

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

**1st September 2023**  
**Edition 1**

### **Welcome**

It is our pleasure to welcome you all back after the summer holidays. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday, but before then, we have some helpful, important reminders, including diary dates for the term ahead. Further dates for Spring and Autumn Terms will be shared in the coming week

### **Start and Finish Times**

School starts at 9am and doors will be open from 8:50am.

Any children arriving after 9am, must enter via the main entrance and sign their child in.

School ends at 3:30pm. Children who are collected in Reception to Year 2 are to pick up from the classroom doors, along with any siblings at 3:30pm.

Children in Y3-6 will be on the walking bus and will be brought up to the car park at 3:35pm.

Please be swift in collection so that we can free up the car park.

After this time, you will need to collect your children from the office.

### **School Dinners**

As we start this year, we will be rolling out the second phase of the Universal Free School meals. This means that all children in school are entitled to a free meal, however **meals must be booked on ParentPay**, just without making any payment. We recommend booking a week in advance if possible.

### **Schoop**



As your children start at our school, or indeed move up a year, please ensure you have downloaded or updated the Schoop app. If you already have the app, please make sure you go to "settings" and click on "renew my subscription" and check the push notification settings. This is a very important means of communication and we encourage all of you to use it to ensure you remain updated throughout the year. Our Schoop ID is 10134

### **Big Dig and Do Days**

On Saturday 16th September, we are calling on gardeners, diggers, ploughers, planters, painters and much more.

Our priorities are to clear the area outside the Year 3 and 4 classes, and remove some, if not all of the sheds., Can you help? Please save the date. Many hands make light work and we would love to see you, whatever contribution you can make.

**Please note, this day will be dependent on the weather!**



### **School Uniform and PE Kits**

Hopefully you will remember the mention in previous newsletters of school uniforms. Governors have agreed a policy for school, having previously shared this with you all during the Spring Term. There are very minor changes, in the main around PE kit.

### **Uniform**

The uniform is designed to be fluid and flexible and give a choice to both boys and girls.

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan - with or without school badge
- Blue or white shirt or polo shirt
- Grey skirt or pinafore
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Black sensible shoes.
- Black, sensible boots may be worn during the autumn and winter months.
- Black trainers without coloured logos are welcomed. During dry spells, no other trainers need to be worn on PE days, helping us to keep our uniforms smart. During inclement weather, a separate pair of PE trainers may be brought in.

### **PE kits**

From September, all children from Reception to Year 6 will wear PE kit into school on their PE Day. Being able to wear PE kit into school on PE days has been welcomed, however it can impact negatively on uniform standards. Pupils' participation in PE lessons can be adversely affected because of the clothing that they are required to wear. We have chosen a PE kit which is practical, affordable, comfortable, and appropriate to the activities involved.

- T shirt – school uniform royal blue. During colder months, please send children in their royal blue school jumper, not non-school uniform / branded kit / skins
- Shorts - black, navy, school uniform blue or grey. During colder months, please send children into school in corresponding colour jogging bottoms.
- Black skins may be worn on PE days only – not branded colourful kit, or colourful leggings / skins
- Plimsolls/trainers - as above - black trainers without coloured logos are welcomed.
- During dry spells, no other trainers need to be worn in or brought to school on PE days, helping us to keep our uniforms smart. During inclement spells of weather, pupils should bring a pair of trainers in to change into.

Please ensure all items are clearly marked with your child's name. We do not allow the wearing of jewellery for health and safety reasons. If your child has pierced ears please ensure they wear studs for school and are able to remove them themselves for Physical Education sessions.

### **PE Days**

**Tuesday - Reception, Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5**

**Wednesday - Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6**

### **School Uniform Policy**

### **Parking**

I ask that those driving onto site exercise an abundance of caution. When arriving and departing the grounds, please:

- Be patient
- When picking up or dropping off, please do not wait on the turning circle until the buses / taxis have gone. If waiting behind the buses on the turning circle, please do not reverse or attempt to drive around the vehicle in front.
- Where possible, if your child is mature enough, and the buses / taxis have left, you may use the turning circle to drop off your child. Ensure they use the passenger side to exit the vehicle.
- Use the car park area and leave room for others. Please do not park or leave your vehicles anywhere which is not a marked bay (e.g. on the roadside to the left of the roundabout)
- Do not park your vehicles in the staff car park or use this area to drop off or pick up from school, breakfast club, or after school club.

We continue to seek ways to ease congestion, reduce the number of vehicles and the amount of time that they are on site.

Please help us to keep all our children safe at this busy time of day. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Swimming**

All children in Y3-6 will be swimming this year, starting with Y5 this half term. Swimming will take place on a Wednesday morning, 9:30am at Chepstow Leisure Centre. The children will need a swimming costume, towel, their hair tied back and earrings removed. We ask for a contribution towards the cost of transport and this will be shared with you on ParentPay on Tuesday, where you will also need to go to confirm their attendance.

## Diary Dates 2023/24

### Autumn Term 2023

**Monday 4th September** – Back to School for Pupils

**Wednesday 6th September** – Y5 swimming this half term (every week until half term)

**Friday 8th September** - House Captain Elections

**Friday 15th September** - First Pupil Committee Meetings

**Monday 18th September**

Y6 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Tuesday 19th September**

Rec Parent Forum: 4pm

Y1 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Wednesday 20th September**

Y2 Parent Forum: 4pm

Y3 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Thursday 21st September:**

Y4 Parent Forum: 4pm

Y5 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Fri 29th September** - MacMillan Coffee Morning 9:15am (all parents/grandparents/carers/local community welcome)

**Monday 2nd October** - Governing Body Meeting

**Saturday 14th October** - Shirenewton ShAMBLE

**Sunday 15th October** - Shirenewton ShAMBLE

**Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th October** - Parent Consultations this week

**Friday 27th October** - School closes for half term

**Monday 6th November** – Back to School

**Wed 9th November** – Y6 swimming this half term (every week until Christmas)

**Sunday 12th November** - Remembrance Sunday

**Wed 15th November** - Open Morning for parents 9:15am

**Fri 17th November** - Children in Need day

**Mon 27th November** - Governors' Meeting

**Monday 4th December** – Tim Helyg Dress Rehearsal

**Wednesday 6th December** – Tim Helyg Concert 2pm

**Monday 11th December** – Tim Derwen Dress Rehearsal

**Wednesday 13th December** - Tim Derwen Concert 2pm

**Tuesday 19th December** – Y2 and 3 to Itton Church

**Thursday 21st December** - Last day of Autumn Term

**Friday 22nd December** – INSET Day school closed to pupils

**Mon 25th December to Friday 7 January** - Christmas Holiday

**Monday 8th January** - INSET Day school closed to pupils



ShAMBLE 2023 - Sat 14th & Sun 15th October.

ShAMBLE news - The Rec Hall is booked for the Saturday night of ShAMBLE! Don't miss the opening night party! We will have a selection of wine, beer and soft drinks available at **last year's prices!** It's family friendly, everyone is welcome.

You might have spotted some ShAMBLE info pinned up on the village notice boards and in the old telephone box over the Summer. We will soon be visiting the scrap store to buy more art materials for the community, watch this space!

**ShAMBLE 2023 registration is now open!** Register by 30th September please.

Go to: [www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk](http://www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk) and follow the instructions...

The theme this year is **children's books**.

Dates for your diary; Registration to decorate a window closes 30th September.

2pm 1st October - 'craft, cake & conversation' at the Rec Hall. We will have art materials available for everyone to have (for a small donation). A nice excuse for a chat & a cuppa! All welcome.