



Ysgol Tanyfron

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Headteacher / Pennaeth: Mr D S Lloyd

Chair of Governors: Mr S Wynne

21st December 2021

School Update – 21st December 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

As we approach the last few days for our key worker pupils, I want to take this chance to try to confirm the schools plans for the start of the spring term following on from the announcements made by Welsh Government over the last few days.

Whilst the news has made us all think of our Christmas plans the news, more specifically regarding schools is what I wish to focus on. The minister announced that schools would have two days 'planning' for the return of pupils before a full start back on Monday 10th January. These days are Thursday 6th January and Friday 7th January.

This decision luckily for school means no changes due to the fact that these days were originally penciled in as training days for school staff. Therefore, we will reopen to pupils as normal on Monday 10th January as planned. However, please be aware that school has been informed that we will be required to reschedule these training days later on in the year. These will of course be shared with parents/guardians when confirmed by the Welsh Government/local authority.

The more finer details of the announcements made around schools focused on the following areas –

- Pupils and staff have been advised to take three lateral flow tests in the week before going back to school and weekly after that. (Please note this will only be for school staff)
- Staff to make use of the planning days to ensure that you have robust plans in place to move to remote learning. This could be for individual classes/year groups or possibly for the whole school, depending on your staffing pressures.
- It will continue to be important that no one with COVID-19 symptoms attends school at the start of term and they should book a PCR test.
- As part of this preparation, schools should note the Coronavirus Act 2020 Notice allows schools to operate staggered start and finish times from the start of the new term as an additional mitigation should schools determine this is appropriate as part of their risk assessment process.

In response to the above points, I wish to clarify the following –

- At present school has no plans to switch to online learning but I feel it only fair that parents/guardians need to be aware that it is very likely at some part of the spring term your child(ren) may experience an online learning situation.

It would be wrong of me at this moment without having all the facts to clarify what the criteria will be for that but once I am able to provide you with more information I will.

- As we are already asking of parents/guardians at the moment please DO NOT send in your child(ren) if they are displaying COVID-19 symptoms (listed below).

Coronavirus / Covid-19 Symptoms and Current Information/guidance

The most common symptoms of Coronavirus / Covid-19 are recent onset of –

- New continuous 'dry' cough and/or
- High temperature/fever
- Change or loss to sense of smell/taste

- From Monday 10th January we will be reverting to staggered times to finish the school day to help minimise the number of parents/guardians onsite at one point. Therefore until further notice we will be finishing at –
Foundation Phase – 14.50am finish Key Stage 2 – 15.00pm finish

As with current practice, all siblings will leave with the oldest child via the Key Stage 2 exits.

Unfortunately, I am sure we are going to hear of many changes to guidance over the Christmas/New Year period so therefore I do not wish to change too much with a potential of having to change it again. Therefore, upon our return to school within the first week of January I will of course write to you with full details of any further guidance/changes.

Whilst unfortunately nearly all of my correspondences now are, COVID related and take away the more general news from school, I just wish to share with you some news before we start the spring term.

- On behalf of the children, I would like to thank the PTA who very kindly bought a huge amount of chocolate into school on Friday, which as you can imagine was greeted with great joy. Each child was lucky enough to have either a chocolate lolly, reindeer or Father Christmas as a Christmas present for all their hard work in what has been a lovely but challenging term. A big thank you to the PTA.



- It is with mixed emotions that I share the news that Miss Helen Jones will officially leave us for pastures new on the 31st December. Whilst not in school for the autumn term due to her new commitments this opportunity has now become more permanent. Whilst naturally disappointed to lose a dedicated and passionate member of staff, I want to thank Miss Jones for her efforts and wish her the very best with her new adventure.
- I would also like to thank yourselves as parents/guardians for your support and understanding over what has been a difficult term. I personally understand the difficulties you have faced in supporting your child(ren) in school in terms of limited face to face conversations, virtual parents evening and no Christmas concerts for example. However, you have supported us tremendously and on behalf of all the staff I thank you very much.
- As it is with children, your support is not just love and affection but MONEY also. With both my children in full time education now, I am fully aware of the morning chaos for scenarios such as non-uniform days, themed days or as it has been lately Christmas jumpers and the question of “Have you got a pound?” or “Have you paid for that?”. Yet again, you have supported all our charitable causes with food or cash donations. We were this term able to raise over £300 for Children In Need and £200 for school causes. So once again a huge thank you.

Can I thank you for your continued support and understanding to date and take this opportunity to wish you a very prosperous and enjoyable Christmas and New Year (whilst keeping safe!!) Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us in school.

Yours sincerely

Mr D. Lloyd
Headteacher