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YSGOL I.D. HOOSON

July 15th, 2021

IMPORTANT

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. Although there continues to be some uncertainty regarding how the coronavirus situation will be in September, we hope that the situation improves to enable more of the 'normal' school arrangements to be introduced into school life, I would like to give you the following more specific information about the arrangements. **It is particularly important that you share this information with any carers or family members who may have responsibility for bringing your child to, or collecting your child from school.**

At the beginning of the new term, we will continue with some of the current arrangements, with some changes also being introduced. One of the more important changes to you as parents/carers will be the school start times. **All pupils** return to school on Thursday September 2nd, with all pupils (except for nursery), starting at **8.55**. Foundation Phase pupils (Reception, Years 1 & 2) will need to enter through the left side gate, with key stage 2 through the usual gate on the right side of the building. Nursery class will follow the current arrangements. There will be no entry for parents/carers onto the yard in the morning. Finish times will also see some changes with Foundation Phase (Reception, Year 1 & 2) finishing at 3.00, and key stage 2(years 3-6), finishing at 3.15. Collection arrangements will continue as they are currently, using the one-way system entering through the gate on the right hand side of the building. Please ensure that only one parent/carer collects your child from the school yard. This will help us with arrangements to reduce the number of people on the yard at any one time. Once your child has been released from class, you should follow the one-way system through the school yard (follow yellow spots and signs), to the entrance on the other side of the building.
We hope that the staggered finish will help with the traffic arrangements at the end of the school day.

We ask all parents and carers to respect the parking and safety arrangements on the school parking area, taking care when driving in and out of the school site. It would greatly facilitate the arrangements if those of you who can walk to school with the children, to do so, and avoid bringing cars into the school campus. For those of you who are unable to walk to school, every effort should be made to drop off your child within a short time slot and then once your child has gained access through the school gate where staff will be supervising, any vehicle should be moved directly from the school car park. We also ask pedestrians to leave the school campus once you see that your child has gained entry into school. Your child should arrive between 8.45 and 8.55. **Similarly, you should arrive no more than 5 minutes ahead of collection time at the end of the day and then leave the school campus promptly once your child has been collected. If all parents/carers can follow these procedures, then it would greatly assist the arrangements for everyone. Thank you.**

Start and finish times for September 2021

Nursery – 9.00 – 11.30 (morning session) 12.30 – 3.00 (afternoon session)
Reception / Year 1 & 2 – 8.55 – 3.00
Years 3-6 - 8.55 – 3.15

In the classroom

Dinner breaks and playtime breaks will be different for various age groups. All children will eat their lunch in the school hall.

Please ensure bags and lunch boxes are clearly labelled with your child's name. Rubbish or unwanted food should be returned home in the lunch box.

Pupils will not be allowed to bring any equipment, pencil cases, toys to school. We will provide the children with the equipment required.

Attendance and holidays

As stated in previous correspondence, good attendance is key to your child's academic success. We want your child in school on every day possible during the year, unless there is a specific reason which means he or she is unable to attend e.g. illness, medical appointment. As we approach the summer holiday, I would like to urge and to remind you once again please to think very carefully before you arrange any holidays for 2021-22, and **make every effort possible to avoid taking children out of school for holidays during the school term time.** Any requests to take children out of school for holidays or other activities which are not linked to the child's education, will need to be done through a letter. If your child is absent, please ensure that the school has been notified before 9.30am. Please also make every effort to arrive in school on time in the morning. Children arriving late causes a high level of disruption for the individual as well as the class, when a lesson is often disrupted with pupils arriving late. Pupils who arrive late also miss out on what has already been presented to the children during their absence. Please see the 2021-22 term dates, which will help you plan any holidays for the year.

Morning snacks

If your child wishes to bring a morning snack to school for break times then please ensure that this is a healthy option. As we follow the Local Authority's healthy school's policy, chocolate, sweets, crisps, fizzy/sweet drinks are not allowed. Any snacks should be of a healthy option, such as fruits, yoghurt, water, fruit juice, healthy snack bars.

School uniform

The summer break is almost with us. I would like to remind you of the school uniform arrangements for September 2021. In line with the school policy, it will be expected that the current school uniform will continue to be worn by all pupils, which is blue trousers/skirt, blue polo shirt and school sweatshirt or cardigan. **All pupils are asked to wear black shoes. BLACK TRAINERS INCLUDING LABELLED TRAINERS BY BRANDS SUCH AS NIKE, ADIDAS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. The image below is a guide to what is and isn't acceptable. This therefore, gives everyone enough time to plan for their child's uniform and shoes for September. ALL** children will also require their school PE kit, which includes a **blue polo shirt and blue shorts**. Suitable trainers will be required for outdoor activities. School uniform can be purchased through RAM www.ourschoolwear.co.uk



Please ensure school uniform, including shoes, are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Cylch Meithrin (Cylch Maes y Gornel)

Please remember that Cylch Meithrin Maes y Gornel continues to be based in the school and is available for children age 2 and upwards. Please contact the school for further information about the provision or check their Facebook page. If you know of any friends or relatives who would be interested in accessing the provision, then it would be much appreciated if you could pass on the information to them.

Money owing

We kindly ask for anyone who has any monies owing to school to ensure balances are settled promptly before the end of term. (dinner money through ParentPay, after school club). If debts are not cleared before the end of term, we will unable to provide a place in the after school club in September. If you are uncertain, then please contact the school.

Finally, I would like to wish the children and you as parents/carers a pleasurable summer break. We will be saying farewell to Miss Catrin Darlington and Miss Zoe Williams who have been appointed to new teaching posts for September. On behalf of the school, I would like to thank them for their valuable contribution to the school and wish them well in their new posts in September. We also wish the year 6 pupils who are leaving us, the very best of luck for the future as they begin life in their secondary school in September. I would like to thank them for their hard work during their time with us in Ysgol I D Hooson. Hwyl fawr blwyddyn 6 a diolch!
As we say farewell, we will also welcome new members of staff to the school. We welcome Miss Catrin Rowlands who will be responsible for teaching in the reception class in September and Mr Dylan Jones, who will be responsible for teaching in one of the year 5&6 classes. We also welcome Miss Delyth Hughes, who has been appointed as a teaching assistant for September and Mrs Eldrydd Dodd who will be supporting the teaching and learning in the Foundation Phase and in key stage 2.

The arrangements for the start of term as the children return to school are likely to be challenging once again for everyone, we kindly ask for everyone's co-operation with these arrangements. Remember to keep an eye on the school's website, Schoop, the school's Twitter site and the school App for news and information, especially as we approach the start of the new term.
The school closes on Friday July 16th, and will re-open for the children on Thursday September 2nd (Wednesday September 1st will be a staff training day). We look forward to September and for the start of a new school year.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation throughout the difficult year we have had and I hope you and your families have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

Mr Rhodri Jones
Headteacher