



Llantilio Pertholey

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to witness the children, both old and new, getting back into school life. My favourite part has been having assemblies again. We aren't able to have a whole school assembly yet but this has been a great start. I really have missed the children's singing!

Helen King (Headteacher)



Newsletter
24th

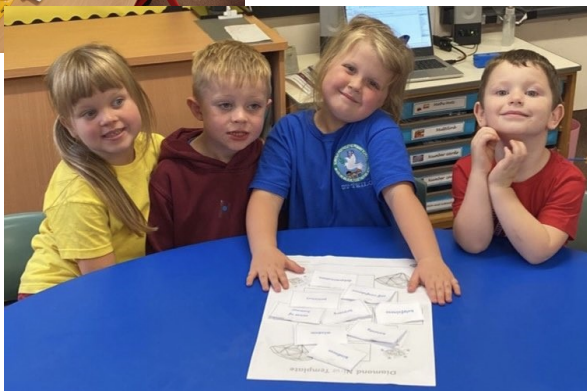
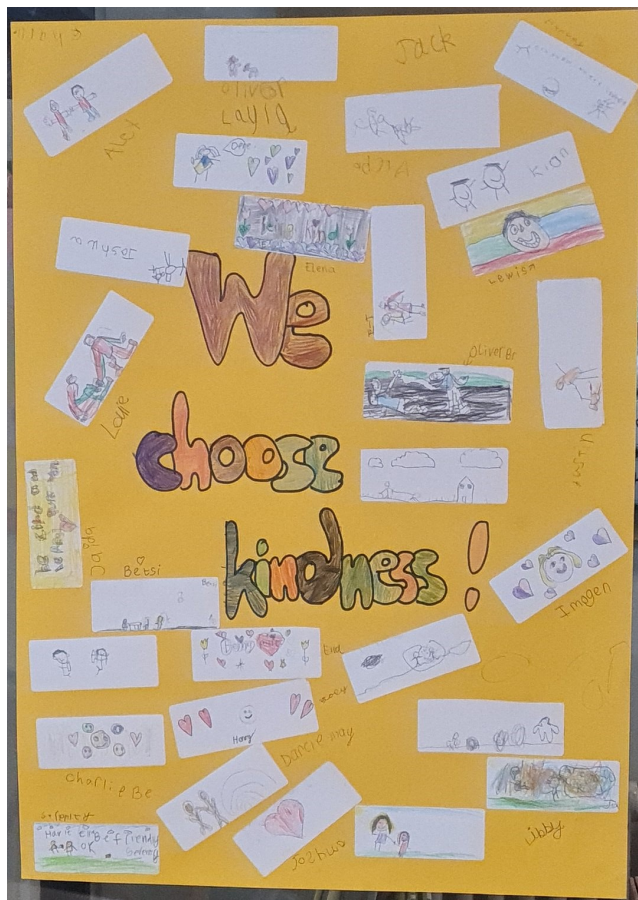
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Be kind, be the best you can be.

Every child came home this week with a wristband with our new school motto: **Be kind, be the best you can be.** We have talked about this in class and in assemblies.

Every class has learnt about being a good citizen and being a good friend. We have discussed that we are an **anti-bullying school**. We want all of our children to be kind to each other and to enjoy coming to school.



Contact us: 01873 853746

email: llantiliopertholeyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk



Parking and Gates

We have had some parents arriving at school extremely early to collect children at the end of the day. Some parents have been in the car park up to 50 minutes before the end of school.

We are still trying to reduce the amount of time that parents are on the school site to ensure that we are limiting opportunities for the COVID virus to spread.

School finishes at 3.20pm. I have instructed staff not to open the gates before 3.10pm. Ten minutes should be plenty of time for you to walk from your car to the playground. Lessons and learning may still be taking place on the yard and outdoor learning spaces until 3.10pm. Opening the gates to early creates a safeguarding issue. Please do not arrive at school before this time.



