



## “Making a Difference Together”

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

### Newsletter 3 (Autumn Term)



Annwyl Rieni a Gwarchodwyr,  
Dear Parents and Carers,

Just before we finish the Autumn Term for the Christmas break, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking you all for the fantastic level of support you've shown the children and staff at all our Christmas events this year. As I'm sure you will agree the Christmas productions, put together by the four departments in the school, were excellent and many of you or members of your family, took the time to express your enjoyment to myself and the staff. This is much appreciated.

Additionally the choir, along with Mrs Waters, have been working tirelessly through their lunchtimes and at every tiny opportunity to prepare for all their performances throughout the last three weeks. This includes the Combined Carol Concert at Newport High School which took place last Tuesday evening; a fabulous celebration of Christmas was shared by all.

Our very final Christmas event is the whole school **Christmas Service tomorrow at 09:15** whereby we invite our families to join us in a special celebration of Christmas. The rehearsal for this took place this morning went very well. However, as it involves the whole school and our numbers on roll are rising rapidly, I am keen to raise your awareness to the fact that **the School Hall will be VERY full tomorrow**. Having determined the level of risk in recognition of this, I would strongly recommend that numbers in attendance to support each child are kept to a minimum and **I must insist that pushchairs are left outside**.

**I would be very grateful if the children could wear their smartest school uniform accompanied by a Christmas jumper and/or 'adornment'**. This could take the form of a small piece of tinsel worn in the hair or on the uniform, a Christmas hairband or a badge – whatever you already have at home is simply the request, no new purchases necessary.

Below I have outlined some items of news; information and updates for you along with some brief reminders.

### **Good News!**

#### **Parent Staff Association (PSA)**

The Christmas Fayre organised by the PSA and held on 1<sup>st</sup> December and incorporating the sale of personalised Christmas Cards was a massive success raising £1 130.00 for the school; it was truly a lovely occasion for us all.

A **huge 'thank you'** from us all here at school to Zoe Smith-Doe and the rest of the committee; your hard work and dedication to the school is much appreciated.

### **Information and Updates**

#### **Introduction of 'Schoop'**

In January I will be in touch with you about the introduction of an app called 'Schoop' that, once fully established, will hopefully further improve communication with all parents and carers at a whole school as well class level. Further details with regards access and log-ins will follow in the new year.

#### **Parents' and Carers' Forum (Informal)**

The next Parents' and Carers' Forum is scheduled for **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 14:00 and again at 17:30** in order to provide opportunity for as many as possible to attend. Any parent or carer of a pupil at Malpas Park is welcome to attend the forums. There is no 'set' group.

### **Reminders**

#### **Parking Safely**

It is not safe for cars to be dangerously parked or mounting the pavement where children are walking into school. I understand that the volume of parking or 'awkward' parking on Almond Drive and Wavell Drive may be contributing to this occurrence but it must be avoided for the safety of our children. Please park safely and with consideration in order to reduce the risk of **your child** being hurt.

#### **Arrangement for Lunchtime**

As school meals now have to be paid via ParentPay, it is essential that the children know each day whether they need to request a school meal or are having a packed lunch supplied from home. The lunch register is taken at 09:05-09:10 in the morning; punctuality is also important to ensure this information is accurately recorded.

**Please ensure that your ParentPay account is credited and each day your child leaves the house knowing what arrangement you have made for their lunch; 'School Meal' or 'Home Sandwiches'.**

Many thanks in anticipation of your co-operation.

#### **Training Days**

The remaining training days for the year are **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July.**

The final day of the academic year for the children is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July.**

### **Attendance**

The United Nations Rights of the Child – Article 28 states that 'every child has the right to have a primary education'. Our whole school attendance is currently **96.0%**. Our target directed by the Local Authority by the end of July is **95.8%**. I very much appreciate your support in maintaining and improving upon this standard of attendance at school this year.

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Reception</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
92.3%	96.2%	93.6%	95.1%	97.4%	96.6%	96.1%	97.2%

Well done to all year groups and keep working hard towards **95.8%**.

**Thank You**

**Food Bank**

The staff and I have been overwhelmed by the response to the request for contributions to the Food Bank! The children have been busy sorting the items into bags and we have begun the distribution to families throughout the whole school community. All offerings have been very gratefully received; I am so proud of the efforts made by everyone at school; thank you everyone!

**If you feel you and your family would benefit from receiving a donation or you are aware of any families in your local area that might do, please contact me directly at the school.**

Finally, a huge 'thank you' once again, for all your support and interest throughout the first term. Along with all the staff here, I am privileged to be in a position to observe the children growing and developing their diverse range of skills on a daily basis and look forward to providing them with opportunities to regularly share their progress with you. We are very proud of our children.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. Enjoy the festive season!

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,  
Yours faithfully,

Kate Guest