



### Michaelmas Term Bulletin Year 1

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new school year, classrooms and year group. Mrs John, Mrs Lambert, Mrs Askew and I are all looking forward to working with you and your children in the year ahead.

This term we will be looking at two topics, *Houses and Homes* and *Pets*. *Houses and Homes* looks at the types of houses we live in and the different materials and designs they use. Please can your child bring in a photo of his/her home to share with the class. Topic work will also include sketches, maps, a walk around the College, visiting the Pre new house build and traditional tales which feature houses prominently. We will also travel to the Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and investigate some of the buildings there. More details on that visit will follow shortly in a separate letter.

Our other topic this term, *Pets*, always proves to be exciting. There have been some memorable visits over the years from hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, chicks and puppies. No doubt this year will feature some more. Certainly the topic allows children to investigate life cycles more closely and to share and discuss the many emotions we experience when living with pets in our homes. Should your child have any allergies to fur or animals, please let us know well in advance.

Throughout this term we shall also aim to consolidate and extend children's literacy and numeracy skills. Activities based around sounds, writing, story-telling, counting, sorting, adding and taking away will occur daily. Each week we will also be sending home a sound or blend which will be the focus of our phonic work in the classroom. If you do have any questions regarding reading, writing, mathematics or how best to support your child at home, do ask us.

These books will come home on the following nights-

Monday- Sounds  
Tuesday- Reading  
Wednesday- Reading  
Thursday- Key Words  
Friday- Reading

Each week the children will also select a book from our school library to share with you at home. Your Childs' class teacher will let you know which day to return the book.

This term there will be class assemblies on the following dates:

1M: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November  
1J: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
1L: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Class assemblies start at 8:45 and take place in Butcombe Hall. Parents, siblings and grandparents are all invited to join your child for their assembly.

All Year 1 children will have outdoor games on Friday afternoons and gym on Thursday mornings.

Indoor games-

1M: Monday afternoons  
1J: Monday afternoons  
1L: Wednesday afternoons

Now that your children are in Year 1 they can dress and undress themselves independently, so we no longer need parent helpers for swimming but thank you for all the help you gave last year. Swimming times are as follows:

1M: Wednesday, 11.15-11.45  
1J: Monday, 10.45-11.15  
1L: Tuesday, 11.15-11.45

We do not allow children to borrow or exchange sports kit so we do ask that you ensure your child has all their games kit in school, so that they are properly dressed for their sports lessons.

The children will also be going to Forest school this term-

1M: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September (Afternoon),  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October (Morning)  
1J: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September (Morning)  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (Afternoon)  
1L: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September (Morning)  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October (Afternoon)

Please make sure your child comes to school with the appropriate clothing. More information about Forest School will be provided nearer the time.

Many thanks again for your help in settling the children into their new classes. If you have any interesting artefacts and books which relate to our current topics or have a particular interest that you are willing to share with us at school then do let us know.

If you do have any queries, please feel free to come and see us.

Regards and best wishes,

Juliet Michallat  
Fiona John  
Michelle Lambert  
Anne Askew