



CHURCH IN WALES
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs Turner

Mrs Turner has recently announced her decision to retire from her post at Pen-y-Fai school. She has been part of the staff here for nearly 10 years now as a class teacher, literacy teacher and also PPA teacher and so is well known to many children and parents. She has also led the school's Eco work and overseen the prestigious Platinum Award. I would like to thank her on behalf of all in our community for her devotion to the school and the positive impact that she has had on so many. We wish her well for a happy and long retirement.

Stay Informed

Receive regular updates and photographs via **Class Dojo**

Follow us on **Twitter**

@PenyfaPrimary

Visit our school website

www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk

Contact Us

Telephone

(01656) 815930

Email

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We are an ASD Friendly School



We are a
Rights
Respecting
School



We are an
Eco-School

Pen-y-Fai School Newsletter

Be the Best that you can be!

January 2021

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi

I would like to officially welcome you all back to Pen-y-Fai school at the beginning of the new calendar year. May I start by wishing each and every one of our pupils and their families a very happy and healthy 2021. It is our prayer that each one of you experience a year filled with joy expressed by kindness to each and every individual that you encounter. Blwyddyn Newydd dda i chi pawb!



This half term's right is taken from

Article 7

Roxy says that;

"All children have the right to a name and nationality"

Our Newsletters are written because Roxy says that;

"You have the right to information"
(Article 13)

Critical Worker Provision

As you will undoubtedly have heard, schools must continue to provide online learning until January 29th at least, with it looking increasingly likely that this will extend until February half term. Pen-y-Fai school will continue to operate an onsite provision for the children of critical workers only throughout this period. Please note that the expectation of the Welsh Government is that, if children of critical workers can stay at home then it is very important, for the safety of others, that they do stay at home. Please only utilise this provision if absolutely necessary. Parents requiring the onsite provision will need to download the form from the school website, and email it, each week, to the school office by no later than midday on Wednesday in order to request spaces at the onsite provision for the following week. The form can be found by following this link;

<http://www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk/critical-worker-provision.html>

Please note that we will not be able to accommodate any late applications once staffing rotas have been allocated.

Distance Learning Provision

Teachers, via their Class Dojo, will continue to communicate their distance learning provision to parents. Although we do not anticipate providing 'live lessons', as such, prior to half term, you will notice that all staff have received training in improving their 'asynchronous' resources to hopefully help with levels of

engagement in learning. This means that teachers are beginning to film/ record themselves giving instructions, as much as possible, in order to guide pupils through the lessons that they are providing. We have received some very positive feedback on these resources so far and will continue to make improvements, where necessary, as the weeks go by. Year 6 are hoping to begin a trial of a live 'check in' this week, with the intention of potentially filtering this practise to other classes, containing older children, prior to half term. This will be communicated by individual class teachers, where relevant. We are also hoping to invite the whole school to a weekly live assembly, more details of this to follow.

Phone Calls

It is our intention to contact each and every parent, over the next 3 weeks, to 'check in' and see how children are generally and also to see if there are any issues with the distance learning that we can help with. Please look out for a phone call which will register, either as a caller withheld number (for data protection purposes) or from the school. Staff will predominantly call to talk to a parent but will be able to say a quick hello to pupils (as long as the parent remains with their child), if you think this is something that your child would appreciate.

Communicating with staff;

As I know many of you appreciate, this is a challenging time for education staff as they attempt to balance; being on the rota for the critical worker provision, responding to distance learning work being sent in by pupils, answering any queries from pupils and parents about distance learning, preparing and communicating asynchronous distance learning resources, checking in on pupils via phone or web 'check in' and also undertaking a variety of other school based directed tasks that are still required of us, whilst also managing their own families at home too. We would ask that any communication with them is mindful of their circumstances and the efforts that they are making, very often with a brand new set of skills that they are just beginning to experiment with. If possible, we would also ask that communications are only sent between the hours of 8am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, via the Class Portfolio (on Class Dojo) in the Foundation Phase and via Hwb email in KS2.

I would also like to stress that all staff are fully aware that this is not an easy time for parents either as many of you attempt to juggle and balance your work commitments, whilst attempting to keep up with the requirements of distance learning and keeping your children occupied, healthy and happy. Any work provided is sent with good will, in an attempt to keep children learning throughout the period of school closure – tasks should not be placing additional stress on parents or pupils at what is, already, a very difficult and stressful time. Children will not be penalised for not completing tasks and staff will not think any less of parents who are not able to find enough time to work closely alongside their children to help them complete tasks. The wellbeing of our children, parents and staff is paramount at this time.

