

**A message to our children!**

Dear children of Ysgol yr Esgob,

Firstly, we would like to say a very big “hello” to you all. We are missing you a great deal! Things are different for us too but we try to keep in contact with each other to make sure we are all ok. We would like to do that for you as well. Your parents can email us and you can too! Use your email in Hwb. You could use SeeSaw to send us photographs of what you are up to. We would love to know. Come on everyone, have a go!

From Monday 20<sup>th</sup> your teachers will be setting work for you to do online. If you don’t know what to do you must let us know and we will help you.

We don’t know when schools will be back yet so it is quite important that you have a go at contacting us.

Keep smiling.

With love from all the staff at Ysgol yr Esgob.

**Residential Visits**

Kingswood (Year 3) – we presume that we will be able to refund all money paid as this visit will not be going ahead. At the moment we are finding it difficult to get through to centre staff but they are dealing with bookings in date order. We expect them to be in contact with us soon and we will let you know. Unfortunately, refunds will have to be by cheque. We cannot use School Comms as the six month allotted time frame for refunds has passed for this visit.

Nant BH (Year 4 and 5) – All parents will shortly receive a full refund. Unfortunately, this will be by cheque. We cannot use School Comms as the six month allotted time frame for refunds has passed for this visit.

Cardiff (Year 6) – At this moment in time, the visit to Cardiff in July is on hold. However, it is our feeling that we will not be going. When we know for certain, all parents will receive a full refund. Unfortunately, this will be by cheque. We cannot use School Comms as the six month allotted time frame for refunds has passed for this visit.

**Swimming Lessons Year 5 & 6**

All year 5 and 6 parents should have had a refund for the final session which was missed due to school being closed. This was done last week via School Comms. Please check your bank account.

**Mr. Austin**

We are pleased to let you know that Mr. Austin will be returning to work on Monday 20th April 2020. For the first week both Mr. Austin and Miss Burke will be sharing responsibility for Year 5 and 6 home learning. From then on, Mr. Austin will be in charge. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Mr. Austin back to Ysgol yr Esgob!

## **Online Learning**

The new term begins on Monday 20th April. From this time moving forwards, teachers will be stepping up the monitoring of learning so that they can provide feedback, encouragement and support. In order to try and keep learning together, teachers will be setting:

- two maths tasks per week
- two English tasks per week.
- One other task

We want to encourage all our pupils to remain in contact with us and to begin to fully engage with the situation we find ourselves in. Staff are keen to support and are concerned that whilst some pupils have made contact, many have not.

Home/ school contact is essential, not only for learning to continue, but also for wellbeing. We are going to try to set up routines where groups of children make contact on certain days. This will help you and us to manage our time. We are here to help!

Everything set will be suitable for home learning and teachers will be waiting for work to be sent back to them in some form so they can provide feedback. This could be via a photograph or email.

If you need support to access learning, please get in touch and we will try and support you over the phone.

## **Reading Material**

If you need advice about reading books that are suitable for certain age ranges please check out [books@lovereading.co.uk](mailto:books@lovereading.co.uk) . This website comes highly recommended!

## **SeeSaw – Foundation Phase, Year 3 and Year 4.**

You should all have log in details for this by now. Seesaw is a programme that we use in school to keep a record of children's work that isn't in their books, such as reading assessments or presentations that they have made to the class.

Seesaw also offers a way of setting work for the children, which they can then complete and upload easily. It also allows them to work in a variety of different ways; they can create videos to share, record their voices, use any of the office tools or use templates provided by their teachers to work on to.

We will continue to use Google classroom, as this has been working well for most of the children, but we feel that Seesaw may be easier to access for all of the children, and staff.

If you have any problems logging on to Seesaw or using any of its features please get in touch and we will be glad to help. Please do ask the children to continue to check their Hwb emails as well as logging in to Seesaw.

## **Childcare at the Caerwys Hub.**

If you are a single key worker or if both adults in your household are key workers, you can book childcare in the Caerwys Hub. Please fill in the registration form before you book and email us to let us know when your child/children is/are coming. N.B. It is safer to keep your child at home and our Hub should only be used if there is no alternative.

## **Caerwys Historical Society – can you contribute to their project?**

Caerwys Historical Society want to collate a living history project. They want to gather information regarding the experiences of life from the people of Caerwys and Afonwen during this pandemic and subsequent isolation. Could you be part of this project? This is a perfect opportunity to produce some work for a "real life" context. Your work could be of interest to the future Caerwys generations

**Please see the information below from the Caerwys Historical Society.**

## **Living in Lockdown in Caerwys 2020 - Caerwys Historical Society Living History Project**

As a local history society we are asking for your help to create a living history of this extraordinary time. We would like to collate a record of Caerwys and Afonwen residents' experiences during the 2020 worldwide coronavirus pandemic.

**What is a Living History Project?** We are currently living through an unprecedented period, due to the coronavirus pandemic, and everyone's daily lives are being affected. The situation is impacting on us all in lots of different ways and you will have your own experiences, thoughts and reflections on what this time is like for you. How it is affecting you, both on a practical and psychological level? We would really like to capture all of this as part of a Living History Project, can you help us and send us your stories?

**Why are we doing this?** The more residents that undertake this project the more information we will have about what this period felt like for us in our communities in Caerwys and Afonwen. When we, our children or grandchildren look back on this time, as well as being an interesting and engaging piece of work, it could also add value to forward planning should this type of extraordinary situation ever face our community again.

**What sort of information are we looking for?** Here are a few suggestions you could use to give some context to your piece:

- Do you live in a town or village; are there usually lots of people about?
- What's your household like; do you live alone or with a partner or other family; do you have any pets?
- Have you got people who are still working living with you; are there key workers in your household and how is that working out?
- What's your family like, do you have adult children or grandchildren and how are you coping not seeing them at this time?
- Do you have a caring role, either in the household or outside of it, and how are you coping with that?
- How are you managing your days; what activities are you doing; are you trying to stick to a routine?
- What did you enjoy; what good things happened?
- What was difficult; how did you manage this; how did you feel?
- Who did you speak to or see, and how did you manage to do this?
- Was there anything you did which you wouldn't normally have time to do?
- What do you think was the most important bit of the day (whether this was something you heard on the news, or a contact you made or an activity you discovered?)

**Do I have to share my name and details publicly?** No, you do not. Tell us if you don't want us to identify you and we will respect that by ensuring that when your story is shared in the Project that it is anonymous.

**What do I need to do?** Please write your contribution and send it to me at [carysandtim@gmail.com](mailto:carysandtim@gmail.com).

When this horrible period is at an end, and we hope that won't be before too long now, we will collate all the stories and pictures and share them with everyone in the community as a whole picture of **Living in Lockdown in Caerwys 2020**.

Many thanks for sharing your stories. Please keep safe and well everyone.

## **Bonus Ball - Payment for winning numbers will be sent home when we return to full time school.**

As you know we run the fund raising Bonus Ball. You can buy one or more numbers for £5.00 per number per month and if your number is drawn on the Saturday night draw, you win £25.00. Anyone is welcome to join the draw. Please contact either Mrs Clair Austin or the school office for further details. It really is very simple to set up the direct debit payment.

*Agendas and Minutes of Governor meetings are available from school upon request.  
Please remember that the Caerwys Chronicle has an announcement section for any special events. Please contact 'sevanscaerwys@gmail.com'. The deadline for publication is the 20th of each month.*