

17/01/2020

Dear Mums and Dads,

Welcome back to a new year and a new decade! I hope that you all had a good Christmas and new year and are still keeping to those new year resolutions!

We have had a super start to our new school year. Many of our year groups went on school trips in the first week, as a stimulus for our new topics, and I am sure that the children have shared stories of their trip day with you. Year 3 and 4 were especially

fortunate this term to 'kick start' their topic with a very special visitor. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Wildlife Biologist, TV presenter and Conservationist, Lizzy Daly.

Below you will find some useful dates/information which will help you plan your diaries for the next term and also some reminders of school protocols which will support everyone to be healthy and safe within our school.



WEAR RED FOR VELINDRE DAY

On Friday 31st January we will be supporting the amazing work that is carried out at Velindre Hospital. Pupils are invited to wear red. Any Contributions to the Velindre Hospital Charity will be gratefully received.

HEAD LICE

You may be aware that in many classes there is a recurring problem of head lice. Parents are treating their children, only for them to catch them again very soon afterwards. Would ALL parents please check their child's head regularly and if they find head lice please treat as soon as possible.

If you already have these unwelcome visitors, the first step is to get an effective treatment which will kill the lice, and to treat all of the family with it. There is a cost free way of keeping on top of head lice. When washing your child's hair, use plenty of conditioner and comb through using a nit comb. If you would like information leaflet containing more advice on treating head lice, please ask at the school office.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

Please be reminded that there is currently no school crossing patrol at the Park Gates on Tredegar Street.

PARKING

Once again I would ask that care is taken in the streets surrounding our school perimeter, when picking up and dropping off pupils. Parents are continuing to report that inconsiderate driving behaviours are resulting in dangerous conditions around the school. We note that many of our cones which are placed outside the school to ensure pupil safety are being driven over and damaged. I would kindly ask that all parents ensure that they park and drive safely around the site.

We are working alongside local PCSOs who regularly patrol our neighbouring streets to ensure parents are parking considerately.



Inspiring, Challenging, Empowering
Always Doing Our Best



HEAD TEACHER: MRS J ARTHUR, DANYGRAIG ROAD, RISCA. NP11 6DB
TEL: 01633 612429 FAX: 01633 615028 EMAIL: RISPA@CAERPHILLY.GOV.UK

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

OUR SCHOOL SITE

Please could I give a polite reminder that we cannot allow parents to access our school car park throughout the day. Often we see parents driving into our school car park to drop pupils off. This is creating potentially dangerous conditions for pupils and staff entering the carpark.

WATER ON DESKS

Thank you to all parents who send their children in with a water bottle. We are very grateful that you are supporting your child to drink healthily throughout the day. We are all aware of the benefits of being hydrated throughout the day and we have a super water fountain so that children can 'top-up' throughout the day.

I am aware that a small number of parents would wish that their children bring squash or sugary drinks throughout the day. Unfortunately this does not comply with Welsh Government Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities and Governing Bodies, which states that:

Section 5 – Drinking water in schools

This section of the Measure requires a local authority to ensure that a supply of drinking water is available, free of charge, on the premises of any maintained school. Pupils **must** have easy access at all times to free, fresh drinking water, especially during breakfast sessions and lunchtimes. Mineral water, still and carbonated is permitted under the Healthy Eating Regulations. However, water containing sweeteners, sugars, honey, colouring or flavouring **is not** permitted.

Why is having water freely available important?

- Water quenches thirst and does not damage teeth.
- To help children choose drinking water with meals instead of sweetened soft drinks.
- Water promotes hydration and has no calories.
- Drinking water can help to prevent a range of short- and long-term health problems such as headaches, bladder and bowel problems.
- To promote water availability in schools children do not have to pay for tap water as it is a drink which is equally accessible to all.

I am sure that you will understand that as a Healthy School, our aim is to keep pupils healthy throughout the day, and should we become aware that children have sugary drinks in their water bottle, to comply with the statutory guidance we will kindly ask them to refill it with fresh cold drinking water from our water fountain.

DATES

30th Jan - Year 6 visit to Crucial Crew

31st Jan - Wear red for Velindre

4th Feb - School photographs

10th Feb - Year 6 visit to Wings to fly - details to follow

Monday 17th - Friday 21st Feb -HALF TERM

Monday 24th Feb - INSET day - school is closed to pupils

Easter Holidays - School closes Friday 3 April at 1.30pm and Reopens Monday 20 April.

Yours sincerely

J Arthur (Mrs)
Head Teacher