



CHURCH IN WALES  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Pen-y-Fai School Newsletter

*Be the Best that you can be!*

September 2018

*Welcome Back*

As we enter into, what I am sure will be, a very busy autumn term; I would like to welcome each and every one of our families back to Pen-y-Fai for the 2018/19 academic year. I hope that you all managed to have a fantastic summer break. We are certainly looking forward to the next term and continuing to work hard at ensuring that our school is the 'Best place that it can be'.

## Meet the Teacher;

There will be the opportunity to attend a 'Meet the teacher' session next week so that staff can go through some of the routines and expectations for the year. The timetable is as follows;

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September @ 5pm  
Nursery and Reception

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September @ 5pm  
Year 5 and 6

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September @ 5pm  
Year 3 and 4

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September @ 5pm  
Year 1 and 2

Mr Hanif and Mrs Turner will also be undertaking an information session for parents of pupils involved in their numeracy and literacy interventions on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September as follows;

Mrs Turner @ 4.30pm  
Mr Hanif @ 5pm

We look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it at these meetings.

## Year 6 Transition Meeting

As you may have heard, there were a number of complications around the transition of our Year 6 pupils to high school last year. Myself and the chair of governors, Mr Matthew Bater, will provide a briefing for parents of our



*This half term's right is taken from  
**Article 28***

***Roxy says that;**  
"All children have the right to learn  
and to go to school"*

**Our Newsletters are written  
because Roxy says that;**  
*"You have the right to information"*  
**(Article 13)**

current Year 6 pupils in order to provide them with all of the information that we have in order to help with the application process for our current pupils. This meeting will be held in the school hall following the Year 6 Meet the Teacher sessions; Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September @ 5.30pm for around 15 minutes.

## Parents Evenings

These will be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of October and will provide you with a more in depth opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

## Foundation Phase Coffee Morning

This will be held on the morning of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October and will be an opportunity to support our School Council's chosen charity for the year. More details to follow.

## Clubs Night

We are hoping that our first Clubs Night of the year will be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September. More details will follow separately.

## End of the school day

We have had a number of concerns passed onto us about children running down the banking onto the yard at the end of the day. We have asked our pupils to refrain from doing so. We have also asked that children do not use the new climbing equipment after school hours as there are no members of staff present to monitor the correct usage at that time. We are concerned that pupils may hurt themselves or damage the new equipment if it is not used in the correct manner. We ask that all parents support us by reinforcing this with their children.



Receive regular updates and photographs via Class Dojo



Follow us on Twitter  
@PenyfaPrimary

## Contact Us

Visit our school website  
[www.penyfaicwprimary.co.uk](http://www.penyfaicwprimary.co.uk)  
Telephone  
(01656) 815930

Email  
[admin.penyfai@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:admin.penyfai@bridgend.gov.uk)



## Important Dates to Note

W/C 17<sup>th</sup> September – Meet the Teacher Events (see information above)

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Clubs Night Begins

5<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest service for Year 1 parents @ 2pm at the church

19<sup>th</sup> October – Foundation Phase coffee morning @ 9.15am

22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Parent Consultation meetings

26<sup>th</sup> October – Last day of Autumn 1 half term

12<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance service at the church for Year 4 parents @ 2pm

23<sup>rd</sup> November – INSET day

5<sup>th</sup> December – Advent service at the church for Year 5 parents @ 6.30pm

10<sup>th</sup> December – Swimming timetable

11<sup>th</sup> December – Foundation Phase Matinee Christmas concert @ 2pm

12<sup>th</sup> December – Foundation Phase Evening Christmas concert @ 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> December – Flu Vaccinations for all pupils from Reception to Y6

19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas service at the church for Year 3 parents @ 6.30pm

21<sup>st</sup> December – Last day of term

7<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

8<sup>th</sup> January – First day of the spring term for pupils.

We have created a school diary of events for parents on our website at [www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk](http://www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk)

## *Rights Respecting School*

Over the summer holiday, we found out that we had received the Gold Award as a Rights Respecting School. We are extremely proud of the work of the entire staff, pupils, parents and governors in attaining such a prestigious award, one of very few schools across Wales to receive this accreditation. Our banner is hanging proudly on entry to the school. A huge 'well done' to Mrs Lewis who has been the lead teacher on this initiative.

## *Class Dojo*

We have had a number of parents stating that they are having some difficulties with receiving notifications from the app. We are in contact with Class Dojo over how to resolve this. In the meantime, please check the settings on your mobile phones. Go to your phone settings, notifications and ensure that you have selected to receive notifications from Class Dojo.

## *School Uniform*

We have had an excellent response to the updated school uniform policy. Children are looking fantastic in the new PE kit. Please note that Mr Hanif will keep spare kit in school which will be provided to pupils who bring in the incorrect kit for PE, or fail to bring any kit, without a note of explanation

There are a very few incidents of children wearing black footwear with white soles or other colours. Please note that the policy is for **plain black** shoes or trainer shoes and that white soles or other colours are not permitted. If this applies to your child, please could you look to rectify this at the soonest opportunity. Members of the governing body will undertake regular spot checks and issue reminders to parents of pupils who are in breach of the updated policy. The governors are keen to ensure that the policy is applied as fairly and consistently as possible in response to feedback from parents via questionnaires.

## *Wellbeing Coordinator*

Mrs Matthewson will be taking on the role of 'Wellbeing coordinator' this year. She will be helping to ensure that, as a school, we are doing all that we can do in order to make sure that all of our pupils, families and staff are as happy as we can be. Each Wednesday (Worry Wednesdays) lunch time, she will be making herself available to any pupils who have particular concerns about all sorts of different issues. During this time, she will create a calm atmosphere in her classroom where children can undertake various activities and talk about their concerns should they wish. If you think that your child may benefit from this at any point, please email [admin.penyfai@bridgend.co.uk](mailto:admin.penyfai@bridgend.co.uk) and mark your email for the attention of Mrs Matthewson. All correspondence will be treated in the strictest of confidence. We will be making a worry box available to children in school too should they like to put themselves forward to attend this session.

Mrs Matthewson will also be a point of contact from now on should you have any concerns around bullying in school. These issues should normally be addressed with your child's class teacher in the first instance and then, if still not able to be resolved, Mrs Matthewson will attempt to offer further support and advice. We have created this new role in response to an update on our policy following feedback from the Parent Council. Mr Peter Lee is the lead governor on this important policy and will link in with Mrs Matthewson closely on any issues.

## *Playground Equipment*

We are extremely grateful to the Friends of Pen-y-Fai for all of their hard work in fundraising for our new climbing equipment. The children have been very excited to have their first attempts at using it. A rota has been devised in order to allow each year group to have equal access to it at break times. Mr Hanif spent his first PE sessions teaching the children how to use it safely and with respect. The activity trail meets all safety standards and a comprehensive Risk Assessment has been completed and shared. There is always a member of staff allocated to supervise this area whilst children are using it, however, we are not able to guarantee that children will not fall whilst using it. Should you have any concerns and would rather your children not use this new resource, please inform the school office and we will ensure that your child is kept off at all times.