



Charles Williams Church in Wales Primary School Newsletter – December 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,



THANK YOU

A huge thank you for supporting our children's Christmas events. Thank you for providing costumes, helping to learn lines and most importantly, for attending concerts, carol and Taize services. Being at these events means a huge amount to your child and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Thank you also for your kindness and generosity throughout harvest and Advent. Your donations of food have been gratefully received by Raven House Trust and the Trussell; your gifts continue to make a huge difference to families and children this Christmas.

Should you or your children receive any unwanted or duplicate gifts of toys, clothing or other items that can be used by vulnerable members of our community, we would be very grateful to receive them after the holidays so that they can be sent to organisations who can make good use of them.

Estyn and Section 50 Report

This term brought an inspection by Estyn and The Church in Wales. The reports will be published on the school website on Monday 23 December, the Estyn report will also be available on the Estyn website from this date.

I would like to thank the whole school team who work to make our school a happy place where our children grow in confidence as they learn with and from each other.

STAFF

This term we have welcomed Mrs Jo-Ann Campbell and Mrs Kathryn Sully to our midday supervisor and breakfast club teams. Next term they will be joined by Mrs Sarah Francis.

Mrs Trott, school administrator, has been complemented by Mrs Rachel Penfold and Mrs Natalie Smith. The team is happy to help with any questions or queries that you might have about school and appreciate your support in letting them know if your child is going to be absent.

In January, we will be very pleased to welcome Mrs Rachel Avon in her role as Leader for Inclusion and class teacher in Dosbarth Ebbw alongside Mrs Fernquest. Mrs Avon will be working with Dosbarth Ebbw as Mrs Megan Seldon begins a career break. Mrs Seldon is a very valued member of the Charles Williams team and is looking forward to spending time with her family for the next few years. Thank you, Mrs Seldon for the support and the care that you have given to Dosbarth Ebbw this year.

After many years' service, Mrs Dawn Baker, foundation phase supervisor will leave us to begin her retirement. Mrs Baker has shown great kindness and care for our children and she will be missed. Thank you, Mrs Baker.

The children will present Mrs Baker with a leaving gift at the beginning of next term.

The governing body will seek to appoint a Deputy Headteacher in the summer term. In the meantime, I am very grateful to Mrs Kathryn Sperry and Miss Rachel Kendall who have agreed to continue in their roles as acting Deputy Headteacher and Foundation Phase Leader accordingly. Thank you, ladies.

BREAKFAST CLUB

This year has seen a significant increase in the number of children who access breakfast club. Welsh Government funding provides places for 125 children, at the start of term over 180 children were registered. Sincere thanks for donations that have allowed us to increase our capacity and run breakfast club in both foundation phase and key stage 2.



The donation of £1, per child, per week offers parents with the facility for their child to be cared for between 8.00am and the start of the school day. If you can, please take advantage of this to relieve the pressures on parking at the start of the day. The additional places currently on offer will be maintained as long as donations permit it.

Doors to breakfast club are open between 8.00am and 8.20am. In order to make sure that our children are safe and accounted for, unfortunately, we are not able to admit children to breakfast club after 8.20am.

ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY

In the new year, every parent will receive a letter detailing your child's attendance for this term. Should your child's level of attendance cause concern, you will be invited to meet with Mrs Sperry to discuss how we can work together to support better attendance. Good attendance is important for our children's academic, social and emotional wellbeing; please make every effort possible to ensure that your child is in school as often as possible.

Learning starts at 9.00am in Foundation Phase and at 8.55am in Key Stage 2. Arriving late at school means that your child is missing out. Before leaving for school in the morning, please bear in mind traffic flow and parking restraints so that your child is in school on time. Generally, rubbish and recycling is collected in Caerleon every Wednesday – please allow extra time to get to school on Wednesdays.

If your child is late for school and would like a school lunch, the hot meal will be ordered. When signing in late, we are not able to offer a choice of meals.

If your child is not going to be in school for any reason, it is imperative that you contact the office before 9.30am to avoid escalating the absence to the Education Welfare Officer.

Following a review by the Governors' attendance committee, our attendance policy is going to change. Please look out for communication in the new year that will outline how the policy is changing and how it will impact you and your child.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, BATTERIES and STAMPS

We are taking part in a Newport wide competition, collecting Christmas cards in the hope that we can be the school that recycles the most cards in the city. We would ask for you to send in as many as you can; please ask your friends, families, neighbours and work colleagues if we could have theirs. Eco-committee would be grateful if you would bring them into school in a bag, clearly labeled to show how many cards each bag contains. There will be prizes for the classes and individuals/families who bring in the most.

As Christmas is a time for flashing, singing and dancing toys, games and decorations, we would also ask that you send into school any used batteries to help us do our bit to help the environment (and for another competition!) and lastly, please, please, send



into school used stamps. We are collecting them to raise funds for RNIB. Thank you.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Our office staff would be very grateful if you would check the balance of credit available on Parent Pay before ordering lunches. Unfortunately, if the debt on an account rises above £21.00, we will not be able to provide a school lunch for your child and you will be contacted and asked to bring in a packed lunch until the debt is cleared.

If you think that you might be entitled to claim free school meals, please speak to Mrs Trott who will be happy to help. As we operate a cashless system, neither your child or any other child will know that your child receives a free school meal and school might also benefit from additional funding.

Parent Text

If you change your mobile number, we would be grateful if you would let us know so that we can make sure that you receive parent texts and so that we can contact you in an emergency.

CHRISTMAS at St Cadoc's Church

The ministry team at St Cadoc's would like to extend a welcome to you over the Advent and Christmas period and invite you to join them at a service.

22nd December

2.00pm Tea and Cake
4.00pm Nine Lessons and Carols

24th December CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30pm Crib Service led by Miss Kendall with a very special guest appearance at the end of the service.
11.00pm Midnight Mass

25th December CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am Eucharist
Children and adults are invited to bring along toys or a present

INSET DAYS

A reminder that the following dates remain INSET days this year. On each of these days, school will be closed to children.

Friday 14 February
Monday 20 July

Welsh Government has announced that this year and for the next two years, an additional INSET day will be given to schools to help them to prepare for the new

curriculum. **An additional date for this year will be agreed and communicated at the start of next term.**

Thank you for your continued support and may I take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful Christmas and happy new year.

Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

Rebecca Penn
Headteacher



CHARLES WILLIAMS

CHURCH IN WALES PRIMARY SCHOOL



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