Llantilio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary School

Please help us to safeguard our children by parking safely in our car park.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Mrs King

Some of you may have had this note left on your car or I have chatted to you about parking. Some parents and carers have been frustrated and even a little cross (and some have even been quite rude). Please do NOT double park across parking bays. This is really dangerous for small children as they cannot see cars passing. It is also frustrating if you are blocked in by someone parking across a bay. I understand that the parking is limited in our grounds. Please consider if you could walk to collect your child. Consider also, parking on the road and walking a short way into school. Please be considerate and careful when parking. I totally understand that it can be frustrating or inconvenient to park a little way from the school. However, **I would rather you be inconvenienced than a child be run over.** Please understand that I don't want to have to move you on, or have a difficult conversation with you, but I will. This is too important. I do know that other schools in our local area have completely closed their car park to parents because of dangers. Other schools have the road closed during pick up and collection times. I really do not want to go down that route. However, **children's safety is, and has to be, paramount.**

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Illness

It is the time of year for coughs and colds. We may ask you to collect your child if we are concerned that they may be showing COVID-19 signs. Please be extra vigilant at this time not to send children to school who have a bad tummy or sickness. We are slowly allowing children to mix again and school's can be the perfect place for germs to spread.

Celebrating Good Practice

As all schools, we have a School Improvement Partner (SIP) who is an experienced headteacher from another local authority. We had the first face-to-face visit this week with our SIP along with a Principal School Improvement Partner for Monmouthshire. They were both blown away with the improvements that we have made, in particular to our outside learning spaces.



The comment made by our SIP was that we had the best outside learning spaces that she had ever seen. In fact, she took photographs to use our spaces as examples of good practice. We are obviously thrilled. We have worked so hard and it is having an impact on the children's learning that we were hoping for.

Breakfast Club

All children who go to a primary school maintained by a local authority are entitled to a free breakfast at school. The **Free Breakfast in Primary Schools Scheme** is not there to provide childcare: the scheme is there to provide breakfast to make sure that all children have fuel at the start of each day. Research shows that a healthy breakfast may help to improve children's health and concentration. This may help them to learn better. Children are obviously supervised by staff but they should be eating breakfast! Staff are there to make sure that children can safely choose their breakfast and eat it before the start of the school day. We are having many children coming in saying that they have already eaten breakfast at home. Our **Breakfast Club starts at 8.30am and doors close at 8.40am**. This is to ensure that pupils have enough time for breakfast. Children will not be admitted after this time as they would not have enough time to eat breakfast. (Obviously if something has happened in the morning and your child hasn't had breakfast come to the office and we will feed them. We would not let any child go hungry. However, this cannot be a regular occurrence.)

Schools may charge for **'wrap around' childcare before** the free breakfast session starts. This childcare is separate from the Free Breakfast in Primary School scheme. In our school this **starts at 8.00**. We charge just £1.00 for this service and it is payable through ParentPay.

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Maths Library

This week saw the launch of our Maths Library for our Foundation Phase Pupils. We have bought a selection of fun maths games and activities for children to take and play at home. These will then be returned for another child to loan and your child will have a new pack.

Please help us to keep these in good condition and let us know if anything has been lost or damaged. We hope you and your child will enjoy these resources.



Book Bags

I urge all parents to consider purchasing a book bag as set out in the letter earlier in the week. These not only look smart, but are economical, hard-wearing and small enough to store in our school. We already have many orders on but I encourage everyone to purchase one. If you need to defer payment until later that is not a problem. Please ask in the office.

Personal News

On a personal note, I need to be away from school for a few weeks from October 4th. My husband has a serious medical condition and needs hospital treatment. The condition is specialised and he cannot go to a local hospital. His treatment will include a stay in hospital and then time in hospital accommodation. He will need someone on hand to support him and to drive him to the hospital for daily treatment and if he becomes poorly.

I am very happy that the school is in a great place and will be fine for a few weeks without me! I have arranged for Mrs Balkwill, the Deputy Headteacher, to work out of the classroom to support the running of the school in my absence. Miss Morgan, who usually teaches part time in Year 1, will be teaching Year 2 full time and Mrs Hall will teach Year 1 full time. I am very grateful to Miss Morgan and Mrs Hall as this ensures continuity for the children and the school.

I can assure you that I will be in touch with the school during this time and I will be back to work as quickly as I am able.

Thanks to our parents and carers for your continuing support as our school grows from strength to strength.

God bless  (Headteacher)

Dates for Your Diary

- 25th October—29th October: Half Term
- 17th December: End of Term
- 4th January: Teacher Training
- 5th January: Start of Spring Term for children
- 21st February-25th February: Half Term
- 28th February: Teacher Training
- 8th April: End of Term
- 25th April: Start of Summer Term
- Monday 3rd May: May Day
- 30th May— 3rd June: Half Term
- 6th June: Teacher Training
- 27th June: Extra holiday for Jubilee
- 1st July: Teacher Training
- 20th July: End of Summer Term

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