

**"Learning Together, Achieving for Life"**  
**"Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Cyflawni am Oes"**



**20<sup>th</sup> January 2023**  
**Edition 17**

## **WELCOME BACK!**

Welcome back to the first newsletter of the New Year. I am sure that by now you have settled into 2023 and the Christmas holiday seems like a dim and distant memory! We are looking forward to another productive and successful term!

## **PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL**

We appreciate that there are always a lot of things to juggle, but it is really important that breakfast club and school dinners are booked and paid for before 8am on the day. The consequence of not doing so has a significant impact on resources at school, so please endeavour to book and pay - diolch yn fawr.

## **Y3 SWIMMING**

A reminder that Y3 swimming has started for the term. Please visit Parentpay to make a voluntary contribution towards the bus costs - diolch yn fawr.

## **STRIKE ACTION**

This week the coverage of the decision by the NEU to move to industrial action has been widespread. At this point in time I am unable to give a clear picture of the impact that any strike action will have on learning at Shirenewton Primary School. As soon as I am in a position to do so, I will let parents know. For your information, the dates of planned action in Wales are as follow:

- 1 February – national strike across England and Wales
- 14 February – national strike across Wales

Further strikes have been planned, however these are not definite. If action does go ahead, it will be :

- 15 March – national strike across England and Wales
- 16 March – national strike across England and Wales

## **CSSR & INSET DAYS**

Last week, we had visitors from the EAS (Education Achievement Service) to carry out a CSSR Review - looking at things they could Celebrate, Share, Support and Refine within our school. The outcomes of this fed into our INSET Days, where we continue to develop and improve our school environment, as well as the teaching and learning opportunities we provide the children. It was a great way to reflect and focus on a way forward and we are very excited about the changes and developments we plan to make.

## GUIDED GROUP READING

We have been reviewing our approach to the teaching of reading across the school, through Read Write Inc sessions in Reception to Year 2. If your child is in these year groups they will still be having their diet of RWI, and home readers will continue to be sent home.

Developing these important skills from Year 3 onwards will also be a focus. If your child is in Year 3 and beyond, we will ensure that they take part in a Guided Group Reading Session with a teacher in their classroom. These sessions are designed to develop your child's reading skills - not just decoding and encoding, but developing their understanding of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, sequence and summary. These Guided Reading Sessions will take place as soon as your child gets into school, so please make every effort to get them here on time. As well as this session, we will make sure that we send a book home each week with your child, along with a Reading Record.

The Reading Record will be filled in by the class teacher once a week - it may be a short comment about a skill they have developed, an achievement observed, or just a general well done! There will be a place for you to comment on your child's reading too.

Please do:

Use it as a place to celebrate listening to your child read with you, and let them (and us!) know you enjoyed it

Please don't:

Use it as a place to communicate with your child's class teacher. If there are any worries or concerns you may have about their progress, please make an appointment with them so that your concerns can be addressed in the best way.

Children will have an opportunity to change their book weekly - unless of course it is longer in nature. These 'home readers' are designed to develop their reading skills at home. We won't send a book home at the 'instructional' level we are teaching them in school. Rather, we will always send books at a level which your child's class teacher believes they will be able to access and enjoy at home. Your child will be able to choose these books themselves from a selection of books. Please bear with us - we have a wide selection of books in school which we are going to be rebinding over the coming weeks and months. Of course if your children have books at home that they would prefer to read, they are more than welcome - we would still love to hear from you about it through a comment in their reading records.

## Y6 VIRTUAL DINOSAUR WORKSHOP

Y6 had a wonderful start to their topic which included a virtual dinosaur workshop provided by Cardiff Museum.



## DJEMBE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS

Gwent Music came into school this week to work with Y4/5 children. They are currently learning about Africa and to learn how to play djembe drums from Western Africa is a perfect way to enhance their learning, whilst developing their music skills and knowledge.



## Diary Dates 2022/23

### Spring Term 2023 – Key Dates

**Any changes/additions to be highlighted in yellow**

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan** - Governors Meeting

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Feb** - Y5 Gilwern pre-visit meeting

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb** – Dydd Miwsig Cymru

**Thur 9<sup>th</sup> Feb** - PTA Disco

**Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Y5 to Gilwern for 2 nights

**Thur 16<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Y6 Urdd Football Competition

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb to Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Half Term Holiday

**Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Back to School

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Rookie Rugby - Y5/6 Girls

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Mar** - Eisteddfod

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar** - Eisteddfod Coffee Morning 9:15am

**Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Rec to Y6 Parents' Evening 4-7pm

**Thu 16<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Rec to Y6 Parents' Evening 4-7pm

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Governors' Meeting

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Mar** - Digital Leaders to Sony Educational Centre

**Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Rags to Riches collection

**Thu 30<sup>th</sup> Mar** - Easter Assembly 9:30am

**Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Mar** - Last day for pupils

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr to Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Apr** - Easter Holiday

### Summer Term 2023 – Key Dates

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Apr** – Back to school

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Apr** - Year 4 swimming all term

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May** - May Day (school closed)

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> May** - Governors' Meeting

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Sports Day 9:15am (Y4-6) & 1:30pm (Rec-Y3)

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May** – INSET Day

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May to Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun** - Half Term Holiday

**Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June** – Back to school

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> June** - Reserve Sports Day

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> June** – School photos

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> June** - Y5/6 invited to watch evening cricket in Cardiff

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> June** -Summer Fayre

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> July** - Hogroast

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Jul** - Governors' AGM Meeting

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Jul** – Y5 Transition morning at Chepstow School

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Jul** – Y6 Transition Day at Chepstow School

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Jul** – Y6 Transition Day at Chepstow School

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Jul** - Y6 Leavers assembly 9:30am

Please note – 1 additional INSET Day will be added to the calendar later on in the year.



## COMMUNITY CORNER



### **Counselling Service**

**Wellbeing & Mental Health**

11 Welsh Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LN



**basecamp**  
TEL: 01291 621 636

### **Self-referral service**

### **Free & Affordable Counselling Service**

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couples sessions**



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SODS proudly present:

**"The Emperor's New Clothes!"**

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup>, Fri 27<sup>th</sup>, Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan '23

Earlswood Hall 7:30

Tickets £10 and £5

Alison Broughton - 641 451 or email

[shirenewtonpanto@gmail.com](mailto:shirenewtonpanto@gmail.com)

And there are also a few places left if  
anyone would fancy being a 'Young  
Actor' in the panto. I also need a 4<sup>th</sup>  
fairy - of the grown-up variety

Glynis the Important Director at  
[glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com](mailto:glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com)