

# Autumn

**"Making a Difference Together"**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

## **Newsletter 1 (Autumn Term)**

Annwyl Rien a Gwarchodwyr,  
Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you all had a really good summer holidays, we didn't do too badly for sunshine in the end! We are very much looking forward to the new and exciting year ahead and sharing our learning with you.

### **Good News!**

The children have returned to school and line up eagerly in the mornings once the whistle is blown. As you will appreciate we have a large number of children required to be inside the school by 09:00. In order to ensure their utmost safety we respectfully ask that parents wait on the pavement to enable **the Nursery parents only to accompany the youngest of children on the playground**. This enables clear visibility of all the younger children by the school staff at all times as was the case throughout the last academic year.

### **Information and Updates**

#### **Annual Programme of Events**

You will find attached to this newsletter an outline of the events we have planned for the entire year. **Please take care to make a note of these on the family calendar at home.**

All funds raised by the Parents Staff Association will be used to purchase new learning resources, 16 iPads to enable the use of one per child and soft furnishings for a Calming Room.

#### **Email and Twitter**

If you would like to receive our Newsletters and messages regarding after school clubs via email, please forward your email address to Mrs Kindred as soon as possible.

We also have a Twitter Page where you can receive immediate updates from school – I recommend you follow us **@malpas\_park**

#### **Individual and Family Photographs**

The photographer will be coming into school on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October** to take individual photographs of the children. If you would like photographs to be taken with siblings who do not attend the school please arrive at 08:30.

#### **Swimming Programme**

The annual three-weeks swimming programme for Year 3 and any non-swimmers in Key Stage 2 begins on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017. More details will follow from Mrs Jones and Mrs Kindred; the cost of the intensive programme will be approximately £35.00.

#### **Open Morning for Pre-school Children**

I appreciate this is rather early notification but we are holding an open morning for the parents of pre-school children on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018**. If you are aware of any friends or family members in the community who have **children due to start nursery or school in September 2019**, I would be very grateful if you could make them aware of this opportunity to view our school in operation and have opportunity to talk to the Foundation Phase staff.

#### **Home School Agreements**

Later this week I will be sending you a brown envelope for each child containing the Home School Agreement. The idea of this is to continue a strong working relationship together to ensure each

and every child receives a positive learning experience both at school and at home. The agreement will be signed by and the Class Teacher, the PPA Teacher and I when you receive it. I would appreciate you taking a little time to share it with your child/children, sign it and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible, but **not later than Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**.

In addition to this you will be receiving copies of the **emergency contact details** that we currently hold for you to update and amend as necessary, along with a form consenting your child's participation in activities such as food tasting and studies in the locality within walking distance of the school. Additionally a copy of 'Code 321', the procedure for discipline developed by the children themselves and the school's system for attendance.

#### **Attendance and Attendance Policy**

I am very pleased to report the school's average attendance for 2016/2017 was above **95%** which is to be celebrated and I thank all our parents and family members for their support in enabling us to secure such a high level of improvement.

Malpas Park Primary School permits parents or carers to apply for **up to ten days family holiday during term time**.

MPPS Policy for Attendance:- Parents do not have an automatic right to withdraw their child from school in any event during term time, including family holidays. However, we do understand that there are circumstances under which a parent may legitimately require leave of absence from the Head Teacher and Governing Body for a child not to attend. In this instance we expect parents to contact the school at least a week in advance by completing an '**Application for Term Time Leave**' form (**Appendix 2**) or an '**Application for Term Time Leave - Family Holiday**' form (**Appendix 3**) and forwarding it to the Head Teacher, Mrs Guest via Mrs Kindred the School Support Officer. Authorisation is at the discretion of the Head Teacher and each case will be scrutinised individually and authorisation given based upon the following criteria:-

The child's level of attendance across the last 12 months is 95% or above

The child is always punctual to school

The requested leave does not fall within the window of National Testing in May

We expect parents and carers to contact the school at least a week in advance by and forwarding it to the Head Teacher, Mrs Guest via Mrs Kindred the School Support Officer. Both forms are available from Mrs Kindred at the School Office and on the school website.'

#### **Reminders**

##### **School Lunch**

The cost of a school meal has increased by 5p to **£2.10**; please ensure the child's ParentPay account is in credit prior to ordering a meal.

If you are in receipt of **Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Income Related Employment Support Allowance or Child Tax Credit** your child may be entitled to free school meals and I would urge you to act upon this. The children have a choice of a hot meal or school sandwiches with a choice of fillings, a pudding and a drink. Please contact Mrs Kindred if you require further information or an application form.

##### **Reporting Absence**

In the event that your child has an appointment or is ill and therefore absent from school, **you must notify the school by 09:30 on each day of their absence and follow this up with a letter of explanation** upon their return to school.

##### **Music Tuition**

Music tuition takes place on **Tuesday mornings each week for all instruments except violin which is on each Wednesday afternoon**. It is essential that you ensure your child brings their instrument in on the correct day in order to participate fully in their lessons and make progress.

Payment of tuition fees is now organised by Gwent Music and is payable using ParentPay.

