



## **Foundation Phase Autumn Term Newsletter 2023**

A very big welcome back to everyone, and a special 'Hello' to all of the new children joining us this year. We are really pleased to be back in school and are looking forward to the term ahead.

Our value this term is "**Welcome**" and our topic is **Let's Celebrate!** which has an expressive arts focus and teaches children about significant happy life events that are celebrated and celebrations from different cultures. At the heart of this project children will listen to and re-tell stories from different cultures. We have organised a Samba drumming workshop which will take place on Monday the 11th September, we will be asking for a contribution of £2.00 per child to cover the cost of the workshop. We have also arranged a trip to the Mill and Talgarth to link with our story "Little Red Hen" on Thursday 12th October, more details will follow, and we have also organised a Celtic Folk Dance expressive arts workshop which will take place later this half term, details to follow.

**Morning Routine** - There is a trolley in the classroom where we ask your child to put their lunch bag and drink, before washing their hands. There are a range of table top activities set up for children to choose from before settling down to do the lunch register.

'**Show and Tell**' will take place each week on a rota basis; your child will be given two dates when they may wish to share something for 'Show and Tell' this term. Please see your child's reading record for their allocated dates. We ask that pupils bring in things that are of special interest to them, are homemade, or are related to our termly topic. We respectfully ask that no toys are brought in for 'Show and Tell'. Please help your child to prepare something to say about their chosen item.

**P.E.** will be on **Monday** this term. Please can children come dressed in their PE kits, which should be dark coloured shorts/leggings, a school T-shirt and a pair of plimsolls or daps. We will try to do this outside whenever possible, so please can children also have their school jumpers. We will try to do as much outdoor learning as possible, so it is essential that all pupils have a change of footwear (ideally **wellies**) and a **waterproof coat** in school at all times. It would be a great help if you could teach your child to dress and undress as independently as possible. Please could you make sure that all items of clothing and shoes are named to avoid mix-ups.

**Water bottles** - Please send a filled, **named** water bottle to school each day with your child, playing and learning is thirsty work!

**Snack** - We have a snack-time break at 10.30am in the mornings, all children should bring a fresh fruit/vegetable snack with them each day.

**Homework** - Y1 and 2 will have **Spelling** words sent home on Monday. Please help your child to learn these words ready for an informal test on Friday. They will also have a **Homework** book that will contain a mix of Maths or Topic based homework tasks. These will be sent home on Thursday to be completed and returned the following Monday.

**Reading** - All pupils in Foundation Phase will take part in differentiated **Guided Reading** sessions, twice a week and **Phonics** sessions three times a week. Pupils will benefit from taking part in these structured group reading sessions which will focus on discussion and comprehension. Individual **reading books** will still be sent home, Reception children should read for a couple of minutes every day and by Year 2 they should be reading for 10 minutes at least 3/4 times per week, as this is a crucial part of their learning. Record what reading has been done in their reading record. Please ensure that the reading record and reading book is brought into school every day. These individual reading books can be changed at any time.

**Bags** - Please can all children use their book bags to bring books to school. We can also use these to put homework books in as it keeps the books in a good condition. If they are also bringing a rucksack, please can these be small, as space in the cloakroom is limited and it makes it difficult for them to hang their coats on the pegs. Book bags can be ordered from <https://www.theprintsofwales.co.uk/llangattock-primary-school/>.

**Hair** - Please can all pupils with hair that is long enough to tie into a bobble, wear their hair tied up.

**Medicines** - If your child has to take any medication during school hours, please fill in one of the forms that are available from the school office and leave the medicine with a member of staff at reception.

**Communication** - We try to be a paperless school whenever possible; weekly updates, newsletters and other information from Mrs Durbin will be emailed to parents. If you are not receiving this information, please check your junk folder as well as making sure we have your up-to-date email address. Dates of upcoming events and other useful information can be found on the school website - [www.llangattock.powys.sch.uk](http://www.llangattock.powys.sch.uk). Follow us on X (formerly known as Twitter) **@Our\_Llangattock**.

Kind regards,

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### **Safeguarding and Child Protection**

*In the interest of safeguarding, we politely request that parents do not come in to school at the end of the day, including after clubs, via any entrance **other than the main entrance**.*

*If you wish to speak to the class teacher informally, then please see them before school **from 8:50am**.*

*Please note that our school secretary, Mrs Sarah Kirkwood, works morning only and I will be teaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, so no-one will be in the office during these times..*

*Thank you for your support in this matter.*

**Kathrine Durbin**