Pîl Primary School
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Headteacher/Pennaeth
Mr N. Pryce

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Tuesday 1st September 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,
I hope you had a pleasant break, I'm sure the good weather helped to make it an enjoyable summer.

Please find below important information for your attention and dates for the term ahead.

Start and end of the school day
Please arrive in school 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 start and end of the school day please make sure:

- Your child has all their belongings
- **No pupils are to ride scooters/bicycles in the yard, climb or stand on benches/tables or play on the adventure trail**
- No football or ball games are to be played on the yard
- **No dogs are to be brought into the school yard at any time**
- Parents and pupils should leave the premises promptly and safely

Parking
Please ensure the yellow lines outside the school gates are always left clear. 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

All pupils should have attendance above 95%. BCBC and the school are having a major drive and focus on attendance again this year. The Education Welfare Officer will be carrying out 'late at the gate' visits and parents/carers will be asked to attend meetings if their child(ren) is(are) consistently late for school. Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued to parents/carers when there is no improvement in attendance or punctuality. We as a school, do not want this for you or your child, so please from the first day of term support us by making sure your child is on time every day.

The doors will be supervised by staff until **9:00am**. Children who are late for school should report to the school office. Children arriving late for school disrupt the learning of others and make the marking of registers difficult for staff. Regular attendance is very important and is strongly linked with achievement. Please report your child's absence by 9:30am at the very latest. If you do not report your child's absence, you will receive a message from the school office asking you to do so.

Please always be punctual! If you arrive after 9:00am – you are late!!

Parents should collect their child/ren from school promptly at the end of the school day which is 3:15pm (3:10pm Nursery).

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.

Meet the Teacher

This is an early opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and become familiar with the routines and expectations for the year ahead. The meeting will last approximately 15-20 minutes and be informal. Please make every effort to attend.

Monday 7th September - Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Reception, Year 2 & Year 5
Tuesday 8th September – Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Year 4 & Year 6
Thursday 10th September – Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Year 1 & Year 3

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.**

Contact Numbers

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

UPFSM & School Meals

All children are entitled to a free school meal regardless of parental income or circumstances through Universal Provision of Free School Meals (UPFSM). Catering Services have a 3-week menu on rotation. Your child does not have to have a school meal every day; they can alternate between dinners and sandwiches according to their taste.

If your child receives free school meals under the UPFSM scheme it is still important to register for free school meals if you are eligible, please see below.

School Essential Grant & Free School Meals

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. If you are eligible to free school meals, then you will also be eligible for the School Essential Grant worth £125 per pupil. ***However, you must complete a Free School Meal Form.***

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 comments are switched off.

Website

Visit us at 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 several 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.

Click on the link to order recycled school uniform https://forms.office.com/e/9sJscpi3NQ

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 worn to 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.

Fruit and water bottles
We ask that all parents provide their child/children with a piece of ***fruit*** to eat during morning break. We strongly encourage parents/carers provide a snack to ensure children do not go hungry. ***Acceptable items are fruit e.g. apples, pears, bananas, satsumas, sliced grapes, raisins, cucumbers, carrot sticks***. Please do not supply your child with chocolate, cereal bars, biscuits, fridge raiders or chicken skewers.

All pupils are expected to bring a reusable/refillable water bottle to school daily to ensure they are hydrated. Please **do not** send your child to school with squash, energy drinks or fizzy pop.

Food allergies
If your child has a food allergy, then it is important that you let the school know. Catering Services can provide special diets for pupils with food allergies. Please remember we are a nut free school due to pupils having a nut allergy. We kindly ask parents to respect this and not to provide their children with peanuts, nuts or peanut butter in their lunchboxes. We thank you for your cooperation.

After school clubs
After school clubs will run from week commencing Monday 21st September to Friday 20th November. I am very grateful to the staff who give up their time after school to run clubs on a voluntary basis. Confirmation of which clubs will be running in the Autumn Term will be sent out shortly.

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 always promote good behaviour.

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.

- Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September – INSET Days
- Thursday 3rd September – School starts for pupils
- Monday 7th September - Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Reception, Year 2 & Year 5
- Tuesday 8th September – Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Year 4 & Year 6
- Thursday 10th September – Meet the Teacher, 3:15pm – Year 1 & Year 3
- Monday 14th September – Friday 25th September – Year 4 Swimming (2 weeks)
- Monday 14th September – Book Fayre open after school in classroom by green container
- Tuesday 15th September - Book Fayre open after school in classroom by green container
- Thursday 17th September - Book Fayre open after school in classroom by green container
- Friday 25th September – Race against Hate – Newbridge Fields, Bridgend (details to follow)
- Monday 28th September – Friday 9th October – Years 2 – 6, Personalised Assessments

- Monday 5th October – School photographs (individual and siblings)
- Wednesday 7th October – Foundation Phase Harvest Service, 2:30pm (details to follow)
- Thursday 8th October – Key Stage 2 Harvest Service (details to follow)
- Tuesday 13th October – Thursday 15th October – Parents Evenings (details to follow)
- Thursday 15th October – Shwmae Day (details to follow)
- Friday 16th October – Flu Vaccination
- Friday 23rd October – INSET Day (no school for pupils)

- Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half term

- Monday 2nd November – Friday 6th November – Year 5 Swimming
- Friday 20th November – Children in Need (details to follow)
- Wednesday 25th November – Year 5 & 6 Trip to the Senedd and Bowling

- Monday 7th December – Friday 11th December – Christmas Concerts (to be confirmed)
- Thursday 10th December – Key Stage 2 – Pantomime in Cynffig Comprehensive School
- Wednesday 16th December – Year 5 & 6 Trip to Techniquest
- Friday 18th December – End of term, school finishes at 3:15pm (3:10pm Nursery)

- **INSET Days 2026-27**
- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Monday 5th April 2027
- Friday 28th May 2027

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.

Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru

Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes