portraits this coming Monday. We will also provide the opportunity for siblings in school to be photographed together. However, please note that we are not able at present to enable family groups so there will be no pictures with other family members.

FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Thanks to the nursing team who visited us in school yesterday to administer flu immunisations. The whole process was managed efficiently with a minimum of upset to children who all coped brilliantly with an unfamiliar situation.

CHRISTMAS PANTO

We have provisionally booked a pantomime visit for children in Years 2-6 to see Cinderella at Blackwood Miner's Institute on Friday 10th December. We have agreed that we will have sole use of the venue for our visit which we know will be greatly enjoyed by the children. If you would like further details about the safety measures in place at the theatre you can find information at

<https://blackwoodminersinstitute.com/covid-19-latest-customer-information>.

We will write to all families in Years 2-6 shortly with precise details include ticket and transport costs. Please be aware that you will need to use the newly introduced cashless system for payment.

POSTPONEMENT OF SWIMMING

We have been advised by the leisure trust that runs Pontypool Active Living Centre that the swimming pool is currently out of operation. As a result, Mr Eastman's class are not expected to return to swimming until after the half term break. We will advise parents/carers when sessions are due to restart once this information is confirmed.



VACCINE MISINFORMATION

There is a lot of misinformation being circulated at present about vaccines that is particularly targeting young people and their parents. While none of our pupils is routinely being offered COVID vaccination at present, I am aware that many have older siblings who are part of this group.

If you have any doubts or concerns about the benefits of vaccination, please read the useful guide produced by NHS Wales that provides accurate information specifically about the vaccine and children/young people. It is available at:

[COVID-19 vaccination A guide for children and young people - Public Health Wales \(nhs.wales\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/vaccination-a-guide-for-children-and-young-people/)

Kind regards,

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

Mr A Brasington