

# Bryn Offa Newsletter

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Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

It has been quite an interesting last few weeks, so it is nice to get back to writing a relatively normal contribution for this week's newsletter.

We had only been two days back to school when we received the first Covid case, which developed into the outbreak we have been living with for the last few weeks. The speed of the initial spread was fast but once we knew it was in the school, we were able to put measures in place to help to control the outbreak. As long as we manage to get through this weekend without any new notifications of infections, we will start next week without a single case amongst the school population. As soon as we reach this stage we can start considering stepping down the extra measures that I have put in place. It feels like we have weathered this storm well, but I would hate for us to become complacent and get caught out in the next storm without a coat. I am optimistic that we will be able to step the safety measures down very soon, but please maintain all the restrictions and testing until I let you know things can be eased.

With all the additional absences due to Covid and with winter bugs going around, I thought it would be worth reminding parents what the system is for calling into school when a child is not in. I have used a few examples below to illustrate:

**Positive with Covid** – Please call on the first day of absence with the date you have been given for their return. Please remember that the date you are given often runs up to midnight, so it is usually the following day after that they can return to school. You do not need to call each morning of the absence.

**Sickness or diarrhoea** – Call on the first day to inform us and we will expect them to be back 48 hours later (unless symptoms continue) so there is no need to call on the morning of the second day.

**Other illnesses** – With other illnesses, it may not be possible to know when they will be well enough to return to school, so a call should be made or an email sent each day to school to provide us with an update.

**Change to what was expected** – If there is a change to when we expect a child back in, either because the symptoms have continued for longer than expected, or for any other reason, you **must** call into school or email to let us know why the child is absent. In other words, if we expect them in you need to call or email us if they are not going to be in.

Please notify us before 9.00am where possible, and leave a message on the answerphone if no-one answers. I know that our phone system rings for a long time before the answerphone kicks in, but we are trying to sort this out to make the ring time shorter.

Even though we don't quite know what the future will hold, we always hope for the best but plan for the worst. We have planned for some of the normal events, so I can give you the following dates for your diary:

Autumn Parents Evenings -	10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Christmas Performances -	Key Stage 1 14 <sup>th</sup> December (one afternoon and one evening performance) Key Stage 2 16 <sup>th</sup> December (one afternoon and one evening performance)
Spring Parents Evenings -	8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Key Stage 2 SATS -	Week beginning 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
Year 6 Leaver's Performance -	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2022
Sports Day -	15 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

I sincerely hope that that all the events above will be able to happen as normal, but if not we have back-up dates for most of them.



Unfortunately this year, it has not been possible for us to attend a Church Service to celebrate Harvest Festival. Reverend Trimby is going to hold a virtual assembly for the children instead and, as with previous years, we would like to make food donations to the Oswestry food bank. If your child would like to bring a donation (non-perishable food items only please), we would ask that they are brought into school on or before Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October please. If you are able to donate, please ensure you have checked expiry dates prior to making your donation.

Below is a list of some items that the Foodbank particularly need and some which they already have:

Urgently needed items: Ketchup, mayo, brown sauce and other sauces, rice pudding, custard, squash, fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned veg (peas, carrots, potatoes, instant mash), tinned meat, hot chocolate, biscuits, porridge, tinned pasta, spaghetti, macaroni cheese, coffee, sanitary products, nappies (size 4, 5 and 6), toiletries (deodorant, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste).

They have plenty of baked beans, tinned mushrooms, dry pasta, dry rice, tinned soups, tea and tinned tomatoes.

We hope you will agree that this is a very worthwhile cause, assisting people who need help in the local community.

## **Good luck Mrs Maxfield!**

Last year, after the postponement of the London Marathon, Mrs Maxfield completed the virtual marathon running routes around Llandrinio, Four Crosses and Arddleen.

This year she has been in training again and will be heading down to London this weekend to complete the marathon on Sunday 3rd October! She is very nervous but excited to finally be able to run the route she signed up for over two years ago! Mrs Maxfield is running for NSPCC and her fundraising is still live – any donation would be hugely appreciated!

