

October Newsletter



Although we were only in school for two weeks of October, I wanted to continue with the newsletter as usual to update you on a few things that have happened during the past month or will be happening during November.

Firstly, I hope you all managed to have a relaxing half term break as a family. The news at the beginning regarding a national lockdown may have changed your plans but I hope you still managed to enjoy the time together.

The staff were very pleased to hear that schools would not be closing for the final week of the lockdown. The pupils have already missed out on so much this year and further school closures would only make things even more difficult for the children. Therefore, this week, we welcomed the pupils back and got them back into the usual routines of learning as quick as we could to avoid an unwanted disruption.

During the final two weeks of term, each class wrapped up their work on their current themes. I trust you found the videos useful in last month's newsletter to gain an idea of what the pupils have been up to in class. Another video will be produced to go out with November's newsletter.

Due to COVID19, we were unable to hold a harvest thanksgiving service this year which was a real shame. On Friday 16th October, we had a school assembly using Microsoft Teams to discuss what we were thankful for at this time of year. Similarly, on October 9th, we had an assembly to discuss Mental Health Awareness, and discussed the importance of being kind. Pupils and staff wore yellow and green to help raise £75 for the Young Minds charity. Thank you for your support towards this important cause. We are now planning what we can do at Christmas time as it is highly doubtful that we will be able to hold any kind of service this year. We will be in touch once we have thought of a few ideas to keep spirits lifted at this challenging time.

At the beginning of October, HWB and the Welsh Rugby Union launched their exciting Minecraft Competition. The pupils have been challenged to create their own 'Rugby Club of the Future' using Minecraft and the winners will go on to a regional round with the possibility of qualifying for a national round in March. The staff and pupils are excited about the competition, which the pupils will take part in this half term.

Most of you will have noticed by now the new fence at the front of the school. Although daunting at first, it is there for a reason, to keep our pupils safe within the school site and it is a welcome addition to make the school even more secure and safe for the pupils. We have plans to brighten up the fence with an art project in the future. Please could you make sure that the gates are always closed when you exit the site.

I sent a reminder that we are a healthy school and therefore snacks other than fruit or vegetables in the morning are not allowed and nothing other than water can be drunk through the day. If you have any concerns or medical issues regarding this reminder, please get in touch with me to discuss them.

On Friday 13th November we will be raising money for children in need. Pupils are invited to wear their own clothes for £1 per family. There is no particular theme this year.

We have organised a PTA meeting via Microsoft Teams for Thursday 12th November at 7pm. A link will be sent via Parent Mail along with instructions on how to join. Please join us to discuss the future of our excellent funding group if you can. The more involved the better.

The head of year 6 and 7 at Llanfyllin high school met virtually with year 6 just before half term. They had the chance to discuss high school with Mr Rob Rudge. Details about a virtual open evening will be sent out soon. In the meantime, please apply for a place at high school ASAP using the following link – <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/1158/Apply-for-school-place> A ParentMail message was sent earlier this week also with the link attached. The closing date is Friday 13th November.

The Nasal Flu immunisations will take place on 11th November. Please return the forms ASAP.

On the week beginning 23rd November, we will be holding a distant parents' evening over the phone. It is a huge shame that we are unable to meet face to face and doing so virtually, using Teams would be logistically very difficult. Therefore, please look out for information regarding phone call meetings really soon. Those with pupils with additional learning needs will be given more time to discuss in detail plans to support each child. We look forward to catching up with you all to discuss your child's progress and wellbeing.

Thank you to Mr Lewis Ash who put himself forward as a parent governor. Being the only candidate, no vote was needed and we welcome Mr Ash onto the governing body. Just a reminder that your parent representatives are now Mr Lewis Ash, Mr James McKenna and Mr Brian Dulson.

Last half term proved to be a very successful one and we look forward to the same result this half term, making school as normal as we possibly can for the pupils. In the meantime, stay safe, and please get in touch if we can help in anyway.

Regards



Mr Jonathan Richards

10 th – 11 th Nov	Microsoft Global Learning Connection	COVID19 Symptoms Pupils MUST isolate if they or a family member have: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new, continuous cough• A high temperature• Loss of taste/smell Please contact us on 01691 780352 or at office@llanrhaeadr.powys.sch.uk
11 th Nov	Flu Nasal Spray	
13 th Nov	Secondary admissions close	
13 th Nov	Children in Need	
18 th Nov	Year 6 cycling proficiency	
21 st December – 1 st January	Christmas Holiday	