

26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have reached the end of a really busy half term. The children have been immersed in developing their skills within a creative learning environment. As you are aware, each class has been working on a project that the children have chosen, allowing contextualised learning to take place. Don't forget to have a look at your child's class page on our school website so that you can support their learning at home.

### Reception Reading Meeting

At the beginning of term our new Reception parents joined us for our Reading Meeting. It was a super turn out and it is great to see the children getting started on their reading journey. Well done everyone.

### New staff in school

Welcome to Vicky Cox and Alicia Smith who are our PGCE students in Years 2 and 3 respectively. They have settled in well and are involving themselves in all aspects of school life. The students will be working with the support of their class teachers and will be overseen by Mrs Munslow who is our senior student mentor. We also welcome students who are on placements this year; Geeti Rahimi is in Year 2 and Ghulam Bibi is in Reception.

### Trips and Visitors

The children have enjoyed a variety of trips and experiences which have enhanced their learning within projects.

**Reception** had a fabulous time visiting Perrygrove Railway and Orchard as part of their project 'Into the Woods'. The trip came about through their Parent Voice collaboration. The children thoroughly enjoyed picking apples and making apple juice. They were involved in the whole process from picking the apples off the trees to getting the juice in the bottles. Delicious!

**Reception** have also been on a trip to Jews Wood where they had a great time carrying out a number of challenges. They made leaf necklaces and leaf pictures from leaves they collected; they mapped their walk to and from the woods and they listened to a story when they were there. Well done everyone!

**Year 2** had a great time when they visited Techniquest as part of their project 'Flash Bang Wallop'. The children thoroughly enjoyed the 'Sound and Light' workshop as well as experimenting with the puzzles and activities. How exciting!

**Year 3** went to see the dinosaurs at Cardiff Museum as part of their 'Fantastic Beasts' project. They had a super time and have done some fabulous follow up learning in school. Brilliant Year 3.

**Year 4** spent a fabulous morning at the PEAK Wastesavers Depot as part of their project 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'. They had a really informative session looking at what happens to the materials that are recycled from our homes each week and the importance of dealing with waste responsibly. Well done Year 4.

**Year 6** visited the Egyptian Centre at Swansea University to launch their Egyptian project. The children learnt how to do hieroglyphics maths, about Egyptian Gods and all about mummification! Well done Year 6! They also spent an afternoon at Crucial Crew where they learnt about food hygiene, fire safety and the work of the Samaritans amongst others. It was a really informative event.

PC Thomas has been into school to talk to the children about a range of topics. These sessions are really important and informative; helping the children keep themselves safe and well.

A Potter from St. Fagan's spent a day in school working with **Years 3 and 4**. The children made a variety of pots using a potter's wheel as well as some fantastic pottery dinosaurs and 3D models. The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshops!

### Pupil Participation Network Meeting

Last week we hosted a Newport Schools Pupil Participation Network meeting. Our newly elected Super Ambassadors, Joseph Riley and Isobel McDermott gave a fantastic presentation to a number of teachers from schools across Newport about their recent visit to the Wales Millennium Centre where they met with Sally Holland the Children's Commissioner for Wales. Joseph and Isobel spoke confidently about their role in school promoting Children's Rights. We are very proud of them - well done!

### Non Uniform Days

A HUGE thank you for the support you have shown with our non-uniform days. We raised £229 for the Lucy Ellis Foundation and £188 for Zimbabwe Special Aid who support orphaned children. Thank you very much!

### Sport

During the past few weeks our school football team have played two home matches against Clytha Primary and Maesglas Primary - everyone played really well! Thank you Miss King and Mr Poyner!

On Wednesday, our Year 5 and 6 girls went to Dragon Park for the Women's U15 Wales v Scotland match. The children took part in FAW (Football Association Wales) workshops, watched the game and took home a gift. Isobel, our Deputy Captain, also took part in a penalty shoot-out against the Wales U15 goal-keeper, winning a signed Wales shirt for the school - well done Isobel! Everyone had a fantastic time! Thank you to all the parent helpers and to Miss King for organising the day.

Also on Wednesday, our Year 5 and 6 rugby team went to Glebelands Park to take part in the Newport Autumn Cup. They played 6 games, winning one game and drawing one game. All of the children played and participated brilliantly - well done! Thank you to all the parent helpers and to Mr Burgess for organising the day.

## Attendance

Attendance figures this year so far are as follows. Well done to Reception and Year 5 for having the highest attendance so far this year. Our target for 2018 / 2019 is 96.5%!

