

Pil Primary School  
Pyle Inn Way  
Pyle  
Bridgend  
CF33 6AB



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Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

On behalf of everyone associated with the school, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! Let's hope the year ahead is a successful and healthy one for all! I hope you all had a pleasant and safe Christmas. If Santa brought any parents/carers a new mobile phone for Christmas, then please update your details using the SIMS Parent App or pop into the school office.

Please find below important information for your attention and dates (on the last page) for the term ahead. Please take the time to read this letter in detail.

**Start and end of the school day**

The school will be continuing to operate a flexible window for children to arrive within to ensure the concentration of staff and learners is minimised. **This will be between 8.50am and 9.00am.** Children are to enter school immediately upon arrival via the identified door (see below).

Start Time	Classes	Entrance	Finish Time	Exit
8:50 – 9:00am	Nursery	Nursery	3:10pm	Nursery
8:50 – 9:00am	Reception	Bottom doors	3:15pm	Bottom doors
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 1	Bottom doors	3:15pm	Bottom doors
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 2	Main entrance	3:15pm	Main entrance
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 3	Middle doors	3:15pm	Middle doors
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 4	Middle doors	3:15pm	Middle doors
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 5	Y5	3:15pm	Y5
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 6	Y6 side door	3:15pm	Y6 side door

At the end of the school day please make sure your child has all their belongings, **no pupils should be riding scooters/bicycles in the yard, climbing and standing on benches/tables or playing on the adventure trail.** Parents and pupils should leave the premises promptly and safely.

No football or ball games are to be played on the yard in the morning or after school.

**No dogs are to be brought into the school yard at any time.**

**Parking**

Please ensure the yellow lines outside the school gates are left clear at all times. The yellow lines are no stopping or parking zones set by BCBC for the safety of pupils and parents. They are subject to regular inspection by Parking Attendants and BCBC Camera Car. Please park responsibly in the surrounding streets. The school frequently receives phone calls from residents complaining they cannot enter or leave their driveways and garages.

**The school car park should not be used by parents; it is for staff and deliveries only; this includes Breakfast Club! The above measures are for the safety of your children!**



## **Attendance and Punctuality**

The doors will be supervised by staff until 9:00am. Children who are late for school should report to the school office. Thank you to all the children and parents who are punctual. Children arriving late for school disrupt the learning of others and make the marking of registers difficult for staff. We are continuing our attendance initiative this term. Regular attendance is very important and is strongly linked with achievement. Welsh Government states that all pupils should have attendance above 95%. There is a major focus on attendance this year and Welsh Government has reintroduced the fining of parents who do not ensure their children do not attend school regularly. As a school we want to avoid this, it is important that parent and carers work with the school to ensure good attendance. Please report your child's absence by 9:30am at the very latest.

**Please be punctual at all times! If you arrive after 9:00am – you are late!!**

**Parents should not collect their children from school until the end of the school day 3:15pm (3:10pm Nursery). Parents/carers asking to pick up their children early disrupt learning and takes staff away from their duties.**

## **Smoking**

All Bridgend County Borough Council buildings have a no smoking policy, this includes schools. No parents are permitted to smoke on school grounds; this includes the use of e-cigarettes. The school is part of the 'Smoke Free Gates' initiative, which creates a no smoking zone within 50 metres of the school gates.

## **Laptops**

The school has a number of laptops that are available for pupils to use at home. If you would like your child to loan a school laptop then please contact Miss Morgan in the school office. We will prioritise children according to age initially. All children should have a device at home that can allow them access to Hwb and Google Classroom. You will need a broadband connection to allow access to the internet.

## **Dinner Money**

School dinners remain £2.20 a day (£11.00 a week). If you require any help or assistance then please contact Miss Morgan in the School Office. If you experience any difficulties, it is important that you let us know, we can then try and assist you or contact BCBC to rectify any problems.

**All school dinners are to be paid for in advance online using the Cashless Catering System.**

Please note if your account is not in credit at the start of the school day then you have the following choices:

1. You will need to provide a packed lunch for your child.
2. Make payment over the phone immediately to Miss Morgan.
3. Make payment on-line and email the receipt as proof before 10:00am.

As a school, we have no choice but to impose these strict rules as the BCBC Catering Services have instructed us to do so.

Please note all children in Reception do not have to pay for school dinners.

