

## NEWSLETTER –10<sup>th</sup> January 2019



Ysgol Feithrin Fairoak

Dear Parents

We hope you all had a fabulous break and would like to extend a warm welcome to the families that have joined us this week. Please note we have changed one of the INSET days scheduled for this year (see INSET DAYS below).

### PTFA MONTHLY RAFFLE

Tickets for the next PTFA raffle (tickets are £1.00 each) will go on sale next Monday and the prize will be a SMIGGLE voucher. As you will be aware PTFA funds supported not only the visit to the farm in December but also paid for the end of term party. Your support raising money is very much appreciated and allows us to provide extras for the children throughout the year.

### THIS WEEK

New children have started in both the morning and afternoon sessions which has meant the second cloakroom is now being used to accommodate children.

Busy Bags are available for loan again, please speak to a member of staff if you wish to borrow one.

Applications for Reception September 2019 are to be returned to the local authority by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January. You will then be notified on the 16<sup>th</sup> April as to the school you have been allocated. Any application received after Monday will be viewed as a late application and there will be a delay in notifying you of a school place.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Stay and Discover:** Parents or another appropriate adult are welcome to stay with their child for up to an hour at the beginning of the session to explore the Nursery with their child and undertake some of the activities the children have been doing to extend their literacy across the curriculum

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Welsh Day:** Children can wear Welsh costumes/rugby shirts/daffodils or something similar to celebrate our Welsh Heritage. They will be doing a range of activities including making Welsh cakes. Parents are invited to come back 30 minutes before the end of the session to hear the children sing a selection of songs in Welsh.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day:** Children can come to school dressed as a character from a book OR wear pyjamas and bring their favourite bedtime story.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Adventures in Food:** Parents are invited to join with their child in the Nursery to make three simple food items to taste. Further details of the times of sessions will be sent out nearer the date.

### ATTENDANCE

Although Nursery Education is not statutory your child's attendance is recorded and monitored in line with the Local Authority's Attendance Policies and Procedures. You will receive a letter at the end of each term that outlines your child's attendance. Expected attendance is over 95%. Non-attendance is recorded either as authorised or unauthorised depending on the reason for the absence. Please let us know if your child will not be in Nursery as failure to notify us will mean they are automatically recorded as unauthorised.

### REMINDERS

Please remember to bring in fruit and pay your weekly/termly contribution to the enhanced activities fund. This fund pays for cookery/play dough ingredients; art and craft extras; fish food – to give just a few examples. We also want to remind you to send a coat, hat, gloves etc. as the children have access to outside provision every day. Please make sure all items of clothing including shoes have your child's name in them so they can be returned to you.

## **INSET DAYS**

All schools are required to have five In-service Training days during the academic year. Nursery will be closed on these days to pupils. We set these days a year in advance to give parents the maximum amount of time to plan however we now need to change one of the INSET days. Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May will no longer be an INSET day. The first Thursday in May has been kept as a training day in recent years because we are often asked to close to accommodate elections. To date we have not been notified of any planned election this year and as we are only returning to school following the Easter break on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April and the following Monday we are closed for the Bank Holiday we feel closing for the Thursday in between would be too disruptive for the children – particularly those who will only be joining us that week. Therefore the two remaining INSET days for this year will be:

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019**

**This will mean the summer term will end for the children on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, which will be in line with most other local schools.**

## **END OF TERM DATES**

**School will close Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February for half term and reopen Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**School will close for the Easter break on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April and reopen Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

**School will be closed Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**School will close on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May for half term and reopen Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

**School will close for the summer break on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

## **COMMUNITY:**

**We like to let you know of things happening in the local community. If you hear of any local events please let us know as we are happy to publicise them.**

Newport Wetlands – Bird Watching for Beginners Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January – see their website for details.