



September 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to Woodpeckers

Croeso i Ddosbarth Cnocell y Coed



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

A very warm welcome to Woodpeckers (Year 1/2) and the start of the new school year. We hope you all had a lovely summer. We are sure, like ourselves, you are all excited that the new school year is now upon us! This newsletter is to give you some brief information about the start of the term. More information will be shared as the term progresses to keep you as up to date as possible through our class page on the website, or directly via email. Please feel free to email with any queries or concerns about your child: Mrs Latham: lathams20@hwbcymru.net

We are delighted to see how quickly the children have settled into their new routines already. We have had lots of fun over the past few days getting to know each other. As soon as our class page is up and running on our website, photos will be available for you to see.

Throughout the year, the children will continue to use an Inquiry Based Learning approach. The title of our Autumn term inquiry will be 'Out of This World' You can follow the progress of our inquiry as the term progresses on our class page on the website.

PE /Forest School/Outdoor Learning

PE will take place for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils every Tuesday afternoon. Forest School will take place for Year 1 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon and Dance (Big Stars) will take place for Year 2 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon. We ask that all children come to school on selected days wearing either their PE kit or Forest School clothing, depending on what Year group they are in.

PE clothing- Black jogging pants/legging or shorts (depending on weather conditions), plain white t-shirt, school sweatshirt and trainers.

Forest School Clothing – An old pair of long trousers (suitable to wear in the forest), a t-shirt, a warm sweatshirt/fleece, waterproofs, a warm waterproof coat, and a pair of wellies.

Outdoor Learning: We request that all children have a pair of wellies in school during the week so that children can access our outdoor learning areas (including the forest) in all weather conditions. As the weather begins to get colder, we advise that all children bring a hat, scarf, and gloves (**clearly labelled with their name**).

Reading



Reading to, and with, your child at home is crucial to their development as readers. Please encourage your child to read as much as you possibly can as this will be the key to unlocking so much potential to their future learning. We teach children to develop their reading skills in a variety of ways including whole class shared reading sessions and one-to-one reading sessions. The children will start bringing home reading books and choose books in their bookbags over the next couple of weeks. So please write any comments in their reading records of anything that you read at home. We will be sending home some tricky word flash cards at the end of each half term for the children to practise. Please feel free to ask for any advice or support regarding any of the above information.

Maths/Numeracy

During the year, the children will develop a wide range of mathematical skills, including applying their knowledge of number in practical situations across the curriculum and developing their numerical reasoning. The children will have many opportunities to practise using their numeracy skills creatively in our indoor and outdoor provision areas. Counting and place value will be our main maths focus this half term. You could help your child by playing games such as 'Snakes and Ladders' and using money to count up to £1.00. They could group count items such as dry pasta into 2's, 5's and 10's and practise counting on and back from different numbers up to 100. As the term progresses, we will be in touch again with more advice but if you need any advice in the meantime, please do ask.



General Reminders

We ask that you **label** snack pots (containing fruit) and water bottles (containing water) clearly with your child's name along with all items of clothing. This will help us to identify belongings and return them to the children should they get misplaced.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to read our class newsletter, a copy will be put on our class page for future reference as soon as our class page is up and running. We are very much looking forward to getting to know the children and working with you throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to get in touch directly, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child.

Kind regards,

Mrs Latham and Mrs Hinton 😊