

Risca Primary School

Autumn Newsletter No 4

Monday 28th September 2020



Dear Mums and Dads,

Unbelievably, we are nearly at the end of September, how quickly the time has passed. This morning it was lovely to see our Year 2 children return to school following their two weeks of self isolation. Many thanks to all of you who worked hard to keep your children self isolated. I know that these are challenging times, and I understand that many of us are trying to juggle many things at the moment. A big thank you for your understanding, whilst we work hard to keep our community safe.

Virtual Assemblies

Many of you will know that on a Friday we are now conducting whole school virtual assemblies. These are our celebration assemblies and during the assembly some pupils are presented with certificates for a super endeavour for that week. I am sure that your child will be bringing a celebration certificate home over the next term.

Water Bottles.

Please note that our water fountain is currently out of use and will be out of use until it is deemed safe for use. We would be grateful if you could please send your child in with a filled water bottle at the beginning of every day. This will ensure that the children have access to water throughout the day. Many thanks.

Autumn Weather

You will notice that the temperature has dropped over the last few weeks and we are now beginning to feel the chill of Autumn in the air. Due to the current situation with Covid 19, can I remind you that we are obliged to keep all rooms well ventilated so that all children and staff have access to fresh air. Therefore by necessity we will have windows open throughout the day. Therefore please can I ask that all children be sent to school dressed warmly and if necessary with an extra jumper/hoodie/fleece. Please can you ensure that pupils are dressed so that they do not have bare legs or arms. This will ensure that we can keep a good balance of fresh air in school which is known to reduce transmission rates of the virus. Many thanks.

End of the Day

Many of you will note that despite having a staggered end to the day, the school yards can present as very busy. A number of parents have approached staff and voiced concerns over social distancing and crowding at the end of the day. Firstly, please can I ask that you leave the yard as soon as you have picked up your child. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate socialising at the end of the day, as this is causing congestion on the yard. Naturally, should you have another child to pick up, we more than understand that you will need to remain safely on the yard, until the next child arrives. Please can I also now insist that when you are waiting for your child you wait at the ASTROTURF end of both yards to ensure that staff can come out of the building safely and dismiss the children. Senior leaders will be monitoring this situation over the next week, to ensure that the end of the day is as orderly as the beginning of the day.

Our main priority is safety on our school site. We want everyone who visits our school to be safe and wherever possible reduce anxiety of parents who feel that social distancing protocols are not being adhered to.

Breakfast Club and Hot Lunches

Please note that currently we are not offering Breakfast Club or hot dinners. Currently it would be impossible to offer these facilities and maintain the safety of pupil bubbles/groups in our school. Naturally, should this change we will inform you. Many thanks.

Reading Books.

We are now preparing to send home reading books for pupils. As we will have to 'quarantine' books for 72 hours before re-issuing them, we have changed our protocols. From now on all books will be sent home on a Friday, and we would kindly ask that you return them on a Monday. This will allow us to ensure that the books have ample quarantine time before we send them out again. Many thanks

Can I thank everyone once again, for working with our over the last few weeks to keep our community as safe as possible,

Mrs Arthur and Staff.