



Autumn 2023 Newsletter

Dear Parents

It is a joy to welcome our pupils back to school and to get to know the new pupils. Our thoughts are also with our Y6 pupils as they begin Year 7 in their various High Schools.

Effective Communication

Please see attached the various methods of communication for parents issued at the end of last term. The family calendar for this term will follow very shortly.

Drop off & Pick Up

The enforcement cameras are live and monitoring the movements of vehicles on Lon Y Dail. Penalty notices will be issued for contravention of the regulations.

Punctuality is Cool – Be Early for School

Children will be collected by the teachers from the various gates from 8.50 and taken into the year group zones for the start of the school day at **8.55**. A member of staff will remain on the gates until 9.05. Pupils arriving after this time will be recorded as late and miss the essential instructions by the class teacher for the start of the day. Lateness after the close of the register is recorded as an unauthorised absence. The teachers will also be on the yard at the end of the school day.

Please stand clear of the entry gates as our young children are hampered trying to gain entry.

At the end of the day please leave the school site as quickly as possible to avoid unnecessary congestion and to allow after school clubs to operate.

General Details

Autumn term 2023

Starts: Monday 04/09/2023

Half term: Monday 30/10/2023 - Friday 03/11/2023

Ends: Friday 22/12/2023

Spring term 2024

Starts: Monday 08/01/2024



Half term: Monday 12/02/2024 - Friday 16/02/2024

Ends: Friday 22/03/2024

Summer term 2024

Starts: Monday 08/04/2024

Half term: Monday 27/05/2024 - Friday 31/05/2024

Ends: Monday 22/07/2024

All schools will be closed on Monday 6th May 2024 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Inset Days

The next Inset Day is Monday 6th November.

The remaining 3 days will be arranged as soon as is practical, but the priority at the moment is to settle the children in school.

Attendance

Pupil attendance is recorded electronically. If your child is absent you will receive a phone call on the first day to ascertain the reason for the absence if you have not informed my administrative staff.

The School Attendance Officer based at Whitchurch High School monitors attendance on a half termly basis and communicates with parents if attendance falls below 95%.

Teaching Staff

Mrs Bradley Deputy Headteacher /ALNCo – will be on maternity leave after October half term.

The classes and staff for 2023/2024 are as follows

6D	Mrs Davies	2B	Mrs Brown
6P	Miss Pearce	2S	Miss Smith
6T	Mr Thomas	2H	Mrs Hadley
5MH	Mrs Matthew Wed pm/Thur/Fri	1M	Mrs McCarthy
	Mrs Hopkins Mon/Tues/Wed am	1C	Mrs Coombs (Assistant Head)
5H	Mr Howard	1S	Miss Smith
5IH	Mr Hammond	R1	Miss Di Mauro
4S	Mr Sweetnam	R2	Mrs Forrester
4L	Mr Leyshon	R3	Mrs King
4J	Miss Johnson		Nursery Mrs Nash
3S	Mrs Scully		
3B	Miss Bracken		
3SE	Mrs Strangis (Mon&Tues)/ Mrs Evans (Thurs&Fri Wednesday alternate weeks)		

Teaching Assistants – Foundation Phase

Nursery		Mrs Davies, Miss Kaur, Mrs Powell
Reception	R1	Mrs Jones(MonTues)/Mrs Thomas(Wed-Fri)
	R2	Mrs Owen (Mon)/Mrs Morgan (Tues-Fri)
	R3	Mrs Lewis (Mon-Weds)/Mrs Jones (Thur-Fri)
Year 1	1C	Mrs Dowden
	1S	Mrs Evans
	1M	Mrs Rich
Year 2	2B	Mrs Chell Mrs Brown (Weds-Fri)
	2H	Mrs Coray
	2S	Mrs Small

Keystage 2 Support Staff - Mrs Powling, Mrs James, Mr Marshall
1:1 Support- Mrs Greenman, Mr Gatwood, Mr Day, Mrs Harvey, Miss Riell

School Meals

Meals can be ordered in advance via your ParentPay account. Orders must be placed before 8.00am if you are ordering for that day. For those of you who do not yet have a ParentPay account set up, we will issue login details next week.

Children in Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3 (from 6th September) are entitled to a free meal. For all other children the charge is £2.75 per meal.

Y4 pupils will be entitled to a free meal from Monday November 20th.

Any dietary requirements, with the exception of vegetarian (this option is available daily) must be discussed with the County Catering Officer as the kitchen staff need clear guidelines provided by the dieticians.

