

Birchgrove Primary School,  
Heol Nant Bran,  
Birchgrove,  
SWANSEA SA7 9LS



Ysgol Gynradd Gellifedw,  
Heol Nant Bran,  
Gellifedw,  
ABERTAWE SA7 9LS

Headteacher: Mr. M. O'Brien  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs M Hockin

Telephone: 01792 814814  
Email: Birchgrove.Primary@  
swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Once again I'd like to thank you all for the support you have shown over the last half term. I have been very proud of the way the children have adapted to their new school routine and the resilience they have shown. Please see information below, in readiness for after half term.

### **Attendance**

We have had a fantastic start to the term with regards to attendance. Over the last few weeks, attendance has reached nearly 96% across the school. This is a fantastic achievement under the current circumstances. When children are in school learning, they are able to reach their full potential and access the best learning opportunities. This again would not be possible without your support.

### **School Dinners**

The school kitchen has reopened for school meals and this will continue after half term. Hot meals are served on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday with cold options continuing on a Tuesday and Thursday. The menu is available to view on our Twitter page and also on our website.

### **Breakfast Club**

The Health and Safety Governor Committee have met to review the opening of Breakfast Club. Unfortunately the risk assessments have shown that this will not be possible after half term but please note, it will be under constant review and should there be any update, we will endeavour to inform all parents as soon as possible.

### **Staggered Starts and Finishing Times**

The staggered start and finishing times have worked extremely well over the last few weeks, ensuring that the children arrive and are collected safely. This will continue after half term so please arrive promptly to drop off or collect your child. Please also remember that the staff car park is not accessible for any parents or children and you must drop your child off at their allocated entry point.

### **Positive Behaviour Policy**

As part of the school's processes for reviewing policies, we have recently reviewed the positive behaviour policy and guidelines for behaviour. This is an important policy as it sets out high expectations for behaviour and reflects the ethos and values of our school.



**Always be the best that you can be**

At Birchgrove, we routinely observe excellent behaviour from the pupils, but occasionally we need to apply the guidelines for behaviour when a pupil's behaviour falls below the standard expected. At the present time, it is vital that we take account of behaviours that may affect the health and safety of our pupils and staff during the COVID 19 pandemic. Therefore, we have updated our behaviour policy and guidelines, in order to continue to protect every child. Any behaviour that jeopardises the safety of another person in the school will not be tolerated and the appropriate sanctions will be applied, in line with the policy.

### **Parents' Evening**

Due to current strict restrictions on visitors coming into the school, Autumn Term Parents' Evenings will not be able to take place. In place of this, your child will be sent home with two targets for you to help support them with. If you would then like to discuss these targets further with your child's teacher, an appointment can be made.

### **Social Distancing**

Following Welsh Government's announcement on Monday and the introduction of a national 'Fire Break Lockdown', it is as important as ever to ensure that social distancing is adhered to, both in school and out in the community.

When outside the school gates, please continue to follow the social distancing guidelines and take note of the signage around the school grounds, reminding all parents and children to remain 2 metres apart from others. It is extremely important that you do not congregate outside the school grounds, or in the local area, as this can make it difficult for other families and children to walk on the pavement and arrive for their time slot.

### **COVID 19 Symptoms and Self-Isolation**

It is very important that if your child, or anyone in your household, develops any symptoms of COVID 19 please do not send your child into school as you must self-isolate. You must ensure the person with symptoms is tested and continue to isolate while waiting for the results. Your child will be unable to return to school without a negative result, and this must be screenshotted and emailed to the school as proof.

Once again, thank you for your support and resilience during this time. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

I hope you have a lovely and safe half term break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. M. O'Brien  
Headteacher



**Always be the best that you can be**



**Always be the best that you can be**