

Newsletter 6.11.2020

Good News (We have lots!!)

We started this half term with lots of good news which we are eager to share with you

- The building work has finally (after 15 months) been completed. The only outstanding area now is the drive and car park which is being resurfaced. It was going to be done during the half term holiday but the weather had other ideas! You may see scaffolding around the school but that is just for maintenance work as we have a leak in the roof in Dosbarth Gelli. Nothing serious but thinking of the winter weather coming it does need addressing.
- We came back to school to an e mail telling us that our application to become a Lead Creative School had been successful. This means we will be working closely with the Arts Council of Wales to develop the teaching of expressive arts within the school, working with artists, developing our teaching and giving our children some opportunities we just couldn't give them without this scheme. It also means we will receive funding for expressive art projects.
- We have booked the production company to come and help with the Christmas concert. We have also booked on an online Panto to try and make sure our children don't miss out. We will try and consider the costs to families at all times. Normally at this time of year we are asking for Panto money, ticket money, DVD money etc. I think we all recognise this is no normal year. The school will meet the cost of the Panto in full and we will try to consider the cost of watching the concert. We have a couple of scripts to choose between and we will choose the one with the fewest costumes in it to try and reduce costs for everyone. I think it is worth mentioning that recording a concert this year is going to be very different. This is in the main due to the fact that we can't sing! The risk assessments needed and distancing for singing are very strict. The company film groups of children and edits them to look like they are all singing together. There are also lots of 'alternative' options to singing in the concerts. The filming will be very time consuming due to the groups aspect. Usually we put on 4 concerts over 2 days, due to the restrictions in place the whole school will perform in one recorded concert.
- We had a local company build and install a new mud kitchen for the garden. It is enormous! It is like a fully operational professional kitchen! The children absolutely love it. The kitchen was fully funded by the Friends of Gelli group. We are very lucky!

Testing

Can I just remind you to keep your child at home if they have been in contact with anyone waiting for a test or a test result. As soon as the contact receives a negative result your child can return to school. Our registers are now set up to support the Track and Trace process so we really need you to return the forms we sent you requesting your updated contacts as soon as possible please.

Could you also return the flu letters so we can plan the day with the nursing team.

Children in Need

It is Children in Need day on Friday the 13th and children can wear their pyjamas to school should they wish. They will need to make sure they still wear appropriate footwear. We are happy to handle donations should you wish, just send a small donation with your child. We also understand many of you may be trying not to handle coins or cash. If you would rather make an online donation you would need to do that via the charities website.