

Monthly Newsletter

Christmas Concerts

The Christmas concerts are almost upon us! Pupils and staff have been working hard in preparation for the performances and I am certain that you will enjoy the occasion.

The Foundation Phase performance, 'Lights, Camel, Action!' is on Tuesday 6th December. The Key Stage Two performance, 'Away With The Manger!' is on Wednesday 7th December. On both days, rehearsals will take place at 1.15pm followed by the main performance at 3.30pm. Rehearsals are aimed at any Grandparents and parents unable to make the after school performances. All performances cost £2 per adult. We ask that you please keep any younger/older children by your side as not to distract our young performers on stage.

Creative Play

We have embarked on a new initiative in school called 'Playful Futures'. Ask the children what they have been doing at lunch times. More information will be sent home in due course. We hope that more creative playtimes will help the imagination of children grow whilst also encouraging collaboration and respect with one another.

Reminders

- Please check online for school payments/meals owed - these should now be up to date.
- The After School Club needs your support. They are still looking for new committee members to take the club forward. Any unwanted games, toys etc. from home may also be a useful addition to the after school club resources, and all donations will be gratefully received.

Attendance

As you are aware, attendance is now a real focus for our school. The governors are fully aware of our situation and support every effort to reduce attendance figures from falling further. The Educational Welfare Officer has once again been in school this term, and all pupils with an attendance rate of less than 85% were identified and discussed. Our school target has reduced to 95% BUT we still need more than 96% if we are to climb the table in comparison to similar schools. Individual pupil attendance slips will be sent home at the end of this term, as will the 100% attendance postcards that are sent via post.

School target %	Current school attendance	Class 1 %	Class 2 %	Class 3 %	Class 4 %
95	95.73	97.08	94.06	94.44	97.32

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair was a HUGE success. I want to thank the Friends committee and all class representatives for helping to organise and prepare for the event. Also, thank you to the staff for helping to run the stalls and all families for donating towards the fair and turning up on the night. The feedback from the children and adults was very positive, so well done everyone. To date, approximately £800 profit has been raised. Fabulous work all!

Cyber-bullying

We always do our best to resolve issues in school and take all bullying issues seriously. We have recently begun a new programme called KiVa. This means 'nice' and we endeavour to be a nice school. We want pupils to understand what bullying is and how outsiders/bystanders can affect the situation. If you want to know more about this programme, please ask in school.

This term, PC Mel discussed cyber-bullying with our older pupils. One incident had been brought to our attention and PC Mel is happy to provide some materials for parents. Now would be a good time to check what your child currently accesses at home, to be familiar with what online social activity they are involved in and discuss if they have experienced anything upsetting. Parental controls can be put in place at home and this may be something that you wish to explore. We will try to put more e-safety materials/websites on our school website to support parents.



By teaching our children respect, they will learn how to respect themselves and others. It begins with us.



Athletics

A huge well done to all pupils who took part in athletics tournament this term. 2nd place out of 9 schools in the area tournament and then a very credible 4th place in the Flintshire finals. A special mention should go out to Heather who fractured her foot during the first area tournament but helped the school progress through her successful initial field events.



Yr 3/4 Football Team

A huge congratulations to the Year 3 & 4 football team who took part in the Holywell Town FC football festival. They were very unfortunate to come runners up. They were amazing throughout the tournament and won all but one of their games.



The Teaching Profession

Teaching is a profession where all teachers and associated school staff within this school should be treated with respect, from pupils and parents. I would like to remind parents that they may come and speak with me personally if they do have an issue with anything related to school. Please refrain from putting any suggestive or negative comments on social media and from talking in front of children about staff within the school. Thank you!

Church News & Christian Values

St Mary's and St Bueno's Church

◦ Christingle Service at 9.30am, Sunday 4th Dec

School

◦ Our Christian Value next half term is 'Courage'. Children will be exploring this value during collective worship and daily life.










Prayers & Thoughts

At this time of year, let the miracle of Christmas fill your heart with Joy. Let us remember that the holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us.

After School Clubs

Staff will continue to run extra-curricular clubs next term from the 2nd week back, beginning 9/12/16. All clubs finish at 4.15pm and children must be collected at that time to avoid going to the Whitford ASC. Football club continues at a cost of £2 per week.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
After school	Netball  Yrs 3-6	Football Urdd   Yrs 1-6 Yrs 2-6	Staff Meeting NO clubs	Sewing & Knitting  Yrs 3-6	
Lunch /school time	Chess  Yrs 3-6	Swimming  Yrs 3-6	Choir  Yrs 3-6		

Online Payments

Dinner payments and many other payments can be made online. [You can download an app or access it via the web or 'Our Schools App'.](#)

Contact or Follow us!

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Our Schools App

Our Schools App lets you keep up to date with all school news via an app on your phone. Never miss a thing!



Thank you for your continued support! Mr. Griffiths

Upcoming Events this term

FP Christmas rehearsal

Tuesday 6th December @ 1.15pm

FP Christmas concert

Tuesday 6th December @ 3.30pm

KS2 Christmas rehearsal

Wednesday 7th December @ 1.15pm

KS2 Christmas concert

Wednesday 7th December @ 3.30pm

Year 6 Confirmation, St Asaph Cathedral

Wednesday 7th December @ 6.30pm

Children's Christmas dinner

Thursday 8th December (Christmas jumpers and slippers for Shelter Cymru)

Christmas carol singing (Mostyn Hall)

Sunday 11th December @ 5.45pm

PANTO (returning at approx. 4.30pm)

Tuesday 13th December, pm (NO Nursery on this day)

Church carol service

Wednesday 14th December @ 2pm

Children's party day in class

Thursday 15th December (own clothes)

Community Carols (for the Whitford locals)

Thursday 15th December

Last day in school (toys/games allowed)

Friday 16th December

Staff training day (INSET)

Tuesday 3rd January 2017

First day in school

Wednesday 4th January

Swimming starts (Juniors)

Tuesday 10th January

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February

Assessment/Profile Week

Week beginning Monday 13th February

Last day in school (Half Term)

Friday 17th February

First day in school

Monday 27th February

School Eisteddfod

Wednesday 1st March

Parents' Evening (appointments)

Wednesday 8th March

Full governors meeting

Tuesday 14th March @ 6pm

Nant BH (Residential trip)

Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th March

Last day in school (Easter)

Friday 7th April

Staff training day (INSET)

Monday 24th April

First day in school

Tuesday 25th April

WELSH NATIONAL TESTS (3rd – 10th May)