

SULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12th February 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

Just a short note to wish you all a wonderful half term break and to thank you for the support you have given your children over the past six weeks. Our engagement levels for home learning remain high, 93.5% in Foundation Phase and 97% in KS2, and this would not be the case without you.

It is now time to take a break away from the demands of home learning and daily live check-ins and relax. Hopefully, the weather warms up and stays dry and assists us all in getting out and about. We are all looking forward to welcoming our younger pupils back on Monday 22nd February and hope our older children will follow soon after.

While we fully welcome the return of our pupils to school, we are also very aware that Coronavirus is still a very real threat and, as always, we will take every possible precaution to maintain the safeguarding and wellbeing of everyone in our community.

Thank you once again for your support during this time. I will, of course, update you regularly.

Take care and stay safe.

Andrea Waddington, Headteacher

EXCITING EISTEDDFOD NEWS!

We are thrilled to announce that this year's Sully School Eisteddfod will still go ahead! Foundation Phase learners will take part in a range of Welsh-themed activities in school from Monday 22nd February, which will lead to a virtual celebration in school on St. David's Day. Please can all Foundation Phase pupils wear a traditional Welsh costume or something red to school on Monday 1st March.

KS2 learners will complete their Eisteddfod entries at home. The details of all the exciting competitions will be posted as assignments on your child's Google Classroom from Monday 22nd February. They will have the chance to compete in a range of compulsory and optional competitions to gain points for their house team. Explanation videos for the competitions are attached to the assignments, so please encourage your child to watch them before taking part. We will have a virtual KS2 Eisteddfod on Monday March 1st (details to be announced after half term) to find out which house team will win the prestigious Eisteddfod cup!

Over half term the Eco Council have set some fun challenges that you might want to do to try to make your lockdown a little greener. They are at the bottom of this newsletter - see how many you can do! We would love to see how you get on so please tweet any eco activities you get up to to @sullyps and @ecoschoolswales. Have fun!

You may have seen a tv advert about free data for home schooling. Take a look at this link and if you think you may be eligible, let the school know by sending us an email AFTER HALF-TERM:
<https://www.techadvisor.co.uk/how-to/internet/get-free-data-home-schooling-lockdown-3800116/>





Cynnig
GOFAL PLANT CYMRU
The **CHILD CARE Offer for WALES**

Addysg gynnar a gofal = Early education and care



Applications open Friday 5 February

- Do you work 16 hours or more per week?
- Was your child born between 1 January 2018 and 31 March 2018?
- Do you live in the Vale of Glamorgan?

You may be eligible for
17.5 hours of childcare funding per week

FUNDING STARTS FROM 12 APRIL 2021

Contact the Family Information Service
01446 704704 www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/fis



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

4 MARCH 2021

This year, World Book Day is on 4th March 2021. As well as lessons and events in school or online, your child will also be asked to tell us all about their favourite book! They can do this by drawing a picture, writing a review, making a puppet show, making a short film or any other way they can think of. We want to share these great reviews with other children to help them see what their friends are reading, so if you are happy to, then you can tweet them to us at @Sullyps #worldbookday.

We have also been given a £1 e voucher for every child in the school which is can be accessed via this link: [£1 book token](#)

We can't wait to hear about all of these brilliant books!

Sully ECO Schools half term activities- These are some suggestions of activities to do over half term with an eco theme. If you decide to try any of them we would love you to tweet them to @sullyps and @EcoSchoolsWales so that we can see all the amazing ways you are helping the planet.

