

Risca Primary School

Autumn Newsletter No 8

Tuesday 24th November 2020



Dear Mums and Dads,

We hope that you and your families are all well, and we hope that despite the current disruption to our routines that you are managing to begin to think about Christmas.

Christmas at School.

As we have already discussed in previous newsletters, Christmas at Risca Primary School is going to be rather different this year. Sadly, we are not able to hold our usual round of concerts, but instead we are looking forward to working on an alternative way of celebrating Christmas. By now, you would have heard that Miss Ryan and Mrs Bosley are organising a **lip sync 'Christmas Song' battle** for all children. We are very much looking forward to sharing these endeavours with you. Additionally, we have planned a **whole school virtual pantomime** and a **virtual trip to Santa's grotto**, for our younger children. (We know that those Elves just can't wait to show us around!). Have a look at the end of our newsletter for dates and times of all our Christmas activities, all of which will be held in the last week.

Christmas Dinner

We will be holding our Christmas dinner (with a twist) as usual this year. This year the children will have a boxed meal of **turkey and stuffing or glamorgan sausage, served in a roll with roast potatoes and baked onion rings**. This will be followed by either a **Christmas ice cream tub or fresh fruit**. Our Christmas lunch this year will take place on Wednesday 16th December. To make this an extra special day children will be able to wear **Christmas jumpers** on that day. There will be more details to follow, regarding ordering a Christmas dinner on our Seesaw app.

Enjoying Christmas Day

I know that we are all looking forward to having a lovely Christmas day and we are all pleased to see the National Guidelines which will hopefully give us recommendations about keeping safe at Christmas. With that in mind we are asking everyone in our community to be extra vigilant in the weeks now leading up to Christmas. We wish to avoid anyone in our community having to self isolate through the Christmas period. This year, we are working up to only six days before Christmas. Therefore if we have positive cases in school in the last week, this may adversely

affect families over Christmas. Can I please ask that if your child is unwell in the next few weeks that you err on the side of caution when considering whether or not to send them to school. If your child is showing any of the symptoms of Covid 19, (a high temperature, a cough or loss of taste/smell) please also keep them off school and also importantly off our school site. In these circumstances we kindly ask that children have a negative test result prior to returning to school. Again, I would ask everyone to always err on the side of caution in these circumstances. I am hopeful that if we all work together that we can minimise any disruptions for Christmas for all of our community.

Enterprise Week

As usual we will be holding an Enterprise Week where all children will be working together to make Christmas baubles to sell. Look out for your child's contribution. Sadly, this year, we will not be able to sell our wares at the Christmas Fayre. Instead, the children will be bringing their finished products home in the next few weeks and we would be grateful if you could send in a small contribution towards our school fund to cover our costs. Many thanks.

Sickness

We have sadly sent home a number of children this week with sickness. Just as a reminder, if children are sent home with sickness they are unable to return to school for 48 hours. This should ensure that they are well enough to return and are not at risk of spreading any 'tummy bugs' to other children. Many thanks for your understanding.

Face Coverings

You will already be aware now that the Welsh Government has changed the guidance for wearing face coverings on school sites. As from today we would kindly ask that all parents wear face coverings at all times when dropping off and picking up children at our school. This includes the yard area. Can I thank you all in anticipation of this change. I am so grateful that so many of us are working together to ensure the safety of our staff and pupils.

Christmas Cards

You may be aware that in order to keep everyone safe we have to quarantine resources for 72 hours before sharing them between class bubbles. Where this is not possible, we have to clean resources before passing them from bubble to bubble. With that in mind, we are going to have a clear cut off point for Christmas cards this year. This will allow us to quarantine the cards before sorting them and sending them out to individual pupils. The last day for bringing Christmas cards into school this year is Friday 11th December. This will allow us to quarantine the cards over the weekend before handing them out for the following week. Please don't send in cards after this date, as we will be unable to allow children to give them out. Many thanks.

Christmas Dates



Monday 30th November -Enterprise Week

Monday 14th December- Lip Sync Battle videos released

Tuesday 15th December- Christmas Film Morning

Wednesday 16th December -Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

Thursday 17th December - Christmas Panto Day (Look out.... he's behind you!!!)

Friday 18th December - Foundation Phase:Visit to Santa's Grotto

KS2 Christmas Games and Quiz