



Glasllwch Primary School

GLASLLWCH PRIMARY SCHOOL, MELBOURNE WAY, NEWPORT, NP20 3RH
 Tel: 01633 266398 . Fax: 01633 252264 . Email: glasllwch.primary@newport.gov.uk

22nd November 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are now well into the second half of what is always a very busy term in school. You will soon be aware of school being full of music, song and verse as we prepare for our Christmas concerts. It is the time of year when our schemes of work and curriculum planning allow us to focus on drama, singing, music, speaking and listening and performance. These Expressive Arts activities give children an opportunity to excel, grow in confidence and shine in a non - academic, but equally vital, way. In order for us to maintain our high academic standards and to ensure that all children reach their full potential, we will still be covering all aspects of the Foundation Phase and National Curriculum that we have planned to cover. Our detailed programmes of work, curriculum plans and high ratio of staff to pupils, are designed to ensure maximum coverage and progression over the year, taking annual events into consideration.

Parental Consultations

We were delighted to share your child's progress with you during consultations at the beginning of the half-term. The partnership between home and school is vital if children are to flourish and reach their full potential. We almost achieved 100% attendance. If you were unable to attend please arrange a mutually convenient time to see your child's teacher.

Attendance

Last year, 2017 / 2018, we missed our attendance target of 96.5% having 96.3% attendance. 3.5% of the absences were authorised and 0.2% were unauthorised. Our target this year is once again to achieve 96.5% attendance. This target has been set by the LA. We can only achieve it with your support!

Attendance figures up until Friday 16th November are:

Year Group	2018 / 2019 - so far!
Reception	97.67%
Year 1	96.54%
Year 2	96.84%
Year 3	97.86%
Year 4	96.11%
Year 5	98.42%
Year 6	97.26%
Whole School Average	96.22%

Average attendance across school is 97.24%. Congratulations to Year 5 for the highest attendance figures to date.

Good attendance at school is vital if your child is to achieve his / her full potential. We monitor individual pupil attendance on a regular basis and are concerned that attendance for a number of pupils is already dipping below 95%

this term.

The following information from Welsh Government illustrates how your child's attendance equates to a judgement. We hope you find it useful.

Attendance		What This Means
100%	Excellent	Your child has the best chance of achieving their full potential
95 - 99%	Good	Your child has missed up to 2 weeks of school in a year
90 - 94%	Unsatisfactory	Your child has missed up to 4 weeks of school in a year

85 - 89%	Poor	Your child has missed up to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks of school in a year
80 - 84%	Very Poor	Your child has missed up to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks of school in a year - over half a term
Below 80%	Extremely Poor	Your child has missed more than a whole half term of school

All holidays should be taken during the school holidays and not in term time. Any planned absence from school must be requested in writing via the office or the school website. Such requests will be considered on an individual basis.

It is vital that all children are in school and ready to learn by 9am. The school doors are open from 8.50am for the children to filter into classrooms. The teachers start lessons promptly, as soon as the register has been called. Children arriving late are missing out on vital learning opportunities. Once again thank you for your continued support.

Glasllwch's Voice

As you are aware we have a number of Pupil Participation groups within school who have been selected by their peers to represent pupils across school in a variety of ways. Pupil Participation groups include: Learning Squad, School Council, Eco Committee, School Nutrition Action Group, Criw Cymraeg, Digital Leaders and Playground Pals. The groups are an integral part of our school and ensure that pupils have a say in many aspects of school life.

Our pupil groups will be releasing a monthly newsletter 'Glasllwch's Voice', which will tell you all about the important projects that pupil groups have been carrying out within school. The newsletter will be written by the pupils and will include features such as 'Right of the Month', competitions, 'App of the Month' and pupil group news. Glasllwch's Voice will be shared at the beginning of each month via SeeSaw and Google Classroom. The Well done to all the pupils in these groups for all their hard work!

P.T.A.

A BIG THANK YOU to the P.T.A. for organising and running the fancy dress discos before half term. The children thoroughly enjoyed them! Also, a BIG THANK YOU to the P.T.A. for what was a fantastic Quiz Night - everyone enjoyed themselves! These events raised a fantastic £549.33. Thank you to everyone who has supported these events and the P.T.A for all their hard work!