<p>Plant a seed See if you can find a seed in a fruit or vegetable that you have eaten. Follow these instructions to grow your own plant! Then tweet your pictures to @sullyps https://www.broadalecollections.org/plant-a-pip-and-grow-a-tree/</p> 	<p>Litterless Challenge Enter the ECO schools Litterless challenge and make a poster to convince others not to drop litter. Then take a photo and tweet it to @sullyps and @ecoschoolswales #litterlesscampaign. You could win a litter picking kit for the school!</p> 	<p>Fairtrade Fortnight Watch the video to learn more about Fairtrade. Then see if you can try some fairtrade items next time you go shopping like chocolate or bananas. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFneLi-YAnM&feature=emb_logo</p> 
<p>Nature scavenger hunt When you are out on a walk, see if you can spot as many of these as possible. A squirrel, a robin, a seagull, a pigeon, a crocus, a daffodil, a blackbird, a bud, a berry, a holly leaf, a woodlouse, a spider. Try to learn how to identify some of these by yourself.</p> 	<p>Save water https://www.backwoodsmama.com/2018/03/22-ways-kids-can-save-water.html Find out why we should save water. Have fun reusing your bath water to water the plants. Turn the tap off when you brush your teeth and see if you can have a shower in less than 2 minutes!</p> 	<p>Junk Modelling Use what you have in your recycling to make a model. Could you link it to your topic? Could you make it eco themed? https://www.bbc.co.uk/player/episodes/p068jwpl/junk-rescue</p> 
<p>Bird Feeder Follow these instructions to make a bird feeder for your garden. Then watch the birds come and feed! Remember to stay very quiet when you are watching them. https://www.bbc.co.uk/cebabies/makes/bird-feeder?collection=have-fun-at-home</p> 	<p>Litter Pick Pick up litter when you go on a walk with your family. Make sure you take some gardening gloves or a litter picker with you and ask an adult before you pick anything sharp up. Could any of it be washed and recycled? You could even use our special litter bin on Sully Beach!</p>	<p>Save energy Watch the video and then see how much energy you use at home. Walk around your house and ask if you can turn off any lights in rooms that no one is in. Turn the heating down by 1 degree and put a jumper on to stay warm. Unplug your devices at night. Then see how much energy you saved! https://quiethut.com/energy-conservation-for-kids/</p>

Dear Parent/Carer,

On the 29th of January, the First Minister announced that if the number of coronavirus cases continued to fall over the following weeks that plans would be put in place to return our youngest learners in our primary schools back to school from the 22nd of February 2021. The most recently published medical evidence supports the phased return of learners back into school and as a result the Education Minister confirmed on the 5th of February 2021 that foundation phase learners are set to return to school after the half-term break.

Your support with your child's home learning has been invaluable in recent months but a return to school is now required to enable your child/ren to benefit from much needed face to face learning with their peers so that they can reach their academic potential. Research tells us that time spent out of education settings can impact adversely on a child's development, and your support in enabling your child to return to school from the 22nd of February is now needed.

The safe return of foundation phase learners is the first part of the return of learners to schools. This will include children in nursery, reception, year 1 and year 2. Remote learning will continue for all other age groups (years 3 upwards).

During this transitional period, the existing Welsh Government Restrictions for alert level 4 will continue to remain in place. Details on this can be found here: [Alert level 4 | Sub-topic | GOV.WALES](#)

Outside of school it will be important that children and their families continue to stay at home in line with Welsh Government's guidance, engage in essential travel only and limit their contact with others. Kirsty Williams, the Education Minister, has strongly advised that families continue to comply with the restrictions outside of school and that families avoid children's social contact with others outside of their family bubble. When collecting children from school, parents must keep to 2m social distancing and wear face coverings in and around school grounds so that we keep everyone safe. Only one adult taking children to and from school is recommended to minimise risks. School transport will be run as normal for entitled pupils.

Comprehensive measures are in place to reduce the risks in school, with schools' risk assessments under constant review. The processes in place during the autumn term around what to do if your child has symptoms, how to access a test, and self-isolation remain in place. Further information can be found via your school or here:

[Check your symptoms to see if you need coronavirus medical help | GOV.WALES](#)

All staff in primary settings have been advised to wear face coverings anywhere on the schools' site, including in the classroom, where social distancing cannot be maintained. In line with the current guidance, the wellbeing and needs of learners will be considered when deciding whether it is appropriate for staff to wear face coverings.

Visitors to the school setting should use a face covering, including parents and carers when dropping off and picking up learners.

There will be continued provision for vulnerable learners and the children of critical workers on school sites after the half-term break. This provision will be during core school hours.

Thank you again for all of your hard work in supporting your child's learning at home. I appreciate that these have been very challenging times. I am sure you will appreciate the tremendous efforts made by our school staff to deliver remote learning for your child whilst also providing face to face learning on school sites.

Kind regards, Vale of Glamorgan LEA