Year Group	2018 / 2019 - so far!
Reception	<b>98.38%</b>
Year 1	<b>95.41%</b>
Year 2	<b>97.47%</b>
Year 3	<b>98.33%</b>
Year 4	<b>96.80%</b>
Year 5	<b>98.39%</b>
Year 6	<b>98.07%</b>
Whole School Average	<b>97.55%</b>

**All holidays should be taken during the school holidays and not in term time.** Any planned absence from school must be requested in writing. 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.

## National Tests 2019

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

## Home / School Agreement

When children join Glasllwch we ask all parents and children to join us and sign up to our Home / School Agreement. We pride ourselves on having high academic attainment as well as high standards of behaviour, attendance and teaching and learning. The partnership we have with parents is an integral part of our success and vital if pupils are to flourish and reach their full potential. Year group project and curriculum information, published on our website, outline expectations of homework for each class. We ask that you read with your child every day at home and support them in learning their spellings and tables each day. Class specific homework is also sent home each week. Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Intervention Programmes

Occasionally your child may receive additional support in Literacy or Numeracy in the form of 'intervention programmes'. These programmes are to either support your child with a skill or concept that has been taught but they haven't grasped or to extend their learning further. Whole class literacy and numeracy lessons take place each morning. Intervention programmes are additional sessions which usually take place in the afternoons. They are shorter sessions for between 20 - 30 minutes. We try to ensure that intervention programmes are timetabled on a rolling programme so that children do not miss the same afternoon session each week. It may be that your child only needs to participate in a session as a one off, for a particular concept or it may be that they need to participate in the complete programme, usually six weeks. If your child requires regular intervention you will be informed by your class teacher.

**Governors**

A BIG thank you to Beth Rice for her contribution and commitment to the Governing Body as she comes to the end of her term of office. We have one vacancy for the position of parent governor. Nomination forms will be sent out next week with information about being a governor. For information for our new parents, below are the names and positions of members of our existing Governing Body.

Name	Post	Category	Appointed by	Expiry of Term
Mr Simon Morrish	Chair	Community	Invitation	2019
Mrs Kimberley Anthony	Vice Chair	Parent	Parental vote	2022
Mr Stephen Morris		Community	Invitation	2021
Mrs Farzana Mohammed		Parent	Parental vote	2019
Mrs Hannah Hamnett		Parent	Parental vote	2020
Prof James Birchall		Community	Invitation	2021
Miss Ruth Cornelius		Teacher	Staff vote	2019
Mr Sean Cullen		Staff	Staff vote	2019
Cllr Matthew Evans		Local Authority	Local Authority	2019
Mrs Ruth Jones		Local Authority	Local Authority	2022
Mr Dave Cox		Community	Invitation	2021
Mrs Chris Jackson	Head teacher	Head teacher	Regulations	N/A
Mrs Jenny Munslow	Deputy Head teacher	Associate Governor	N/A	N/A

**Parental Consultations Reminder**

Consultations are being held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November for Nursery - Year 6. It is vital that all parents attend their appointment to meet with their child's class teacher to discuss progress being made and targets for development.

**Harvest**

Thank you for joining us for our Nursery, Foundation Phase and Junior Harvest Festivals; they were all really super! The children sang a variety of lovely songs, recited stories, rhymes and autumnal poetry. A BIG thank you to our visiting speaker Reverend Gordon who joined us for KS2; the children thoroughly enjoyed listening to them. Also thank you for the produce that you sent in. The food was given to SOLUS (formerly N.A.S.H. - Newport Action for Single Homeless).

## PTA

A Big thank you to the PTA for organising and running the fancy dress discos this week. The children thoroughly enjoyed them. The PTA are raising money to further develop our outdoor learning environment. We are looking at developing an allotment on the field behind the timber trail as well as buying new equipment for the yard. Your contributions to PTA events is hugely appreciated. The next PTA event is a quiz night on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. This is always a great night so please come and support us!

## 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!

## Timber Trail

Once again - in the interest of safety, children are **not allowed to use the timber trail or run up and down the grass bank before and after school.** Your support in encouraging your child to remain on the playground at these times is much appreciated. Thank you!

## Parking

We have recently been contacted by Newport County Council who have received a number of complaints from local residents about parents parking either directly across their driveways or directly opposite; either way restricting access.

**Please Please DO NOT OBSTRUCT DRIVEWAYS,** even if it means parking a little way away from school and walking your child the rest of the way.

Have an enjoyable and restful half term. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

C. M. Jackson  
Headteacher

**Reminder: School will reopen after half-term on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Please remember to check the calendar on the school website  
[www.glasllwch.org.uk](http://www.glasllwch.org.uk)  
for all upcoming events**