



# Newsletter



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## SPRING TERM! 29/1/21



**Some good news ....Hooray!!**

Spring is the time when we see new shoots appearing and the signs of new blossoms. Easter approaching and signs of new life reminding us that summer is on its way. It brings a sense of happiness. Well Mrs Reynolds has certainly achieved this for us early! New life has arrived in her household. Congratulations to Mrs Reynolds, her husband and their beautiful daughter on the arrival of their new baby boy! Teddy was born last night, three weeks early! Mother and baby are still in hospital at the moment but all is well. This is fabulous news when everyone is feeling so low at the moment. It has certainly cheered us up. Thank you Mrs Reynolds for working magic! I am sure Mrs Reynolds will introduce Teddy to us as soon as she can.



**School reopening**

I am sure you will have seen the news today which tells us that they will be looking to reopen schools in Wales after February half term if infection rates continue to decrease. Obviously, this will cause some concerns as we certainly do not want the reopen to cause rates to increase again! If we are told that we are to reopen we will be putting strict measures in place to ensure our families are kept safe and to avoid further spread. As soon as we know anything we will keep you informed.

**Devices and working at home**

All our school devices have been issued to families and we have circumstances now where additional devices are required. If you are one of those families and staff have been speaking to you about this we have, today, had a delivery of devices that can be used. We will get these out to you as soon as we can. You will need to sign the loan agreement so please keep a check on your text messages from us.





### School Meals

There has been a lot of negative press and criticism about what is provided for children who are entitled to free school meals. To put clarity on the situation for us, every child who is entitled to free schools meals has a payment of £19.50 per child every week. This continues over school holiday periods to ensure children do not go hungry. This amount enables parents to provide a good healthy meal at home whilst schools are closed.

### Great Work

Just to say we totally understand that home learning for your children is really hard but we are impressed with the work that is coming in. They are working more and more independently and are now in good routines so well done everyone. Parents rarely get a 'well done' so this is a big one from all of us! You are doing your very best for your children as always. We have been so impressed with our families getting your children logged in and managing the daily / weekly plan that teacher sends out. All the children's messages, emails, photos, work are all checked by staff so learning continues. Great team work, well done. Lots of parents have IT skills now that they never thought they would need! CHAMPIONS. The weekend has arrived so screens off, get some fresh air and have some fun together. Enjoy your weekend everyone!

### Reading

As you know (we have mentioned it enough) we worry about the children's reading now they are at home. Every child need to learn to read and their primary school years are crucial for developing reading skills, even when they appear to be fluent. We continue with developing skills right up to year 6 so that they are well prepared for the secondary school and they will manage lessons better with good reading skills. We know that the children suffered from the last lockdown with reading and we do not want them to lose the catch up that we put into place in September. Everyone has access to Reading Owls so please keep practising with your children. Staff are now doing live sessions to continue teaching reading and we have recently bought the Rapid Reading books for you to use online with the children also. Rapid Reading is a programme that we use in school to help children 'catch up' if they are not yet at their reading age. Please take full advantage of this so we get our money's worth! Staff can guide you on what level books to start at for your child.

