

Risca Primary School

Autumn Term Newsletter No 4

Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



Wow! What a lovely first half term we have had! As you will have seen from our Twitter page and through Seesaw, our children have been learning through a variety of exciting ways, from building their own water wheel turbines and learning Indian dances for Diwali, to making and tasting pumpkin soup! We have also loved challenging our children to fill up the chalk pumpkin with harvest festival donations (see photo) and I wanted to say a huge thank you to you for your donations, it has been so nice to see how excited the children have been. All donations will be given to Risca Food Bank.

Covid 19

Unfortunately, as we are all aware, Covid 19 cases are on the rise again. So far, since we returned in September, we have had over 18 positive cases in school. Therefore, please could we all remain vigilant over half term and if children are showing any symptoms, please take them for a PCR test and let school know of any positive cases via Seesaw. Many thanks.

Autumn/Winter Weather

When the children come back after half term please could we ask that they all bring a warm, winter coat. We are planning lots of exciting learning opportunities outside and would hate for any child to miss them. Thank you.

Parking and driving around the school

As I am sure most of you have seen, we have returned to using green cones on the road around our entrances to school. Unfortunately, this is because we have been receiving a number of complaints about parking and dangerous driving at the start and end of the school day. The yellow zig zag lines outside schools indicate **the length of**

road where stopping or waiting is strictly prohibited. This is to ensure the safety of our pupils and our school community. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

We have been asked by the Police and Civil Enforcement Officers to remind everyone that we have a **one way system** in front of our school on Graig View. This road is restricted to **permit holders** only between the hours of **8.15 - 9.15 am, and 2.45-3.30pm**. Therefore, if you do not have a permit, you should not be driving down that road during these times. Also, please be reminded that our school car park is for school staff only. The **only exception** to this is for parents whose pupils have a disability and these parents may use our disabled space. Again, this is to ensure we keep our children and families safe. Many thanks.

PE/Games kit

As a reminder, our kit is black legging/joggers, a white t-shirt and a navy jumper. Of course, children are also encouraged to wear their house coloured t-shirts which may be purchased from Darren Morgan's uniform shop in Crosskeys. Please could I ask that the children wear the correct PE/Games uniform on their allotted day. We are seeing an increasing number of children wearing brightly coloured clothes, crop tops and very short shorts which are not suitable for school or part of our uniform policy. I appreciate your support on this.

Welsh Government update on campaign towards Ending Physical Punishment in Wales

You may already have seen that the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Act 2020 will become law in Wales on 21st March 2022. From this day on, physically punishing children will be illegal in Wales. Please see our Seesaw for the campaign leaflet, parent fact sheet and legislation pack. Many thanks.

Fund raising

After half term we will be selling Pudsey bands for £1, all proceeds will go to Children in Need. Also, we will be selling a selection of items priced between 50p and £2 in aid of the Poppy Appeal. Poppies will also be on sale for a small donation. (See photo below)

Christmas concerts

I know that parents have been wondering about Christmas concerts this year. At the moment we are unsure whether these will go ahead in the hall like the good old days,

but as soon as we receive more guidance from the L.A. we will let you know. We will be keeping everything crossed!

Important Dates

Monday 1st November 2021: **School reopens after half term**

Friday 19th November 2021: **Non-school uniform day for Children in Need**

Friday 26th November 2021: **Rags to Riches collection (details to follow)**

Friday 10th December 2021: **Christmas Jumper day for Noah's Ark charity**

Wednesday 15th December 2021: **Christmas dinner day**

Friday 17th December 2021: **School closes at 1.30pm**

Tuesday 4th January: **Staff training day**

Wednesday 5th January: **School reopens to pupils**

Finally, we would like to wish you a happy, safe and relaxing half term and thank you for all of your support in what has been a difficult time for us all.

Kind regards,

Mrs Farley and Staff



