

Newsletter 15th November

Diary Dates

As we move towards Christmas, here are key dates for this term:

25th- 29th November- Careers' Week

26th November- Y3 Trip to We Are Curious

27th November- Y5 NDEC Trip

29th November- Swimming Gala (Upper School group)

6th December- PTFA Christmas Fayre

6th December- Lantern Parade 6pm

11th December- Y5 NDEC Trip

11th December- Christingle Service (in school)

12th & 13th December- Lower School Nativity (2pm- one ticket per family for each performance)

13th December- Y4 Trip to St Fagan's

18th December- Christmas Dinner

19th December- Lower School Trip to Perrygrove

19th December- Upper School Christmas Party Day

20th December- Lower School Christmas Party Day

20th December- Upper School Carol Service 1.30pm St Mary's Church

20th December- End of term

6th January- School closed to pupils- INSET Day

7th January- Start of Spring term

Healthy Snacks

A gentle reminder to all our families about suitable snacks for morning break at school. This should be a fruit or vegetable snack or rice cakes/ cereal bar (no nuts). Increasingly we are seeing more children bringing crisps, biscuits and chocolate to school which is NOT PERMITTED.

Parent Governor Election

We now have a vacancy on our Governing Body, following Natalie Rosser's end of term of office. We are very pleased to retain Natalie's expertise in her new position as a Local Authority representative on our Governing Body.

All parents, or legal guardians, of pupils registered at the school are eligible to participate in the election. Those elected will serve for a period of four years and may continue as Governors

even if their child or children leave the school during their term of office. They may of course, resign at any time during the four years.

School Governors have a vital part to play in ensuring that the requirements of the National Curriculum are met, establishing standards of behaviour, selection of staff, budget matters, and preparation and presentation of the Annual Report to Parents. Governing Bodies are required to meet at least once a term and most meet at 4.30 pm or in the evening. In addition to this, Governors may also sit on sub-committees which also meet termly. These meetings involve discussions with teachers to explore the work of the school.

Parents who have already served as Governors may choose to seek re-election, provided they still have a child or children attending the school. Grandparents of pupils are **not allowed** to take part in the election unless they are the legal guardians of the child. No Governor may serve on more than two School Governing Bodies in any category.

Attached is a link to a nomination form to enable you to put your name forward for election. All nominees must be parents of pupils registered at the school. Nominees may include a brief personal statement to be distributed to parents in the event of a ballot.

The nomination form should be returned to school by Friday 29th November. If the number of valid nominations is equal to or less than the number of vacancies, these parents will be declared as parent Governors. If the nominations exceed the number of vacancies all parents will be given the opportunity to vote in a secret ballot. Details of the election will be sent to you at the appropriate time, if this is necessary.

<https://schoop.co.uk/UploadFiles/14106/parent-governor-nomination-form-november-2024.pdf>

Update on Inglis Bridge Closure

Last Friday, members of the Governing Body met with Leader of Monmouthshire County Council, Mary-Ann Brocklesby and Catherine Fookes MP to share our concerns regarding the closure of the bridge and the impact it is having upon our school community.

We have received some further information from MCC.

"Since the bridge was closed for public safety in mid-September MCC members and officers have been in regular contact with local MOD officers through a combination of meetings and telephone calls to resolve the closure and reinstate the right of way for pedestrian and cycling access. After further discussions with the MOD it was decided by the leader of the Council to write directly to the Head Of Estates, Phil Young, to explain the need for action, outline the huge concern on the status of the bridge and huge public disruption the closure was causing to local residents and community life. At present the local authority has not had a response but are assured one is due, imminently.

The local authority is in discussion with the Town Council to ensure the bridge situation continues to be prioritised and considered as urgent by The MOD for a resolution. Officers continue to wait for a response, at which time all possible efforts will be made to bring the bridge back into action and the right of way reinstated."

The Governing Body have now requested a further meeting with Maria Eagle MP for Defence Procurement and Industry to discuss this matter. We will of course, keep you updated.

Late Arrivals at Breakfast Club

We are continuing to see a number of families regularly coming into Breakfast Club after our cut-off time of 8.35am. Please remember we cannot provide childcare or breakfast after this time. If you are late, you will have to wait with your child until an adult is on the school yard.

Nasal Flu Immunisation Catch -up

The School Nursing Immunisation Team have now visited all primary schools in Gwent to administer the nasal flu spray and are now running flu catch-up clinics for primary aged pupils. Parents can just turn up to these clinics with their child/ren and no appointment is needed.

If you would like to discuss the vaccine or have any questions, please contact the School Nursing Service on 01633 431685,

For a full list of clinics please visit: [Vaccination Pop-up Clinics - Aneurin Bevan University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

Dancing Diva!

Further congratulations to our Year 3 dancer who competed at the London and Reading qualifiers for the NATD ballroom dancing medallist of the year award to be held in Blackpool in July 2025. She qualified in both her ballroom and Latin routines picking up 2nd place for her solo Quickstep and third place for the Jive. She also won first place for her Cha cha cha and Waltz couples and came in third for Foxtrot and 4th for Rumba. Wow



Karate Grading Success

Our Y3 karate students continue to make excellent progress in this discipline, being awarded their orange belts in recent grading. Da iawn!



School Lunch Menu

Dydd Llun/ Monday- Fish fingers OR salmon fingers OR vegetable country bake OR filled jacket potato

Dydd Mawrth/ Tuesday- Chicken korma OR chick pea korma OR filled jacket potato

Dydd Mercher/ Wednesday- Roast beef OR Quorn with Yorkshire pudding OR filled jacket potato

Dydd Iau/ Thursday- Meatballs OR plant balls in tomato sauce with pasta OR filled jacket potato

Dydd Gwener/ Friday- Cheese and tomato pizza OR vegetable fritata OR filled jacket potato