Tyfu gyda'n gilydd, dysgu am byth
Growing together, learning forever

14th October 2026

RE: HT UPDATE – OCTOBER 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been a pleasure to welcome parents and carers into school for our Parents' Evenings this week. At this early stage of the academic year, these conversations provide a valuable opportunity to reflect on how well the children have settled into their new classes, celebrate the positive start they have made, and discuss the key areas we will be focusing on together over the coming months. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child to flourish both in school and at home.

Unfortunately as Mrs Cook has been unwell this week, we will be in touch to arrange new dates for parents of pupils in 4AC as soon as possible.

Forthcoming Dates
A reminder that the **school will be closed this Friday (16th)** to enable staff and members of our community to attend the funeral of Miss Rhian Williams-Jones and honour the lasting contribution she made to our school community.

We have been touched by the decision of Miss Williams-Jones' family to invite donations in her memory to support the development of an outdoor wellbeing area for the pupils of Maes yr Haul. Our aim is that this lasting tribute will provide a peaceful space for children to reflect, recharge and nurture their wellbeing, while recognising the warmth, kindness and dedication Rhian brought to our school community. Her family are overseeing the arrangements for donations and we will provide any additional information when available.

The **Autumn PFA disco will be held in the main hall on Wednesday 21st October** with our regular DJ, Zack Franks. Unfortunately, due to capacity, this is for pupils from Year 1 upwards. Tickets available via the PFA as usual.

The school will be closed for staff training (INSET Day) on Monday 2nd November.

On Tuesday 24th November, the school will have the pleasure of welcoming M&M Theatrical Productions to the school for a performance of 'Snow White'. M&M have visited the school for several years now and are always very well received by pupils and staff alike!

<u>'Chewables' / Fidget Tools</u>
I previously wrote to parents in June to advise that, for safety reasons, we are unable to allow children to bring their own fidget tools into school. At the time, we were seeing a sudden phase of children bringing 'Squishies' into school which was a particular concern. Since then, I was sad to learn that one of our younger pupils was seriously hurt during the summer holidays when a squishy toy burst, causing liquid to come into contact with the child's face and eyes, causing chemical burns

and requiring hospital treatment. The family have since appeared on BBC Morning Live and I know they are keen that other parents are made aware of the serious risks that such toys can present.

It is precisely due to these sorts of risks, that we do not allow pupils to bring / use these sort of items into school, unless they form part of an agreed support plan and the equipment has been agreed by and/or provided by the school. If any parents / carers feel their child needs any such sensory support resources, please contact our ALNCo so that we can arrange to discuss their child's needs and consider appropriate support strategies.

Medical Needs
If your child requires medication during the school day, please bring it to the school office and complete a medication consent form (available from the office or on our website). All medication must be in its original packaging and clearly labelled with your child's name. These procedures help us to ensure that any medication is administered safely and appropriately. If children have an episode of sickness or diarrhoea, they should remain off school for 48 hours after their last episode to help prevent the spread of infection. (Please see Medications policy for further information)

Lost Property
Our lost property collection is already building up – mostly jumpers, but also coats, water bottles and lunchboxes. Please put your child's name on everything and please do ask the office if you want to look through the lost property as we do need to clear these out periodically.

School Dinners
A reminder that the school's 3-week dinner menu is available via the school website. School meals are now free for all primary pupils and whilst we encourage all families to take up this option, it is entirely a matter of choice for each day – there is no need to confirm meal choices in advance.

Cutlery Skills
As part of developing independence, we want all pupils to be able to use a knife and fork confidently at mealtimes. We have noticed that some children, including older junior children, would still benefit from a little extra practice when cutting their food. If possible, please encourage your child to use their cutlery regularly at home, as this helps them to feel more confident in the dining hall and allows them to make the most of their lunchtime. I've included a couple of useful videos below to support this important skill.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TlEA3uYu74Y
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cau5cevLg2U

Kind Regards



Kevin Stroud
Headteacher