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=LucyJones68&pageUrl=1>



## **Flu Vaccinations**

The flu vaccinations will be taking place in school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Please return your child's consent form to school as soon as possible if you haven't already done so.

## **School Uniform**

Please ensure ALL clothing brought to school, including outdoor coats etc, are clearly labelled clearly with your child's name. This means that any lost property can be quickly returned to the owner.



### **Outdoor clothing**



There are lots of children coming to school at the moment without a coat. Could you please ensure that your child has a weather appropriate coat with them in school every day please. The weather is very changeable at the moment and we do not have spare coats in school to give to children if they do not have one.

## **Potential choking hazard**

Food items such as grapes or cherry tomatoes should be cut in half lengthways before they are brought into school please. The size and shape of these items means that they can completely plug a child's airways if they are swallowed whole, causing a child to choke. Please keep this in mind if you are sending grapes or cherry tomatoes in your child's packed lunch or for a snack at breaktime.

## **Head lice**

Please note that a couple of cases of head lice have recently been reported in school. Please do your part to prevent head lice spreading by checking your child's hair (at least once a week and on a regular basis thereafter). If head lice or eggs are detected, treatment should be given to the whole family **before** your child returns to school. A second treatment should also be given 10 days later. We would ask that any cases of head lice are reported to the school office please to allow us to monitor cases and prevent head lice spreading.

## Bryn Offa Value of the Month- Thankfulness

Piglet noticed that even though he had a very small heart, it could hold a rather large amount of gratitude.

A.A. Milne



'Always be thankful.'  
Thessalonians 5:16



### Stars of the Week



**Bobby Gerrard** for being such a lovely, friendly little boy who always wears a beautiful big smile! It has been a pleasure to have Bobby in Class 1 and we hope he has enjoyed his time at Bryn Offa. Class 1 will miss him very much when he moves to his new school!

**Primrose Waddington-Gries** for being an amazing pupil and a joy to have in Class 1! Primrose has really good general knowledge, especially in Geography. She told Class 1 this week that Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world and she also knew that the Eiffel Tower is in France! Well done Primrose!

**Dakota Jamison** for settling into Year 2 brilliantly! Dakota's reading this week has blown Mrs Maxfield away! Keep up the hard work Dakota, well done!

**Eva Parkinson** for her fantastic work this week during Class 2's English lessons where they have been learning about appropriate speech for characters! Eva has listened incredibly well, presented her work beautifully and used descriptive language throughout. Well done Eva!

**Henry Owen** for an amazing start to Year 2! Henry has been working incredibly hard in all his lessons. His Maths this week has particularly impressed Mrs Maxfield. He has great focus and is always up for a challenge. Well done Henry!

**Ronnie Bladen** for a fantastic start to the term! Ronnie always listens carefully and works incredibly hard. He is a kind and caring member of Class 3 and is a brilliant team player. Keep up the great work Ronnie, well done!

**Iris Evans** for working incredibly hard over the first few weeks of school! Iris' attitude to learning is brilliant and she is already making great progress. Keep bring brilliant Iris, well done!

**Oliver Smith** for impressing Mr Jones with his attitude to his work over the last few weeks! Oliver arrives each day ready to learn and ready to give 100%. Keep up the amazing work Oliver, well done!

**Alice Morris** for impressing Mrs Hartland with Alice's fantastic Malisee inspired collage in Art yesterday! It looked amazing! Well done Alice!

**Molly Berry** for blowing Miss Hyde and Miss Hughes away with her work ethic over the last few days, particularly in Maths! Molly has mastered multiplication which is a tricky concept. Well done Molly!



### **Writer of the Week**



**Mollie Harvey** for working super hard on her handwriting! She is now able to write beautifully in pen! She also always has a smile on her face and is really helpful. Amazing Mollie, well done!

Please remember to check the class homepages on our website regularly for class updates and photographs!