



Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Johnstown
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Head Teacher/Prifathro
Mr K McComas

5th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are all well and that you had a good Christmas break with your family. The recent news by Welsh Government to close schools recognised the intensity of the virus, the need to ensure a safe environment and to reduce the risk of infection spreading.

Closure of the school is a very difficult decision and one that goes against our core purpose. We will, however, do our utmost to provide the best service for your family under these difficult circumstances. Therefore, Spring Term arrangements are as follows, based on the information that I have been provided by the Local Authority to date.

Tuesday 5th January and Wednesday 6th January 2021

Preparation days for school staff for online learning and well-being checks.

Wednesday 6th January 2021

Whole school online well-being check at 9.30am. This will be an opportunity for your child/ren to “catch-up” with their class teacher/s and to test connectivity. Please find attached a “How To” guide for logging on to Teams and a Blended Learning information pack to assist with online lessons.

Thursday 7th January to Friday 15th January 2021 – Blended Online Learning

Staff have been working hard to provide the best experience for you at home. There will be a balance of live lessons and tasks linked to literacy, numeracy and the theme pupils are learning about (please see the Blended Learning Guide). If your child is unable to access learning at home then please inform the school office and we will be able to organise paper copies.

ICT Equipment

As the whole school is closed, it is impossible for us to loan ICT devices for all pupils to work at home. I have asked the Local Authority if they are able to provide a loan system for vulnerable families in need. I will provide you with further details on how you are able to access this as soon as possible.

Emergency Childcare Hub

I have sent out a separate letter regarding this service for your attention. There will be limited spaces due to the staffing levels we have in place and the requirement for the school to safely operate blended online learning. The Hub will be open between 9.00am and 3.00pm and a strict criteria for eligibility will be required to use the service. I urge you to only use this service as an emergency situation, for the safety of your child/ren and staff. Please note that the closing date for applications will be at 1.00pm on Wednesday 6th January.

We are mindful that the national picture indicates that schools will be closed until half term. We are currently awaiting further guidance on this from Welsh Government. In the meantime, if you do wish to contact the school, please email admin@johnstown.ysgolccc.cymru or telephone 01267 236653 and we will be pleased to assist you.

Yours sincerely

Kevin McComas
Head Teacher