



LEARN TOGETHER

'Let's learn to enjoy, achieve, respect and nurture together'

9th April 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

As the Spring Term comes to an end, I like to thank all our families for your support. This term in particular with our digital skills / new curriculum sessions, 'canu cymraeg' celebrations, entrepreneur fair and Parents' Evenings, alongside all of the work that goes on behind the scenes by yourselves, staff and governors.



We had a lovely afternoon last week with children involved in buying and selling products to each other. It was wonderful to see children independently working out the cost of items, what they could buy and how much change that they should have for a real purpose 'outside of maths lessons'. The fair was such a success, almost everything had sold out by bedtime! In total, the profit that the children made was £589, an incredible amount of money. Each class has been given their total profit, which they can use to purchase items for their own class.

We haven't just been raising money for Barker's Lane this term though. We also raised £118 at our welsh song celebrations which will be donated to Hope House Children's Hospice.

The PTA have also been very busy supporting school. Funds raised this year so far have enabled us to purchase an additional twenty Chrome Books, in addition to the twenty Chrome Books and twenty two new iPads they funded at the end of last year. Without this support, school would have very limited, outdated digital equipment. On behalf of all of the children and staff, 'diolch yn fawr iawn' to the PTA and our families who support fund raising.

The PTA have a limited number of small knitted Easter chicks with a chocolate egg for sale in school for £1. We also have some Easter soft toy magnets in school which are being sold for £1 for Nightingale House Hospice.



The PTA are holding a family Easter Bingo at Gresford Memorial Club on Monday 15th April at 6.30pm. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. All monies raised will go to Barker's Lane PTA funds.

Not forgetting that the PTA are also still one of the community charities at Tesco Superstore, Wrexham, in the running for first prize of £4000. Lots of parents and staff have been sharing that we appear to be doing well but we still need as many blue tokens in our box as possible. If you haven't already shared this with family, friends and neighbours, we would be extremely grateful if you could do this. The campaign runs until 30th April.

Now looking ahead to next term, I would also like to furnish you with some information.

National Tests for Y2-Y6 pupils

National tests in reading and numerical reasoning will take place from Tuesday 7th May to Tuesday 14th May, in addition to online national numeracy procedural tests which we have scheduled for after Easter. Welsh Government dictate that we share a timetable with parents,

however I wish to emphasise that it is particularly important that no additional pressure is put on your child. Tests are a one-off snapshot of what a child can do on a particular day, they look at a limited range of skills and do not take account of any other factors which can affect learning or other strengths that your child may have.

Please do not ask class teachers for practice tests / old papers as although we are aware that some schools send out practice materials, this is against Welsh Government guidance which states *'the use of test questions for homework is inappropriate in the context of formative tests and can also cause anxiety for learners'*.

If you wish to have a look at anything yourselves as parents, more information can be found at <https://learning.gov.wales/resources/collections/national-reading-and-numeracy-tests?lang=en#collection-3>

There is also an information booklet for parents / carers on <https://learning.gov.wales/resources/browse-all/reading-and-numeracy-tests-information-for-parents-carers/?lang=en>

Test Timetable

Tuesday 7 th May	Dosbarth Cadiar Idris Online Numeracy Procedural Test
Wednesday 8 th May	Y2-6 Reading Test
Friday 10 th May	Dosbarth Vyrnwy & Brecon Online Numeracy Procedural Test
Monday 13 th May	Y2-6 Numerical Reasoning Test
Wednesday 15 th May	Dosbarth Tryfan Online Numeracy Procedural Test
Friday 17 th May	Dosbarth Yr Wyddfa Online Numeracy Procedural Test

We have appreciated your support in adhering to not requesting leave during this period. Many thanks for this.

Dates for next term



A list of dates which are already planned for next term will be sent home by the end of this week. New dates are added as the term goes on therefore please look out on the website. Further information about specific events will be sent home nearer the time.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our families a relaxing, peaceful and enjoyable Easter.

Warm wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C Edwards".

Mrs C Edwards
Headteacher / Pennaeth

Please note: School opens Tuesday 30th April (Monday 29th April is a staff training day)

Reminder also that WCBC are increasing the cost of an infant school meal to £2.40 per day / £12 per week in line with primary school meals.