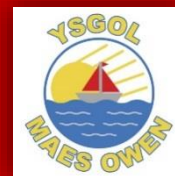


Ysgol Maes Owen



Aim to learn, learn to succeed ~ Anelu at ddysgu, dysgu i lwyddo

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have had an extremely positive start to the new school year and I hope that it will continue to prove to be both a happy and productive year for all of us. **If you have any concerns at all**, please do not hesitate to contact school and make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. Together we can solve any problems that may arise.

You may find the following information useful:

Homework

Over the last few years we have taken a more flexible approach to homework. Information will be sent home towards the end of next week.

Reading

We all know how important it is to be able read and enjoy books. At Ysgol Maes Owen we try to provide as many opportunities as possible to read and to encourage reading for enjoyment. This is done through story time, silent reading time, working with authors and the local library and events like World Book Day.

Your child will read with their class teacher in a small group. The books read in these sessions have been specially chosen and specific reading skills are taught. This book will not come home. Your child will also be given a levelled reading book or a library book which they will be able to take home to read to you and I cannot stress enough the importance of this regularly! Class teachers check that they have read to an adult at home **regularly**. Please make sure that their record book is signed when your child reads. **Books and Reading Records must be brought into school regularly and your child will receive more information regarding this from their class teacher. ANY LOST BOOKS WILL BE CHARGED FOR.**

Physical Education

PE lessons will consist of one full half day each week and **full kit will be needed**. School kit comprises of a yellow or white polo shirt, black shorts (no football kit) and pumps or trainers. For dance and gymnastics sessions, children will not wear footwear and will be expected to work bare-foot. If your child has a medical condition that prevents this, (verruca for example), they should bring a note signed by you and they should wear black plimsolls – NOT TRAINERS.

If you have additional needs relating to disability, language or cultural issues with which you require assistance at a particular school event, please contact us to arrange the assistance required.



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Please note that your child will only be excused from taking part in PE lessons if they have a note signed by you or if you have spoken to your child's class teacher directly.

All children are expected to bring their kit to be left in school and it should be brought straight back to school if it's been taken home for a wash. Please could all kit items be brought to school in a PE bag clearly labelled with your child's name. For year 5 and 6 pupils, a roll on deodorant is recommended as we don't allow sprays in school.

Pencil Cases and Bags

Please could you ensure that your child has a pencil, pen, ruler, rubber and sharpener kept inside a pencil case. If they wish they can also bring coloured pencils to school. We also expect your child to have a school bag to carry their belongings to and from school safely.

Labelling/Names

ALL clothing, lunch boxes, bags, shoes etc be clearly marked with your child's name. We are a large school and un-labelled items can very easily get mixed up and can go missing.

Snacks

In line with local authority and Welsh Assembly guidelines, we ask that your child has **fruit, raw vegetables and water only** for their morning snack. This can either be bought from our own tuck shop or can be brought in from home. Could any snacks from home be brought in a labelled bag or container, as they will be kept separate from packed lunch boxes in the children's trays.

Each year 3 child has been given a water bottle. These have been bought by the PTA. If any other children require a bottle, these will be on sale for £1.00 at the school office. (Replacement bottles for year 3 will also cost £1.00). Only water is allowed to be drunk during lesson times.

Absences and Attendance

If your child is absent for any reason, please telephone or contact the school as soon as possible/on the day of absence. Should we need to contact you to ascertain reason for absences – please return our call otherwise an unauthorised absence will be recorded against your child's name. Legally, we expect to see all children in school by 8.55am prompt every day. **If your child is late for school, they should be brought to the front door by an adult.**

Pupils will not be allowed to leave school before 3.15pm unless proof can be provided of an appointment or meeting.

In line with Conwy County Council guidelines, holidays during term time are only permitted in exceptional circumstances. Holiday application forms are available upon request from the school office and you will be responded to as soon as possible regarding your application.

Medical

If your child requires any medicines or medical devices, (such as inhaler for asthma or an epi-pen), please could you send one into school. This should be sent in a Tupperware style container with your child's name and picture attached to the box. We will then ensure that this accompanies your child on any school trips.

Any medicines need to be signed for by a parent/guardian at the school office please.

Volunteers

If you have any spare time, we would really appreciate help with listening to readers (or anything else you can turn your hand to that you think would help!). Please let us know if you are available and we can set the wheels in motion!

PTA

We have an active and enthusiastic PTA and you are all members as parents of children at our school. If you can help in any way – attending meetings, helping out at events, putting up posters, spreading the word – it would be greatly appreciated

Please follow us on Twitter **@maesowen** and use our website www.maesowen.co.uk to keep up to date.

There will be a MacMillan coffee morning on Thursday 27th September at 9.00am in the Nurture Room. Come along and find out more about our fabulous PTA and have an informal chat with us. It will be lovely to catch up with current parents and meet our Year 3 parents for the first time.

If there is anything that you are unsure of, or if I have missed anything (very possible!), please don't hesitate to let us know

Many thanks for your ongoing support,

Mrs Catrin Foulkes

(Headteacher)