Currently, if your child is in receipt of free school meals supplementary grants are available from Gwent Music Support Service to help fund the tuition fees. Please see Mrs Kindred if this is applicable to you.

##### **Mobile Telephone Numbers**

If there have been any changes to your emergency contact numbers throughout the Summer holidays, could you please make this known to Mrs Kindred immediately.

### **Uniform**

The correct school uniform is outlined in the Parent's Handbook and on the school website. As we are approaching the time of year when it may be necessary for new items of school uniform to be purchased, could I please remind you that all pupils are expected to wear the school logo sweatshirt or a plain red round-neck sweatshirt over their white polo shirt. **Cardigans are not permitted.**

We would be very grateful if you could ensure that **all uniform items, including PE kit, are clearly marked with your child's name** before they are brought into school.

We currently have a number of school sweatshirts in various sizes that have been donated by parents that we can make available at a small charge of £3.00. Funds raised through this will go to the PSA Fund.

### **Jewellery**

Children are permitted to wear a maximum of one pair of stud earrings to school and a watch. All other items of jewellery are not safe or appropriate for school. Please do not allow your child to wear bracelets, bangles or necklaces of any description to school.

The most recent guidance provided by Welsh Government on the issues of health and safety in Physical Education, insists that all jewellery must be removed to enable children to take part in physical activity. This is not a huge problem at our school but I just wanted you to be mindful that your child will need to be able to remove earrings for themselves and have a box to keep them in, before each lesson. All children at our school have PE lessons at least twice a week.

### **Training Days for 2017-2018**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017

If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the above do not hesitate to contact me or the relevant staff at school.

I think that's just about it for the time being but no doubt you'll be hearing from me again sometime soon!

I hope your children have all made a happy start back to the new term and you are enjoying being back into the familiar routine. I am delighted to report that the Reception Class children have settled in extremely well with Mrs Richards and experienced a very smooth transition from Nursery with the support of Mrs Christensen and Miss Shatford. We are really enjoying getting to know the new children who have started Nursery with Mrs Waters and Mrs Francis.

I look forward to seeing you all at our school events throughout the term.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,  
Yours faithfully,

Kate Guest

## Malpas Park Primary School Programme of Events 2017-2018

<b>September</b>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	School closed to the children Professional Learning for Teachers and Support Staff
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	First day of the Autumn Term for the children
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	School and Eco Council Elections for the children
<b>October</b>	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Newport High School Open Evening for Year 6 pupils and parents – details to follow from Newport High School
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting for the parents of pupils in the Reception Class - 'The Teaching of Reading at Malpas Park' in the School Hall at 14:45
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Individual Photographs – if you would like your child to be photographed with siblings who do not attend the school please arrive at 08:30
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	PSA Fundraiser – Separate Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 Discos – details to follow from the committee
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival at 09:15 for the parents, carers and family members of the <b>Foundation Phase</b> children  House Captain Elections for the children
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival at 09:15 for the parents, carers and family members of the <b>Key Stage 2</b> children
<b>Half-term Holiday – 30<sup>th</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	
<b>November</b>	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 Swimming Programme begins - 3 weeks duration
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Newport Schools Netball Festival
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> – Thu 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parents'/Carers' Consultation Evenings with Class Teachers
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	British Heart Foundation Christmas Fayre at Malpas Court Mansion House – school choir to attend and time to be confirmed
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	Anti-bullying Week <b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup></b> – Open Morning for Parents/Carers – details to follow from the individual Class Teachers Children to wear <b>blue clothes</b> to school on Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> only
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Immunisation Programme for Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 – further information and consent forms to be forwarded to parents and carers in due course
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need – details to follow from the School and Eco Council
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	School closed to the children Professional Learning for Teachers and Support Staff
<b>December</b>	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	PSA Christmas Fayre – details to follow from the committee
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch – further details to follow Children are welcome to wear <b>Christmas Jumpers instead of their red school sweatshirt</b> if they have them!
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Lower FP (Nursery and Reception) Christmas Production at 10:00 Lower KS2 (Year 3 and Year 4) Christmas Production at 13:30
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Upper FP (Year 1 and Year 2) Christmas Production at 10:00 Lower KS2 (Year 3 and Year 4) Christmas Production at 13:30
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Lower FP (Nursery and Reception) Christmas Production at 10:00

