



Nant-y-Parc Weekly Newsletter



Contact details:

02920 832116

nypa@caerphilly.gov.uk

www.nantyparcprimaryschool.co.uk

13th January 2023

WELCOME BACK

We hope you all had a lovely, restful Christmas break, and are feeling refreshed ready for spring term.

HEALTHY SNACKS

REMINDER – We are a healthy school and cannot allow the children to consume crisps, chocolate, fizzy drinks, and/or energy drinks at breaktimes (including PRIME drinks). Fizzy drinks and energy drinks will not be allowed at lunchtimes either. Please make every effort to provide your child with healthy snacks/drinks to support us with maintaining our healthy school status.

PARENT CLINIC

On Friday 20th January, Miss Nelson will be holding a drop in clinic where parents are invited to share concerns, or gain advice regarding school in general, behaviour, organisations, homework etc. Please feel free to drop in during this time to raise any questions you may have.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

On Friday 20th January, we will be celebrating Chinese New Year in school. On this day, the children are invited to wear the following colours to school: red and/or gold. They will also engage in a series of activities linked to this festival and sample a range of Chinese dishes as part of a food tasting activity. If you do not wish for your child to taste part in the food tasting activity, please inform school.



ATTENDANCE

A friendly reminder that attendance continues to be high on our priority list this year and as a result will be closely monitored this term. Whilst we appreciate illness cannot be avoided, we would appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly so that they are accessing all aspects of the curriculum. If your child is going to be absent, please inform the school so that we can make a note of this on your child's record.

As I am sure you can appreciate, we are held accountable by GCBC and are challenged when attendance percentages are lower than what is deemed acceptable for pupils. In this instance, we have a duty to explain what we as a school have done to increase this. Therefore, If you are invited to attend an attendance meeting, we would appreciate your attendance so that we can work with you in order to identify ways forward. Failure to communicate with school could result in involvement from the EWO or a fixed penalty notice being issued, both of which we want to avoid.

On a lighter note, it was pleasing to see that nearly all classes were above 97% this week. Keep up the good work!

There will be an attendance meeting on 18.01.22 at 2:30pm if you have attendance concerns which you would like to discuss with Miss Nelson.



EISTEDDFOD

Please refer to page 2 for information on this years Eisteddfod competitions and the theme which has been selected for our competition entries. A paper copy of page 2 will be sent home on Monday 16th January.

Value of the month: **Honesty**



A peek at the next few weeks...

Diary Dates

13.01.23	Parent Overviews sent home
16.01.23	Rising 3s begin school
18.01.23	Attendance meeting for parents
20.01.23	Parent Clinic (2pm-3pm)
20.01.23	Chinese New Year
25.01.23	Santes Dwywnwen Day (Welsh Valentines Day)
03.02.23	Wear Red for Velindre – donations of £1 per family
06.02.23-10.02.23	Let's Connect / NYP Healthy WOW Days
06.02.23	Questionnaire circulated to parents
06.02.23	Parent and Pupil Progress Meetings
13.02.23	Valentines / Half Term Disco
27.02.23	Pupils return following the half term break

Term Dates

20.02.23 – 24.02.23	Half term week
31.03.23	End of spring term
17.04.23	Summer term begins
28.01.23	INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
01.05.23	Bank Holiday
29.05.23 – 02.06.23	Half term week

Welsh Phrase of the Week

Week beginning 09.01.23 – Croeso (PS1 & PS2)

Croeso 'nol (PS3)

Week beginning 16.01.23 – Beth wyt ti'n hoffi?

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

'No Limits to Learning!' - 'Dim Ffiniau i Ddysgu!'

Nant y Parc Primary School

Commercial Street,
Senghenydd,
Caerphilly,
CF83 4GY.

Tel: (029) 20832116

E-Mail: nyppa@caerphilly.gov.uk

Head Teacher - Mrs. N. Davies

16th January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year, the whole school will be given the opportunity to take part in an Eisteddfod to celebrate St. David's Day on **Wednesday March 1st 2023**. Each class will be taking part in the Eisteddfod by performing a traditional dance or song.

