

# YSGOL OWEN JONES CP



## Newsletter – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and patience during what has been a very demanding half term for us all with all the restrictions that have been put in place and the everchanging guidance and rules.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all the staff and pupils for the way they have adapted to the 'new normal' in school for which they all deserve a great deal of credit.

I think everyone is ready for the half term break and although we are in 'lock down' I hope you can enjoy the time with your children and family.

### **October Half Term**

We break up for half term today and the school will re-open on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Please note there will be no Staff Training Days planned during this term, with the next Training Day scheduled for the New Year.

### **Pupil Overview Autumn Term 2020**

This week you will have received information regarding *confirming your email address* to your child's class teacher and would appreciate this email confirmation, as soon as possible. This will assist the class teacher to efficiently email your child's overview to the appropriate email address. You will receive your child's overview on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**.

### **Breakfast Club Price Increase**

Since returning in September we have had a noticeable decrease in the number of children attending Breakfast Club, but our overall costs have increased. As a result, the Governing Body agreed at our last meeting to increase the daily cost of Fee paying part of Breakfast Club (7:45am-8:15am) to £2.00, an increase of 50p, after exploring all the other alternatives. **This will come into effect from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.**

### **School Dinners**

As some of you will be aware, Newydd Catering who provide the food and caterers for the school have put together a proposal to schools which involves closing 29 kitchens across Flintshire. Those schools, which includes Ysgol Owen Jones, would have their food prepared at a 'central hub' before being delivered to the school.

This is not something we want to happen, as we believe having a cook on site is an important part of the school. However due to the COvid-19 pandemic, Newydd Catering are currently making a significant loss and need to look at ways to reduce this loss.

Over the last week or so, a group of schools have begun exploring other options, including speaking with other companies who may be interested in providing the food for schools such as ours. As I am sure you can imagine this is not something that will happen quickly and I will therefore keep you updated with any progress or decisions that are made.

### **Tempest Photography**

Tempest Photography will be visiting the school to take individual photographs on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. On this occasion sadly, due to the restrictive movement of children around the school, family or younger siblings' photographs cannot be taken.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and further details on how to apply have been emailed out this week. Please note the closing date for returned nominations forms is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at noon.

### **Admissions**

Please visit [www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions) to apply for a place in a Secondary school for current Year 6 pupils or a Reception place for current Nursery pupils. Secondary place applications closing date is: 6<sup>th</sup> November and for a Reception place is: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.

### **School Dinner Menu**

The new menu has been posted on our website for your information and is to start after the half term break, with Week 2.

### **Healthy Snack/Water Bottle**

It has come to our attention some children are not having a healthy snack in the morning, please ensure your child is bringing in a piece of fruit or a healthy alternative. We do offer a Fruit Tuck Shop here at school, if you prefer. Also, we have noticed an increase in the number of children's having fruit squash in their water bottles and the bottles should only contain plain water. However, we have had some parents contact the school previously with concerns of the amount of water their child is drinking, as they do not like plain water and this has been noted. However, this is difficult to manage as other children notice the difference and will follow suit. If you would like discuss alternative options, please contact Mr. Caughter.

### **Diary Dates - Autumn Term**

#### **October**

26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> - Half Term

#### **November**

2<sup>nd</sup> - School re-opens  
9<sup>th</sup> - Tempest Photography (Individual photos only)

### **Free School Meals**

If you think you may be entitled to FSM, please go to the Flintshire website: [www.flintshire.gov.uk/FSM](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/FSM) or contact the school for further information.