



Ysgol Abererch
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Welcome back after the summer holidays. We hope you all had a lovely summer and that you're ready for another busy year! In this letter we would like to share some new information with you and remind you of a few other things at the beginning of a new school year. We welcome 12 new pupils to the nursery class and 2 new pupils to Mrs Lewis's class. A very warm welcome to them all!

STAFF

There are only a few changes to the staffing structure of the school this year. There are 79 children in Ysgol Abererch this year-12 of these are nursery children who attend part-time only. We therefore have 3 full-time classes.

Years 5 & 6

Years 3 & 4

Foundation Phase teachers

Special Educational needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)

Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant

One-to-one assistants-permanent

Secretary (part-time)

Mrs Rebecca Lewis

Mrs Annwen Hughes

Miss Eleri Williams (Monday-Thursday)

Mrs Lowri Jones (Fridays)

Mrs Sian Hughes

Mrs Ann Parry

Mrs Sian Roberts

Miss Bethan Atkinson, Miss Cara Jones

Miss Caren Thomas

Mrs Lowri Jones is currently on maternity leave. Miss Sera Jones will be the teacher covering for her on Fridays.

SENDING MONIES TO SCHOOL

Parents are asked to forward monies to school in clearly labelled envelopes on **Mondays** and **Fridays only**. School staff **will not be able** to accept monies sent on other days. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

The price of school lunch is £2.50 per day. **Please pay for school lunches on Mondays from now on.** The school can provide free envelopes for lunch money- these are available from Miss Caren Thomas (the lunch-money clerk). It is possible to pay for the half-term or term should you find this easier.

ATTENDANCE / PUNCTUALITY

Here is the procedure to follow when your child is absent from school:-

- Please inform the school beforehand of any medical appointments-doctor, dentist or opticians or any other.
- The parents are expected to phone the school before 9:15 to explain the absence - there will be an answering machine if the secretary is not working. A written record will be kept of the phone call.
- A written note is expected on the first day the child is back in school. There is a booklet of notes for this purpose available from school.

Please ensure that your child arrives in good time for the morning bell. Children are expected to arrive no earlier than 8:35am (unless enrolled in the breakfast club) and no later than 8:45am. Your co-operation with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

The school will be contacting the parents of the children who arrive regularly after 08:55 (they will be registered as 'late') to discuss the situation before contacting the welfare officer.

HERE ARE THE THEMES FOR THIS YEAR'S WORK:-

	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Foundation Phase	Myself	People that help us	Our world
Years 3 and 4	Myself	Cymru	Water
Years 5 and 6	Our world	Victorian Age	Good health

Key stage 2 pupils will be given homework on Fridays to be completed and handed back on the following Monday. Foundation stage pupils will be given homework occasionally. All the children will bring reading books home to be changed regularly.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The staff and governors draw up an yearly plan noting which specific areas are going to be developed during the year. This plan notes in detail how aspects of the curriculum or other aspects of school are going to be developed. During 2016/17 the following areas will be developed:-

- Raereading in Welsh and English- strengthen the home-school links
- Numeracy-problem solving
- Information Technology
- The Foundation Phase –develop the use of the outside area
- Develop the roles of the governors
- Aspects of the green school project

A Mathematical curricular evening will be held during this term.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Pupils from **Yrs 3 - 6** (Miss Ogilvy and Mrs Hughes's class) will be having swimming lessons on **Monday** afternoons this term. Pupils from years Reception, 1 and 2 will also be going to the leisure centre to have gymnastic lessons on **Monday** afternoons. We kindly ask for a contribution of £2 towards the bus costs please. The children will also have a physical education lesson in school on the following days-

Foundation phase	Friday
Years 1 + 2	Tuesday (dancing)
Years 3 + 4	Tuesday (dancing) Friday
Years 5 + 6	Friday

Dal i Fynd-Running club

The Dal i Fynd running club will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays for all the children . The children will need to bring trainers on these days.

Children are required to change **both their clothing and footwear** before physical education lessons. Parents are, therefore, requested to ensure that their children have suitable clothing/footwear for sports lessons. Such clothing includes sports clothing or old play clothing/trainers.

Children will not be allowed to participate in lessons unless a suitable change of clothing is supplied by you for their use.

Parents are also reminded that these lessons are compulsory and failure to participate in such activities must be accompanied by an explanatory letter to the respective class teacher.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Teacher-training days –There will be no school for the children on these days.

Thursday ,October 26th

Monday,November 6th

Monday February 19th

Parents' evening

Monday, November 13th Date to be confirmed

Thanksgiving holidays

October 24th – October 28th

Christmas show

Thursday, December 13th Date to be confirmed

PTA meeting

Before the end of October

YSGOL ABERERCH GOVERNORS

Your representatives on the Governing Board are Theresa Hodgson and Gillian Poole.

CYMDEITHAS RHIENI, CYFEILLION AC ATHRAWON YSGOL ABERERCH - PTA

The parents and teachers committee meet to organize events and fundraise for the school. Parents are welcome to come to the meetings and help. The committee is a registered charity with the NCPTA.

The school greatly appreciates the money raised by the PTA-school budgets face cuts every year and it's becoming increasingly harder to buy any extras! We hope to raise a lot of money in 2016/17 **for the benefit of all the children.**

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Remember our school website www.ysgolabererch.org. The website is updated regularly. To enter the secure area you will need to log in using the following details-

Username: abererch

Password: 20afon13

FACEBOOK.

The school has a private Facebook page that is used to share information and photos with parents and relatives – the general public are not approved as members for this page. Please do not share any photos that include other people's children. We also have a Twitter account that you can follow @YsgolAbererch .

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS/ACTIVITIES

The school offers a child-minding facility from 3:00-5:00pm every school night. There is a charge to use this facility- please ask the headteacher if you are interested in this club.

CYCLING TO SCHOOL

Children are welcome to cycle to school. If your child is going to cycle to school please could you note the following health and safety points.

- That appropriate helmets are worn.
- The child must dismount by the small school gate and push the bike through the playground to the bike rack. **The bike must not be ridden through the playground.**
- No bikes are allowed in the car park.

CARS AND PARKING

It can be extremely busy outside school at 3:00pm. If possible please can you park at the top of the village by the old chapel or at the bottom of the village. For safety, you are expected to come into the school yard (out of the road) to collect your child.

Cars are not allowed to enter the school car park.

Also, please do not park in front of the large grey gates that are opposite the school entrance by the old shop even for two minutes to drop off your child!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Items of school uniform can be purchased from www.monkhouse.co.uk There is a link on the school website and orders can be delivered to school free of charge or to your home for a small postage charge.

School jumpers are often lost because they have no names on them! Please ensure that all items of school clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. We would also like to remind you that the children are expected to wear school uniform every day **and that the school colour is navy** (black trousers are acceptable. Jeans are not allowed.) The school does have an uniform recycling scheme- items of uniform are available for £1. Please ask Anti Sian if you would like to purchase a spare jumper for £1! Thank you.