Activities, competitions and presentations will take place in our special Eisteddfod. There will be PS1 (Nursery + Reception), PS2 (Y1, Y2 and Y3) and PS3 (Y4, Y5 + Y6) competitions with individual prizes and certificates for 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners in each class. All pupils taking part will receive a class house point and competition winners will also receive a 'house token'.

This year the Cwriw Cymraeg have decided that the theme of the entries will be Welsh 'Habitats' (e.g – Coastal, Farmland, Freshwater, Grassland, Heathland and Moorland, Marine, Rocky habitat, Towns and Garden). Think about the 'habitat' that is local to where you live in Wales, or a place that you may have visited. Their decision was based on allowing pupils the opportunity to explore a broad topic and not limit pupils in their creations. Some examples provided below, however please interpret the theme as you wish. Electronic entries can be emailed to Miss Ford – Missford@nantyparc.org.

Photography (colour / Black and White)

A poem / song

3D Models

A presentation

Computer graphic

Comic Strip / Character

T-Shirt design

Cake decorating (Photo of cake can be emailed)

Picture / Painting

Collage

Jewellery

Recyclable picture

Poster / leaflet

ALL ENTRIES WILL NEED TO BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH CHILD'S NAME AND CLASS AND BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL BY MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2023.

If your child is a member of the Urdd (Information shared on weekly newsletter), their entries will also be sent to represent our school at the local Eisteddfod in May 2023.

Pupils are encouraged to wear something symbolic of Wales (Welsh lady / Rugby Kit) or dress in red on St David's Day.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Davies
Headteacher



Back to school advice for parents in Wales to help protect against winter illnesses

Published: 6 January 2023

Public Health experts are reminding parents in Wales to keep children away from school and childcare settings if they are unwell and have a fever, following an increase in illnesses like flu. It's one of a number of simple steps parents can take to protect their child and to minimise the spread of winter illnesses when children return to schools and nurseries in Wales next week.

Flu and Covid-19 are currently circulating at high levels and an increase in cases of scarlet fever is also being reported.

Children who are unwell with a fever (a high temperature) should stay at home until they feel better and the fever is over.

Dr Graham Brown, Consultant in Communicable Disease Control for Public Health Wales said:

"It is also important to remind children about the importance of washing their hands to avoid germs spreading and to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues.

Adults should also try to stay home when unwell. If they have to go out when unwell, it is a good idea to wear a face covering to protect others."

The best way to protect against catching flu this winter is for those eligible to get the flu vaccine. Children can have a free flu nasal spray which is safe and effective. It is available for:

- All children in primary school
- All children in secondary school years 7 to 11
- All children who are aged two or three on 31 August 2022
- Children aged six months or over and who have any of the long-term health conditions that puts them at increased risk from flu.

NEW INFORMATION

Children aged 2-6 in Gwent can get their free nasal flu vaccination at mass vaccination centres across Gwent.

**THIS LETTER
WAS SENT
OUT
PREVIOUSLY**

Free School Meals Arrangements School Holidays (up to February 2023)

Due to the ongoing Cost of Living Crisis and the pressure this puts on low-income families during the school holidays, Welsh Government have decided to extend the holiday provision offer for those learners who receive free school meals up until the end of February half term 2023 (this will include school holidays in October, December 2022 and February 2023).

Caerphilly County Borough Council will no longer be delivering free school meals to pupils' homes during school holidays.

A weekly payment of £19.50 per child (£3.90 per day) will be made to eligible parents / guardians. We are currently working in partnership with the Post Office to deliver this payment.

Parents will receive correspondence from the Post Office by Friday 4th November with further information about how to claim this payment.



Holiday Free School Meal Payments – FAQ

Why are payments being made in the holidays for free school meal pupils?

