

## St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

### **Children's Mental Health Week 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and as such the well-being committee will be holding a special worship on Wednesday. This links very well to our health and well-being topic this half term as well as our focus value of courage. In preparation for a class based discussion, the children will be bringing home a task to do with you over the weekend. In case this goes missing, please could you discuss with them a time when they have had to show courage during a challenging or difficult time. For little ones, this could be something as simple as starting swimming lessons or school for the first time. If you do have a photo or if they could draw a picture that would be great. Older children could write a short piece about their act of courage. We don't really mind the format as long as the children have something they are happy to share with the class.

### **Fund Raiser**

Many of our pupils suffer with asthma and it can be a very serious, sometimes fatal disease. As part of Cluster wide fund raising activity, we are asking everyone to donate a £1 to Asthma UK and in return the children can wear bright clothes to celebrate life. This will take place next Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Reminders**

Please ensure Parentpay accounts are up to date. Over 30 accounts were in arrears this week which is frustrating and time consuming for the admin staff. Please can all children have PE kits in school. PE is an important part of the curriculum and the idea of changing for hygiene reasons and comfort is all part of that education.

### **Parent Groups on WhatsApp etc.**

It has been brought to my attention that some class chat groups are used to discuss issues about the class and as such, individual children can sometimes be identified as part of this discussion. This can obviously be upsetting for the parents and can also spill into issues with the children in school. I ask politely that you consider carefully what is discussed on these groups and suggest raising these concerns directly with the school.

### **Parents' Evening and parent forum (repeated message)**

We have decided to split parents' evening over 2 weeks this term to see if it improves workload pressure on teaching staff. These will take place (as indicated on the list of dates) on Tues 17<sup>th</sup> and Weds 25<sup>th</sup> March.

On Weds 26<sup>th</sup> February, I will be holding a parent forum in order to gather feedback from you on ways in which we can move the school forward in the future. I would like as many parents as possible to attend in order to get a real flavour of issues or ideas you may have. For this reason I intend to hold 2 sessions at 9.15am and 5.30pm. Please note that whilst younger pre-school siblings are welcome, I would prefer it if pupils do not attend the 5.30 session and I hope this gives enough notice to arrange any childcare if needed. This will be a collective and open forum for whole school issues rather than issues related to individual pupils. Obviously these issues can be raised directly with class teachers or me if necessary as is already the case.

### **Reception Contribution to family service**

This takes place on Sunday at 10.30 in St Peter's Church. Please can the children wear uniform and sit with parents in church until Mrs Lewis calls them to the front.

### **Next Week**

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup>** - PC Chris with Y5 'Internet Safety'

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup>** - Asthma UK Fundraiser and Non-uniform (see above)

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup>** - Cricket coaching sessions for Y2 and Y3 (PE kits in school please!)

**Weds 5<sup>th</sup>** - Show Racism the Red Card workshops for Y5 and Y6

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Hale one of our midday supervisors who has been part of the team for a number of periods here over the last 15 years. We wish her much luck and happiness as she spends more time with her family and looks forward to her first grandchild being born.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Headteacher

Our focus value this half term is 'Courage':

***Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)***