



Llangewydd Junior School

Headteacher: Mr N. Clode; Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Evans; Assistant Headteacher: Mr D Evans;
ALNCo. : Mrs T Porter; Senior Leadership Team: Mrs J Davies & Mrs W Mitchell

August 27th 2020

**Annwyl Rieni/Gwarchodwyr,
Dear Parents/Carers**

Welcome back and also welcome for the first time to our year 3 parents and carers. We are very much looking forward to returning to some normality during these strange times and we have been busy preparing for our pupils' return over the summer.

The purpose of this newsletter is to advise you of our more detailed arrangements for the start of the autumn term 2020/21. Please be assured that we will act in accordance with Welsh Government and Local Authority guidance and that safeguarding the members of our school community is our overriding priority.

This newsletter will aim to address the following matters:

- Communications
- Arrangements for the start and end of the school day
- How you can support your child upon their return to school
- How you must support our school with Covid-19 issues and potential issues
- Other matters

Please also refer to the 'Frequently Asked Questions' document issued along (but separately from) this newsletter.

Communications

- All newsletters and news will be posted on the school website. The school 'App' is immediately updated when a newsletter is issued or a news post made. Details of how to download the 'App' can be found on our website.
- It is vital we have every parent's phone number. Although we do use 'Teachers to Parents' to occasionally text all parents we primarily use phone numbers for individual communication.
- Understandably at this time parents' concerns are heightened. We will of course respond to any specific safeguarding concerns raised by parents and carers but we will not commit to responding to detailed operational queries surrounding our compliance with Covid-19 control measures.
- Please also follow our school Twitter page as we anticipating posting regularly through here.

Arrangements for the start and end of the school day

- We will no longer be using the 'new' gate on Heol Y Frenhines. The 'lower' gate referred to below is the one amongst the flats referred to as the old Bryntirion Juniors' gate.

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- As previously communicated, all pupils in years 3 and 6 should return to school on Friday September 4th with all pupils returning on Monday September 7th.
- We appreciate many parents and carers will want to accompany and collect their children from school, we would appreciate during these times if you would all adhere to current social distancing rules while doing so and respect the concerns of all parents and pupils.
- As a general rule (excepting the initial accommodations made for Base pupils and for those in year 3) parents must not enter onto school premises at any time unless invited to do so.
- As previously advised, there will be no 'Breakfast Club' when pupils initially return to school. We hope however to resume a scaled down 'Breakfast Club' from September 14th. As you can imagine this presents us with a significant challenge to keep our class 'Bubbles' discrete and for them to have integrity. The provision will therefore not open until 8.30am, places may be limited and we may need to ascertain numbers of likely attendees in advance of each session. Pupils will not be able to be escorted onto the premises by parents and will have to enter the school from one (as yet undecided) entrance. Once in 'Breakfast Club' pupils will remain at their seats after consuming their meal until the start of the school day.
- As a general rule, pupils will not be allowed on school premises before the start of the school day.
- There will be no after school clubs operating for the foreseeable future. It is my understanding that from September 14th 'Simply out of School' will be operating an after school provision as they did previously. This is a provision which is wholly independent of the school, however details of how to contact the provider can be found on our school website.

Year 3

- On an ongoing basis, all pupils in year 3 **must only use the main pedestrian entrance on Heol Y Frenhines**. This entrance and exit is shared with pupils from year 5 but year 5 pupils will arrive earlier and leave earlier than year 3 pupils each day.
- On Friday September 4th, on this day only, we will operate a staggered start for each of the three year 3 classes. Pupils should arrive with parents or carers as follows at these exact times:
 - J1 – Mrs Preece's class arrive at 8.45am – white rectangle area
 - J2 – Miss Kennett's class arrive at 9.00am – yellow and orange rectangle area
 - J3 – Mr Evans' class arrive at 9.15am – blue rectangle area
- On Friday September 4th please accompany your child to the area on the yard outside your child's classroom. From there they will be taken to class.
- If you have matters you would like addressed or clarified please email these to the school by Wednesday September 2nd; we will then share our response with all parents on the morning of Friday September 4th without reference to the individual who raised the query personally.
- At the end of the day on September 4th, you must then return to where you departed from your child on the yard in the morning, to your collect your child as follows:

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- J1 – Mrs Preece’s class collect at 3.00pm – white rectangle area
- J2 – Miss Kennett’s class collect at 3.15pm – yellow and orange rectangle area
- J3 – Mr Evans’ class collect at 3.30pm – blue rectangle area
- From Monday September 7th (and on an ongoing basis) year 3 pupils must arrive at 9am, ten minutes later than all other pupils. For the week of Monday 7th September to Friday 11th September, parents can, if they wish, accompany their child onto the yard opposite their child’s class as long as they do so observing social distancing rules.
- From Monday September 7th parents of year 3 pupils may enter the yard from 3.35pm to collect their children who will be finishing school at this time.
- From Monday September 14th year 3 pupils will continue to arrive at school at 9am but the parents and carers of year 3 pupils will not be allowed onto school premises at all (therefore assuming the same status as all other parents and carers from this date).

Year 4

- The first day of school for year 4 pupils is Monday September 7th. They will be able to enter the school between 8.50am and 9am. They should ideally arrive unaccompanied but **must only use the pedestrian entrance from Llangewydd Road**. Year 4 are the only year group who are allowed to enter and exit this way. Even if you live on Heol Y Frenhines or on the Heol Y Frenhines side of the school your child must enter through the Llangewydd Road entrance (pupils will be redirected to this entrance if they present at the Heol Y Frenhines entrance). Pupils will not be handed over from school to parents at the end of the school day, they will instead appear from the Llangewydd Road entrance from 3.25pm.