On the day of the Christmas Fayre, Friday 14th December, the children can come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers in support of Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. We ask that your child brings £1 that day to support this worthwhile cause. School will close at 3pm and reopen at 3.10pm. All children must be picked up from school and will need to be accompanied by an adult to the fayre. Thank you!

Raffle Prizes

If anyone is willing and able to donate a raffle prize for our Christmas Fayre, we would be so grateful. Just let us know in school. Thank you!

Sport

Our school Netball team have attended Newport Live Netball Tournament. Two teams took part in the tournament. Both teams played brilliantly! One of the teams came 4th overall - losing only one game! The other team improved their play throughout the day and showed great teamwork! Well done everyone!



Last week the school football team played a friendly against Malpas Church at Glasllwch - it was a great game! Well done everyone!

Year 4 have continued to enjoy Rugby sessions with Janice Chappell from Newport Gwent Dragons and Year 2 and Year 3 are having a fantastic time developing their football skills with Newport County in the Community and Dan from Callum.

Well done to all the children who took part. Not only did they play well but they were impeccably behaved! Thank you to all the staff for organising participation in these events and to parents for helping with transport.

Reminder - football has now finished until the Spring Term.

Christmas Concerts - Dates and times of the Christmas concerts are as follows:

Foundation Phase dress rehearsal

Wednesday 5th December 10am

Foundation Phase concert

Thursday 6th December 10am

Foundation Phase concert

Friday 7th December 10am

KS2 dress rehearsal

Tuesday 11th December 10am

KS2 concert

Tuesday 11th December 6.30pm

KS2 concert

Wednesday 12th December 10am

KS2 concert

Wednesday 12th December 6.30pm

Nursery concert

Tuesday 18th December 10am

Nursery concert

Tuesday 18th December 1.45pm

Tickets are available from school for Foundation and KS2 Concerts.

Christmas Parties

The Foundation Phase Christmas party is on Wednesday 19th December and the Junior Christmas party is on Thursday 20th December. On their party days the children can come to school dressed in their party clothes. Nursery Christmas parties will be Thursday 20th December for both AM and PM sessions.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner is on Monday 17th December. Christmas dinner must be ordered online by Monday 10th December.

Parent Governor Elections

As you will be aware, we are in the process of electing a new Parent Governor. As we have had 6 candidates come forward there will be ballot papers coming home this week. Further information regarding the elections will follow with the ballot papers. A huge thank you to all the nominees for their interest in the position. Please return your vote by 5th December.

Healthy Schools

As you aware, one of our school policies is that during morning break we allow the children to have a snack of either a piece of fruit, chopped up fruit or chopped up vegetables. We are concerned that a few children are coming to school with cereal bars or other snacks and in some cases without a snack. Please support us by sending your child to school with fruit or vegetables. Thank you for your support in this.

We are also a NUT FREE school, please remember this with snacks and sandwich filling. Thank you

Applications for Reception 2019

Parents can now make an application for Reception for September 2019. Go to www.newport.gov.uk and follow the instructions under School Admissions. The closing date for applications is 14th January '19. We will be holding an additional Open Day for prospective parents on January 10th at 4.30pm - please contact the school office if you would like to attend.

Children in Need

On Friday 16th November, the children came to school wearing something 'spotty' or Pudsey Bear related in aid of Children in Need. As a school we raised a total of £218.85 - thank you for your support!

National Tests 2019

National Tests for 2019 for Year 2 to Year 6 will take place between 7th May and 14th May 2019. All pupils must be in school to sit the tests. No absences will be authorised during this period.

Clubs

In order to ensure the safety of the children who attend after school clubs, we ask that you notify school directly if a situation arises whereby your child will not be attending their usual after school club. If we are not informed by a parent/guardian of a child's absence from a club, then we will expect them to be present as usual.

Also, just a reminder that due to the winter evenings, Netball, Football and Rugby will finish at 4:15pm until February.

School Pick-up

We are approaching the time of year when the roads can be even busier than usual! We ask that whenever possible the children are picked up promptly at the end of the school day: Foundation Phase - 3:15pm and Key Stage 2 - 3:30pm. If you are unavoidably held up in traffic, please notify the school office as soon as possible.

Thank you in anticipation of you continued support and co-operation.

Mrs C.M. Jackson
Headteacher

**Please remember to check the calendar on the school website
www.glasllwch.org.uk
for all upcoming events**