

Bryn Offa Newsletter

Rockwell Lane, Pant, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 9QR Tel: 01691 830621
admin@brynoffa.shropshire.sch.uk head@brynoffa.shropshire.sch.uk
www.brynoffa.shropshire.sch.uk



Friday 21st January

It feels a little strange writing my part for the newsletter this week as I've not been in school for the last couple of weeks due to a Covid infection. I've been keeping in touch while Mr Jones has been in charge and was delighted that the few infections we had linked to the school did not cause an outbreak.

It is never possible to fully know whether we managed to avoid an outbreak by luck or by judgement, but either way we once again have managed to avoid disrupting the children's education. As you will have seen in the local and national press, if multiple members of staff have to isolate it is currently extremely difficult to get supply teachers. We will continue to do all we can to make sure we stay open to every class.

Even though we can't guarantee what has kept us safe over the last couple of weeks, I do have a feeling that one thing really made a difference. The LFT tests really are a significant part of the strategy to keep infections out of school. I myself can testify that the Omicron variant is really contagious and also how quickly the LFT test can go from negative to positive. In my own experience, I got infected at home rather than school, with my partner testing positive on the Saturday. This made me a close contact of a positive case and so I began the daily testing, with the concern that I was in danger of bringing the infection into school. On the Monday morning I tested as soon as I woke up and got a negative result, but as I am a bit of an obsessive reader of the science I erred on the side of caution and took another test just before I left the house. On this second test I showed a faint positive, and within another three hours the next test was a very strong positive. So my results changed from a negative, to a faint positive and then to a strong positive all within the space of five hours. Of course I am not suggesting that anyone needs or should do multiple tests in a day, but I think it does illustrate just how quickly things can change.

On Thursday next week we will look again at any restrictions we may be able to reduce, but most of the existing restrictions involve the staff so they may be changes you don't notice. We still have to work with the guidance on 'Outbreak Management' so will need to move really quickly if we get infections linked to school. Please be assured that absolutely everything we do is to keep the school open to all the children and we won't keep any restrictions in place a minute longer than we need to.

Like many of you who have had to be cooped up for ten days isolation, it is lovely to be out and to see all the children and staff again. My thanks as always goes to the parents and guardians who are doing all they can to keep Bryn Offa safe and open.

Nut allergy Reminder!

As we have a child in school with a serious nut allergy, please do not send your children to school with any products that contain nuts. This includes products that may contain traces of nuts. Potential allergens could include the following:

- Spreads, e.g. chocolate spread
- Cereal bars
- Some types of biscuit containing nuts
- Cakes containing nuts
- Condiments, e.g. satay sauce
- Some snack pots containing nuts

It is important that you check the labelling of food products before sending your child in to school with them – it is not always apparent that products contain nuts or traces of nuts.

School Web Site

The company who host our website have been doing some migration work on it, and the website will be offline for a short time. If everything goes according to plan with the migration it should be back online very soon.

Hand cream and Lip Balm

We have had an increasing number of children bringing in hand creams and lip balms into school. The system we use for medication is for it to be labelled with a child's name, stored in the school office and its use monitored. While we appreciate that lip balms and hand creams can be very beneficial for children who need them, having multiple items in school is not possible and the system we use for medication cannot be extended to hand creams and lip balms. It is also very distracting for the children if members of the class are popping in and out of class to use them. Can we ask that the children use these before school please if needed and that they are not brought to school unless strictly necessary.

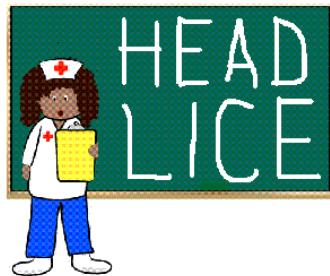
BOPTA Memorable Date Raffle!

Over the next couple of weeks BOPTA are going to be selling dates for their 2022 Memorable Date Raffle! All the dates for 2022 will be available to buy at a cost of £2 per date and the money raised from this raffle is going to be used to buy lovely new recycled plastic benches which will replace the current benches in the large playground.



If you would like to take part, please send your chosen date or dates to Jo Waters at the following email address: sweeneywaters@gmail.com

Please note that dates will be given out on a first come first served basis so if you would like to buy a date or dates, please email Jo as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!



Please note that a couple of cases of head lice have recently been reported in school. They are a recurring problem and anyone can get head lice... mainly through head to head contact but also from sharing brushes, hats and other personal items.

Please do your part to prevent head lice spreading by checking your child's hair. **We would recommend that your child's hair is checked regularly (at least once a week), and on a regular basis thereafter.** Please also watch for signs of head lice as they are much easier to treat if caught early. 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 to allow us to monitor cases and prevent head lice spreading.

Week commencing Monday 24th January

Tuesday:

Guitar lessons (pm)

Wednesday:

Class 4 Swimming lesson (am), Woodwind lessons (pm)

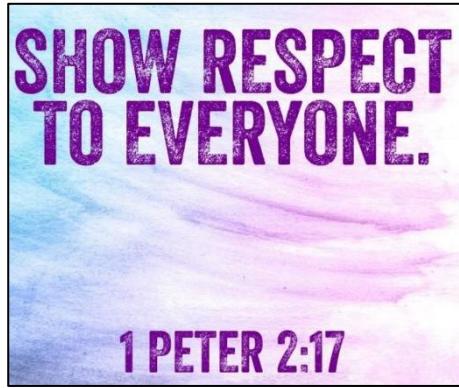
Thursday:

Athletics after school at The Marches

Friday:

Class 5 Swimming lesson (am)

Bryn Offa Value of the Month- Respect





Stars of the Week



Arno Shaw-Jones for making massive progress in all areas of his learning! Arno is working so hard and always does his best. Well done Arno!

Ada Roberts for her fantastic attitude to learning! Ada always tries her best in everything she does and is always keen to hear her next steps. Well done Ada!

Henry Owen for really impressing Mrs Maxfield with his attitude to learning this week! Henry has given 100% in everything he has done and is making great progress, particularly with his writing. Keep it up Henry, well done!

Georgie Evans for working her absolute socks off! Georgie is listening carefully in all of her lessons and she is also doing lots of work at home. She is making fantastic progress. Keep up the amazing work Georgie, well done!

Ronnie Bladen for being an absolute pleasure to teach! Ronnie is attentive, kind and incredibly hardworking and has the most wonderful sense of humour. His work is always beautifully presented and he never fails to give 100%. Keep up the great work Ronnie, well done!

Drew Edwards for his determination! Drew has great focus in class. He shows wonderful grit and perseverance whenever he is faced with a challenge. He is a real role model for his peers. Well done Drew!

Iris Evans and Jack Law for their amazing Viking research! Iris and Jack not only discovered some super facts but they also presented their findings superbly well. Keep being brilliant, well done Iris and Jack!

Caitlin Fleet for trying really hard in her Maths this week! Caitlin completed her multiplying decimals by whole numbers work independently and although she was not sure about dividing decimals initially, she was completing those questions too independently in no time! Well done Caitlin!

Harry Saunders for always challenging himself to be the best he can, whether that is with his work or as a person! Harry is an excellent role model to others and he has impressed Miss Hyde this week particularly with his work in Maths. Well done Harry!

Molly Berry for her outstanding work ethic this week! Molly has persevered with her Maths and she did a fantastic description of how the Grand Canyon was formed in Class 5's Geography lesson. Well done Molly!

Tilly Williams for always helping others and for her infectious smile! This week Tilly has worked really hard with her group to create a modern version of 'The Highwayman'. Well done Tilly!