Year 5

- The first day of school for year 5 pupils is Monday September 7th. They will be able to enter the school between 8.50am and 9am. They should ideally arrive unaccompanied but **must only use the main pedestrian entrance from Heol Y Frenhines**. Year 5 share this entrance and exit with year 3 who will arrive slightly later in the morning and leave slightly later in the afternoon. Even if you live on Llangewydd Road or on the Llangewydd Road side of the school your child must enter through the Heol Y Frenhines entrance (pupils will be redirected to this entrance if they present at the Llangewydd Road entrance). Pupils will not be handed over from school to parents at the end of the school day, they will instead appear from the Heol y Frenhines entrance from 3.25pm.

Year 6

- The first day of school for year 6 pupils is Friday September 4th. They will be able to enter the school between 8.50am and 9am. They should ideally arrive unaccompanied but **must only use the ‘lower’ pedestrian entrance from Heol Y Frenhines, not the main Heol y Frenhines entrance**. As stated above, even if you live on Llangewydd Road or on the Llangewydd Road side of the school your child must enter through this ‘lower’ Heol Y Frenhines entrance (pupils will be redirected to this entrance if they present elsewhere). Pupils will not be handed over from school to parents at the end of



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the school day, they will instead appear from the 'lower' Heol y Frenhines entrance from 3.25pm.

Base Pupils

- As previously communicated, all pupils in years 3 and 6 should return to school on Friday September 4th with all pupils returning on Monday September 7th.
- From and including September 4th:
 - In the mornings, Base pupils not travelling by taxi, should arrive in school at 9.00 am. As a transition measure, parents of Base pupils will be able (if they wish) to access the yard until Friday September 11th but **must only use the 'lower' pedestrian entrance from Heol Y Frenhines** (the same entrance as the year 6 pupils will be using but slightly later). Parents may accompany their child onto the smaller yard outside the railed area as long as they do so observing social distancing rules.
 - School will finish for Base pupils at 3.10pm. At this time the lower gate will be opened. Until September 11th adults of Base pupils may enter the school to collect their children (after September 11th pupils will be taken to the lower gate). During this transition period (until September 11th) parents of Base pupils (if they are entering the school grounds through the lower gate) must leave the school premises via the lower gate by 3.20pm at the latest.

How you can support your child upon their return to school

- When discussing the return to school with your child do so in a way which focuses on the positive aspects of the return, such as meeting up with their friends and classmates, learning with their new teacher.
- Make sure that your child is fully aware of appropriate hygiene precautions they must make in your absence.
- If you feel they can make their way to and from school unaccompanied but feel they may need some guidance, practise walking the route with them and showing them what to do before they have to return.

How you must support our school with Covid-19 issues and potential issues

- We must have up to date contact details for all parents and carers at all times.
- A responsible individual within your household or personal 'bubble' must be available to collect your child at all times should they display Covid-19 symptoms in school. Details of our isolation room and how to collect your child will be made available on the relevant day.
- You must not send your child to school if they are displaying symptoms of Covid19.
- If your child is displaying symptoms you should phone your child's doctor and obtain their advice. It is likely that you will be asked to accompany your child to have a Covid-19 test and your child must not attend school until this test has returned negative or until the necessary period of isolation has been undertaken.
- If your child loses any bodily fluids (such as a nose bleed) you may be asked to collect your child from school.

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- If your child is sick in school you will be asked to collect them immediately and they will then not be able to attend school on the following 2 days.

Other Matters

- Please provide your child with a water bottle. The water fountain will be closed but we have a number of drinking water points from which your child can fill or refill their bottle.
- In accordance with the latest Welsh Government guidance we do **not** expect our pupils to wear face masks. My experience of primary age pupils' use of face coverings at our Hub, the cluster Hub and from the CICUP sessions is that no child wearing a mask did so effectively for any period of time.
- As previously advised, we expect pupils to attend school in appropriate school uniform.
- You may provide your child with a healthy packed lunch if you wish, or
- Hot meals will be provided as normal in the canteen.
- Lunch times and break times will be staggered. Initially years 3 and 5 will share breaks and lunches together, whereas years 4 and 6 will share theirs.
- Toilet cleaning will be ongoing throughout the day and pupils will only be able to use the facility instructed to them by their teacher and no other facility.
- Pupils may bring in their own pencil cases but stationery will be provided. Pupils however will under no circumstances share stationery, whether this is their own or school equipment.
- PE kit. There may not be a need for PE kit initially but as the term progresses, if PE can be undertaken safely, your child's class teacher will inform you what kit your child should bring to school and when. We will not operate a policy of bringing PE kit in on a Monday and taking it home for washing on a Friday (as we have in the past). PE kit will need to be brought in and taken home the same day.

The return of pupils to school may sound somewhat ominous at this time but please be assured that all of us at our school have the best interests of our pupils at heart. We will continue to provide an exciting curriculum and a warm and loving school environment. We promise that we will be open and honest with all members of our school community and we hope to be able to do so with your support. Please recognise however that you have an extremely important role to play in ensuring that all of your interactions with the school are polite and appropriate at this time and in the future and that maintaining a positive dialogue with your child about their schooling will help enormously.

Kindest Regards,

Neil Clode