

Pil Primary School
Pyle Inn Way
Pyle
Bridgend
CF33 6AB



Ysgol Gynradd Y Pil
Pyle Inn Way
Y Pil
Penybont a'r Ogwr
CF33 6AB

Tel: 01656 815630
Fax: 01656 815634
e-mail: admin.pil@bridgend.gov.uk

Headteacher/Prifathro
Mr N. Pryce

Ffon: 01656 815630
Ffacs: 01656 815634
e-bost: admin.pil@bridgend.gov.uk

Monday 19th September

Dear Parent / Carer,

Apologies for the delay in writing to you. The start of term has proven to be very challenging. 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.

COVID19 update

We had a large number of children off school last week who were feeling generally unwell with fatigue, headache and a sore throat. We do have 3 positive COVID19 cases at present in school. The rules and procedures for notifying parents/carers have changed and Test Trace Protect are now responsible for all contact with positive cases.

Your child can continue to attend school, however, we would ask that you be vigilant for symptoms of COVID-19 in your child. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- fever (greater than 37.8°C);
- new persistent/continuous cough; and/or
- loss or change in sense of taste or smell.

Should your child develop any COVID-19 symptoms, please do not send your child to school but get a PCR test immediately. If anyone in your household develops any of these symptoms, however mild, they should also seek a PCR test as soon as possible and follow the guidance at <https://gov.wales/self-isolation-stay-home-guidance-households-possible-coronavirus>.

If the outcome of your child's PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for a period of 10 days.

As a school we are not always aware of personal circumstances and there may be vulnerable adults or children within your household or extended contact group. I hope that by giving you this information it may assist you in any decisions you may make regarding visiting elderly or vulnerable people and protecting those close to you.

You do not need to take any further action, this letter is for information only, however you may receive further correspondence from the Test Trace Protect (TTP) team who may provide you with further information and instructions. If you do not hear from them you can continue as normal.

Anyone who is fully vaccinated (with a period of 14 days having passed since the full vaccination course was completed) or is under the age of 18 does not need to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case, unless they are advised to do so by TTP.

Further information and advice can be obtained via the COVID-19 advice line: 01443 425020.



To help keep others safe, there are still some things you/your child can do to reduce the risk of spreading the infection.

For the next 10 days we recommend you/your child:

- **Be alert for new symptoms** - If you/your child start to feel unwell, no matter how mild the symptoms are, you/your child should stay away from school and get a PCR test.
- **Keep washing hands regularly** - This is still an important way to limit the spread of many infections, including COVID-19.

We know how disruptive the last year has been for everyone. This year we want to keep your child in school as much as possible, but we also want to keep our communities safe from the effects of COVID-19.

Start and end of the school day

The school will 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	Middle 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	Y4	3:15pm	Y4
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 5	Y5	3:15pm	Y5
8:50 – 9:00am	Year 6	Y6 side door	3:15pm	Y6 side door

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

Due to COVID19, no parents/carers should enter the school without an appointment. Ideally, parents/carers should contact the school by phone with their queries. The school gates will be locked from 9:05am, should you require entry, you should contact the school on 01656 815630.

At the end of the school day parents are requested to wait outside their child’s designated exit point (see above) and to socially distance. Parents should maintain a 2 metre gap when waiting in the school yard. Parents should leave the site in an orderly manner following social distancing protocols, please use both gates to exit and keep a 2 metre gap.

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.

The school car park should not be used by parents; it is for staff and deliveries only, this includes Breakfast Club!

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 above measures are for the safety of your children!

Attendance and Punctuality

The doors will be supervised by staff until 9:05am. 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 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%.

Please be punctual at all times! If you arrive after 9:05am – you are late!!

Parents should not collect their children from school until the end of the school day 3:15pm (3:10pm Nursery).

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.

Fruit

Fruit is £1.50 a week and should be sent in with your child on a Monday. **To limit the handling of money please pay for fruit weekly.** The school pay for fruit deliveries twice a week and therefore require the funds to cover the cost. Parents can supply their own fruit if they wish.

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.

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.



It is important to note that 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.

Staying informed

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. 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.

Visit us at www.pilprimary.co.uk .The website contains the school calendar and copies of previous letters and newsletters.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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

Please find below some important dates for your attention.

Due to the current situation, we will be limiting activities initially.

Wednesday 22nd September – National Fitness Day

Thursday 30th September – School nurse visit to Year 6

Tuesday 12th October – School Photographs

Tuesday 19th October – Nasal Flu Spray

Friday 22nd October – Last day of half term

Monday 25th - Friday 29th October – Half term

Monday 1st November – INSET Day (*no school for pupils*)

Tuesday 2nd November – Children return to school

Friday 10th December – Nursery, Reception & Year 1 Wiggley's Trip

Friday 10th December – Key Stage 2 Christmas Dinner

Thursday 16th December – Year 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Pantomime Trip (Porthcawl)

Thursday 16th December – Nursery, Reception and Year 1 Christmas Dinner

Friday 17th Dec – Autumn term ends

Monday 20th Dec – Monday 3rd January – Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 4th January – INSET Day (*no school for pupils*)

Tuesday 5th Jan – Spring term begins - School starts for pupils

**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.*

