



Ysgol y Foel

Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 5NW

Headteacher/Pennaeth – Mr Spencer Williams

'Happy, United, Inspired Achievers'



NEWSLETTER – Friday 5th September 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Annwyl Rieni/Gwarchodwyr,

Welcome Back

Welcome back after what I hope has been a relaxing and enjoyable holiday for you all! A special welcome also to new parents and children, we look forward to working with you. I have been most impressed with how well the children have settled into their new classes and how smart they all look in their uniforms.

Home/School Communications

Our new school website is now online, www.ysgolyfoel.weebly.com. This website includes school news, information, policies, letters, forms, stars of the week, class pages, governor pages, headteacher and pupil blogs, parent pages and lots of other interactive features. This website will evolve further during the term with the help of our new digital wizards.

As the website also has the school's Twitter feed (@ysgolyfoel) on its homepage, it is hoped that this will now be your first port of call to gain up to the minute information on what is happening in school.

Ysgol y Foel is an active part of 'Eco-Schools for Wales' and we recognise the importance of looking after the world that we live in. We are continually seeking ways to reduce our Carbon Footprint further and firmly believe that by reducing the amount of paper that we use, we can make an invaluable difference to our environment. It has therefore been decided that any further newsletters and important forms will now be uploaded on to our school website where they will be available for you. Newsletters will be written half termly but any important updates or reminders will be on the website via the Twitter feed. If you would prefer to receive one paper copy per family, please sign and return the form at the bottom of this newsletter as soon as possible so we can ensure that the eldest pupil within school will receive a paper copy for their family. Please be aware that it is the responsibility of your child to ensure that newsletters handed out to them in school are delivered to you at home.

Contact Details and Medical Information

Please ensure that we have up to date contact numbers for your child, particularly if you've had a new mobile phone over the holidays or you have any updated medical information.

School Rules and Golden Time

We have introduced new school rules and golden time this term. The rules are:

- Listen carefully and follow instructions.
- Respect everyone, everything, everywhere.
- Allow others to work and play without disturbance.
- Keep hands, feet, objects and hurtful comments to yourself.
- Always do your best.

Telephone/Rhif Ffon: 01352 740197

E-mail/Ebost: yfmail@yfoel.flintshire.sch.uk

Website: www.ysgolyfoel.weebly.com

Twitter: @ysgolyfoel

All children who have followed the school rules all week are rewarded with twenty minutes of 'Golden Time' on Friday i.e. free time where pupils can bring in games, toys to play with friends*.

In the Foundation Phase, one minute will be deducted from individual children for every reminder they have received in class during that week. In key stage two, two minutes will be deducted from individual children for every reminder they have received in class during that week. For those children who miss a section of this time the class teacher will engage in a positive discussion of how they can improve their behaviour for the future. We are also continuing with our Behaviour Points for more serious and persistent rule breakers.

*All items are brought in at owner's risk and please do not allow your child to bring in expensive devices e.g. Nintendo DS etc.

School Uniform

The children look immaculate in their new school uniforms – many thanks to all parents. For your reference school uniform consists of the following and can be obtained from Forrester's Sports in Mold:

All	<i>Blue sweatshirt/white polo T shirt Grey trousers/grey skirt/pinafore dress</i>
<i>Shoes</i>	<i>Black, flat shoes</i>
<i>Optional Summer Wear</i>	<i>Blue gingham dress/grey skirt and white polo shirt Grey shorts/white polo shirt</i>
<i>Indoor Physical Education</i>	<i>White plain T shirt or polo shirt Blue shorts. Pupils perform gymnastics in bare feet unless they have a foot infection when the wearing of pumps or gym slippers is allowed.</i>
<i>Outdoor Physical Education</i>	<i>As for indoor P.E with the option of a black/dark tracksuit or school fleece. White socks with pumps/trainers</i>
<i>Swimming</i>	<i>Swimming costume/trunks Goggles-optional</i>

Nail varnish, jewellery and temporary tattoos are not permitted to be worn. If children attend school with the incorrect uniform a letter will be sent home.

Please remember to label all items!

Homework

At Ysgol y Foel, we encourage and expect all children to undertake key tasks such as reading, and a range of activities in order to reinforce and enrich their learning. Although we will provide a broad range of homework activities we also encourage all pupils to take part in many out of school activities, e.g. swimming, cubs, brownies, football, gym, drama, dance, etc.

Listed below are our Year by Year arrangements for home learning. Homework is very important and if not completed, teachers will contact parents. Homework is your opportunity to extend and enrich your child's learning.

Reception

- Daily Reading minimum 5 minutes.
- Learning logs with various activities and opportunities for children to share experiences of home and school – weekend diary on a rota basis
- Practice and learn weekly spellings.

Year 1/2

- Daily reading of a minimum of 5 minutes (an avid reader may read for much longer).
- Learning logs with various activities and opportunities for children to share experiences of home and school – weekend diary on a rota basis.
- Practice and learn weekly spellings.
- To learn your 2, 5 and 10 times tables by the end of Year 2.

Year 3/4

- Daily reading 10 minutes (an avid reader may read for much longer).
- Learning logs with various activities every 2 weeks.
- Maths activities every 2 weeks.
- Practice and learn your 3, 4 and 6 times tables. Reinforce your 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- Practice and learn weekly spellings.

Year 5/6

- Daily reading 15 minutes (an avid reader may read for much longer).
- Times tables. Quick fire practice of all tables every week.
- Learning log with various activities every week or projects on a given topic, e.g. space.
- Maths homework weekly.

Basic Skills Sessions

This term we have introduced a basic skills session into our daily timetable. These sessions will be for all children and focus upon developing maths, spelling and reading skills.

As a result of these changes, lunch will now be 11:45 to 1:00pm for Foundation Phase and 11:55am to 12:55pm for Juniors. Collective Worship and Hymn Practice will take place in the afternoons instead of mornings.

School Building

Our windows are due to be replaced very shortly, afterwards we would like to redecorate the school hall and Dosbarth yr Wyddfa classroom. I would be really grateful for any volunteers amongst you willing to help to decorate these areas. If you would be able to offer your time - either during a weekend or at half term (to be confirmed)- then please could you let me know. Many thanks in advance.

Dates for Diary

September

15th – Extra Curricular Clubs start. *Information to follow shortly*

16th – Swimming starts for Juniors for 10 weeks every Tuesday. *Information to follow shortly*

October

6th - Assessment Week

13th - Parents Evening

24th - Half Term

Please remember that my door is always open to discuss any issues you may have....

Yours sincerely/ Yr Eiddoch yn Gywir,

Mr Spencer Williams

Headteacher /Pennaeth

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Home/School Communication Reply Slip

I wish for my son/daughter _____ in Year ____ to continue to receive paper copies of newsletters and any other letters / information that is shared.

Parent Signature: _____ Print: _____

Child's Name: _____ Date: _____