

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Friday 6th November 2020

I hope everyone had a lovely half term break – although we were in a fire breaker, I actually found there was time to unwind after a very busy half term. The children have all come back and settled into routines again. Our interventions are now in full flow and we have a real focus throughout the school on accelerating the literacy and numeracy skills of all pupils.

Mrs Lewis and Mrs Bayliss have held phone teacher/parent consultations this week and I hope you found these useful. All parents, please remember if you have any concerns or queries, this does not need to wait until these meetings. Your child's class teacher is always the first port of call. If there is a need, Mrs Bayliss (Deputy Head as well as Additional Learning Needs coordinator) or myself will obviously get involved.

Remembrance Service

Our Y6 usually lead us in a special worship on Remembrance Day. We still feel it important to mark this important event in the calendar and Y6 have been preparing a service which will be recorded and shared next week. On **Weds 11th Nov**, all pupils are invited to wear **red and/or black** (non-uniform) and donate £1 for The Poppy Appeal. The cash can be sent in to class with older pupils but to make it easier we will also have a box on the playground am/pm if you would like to donate there. We will then quarantine the cash for 3 days before handing it over to the local British Legion. **Correct change only and no envelopes please.** Thank you in advance for your support.

Christmas Plans

Children have been so resilient throughout the last 6 months and they have missed out on many of the usual activities that make childhood and school days special. Despite the pandemic, we are determined to celebrate the festive season and give the children a lovely experience to end the term. As a church school, we obviously feel strongly that the true meaning of Christmas is explored well and this will continue through our RE and Values education. We have worked out how we can do activities whilst staying strictly in contact groups (bubbles). I will send out further details throughout the term but these are some of our plans:

- Cards and calendars will be made as usual.
- With special measures in place, we are allowed to sing within bubbles - hooray! We will be creating a recorded carol concert involving all bubbles which will be shared with everyone. If you have not given permission for your child to be on Twitter or the internet then they can take part but will be unable to be filmed. There are very few pupils for whom this is the case but please speak to the office if you would like to change this.
- All children from Reception to Year 6 will be offered Christmas dinner. This will be staggered over a week to enable every bubble to sit in the hall with the tree, turkey and all the trimmings!
- Every bubble (including Nursery) will have its own Christmas party.
- A streamed pantomime for all classes.
- Christmas film and popcorn afternoon.
- A Christmas gift even if Father Christmas has to deliver the presents due to social distancing.

The Giving Machine – Free money for school!

As we are unable to hold any fund raising events in school at the moment we would like to ask you to consider doing your online shopping via the above website. Whilst we would encourage everyone to shop locally where possible, if you are shopping on-line, by accessing online retailers via The Giving Machine it generates a commission which is paid directly to school. There are over 2000 shops that you can access including John Lewis, M & S, Next, The Entertainer and The Disney Store to name but a few. With over 230 pupils in school this could potentially raise a considerable amount for resources for the pupils. All you need to do is register on The Giving Machine website or following the links below. To find the school just enter our postcode which is CF64 4HB. Happy shopping!

https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAhZT9BRDmARIsAN2E-J0XYmFCo2rEZm1fNY2ZbPq3Dj72iNM9vN9rStd-uGel7rArvxri02caAj1GEALw_wcB

Welsh Government links (Repeated message)

I have listed some links to information from Welsh Government which you may find useful.

Test, Trace and Protect

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/test-trace-protect-information-for-parents-and-carers.pdf>

What to do if your child needs to self-isolate

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/what-to-do-if-your-child-needs-to-self-isolate.pdf>

Symptoms

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/dont-send-your-child-to-school-if-they-have-any-covid-19-symptoms.pdf>

General Restrictions – FAQs

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-regulations-guidance>

Social Distancing reminder

On occasions, particularly after school, some parents/families are stopping to talk in the lay-by. This causes congestion which in turn poses a possible risk and anxiety to others. If you wish to chat, I politely request that you move away from the lay-by and also observe 2m social distancing rules at all times. Also, I know childcare can be an issue for some, but children should not be collected by other families. Although from Monday 9th November, meeting others outdoors will be permitted again, this is only with 2m social distancing in place which does not happen when collecting children. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Reminders/Dates

- Y4 to Y6 have hot dinners next week.
- Remembrance on Weds 11th Nov (see above)
- We have made a decision that with Remembrance Day, we are **not** marking Children in Need next week.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Headteacher

Our value this half term is Trust:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

(Proverbs 3: 5-6)