## **UPFSM (Universal Provision Free School Meals)**

The following classes receive free school meals regardless of parental income. This is funded by Welsh Government.

*Nursery (starting January 2024), Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3.*  
Year 4 will be eligible after Easter 2024.



## **Free School Meals**

It is important that you are aware that the school can help in terms of providing free school meals for pupils. We are more than happy to assist you in the process of filling in the application form. If you already receive support, there is no need to do anything, but if your circumstances have changed or you think you may be eligible, please contact the school office. Miss Morgan will be more than happy to assist you in completing the form and to offer any other advice. This will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

**If your child receives free school meals under the UPFSM scheme it is still important to register for free school meals.** The school receives extra funding for pupils on Free School Meals, even if they do not take up the meal on offer. The extra funding is important to provide resources and opportunities for our pupils. If you are eligible for Free Schools Meals, please complete the form.

## **Contact Numbers**

It is important to let us know if your contact number has changed, we can then update our records.

## **SIMS Parent App**

**All parents must download the 'SIMS Parent app';** it is free and easy to use. You will need to provide us with an email address and you will receive an invite. The app works on apple and android mobile phones and tablet devices. The school calendar and previous letters are uploaded for your information.

**We will be only sending out limited letters as hard copies, therefore you must have access to the SIMS Parent App.**

## **Facebook**

We have a school Facebook page. Please search 'Pil Primary School' and request to join. We will then accept you. Please note the comments are switched off.

## **Twitter**

Why not follow us on Twitter, it provides you with an insight of day-to-day life in our school. Search @PilPrimary and request to follow us. You will be accepted only if your name or photo is recognised. To keep up to date with photographs and news then please follow us on twitter.

## **Website**

Visit us at [www.pilprimary.co.uk](http://www.pilprimary.co.uk)

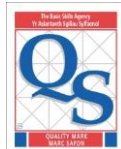
## **Uniform**

All pupils are encouraged to wear school uniform to promote a culture of togetherness and equality. It is important parents promote this message and ensure their child wears school uniform daily. You can purchase school uniform from a number of outlets. Please contact the school office for details.

If you have any unwanted school uniform that is in good condition then please send it into school. There is a recycled school uniform available for parents/carers to collect clothing free of charge. Please help yourself.

## **Homework**

Your child will have homework on a regular basis, please support the school by ensuring homework is completed and returned to school on time. Please listen to your child read at home daily, just 10 - 15 minutes a day will help your child progress. If you have any concerns about homework, then please contact your child's class teacher.



## PE Kit

Your child's class teacher will inform you of the days when Physical Education will be taught. It is vital that the correct kit is brought into school on these days. It causes great disruption when children fail to bring their kit and ask for permission to phone home. Remembering equipment, such as PE kit promotes independence and responsibility, please help your child and support them to remember their PE kit on the relevant day. No jewellery is to be worn to school on the days your child has PE or games, this includes rings, watches and earrings. Children should come to school wearing a white round neck t-shirt and their school jumper/hoodie, shorts and a tracksuit bottom as the weather gets colder.

## Manners and Behaviour

The school uses 'values' education and these are promoted in school via displays and assembly themes. You will be informed of the monthly themes and we would be grateful if you would promote these values at home. Good manners are strongly encouraged in school and we must work together to promote these. The school will continue to implement the 5 Stage Graduated Behaviour Response System this year. We will be monitoring the number of times a pupil reaches 'Stage 5', parents will be informed and if necessary, will be asked to attend a meeting at the school. It is very important that the school and parents work together to promote good behaviour at all times.

Our focus as always is to raise standards across all areas throughout the school. Please support us as a school by taking an active part in your child's learning and supporting them to become independent, polite and punctual pupils. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries or concerns. I hope you and your child enjoy the term ahead.

Yours sincerely

N Pryce  
Headteacher

## INSET Days

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

1 more INSET day to be decided.

## Please find below some important dates for your attention.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Spring Term starts – INSET Day (no school for pupils)  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January – School starts for pupils  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January – After school clubs start  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Year 6 Maths Transition in Cynffig Comprehensive School  
**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term**  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – School starts following Half Term, Year 6 Cycle Training  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Year 6 Cycle Training  
Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Welsh Week  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Crucial Crew  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Summer Term starts

\*Other dates will be added to the diary in due course. *Please note dates are subject to change and some are weather dependent. We will try to give as much notice as possible if cancellation is necessary.*