Due to the ongoing Cost of Living Crisis and the pressure this puts on low-income families during the school holidays, Welsh Government have decided to extend the holiday provision offer for those learners who receive free school meals up until the end of February half term 2023 (this will include school holidays in October, December 2022, and February 2023).

Please see FAQ below for the eligibility of free school meals.

Who is eligible for this Free School Meal Holiday Payment?

Children who currently attend full-time school in Caerphilly County Borough and are eligible for eFSM. You need to apply for eFSM - here is the link to the application form Caerphilly - Caerphilly County Borough

For children/young people to be eligible to receive free school meals:

- you, as a parent, or your child, must receive the relevant benefit or support payment
- you should have submitted an application for free school meals to the local authority (or an application should have been submitted on your behalf)
- the application should have been approved by the local authority, or documents should have been seen by the local authority which strongly indicate your child is eligible.

Excludes part-time nursery children

Excludes pupils who are eligible for UPFSM (receive free school meals in school but have never applied for free school meals)

When will I receive my Post Office Pay-out letter?

The aim of the Post Office is to send the letter one week prior to school holidays

When will you receive your cash payment?

You will receive it when you take your letter to the Post Office with the appropriate Proof of ID.

What Proof of ID do I need?

- Driving Licence (paper or card)
- Passport
- 2 Utility Bills
- 2 Official letters – e.g., Tax office, council letter, legal letter, benefit letter which include your address
- P45
- P60

What if I haven't got the ID?

Please email fsmholidaypayments@caerphilly.gov.uk or call 01443 864055

What do I do if not all my children are listed?

Please email fsmholidaypayments@caerphilly.gov.uk or call 01443 864055

What happens if I can't get to the Post Office straight away?

There will be an expiry date on your letter; one month is given to redeem the voucher.

This can be redeemed in any Post Office in Wales - this should give you sufficient flexibility to make arrangements.

What happens if I have moved and did not let you know?

You will need to email us on fsmholidaypayments@caerphilly.gov.uk urgently

How much will I get?

This will be stipulated in the letter you receive. Currently it is £19.50 per eligible child, per week. (£3.90 eligible child, per day)

What if I don't want to receive the payment?

You do not need to take your letter to the post office. Please notify us so we can remove your details from our database. Please email fsmholidaypayments@caerphilly.gov.uk

What if I think I'm eligible but I don't receive a letter?

Please email fsmholidaypayments@caerphilly.gov.uk or call 01443 864055 stating the reasons why you think you are eligible. Please include contact details so we can contact you if necessary.

**THIS LETTER WAS SENT
OUT PREVIOUSLY**



Urdd



Be part of Wales' largest youth organisation!
JOIN today for a world of new opportunities...

RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

Make memories and enjoy epic adventures with friends in Llangrannog, Glan-llyn, Glan-llyn Isa' and Cardiff.

urdd.cymru/residential-centres

FUN

Trips abroad, arts, socialising, making new friends, clubs and volunteering opportunities.

urdd.cymru/myarea

URDD EISTEDDFOD

With over 400 competitions, from singing to cooking, dancing to designing websites, and writing stories to starring on stage - there's something here for everyone!

urdd.cymru/eisteddfod

SPORTS

Rugby, swimming, football, basketball, gymnastics, urban games... There are all sorts of clubs, activities and competitions available through the medium of Welsh.

urdd.cymru/sports

MAGAZINES

Free, fun and informative Welsh magazines available digitally. IAW is a magazine for secondary Welsh learners.

urdd.cymru/magazines

TO JOIN

Membership cost: Family membership:
£10 **£25**
per child (three or more children)
(Discounts available*)

Visit urdd.cymru/join to start your journey as an Urdd member.

*We know that there are changes to school meal payments in Wales. However, if a child receives 'free school meal vouchers', the school uniform grant or education maintenance grant scheme then the price for membership is £1.

The Urdd - offering unique, exciting and unforgettable experiences through the medium of Welsh to the youth of Wales.

#DwinAelod