Packed Lunches

We have several children with severe nut allergies. Cross contamination from other children eating nut products can trigger a reaction. Please refrain from sending children with items such as peanut butter/nut products in their packed lunches.

Healthy Snacks

We are signed up to the Cardiff Schools Healthy snack initiative which allows only the consumption of fresh fruit/dried fruit and a drink at breaktimes. Please refrain from providing children with sweets/cakes for birthdays. Your child's birthday will be celebrated in class.

Breakfast Club 8.30-8.55

Successful applicants have been informed of a Breakfast Club Place.



All pupils must be in the club by 8.35am when the doors close.

After School Clubs

Will be gradually introduced from the week beginning 25th September and you will receive details shortly.

Vacancies

If you know of anyone who may be interested in a Midday Supervisor and/or Breakfast Supervisor post, please contact the office.

Games/PE

Games and PE are compulsory lessons and important aspects of the curriculum which will begin this week

Games

Reception – Wednesday

Y1 – Thursday

Y2 – Tuesday

Y3 – Monday

Y4 – Wednesday

Y5 – Thursday

Y6 – Tuesday



Children should wear suitable clothing for outdoor activity ie jogging pants, sweatshirt, and trainers as the weather gets colder.

For indoor PE black shorts and a white T-shirt or House T-shirts (in KS2) should be worn – leggings are not acceptable for use on the equipment.

The children will change in school and not wear their PE/Games kit to school.

Indoor PE Timetable

Y1	1M	Wednesday	Y4	4S	Tuesday
	1S	Tuesday		4J	Wednesday
	1C	Tuesday		4L	Thursday
Y2	2H	Monday	Y5	5MH	Tuesday
	2S	Wednesday		5IH	Friday
	2B	Wednesday		5H	Friday
Y3	3B	Tuesday	Y6	6P	Thursday
	3S	Friday		6T	Wednesday
	3SE	Thursday		6D	Monday

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will resume this term Friday afternoons at 3pm.

Class 6T	13 th October
Class 5MH	20 th October
Class 6D	27 th October
Class 5IH	17 th November
Class 6P	24 th November
Class 5H	1 st December
Class 4S	8 th December

Clothing

The majority of our children come to school very smartly dressed, including wearing suitable school shoes. Trainers are discouraged, as are leggings (unless worn under skirts). If trainers are worn, they should be black). Our school uniform supplier is YC Sports. Orders can be placed online www.ycsports.com or purchased from their shop in Whitchurch Village. The PTA regularly sell second hand clothing.

Pupil Equipment

Pupils are encouraged to limit the amount of equipment they bring into school eg drinks, lunch box, snack, pencil case (Y1 – 6) in a small/medium rucksack.

Please try and ensure your child has all they need for the school day as parents are still required to avoid disruption to the school office by bringing in various items.

Emails

In a school with over 700 pupils we receive shoals of parental emails every day, many are concerned with changes of pick up for the current day which could easily be missed. Therefore, to avoid this situation, please telephone the office and pass the message directly to one of my administrators. The administrative do their very best to monitor the parental inbox but this is just part of their overall daily administration

Medical

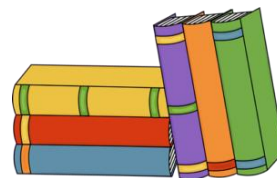
Essential items eg asthma inhalers, Epipens will be administered, along with any long-term medication, but not short-term prescriptions eg antibiotics.

Infection Control

- Infection Control will continue to be the main mitigation in schools as we approach the winter months
- “Catch it, bin it, kill it” – the regular washing and sanitizing of hands – Schools have alcohol-free sanitizer which will be kinder to the children’s hands
- Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell eg with coughs, heavy colds, sickness/diarrhea. In the case of the latter pupils cannot return to school for 48 hours after the symptoms have subsided.

Reading Books

The sending of items back and forth between home and school needs to be carefully monitored.



Following a reading assessment of our younger pupils, books will be issued shortly.

If you would like to volunteer to listen to children reading in various classes please contact the office for a volunteer DBS form. This form will also be required if you feel you may want to volunteer in any other capacity eg class visits.

Date for Your Diary

Flu Immunisation 2nd October 2023, details to follow.

Class Activities

The school website and twitter will be constantly updated with class/school activities.

Parent Governor Elections

There is currently a vacancy for one parent governor. Details of the nomination process will be circulated next week.

Music Lessons

Please see attached a letter from CAVMS with details of the services they offer and how you can enroll your child.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C.A. Harry".

Carol Harry