



11.9.26

It has been a lovely start to the new school year, the children have come back to school happy and ready to learn. It is so lovely to have Miss Tucker back from maternity, we have missed her. Also, Mrs Richards (Miss Davey) will be returning at the beginning of October so we look forward to welcoming her back.

One of our School Development Plan targets this year is developing a whole school strategy to develop reading skills and disposition to read. This aligns with Welsh Government's focus on reading and also Estyn's three-year enhanced focus on reading. Although we work very hard as a school to provide every opportunity to ensure every child in the school learns to read, we want to ensure they all become confident, fluent readers with an intrinsic love of reading. We would love to have involvement from families and will be sending out questionnaires to gather your ideas and opinions so we would be very grateful if you could respond when you receive the questionnaire.

As you know the safety of our children is of paramount importance to us, we endeavour to do everything we can to ensure the children are safe in school. With this in mind, we have had a number of requests for older children to pick up their younger siblings at the end of the day. We will only release a child at the end of the day to someone that is over 16 years of age. Also, we would ask parents to pick their child up from the yard their class is being released from, I understand it is easier if an older pupil goes straight to the yard/class where a younger sibling is being released from, however we cannot ensure that pupil gets to the correct place, so children will need to stay with their own class until an adult comes to pick them up and the teacher knows who they have released the child to.

Lastly, I want to bring up the issue of parking on Norfolk Street. It has been reported that cars are parking unsafely on the zigzags and on the double yellow lines. Please can I remind all parents to park safely and legally when dropping off or picking up.

Any instances of dangerous parking can be reported to the police via 101 or to the council via the report parking webpage

<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/reportparkingproblem?lang=en>

Schools Essential Grant Information

We would like to remind families that applications for the **Welsh Government School Essentials Grant** are now open. It is available to children and young people who meet the following criteria

- Some low-income families who meet the income-based (eFSM) criteria
- Looked after children (LAC) (must attend a Swansea school.
- Those who are classed as No Resource to Public Funds (NRPF)
- Children whose parents meet criteria in year groups Reception to Year 11 (as of September 2026)
- Pupils who receive free school meals due to transitional protection do not qualify for this funding.
- **£125 per eligible learner** in Reception to Year 11
- **£200 for eligible learners entering Year 7** (to help with the additional costs of starting secondary school)
- Meet certain other eligibility criteria set by the local authority. [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales), [\[swansea.gov.uk\]](https://swansea.gov.uk)
- Applications are made on line
- Please note that **receiving Universal Primary Free School Meals does not automatically qualify a child for the School Essentials Grant**. Families must still meet the eligibility criteria for means-tested Free School Meals. [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales), [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales)

The grant is designed to help eligible families with the cost of school items and can provide

- School uniform, coats and shoes
- PE kits and sports equipment
- School bags, stationery and other classroom essentials
- Equipment for extracurricular activities
- Specialist equipment for curriculum activities
- Laptops or tablets where appropriate
- Items needed for educational trips and outdoor learning activities [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales), [\[swansea.gov.uk\]](https://swansea.gov.uk)

How to apply Applications should be made through your local authority

To check your eligibility and access the application process, please visit:

<https://www.gov.wales/get-help-school-costs> [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales)

We encourage all families who think they may be eligible to apply, as this support can help with the cost of essential school items and may also provide additional funding for your child's school. [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales), [\[gov.wales\]](https://gov.wales)

EACH SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION HELPS TOWARDS YOUR SCHOOL'S PDG FUNDING

Save the date

Date	Event
14.9.26	Scholastic Book Fair
9.10.26	Hello Yellow day
14.10.26	Parents Evening (more than one child in the school)
21.10.26	Parents Evening (one child in the school)
22.10.26	Autumn Disco
23.10.26	Half term starts
2.11.26	Back to school
10.11.26	Photos
11.11.26	Finance Governing Body meeting Health and Safety/Premises Governing Body meeting
17.11.26	Curriculum Governing Body meeting
25.11.26	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
18.12.26	Christmas holidays begin
4.1.27	Back to school
5.2.27	Half term starts
15.2.27	Back to school
19.3.26	Easter holidays start
5.4.27	Back to school
14.4.27	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
24.5.27	Group photo day
28.5.27	Half term starts
7.6.27	Back to school
23.6.27	INSET day (school is closed to pupils)
16.7.27	Break up for the summer holidays

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Evans Headteacher