	Upper KS2 (Year 5 and Year 6) Christmas Production at 13:30																		
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Upper FP (Year 1 and Year 2) Christmas Production at 10:00 Upper KS2 (Year 5 and Year 6) Christmas Production at 13:30																		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Visit to the Riverfront Theatre to see the pantomime 'Aladdin' at 14:00																		
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Phase Christmas Party at 14:00 – further details to follow  Cluster Carol Service at Newport High School (18:00 start) – further details to follow																		
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 Christmas Party at 14:00 – further details to follow																		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Whole School Christmas Service at 09:15 Children are welcome to wear <b>Christmas Jumpers instead of their red school sweatshirt</b> if they have them as it is National Christmas Jumper Day! Parents, carers and family members are very welcome to attend																		
<b>Christmas Holiday – 24<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>																			
<b>January</b>																			
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Term begins First day of the Spring Term for all																		
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Eco and Health Week																		
<b>February</b>																			
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> – Thu 8 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fayre in the School Hall – 15:30-16:15 each day																		
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day																		
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	PSA Fundraiser – Separate Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 Discos – details to follow from the committee																		
<b>Half-term Holiday – 19<sup>th</sup> February – 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>																			
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Welsh Week – further information will be provided by Mrs Williams prior to this themed week. We are holding an ' <b>Open Session</b> ' on <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b> where parents/carers and family members are invited to attend school to share in the celebration of their child's learning throughout this week																		
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Open Session</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Phase</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Location</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">09:30-10:30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Years 5 and 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11:00-11:30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nursery</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nursery Classroom</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">10:45-11:45</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Years 3 and 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">14:00-15:00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Rec, Years 1 and 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">15:00-15:30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nursery</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nursery Classroom</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Open Session	Phase	Location	09:30-10:30	Years 5 and 6	Hall	11:00-11:30	Nursery	Nursery Classroom	10:45-11:45	Years 3 and 4	Hall	14:00-15:00	Rec, Years 1 and 2	Hall	15:00-15:30	Nursery	Nursery Classroom
Open Session	Phase	Location																	
09:30-10:30	Years 5 and 6	Hall																	
11:00-11:30	Nursery	Nursery Classroom																	
10:45-11:45	Years 3 and 4	Hall																	
14:00-15:00	Rec, Years 1 and 2	Hall																	
15:00-15:30	Nursery	Nursery Classroom																	
	The whole school Eisteddfod will then be held on Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March culminating in the charring of the Malpas Park Bard																		
<b>March</b>																			
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> – Thu 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parents'/Carers' Consultation Evenings with Class Teachers																		
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Malpas Park celebrates World Book Day – details to follow from Mrs Waters and your child's Class Teacher This is not the national date as this clashes with our Welsh Week Open Session and Eisteddfod preparations																		
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Down's Syndrome Awareness Day – further details to follow																		
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	PSA Fundraiser – Race Night – details to follow from the committee																		
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Phase Easter Service at 14:00 - parents, carers and family members are very welcome to attend																		
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 Easter Service at 09:15 - parents, carers and family members are very welcome to attend																		
<b>Easter Holiday – 30<sup>th</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>																			
<b>April</b>																			
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Term begins First day of the Summer Term for all																		

<b>May</b>	
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Welsh Government <b>National Testing in Literacy and Numeracy</b> for all pupils in Years 2 to Year 6 <b>begins and continues until May 10<sup>th</sup></b> – it is essential that children attend school throughout this period
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Bank Holiday Monday</b>
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Welsh Government <b>National Testing in Literacy and Numeracy</b> for all pupils in Years 2 to Year 6 <b>ends</b>
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sex and Relationships Education in Year 6 – parents of children in Year 6 to be held in <b>Mrs Davey's Classroom at 18:00</b>
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photographs
<b>Half-term Holiday – 28<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	
<b>June</b>	
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Residential Visit to Hilston Park – details to follow from Mrs Davey
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Newport Schools Athletics Championships – details to follow from Mrs Jones
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery and Foundation Phase Sports Day at 10:00 Key Stage 2 Sports Day at 13:00 Both events will be postponed until Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June in the event of inclement weather
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>New Intake</b> meeting for Parents and Carers of children starting in September 2018 in the <b>Nursery</b> Class – <b>School Hall at 16:30</b> ; further details to follow from Mrs Waters  <b>New Intake</b> meeting for Parents and Carers of children starting in September 2018 in the <b>Reception</b> Class – <b>School Hall at 18:00</b> ; further details to follow from Mrs Waters
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Open Morning for pre-school children in the community – please invite your friends and family who may be looking for Nursery or Reception Class places for September 2019
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Postponement day for Sports if required due to inclement weather on Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	'Everyone Moves Up' – transition event for all year groups
<b>July</b>	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Newport Primary Schools Swimming Gala – details to follow from Mrs Jones
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Years 5 and 6 Transition Visit to Newport High School – details to follow from Mr Goodbody and Mrs Davey
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Reports to Parents
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	PSA Fundraiser – Family BBQ and Scavenger Hunt
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 Awards Evening – details to follow from Mrs Guest
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery and Foundation Phase End of Year Assembly at 09:15 - parents, carers and family members are very welcome to attend
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 End of Year Assembly at 09:15 - parents, carers and family members are very welcome to attend  Final day of the year for children
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	School closed to the children Professional Learning for Teachers and Support Staff
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	School closed to the children Professional Learning for Teachers and Support Staff

It is important to note that this programme is not finite. The children at Malpas Park participate in many events when invited to do so by Newport Live Sports Development Team and Newport High School across the school year and we are made aware of these dates as they are planned by each organisation.

We are still awaiting dates for the Newport Schools Dance Festival and Gwyl Plant Welsh Dancing which we like the children to participate in each year

Additionally Class Teachers will plan and organise school visits to facilitate off-site learning in response to pupil-led learning themes when planning engagement and experience. When there is opportunity for the children to attend such enrichment experiences you will be provided with detailed information in the form of a letter and asked for consent.