



January Newsletter 2017

Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2017! I hope you all had a restful Christmas and have recovered from a busy December term. On reflection, I was very proud to have seen all children performing in each of the festive productions. We really do have some talented children. I would like to thank you all for contributing and attending the PTA Christmas Fair and the School Council Bingo-ho-ho just before we broke up. I wish you all a happy, healthy and productive 2017.

Parent E-Mail Address Request - RESPONSE NEEDED!

In order to further improve our means of reliable communication, we are going to be collecting email addresses so that we can send out letters, information and notifications directly to you via our school website. For this to be successful, we need you to email school on (wwwmail@hwbcymru.net) stating clearly your child or children's names and class, your name and your relationship to the child, eg *Mother or Father*. We can then save your email address on our website for school staff to use.

In future, I have the desire to rely 100% on paper-less communication to save on photocopying costs and to be kinder to the environment. Please make sure you respond to this request as soon as possible so the mammoth task of transporting each individual address can begin. If possible, to reduce the levels of administration, only have one primary email address for each family.

In relation to split families, please can you make sure you communicate with other adults with parental responsibility so they can provide their own email address. In such cases, it is vital that we are provided with the name of the other parent and the relationship with the child. Please bear in mind that although we know who you are on a face-to-face basis, we may not recognise you by your email address alone. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Email example:

My name is Mick Sturbs and my children are called Rosemary (Class 3) and Basil (Class 6). I am the father of both children.

Year 3&4 Glan Llyn Residential Trip

(Tues 28th Feb-Wed 1st March)

Sorry folks but it's time to ask for money to pay for the children to join in the two day (one night) residential trip to Glan Llyn, Bala. **A £20 deposit is required by the end of the week (Fri 13th January) to secure a place for your child. The full cost of the trip is now confirmed as £72 for full-paying families and £52 for those receiving Free School Meals** (£12 per child has been added to the provisional price to contribute towards the bus costs). The full amount needs to be paid on or before Thursday 16th February. Thank you to those parents who have paid towards the trip already. Sadly, children will not be able to attend this experience without full payment in advance of the trip.

Mr Cottrell is Back!

Having recovered from his illness, we are delighted to welcome our caretaker, Mr Cottrell, back to work. He begins work this week on light duties.

Year 5 & 6 Nant BH Residential Trip

Mon 13th March to Wednesday 15th March

Notice about this trip has been circulating since 14th November 2016 but it's time to confirm the timescales of payment. I fully acknowledge the financial commitments at this time of year and especially with the neighbouring residential planned for Year 3&4 pupils. However, **a deposit of £20 is needed by Friday 3rd February and the full cost of the trip is needed on or before Friday 3rd March. Full paying child places cost £160 and for those receiving Free School Meals the cost is £100 (all transport is included).**

Thank you to those parents who have paid towards the trip already. Sadly, children will not be able to attend this experience without full payment in advance of the trip.

General Information - Charges and Contributions

When we arrange school trips or have visiting workshops, we calculate the costs per pupil, subtract any available subsidies and then ask for a contribution. This contribution is the money the school needs to be able to cover the costs of the planned experience (admission charges, transport etc). We do not make a profit on any school experience. Any shortfall has to be covered from the school budget. If parents are unable to match the requested amount in full, we still value a partial contribution as it still makes a difference. However, if it is felt that the contributions fall too short of the full cost of a trip, the whole trip will be cancelled for all pupils and refunds will be given.

Coffee and Cake Sale for "Toilet Twinning"

2.5 billion people in the world don't have a loo! To do our bit to help, we are joining up with our local church at Buckley Cross to run a Coffee and Cake morning in the Church Community Centre (opposite our school). The event will run from 9:00am through to 11:30am and our pupils will be running a stall. Please pop in for some refreshments or to view the other stalls run by members of the community. Last year, Buckley Cross Church raised enough money for Westwood to provide a toilet block in the African country of Chad.

Schedule for Monthly Newsletter Release

Before the end of the second week in every month, a Newsletter will be issued to every child in school. It is your child's responsibility to leave school with this document and give it to you. Although, as we know, children have a habit of losing letters or hiding them in their bag. Please check your child's bag regularly. Within the first two weeks of every month, I will upload the Newsletter to the school website and Twitter.

Brownies and Guides

On Tuesday evenings from 7pm, Diane Griffiths runs the local Girl Guides group in our school hall. She is always looking for new recruits. Diane will be visiting school on Monday 16th to speak with the girls in Year 4, 5 and 6 and to give out some information. For younger children, the Brownies meet in our school hall on Wednesday evenings from 7pm. If you are interested, please pop in to make some enquiries during their sessions.