

Good afternoon,

My apologies for delaying my email communication, there have been lots of different things to iron out so I wanted to be able to give all parents as much information as possible. The delay to the building works is extremely frustrating. Everyone's safety is our priority, so making sure the works are completed correctly is much more important than rushing everyone in. Rest assured, the completion of building works in St Monica's is top of everyone's list in Cardiff Council.

We are very fortunate to be able to move as a whole school to Groes Wen Primary in Radyr. Cardiff Council will provide 2 large buses and a minibus to transport all children and staff to Radyr, and back again at the end of each day.

All children (except Nursery and Reception) are expected on the buses in Crown Way on Tuesday 9th September.

Important information:

- All children to start to arrive from 8.30am on Crown Way. Buses will be there from 8.35am and will leave by 8.45am. If you are late you will miss the bus and we have no other way to get you to school, this will unfortunately be an unauthorised absence. If you are driving, there is no parking (or stopping) on Crown Way. Due to traffic pressures in Radyr, the only staff who will have cars in Radyr will be the school's senior leadership team (just in case there is any emergency). Parents are advised not to drop their children off in Radyr, please only use the school transport.
- Please do not let your child bring a bike or scooter to the bus, there is nowhere to store it.
- We will take the register for each class as children get onto the transport, we will also make sure everyone has booked a lunch, pre-booking meals on Parent Pay will help us enormously. Children may bring a packed lunch with them if you wish, this should be in a small lunchbox or lunchbox bag.
- Tote bags will be given to each child on Tuesday, the bags will fit a small lunchbox and a water bottle and any home learning projects/home work.
- We are not able to send home any reading books at the moment. We will be focusing on phonics & spelling and Big Maths Learn Its for this half term, these will be sent home once children have settled in and we have assessed their current levels.
- Radyr is a beautiful part of Cardiff, with fields and woodlands we would like to explore with the children. Please can you make sure your child comes to school with a waterproof coat and suitable footwear. If your child has wellies at home, we'd love for them to bring them into school (we'll let you know when). If you have any spare wellies (ones your child has grown out of) we'd happily accept any donations. If your child does not have wellies but you would welcome a donated pair, please let me know their shoe size.
- We will be doing lots of outside activities, using the local area in Radyr. This will form most of our PE curriculum, children will no need to change into PE kit, their school uniform should be suitable for all activities, and coats suitable for the weather conditions.

- Parents of younger children - if your child sometimes has toileting accidents during the day time, please provide additional clothes (and wet wipes) as everything we currently have is in storage.
- If your child uses an inhaler in school, please make sure we have it on Tuesday - if your child left their in school over the Summer break, we don't have access to it, it is in storage. Please can you provide a replacement.
- If your child attends Blue Door Nursery or Blue Door Out of Hours Care, they will pick up your child from Crown Way at either 11.30 (Nursery) or 3.15 (rest of the school).
- All parents should be ready to receive their child/ren from 3.15pm on Crown Way. Any children walking home alone will be supported part of the way home, until they feel comfortable to be left for the rest of the way. Please let me know before Tuesday if you wish for your child to walk home alone (Y5 or Y6 only).

My apologies for such a long bullet pointed list, it is my attempt to answer as many questions as possible in one fell swoop. If there is anything left unanswered, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Teachers and the Office Team will be contacting families individually over the next couple of days, please do answer their call, it may come as an unknown number as staff often have to use their own phone - you can probably guess why... everything's in storage!

I have been busy on Amazon buying essentials for the start of term but please bear with us, we won't have thought of everything until we actually go to use it. I have been so impressed with all of the staff who only knew of these changes yesterday morning. They have leapt into action and are doing the things that they do best, ensuring exciting, meaningful and relevant learning experiences for your children.

Our learning context for this half term will be a whole school one - We care for everyone and every thing. This work will have the joint focus of Science & Technology and Health & Wellbeing.

Step 1 (Nursery, Reception and Year 1) Plants and chickens

Step 2 (Years 2 and 3) Plants and tropical fish

Step3 (Years 4, 5 and 6) Plants and mammals - humans and dogs

I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we navigate the next few weeks.

Kindest regards,
Abi Cuthbert
Head Teacher

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