



Headteacher: Mr. T. Richards B.Ed (Hons) NPQH
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Wednesday 15th of July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday of this week, the Welsh Government Minister for Education published her plans for September which, along with the Local Authority guidance, has given us a clear picture of what education in Melin Primary School will look like in September. We've looked at the guidance and are confident that we can welcome all the boys and girls back to school in September in as safe a way as possible.

It states quite clearly in the guidance from Welsh Government that attendance in school from September will be compulsory for all pupils. All pupils will be expected to attend. We want to work with parents to help you to be confident to send children back to school, so if you have any concerns you want to talk through, please get in touch.

The school will be closed on Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd of September for staff to make the changes to the learning environment and update training. Children in Nursery 2 (apart from those spoken to by Mrs. Harris) through to Year 6 will all start on Thursday 4th of September. Please take a look at the school website for further information about how the new classes will enter the sites, line up and then leave sites at the end of the day as start and finish times will still be staggered.

Don't forget that on the school website on the returning to school page, there is information for parents whose children are going into Reception or into Year Three in September. This has replaced the usual 'meeting for parents' that we traditionally hold. If you have questions following the video, please email the school at the address at the bottom of this letter.

There are some important pieces of information that you need to be aware of for September:

- Children should wear school uniform to school. Please contact the school office if you need to order more uniform.
- All parents need to have signed up to ParentPay to enable them to pay for dinners, and in the future all trips and uniform orders will also be paid for through ParentPay.
- There will be no breakfast club on either site while the school develops plans to operate it in as safe a way as possible. The school is working with the Local Authority to try to enable breakfast club to take place while maintaining the 'contact groups' (each year group) which we are not allowed to mix. If this changes in the holidays, we will be in touch and rest assured, we know how much parents value it and we are doing all we can to bring it back.
- Hot school dinners will be able to be bought from the school kitchen and paid for through ParentPay. Children may bring their own healthy sandwiches if they wish. While parents of children are having money from the authority, they have to pay through ParentPay for the school lunches. If this changes, we'll let you know.
- Class start times and finish times will continue to be staggered. Please check the 'returning to school' page on the school website for information on how to enter and leave school premises.
- Children will not need to bring pencil cases. They will continue to have their own pencil case with equipment provided by the school.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

'Motivating, Engaging, Learning, Inspiring, Nurturing'

School Start and Finish Times

As mentioned earlier, we have had to continue to stagger the start and finish times for school for next year. Please follow the instructions for the entry and exit of the school grounds so we can keep all as safe as possible. Please queue up, socially distanced and your child will be called forward to the start and released to you at the end of the day. Please leave promptly through the given gate.

Class	Enter through	Start	Finish	Leave through
AM Nursery	Lower Herbert Road Gate	9.00am	11.00am	Lower Herbert Road Gate
PM Nursery	Lower Herbert Road Gate	1.00pm	3.00pm	Lower Herbert Road Gate
Reception	Lower Herbert Road Gate	8.50am	3.10pm	Lower Herbert Road Gate
Year 1	Upper Herbert Road Gate	9.00am	3.10pm	Upper Herbert Road Gate
Year 2	Upper Herbert Road Gate	8.40am	3.00pm	Upper Herbert Road Gate
Year 3	Mile End Row Gate	8.45am	3.15pm	School Road Pedestrian Gate
Year 4	Walter's Road Gate	8.45am	3.15pm	School Car Park onto School Road
Year 5	Mile End Row Gate	9.00am	3.25pm	School Road Pedestrian Gate
Year 6	Walter's Road Gate	9.00am	3.25pm	School Car Part onto School Road

Unfortunately, the staff will not be able to stay and talk to parents at the start and the end of the day as we have to minimise the contact between adults on site. If you need to speak to the teacher please ring the school on 01639 645414 or email melinprimary@npt.school and we'll get the teacher to contact you.



Notice for all visitors and staff

  **Do not enter if you have signs of a fever, a persistent cough or loss of smell/taste**

 **Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds**

 **Keep the social distancing in place between yourself and others**

Your children have had the chance to meet their new class teachers this week in school over Teams. If your child has not been in school to take advantage of this, we will be putting information up during the school holidays onto the school website. Please look at the information on the returning to school page. www.npted.org/melinprimary

Can I once again thank you all for your continued support and understanding over the course of the year and at this difficult time and please. Can I also thank my staff for their continued support for the children and the community. If you need us, get in touch by email at melinprimary@npt.school or ring 01639 645414. We are all looking forward to having all the boys and girls back in school in September.

Yours sincerely,
T. Richards
Headteacher

