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Maes Y Mynydd School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

School Update - Wednesday 19th July

As we approach the summer holidays, I wish to share with you an end of term update and some dates for your future planning.

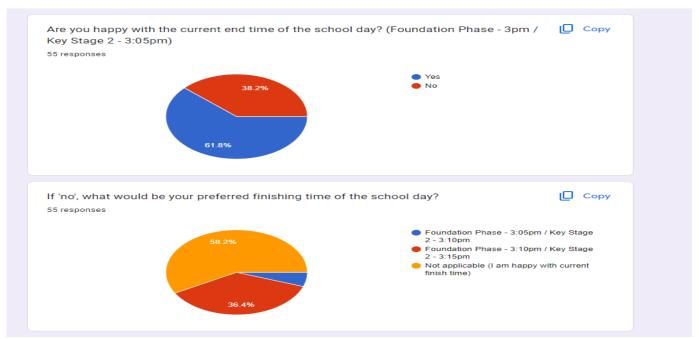
Changes to the school day

As you will be aware we have been piloting new start and finish times to the school day throughout the summer term and more recently we have asked parents/carers for their views on how the school day will look from September 1st 2023.

Following the results of the Google forms survey and discussions with the local authority I can confirm that the school day from September onwards will run as follows -

Department	School start time	School finish time
Nursery – AM session	08.50am	11.20am
Nursery – PM session	12.30pm	15.00pm
Foundation Phase	08.50am	15.00pm
Key Stage 2	08.50am	15.05pm

We had 55 responses to the survey, and the results were as follows –



We appreciate that these changes may not be welcomed by all parents/carers but we will continue to look at ways to support parents/carers into the new academic year.

Healthy Schools and Snacks

From September 2023 we will be following the Welsh Government and Wrexham local authority's approach to healthy lifestyles and healthy eating/drinking. Whilst as a school we already promote healthy lifestyles and positive food and drink choices, from September we will be going a little further with the implementation of new ideas to support healthy choices.

The biggest changes will be focussed around break time snacks and drink choices where all pupils will only be allowed to bring into school a healthy fruit/vegetable based snack and water to drink. To help with this approach all pupils in Foundation learning (Nursery to year 3) will be provided with a healthy snack and drink for a termly charge of £10 made payable through the ParentPay system. Alternatively parents/carers if they wish can pay in advance for the whole school year at a cost of £30 again made payable via ParentPay. This option will also be available to pupils in years 4, 5 & 6 as it currently is now. For those parents/carers who wish to provide their child(ren) with a snack/drink from home please be aware that it has to be a fruit/vegetable based snack and water.

Pupils will have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day with each class having a water station available.

Training Day reminder

As noted previously can also confirm that the Grango cluster has organised training days for the following dates in the 2023-24 academic year –

- Friday 1st September and Monday 4th September 2023
- Monday 6th November 2023
- Friday 22nd December 2023
- Monday 8th January 2024
- Monday 8th April 2024

As a result pupils will return to school for the 2023-24 academic year on TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme rolls out to Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6)

Since September 2022, all children in Foundation Phase (Reception to year 2) classes across Wales have been able to have free meals at school, and from September 2023 Universal Primary Free School Meals will be rolled out to **Key Stage 2 pupils (years 3-6)** in Wrexham as well. This is the third stage of the Welsh Government response to the rising cost of living pressures on families, tackling poverty and ensuring no pupil goes hungry in school.

For any parents/carers whose child(ren) are in years 3 to 6 from September who are currently 'sandwiches' and you wish them to have a school dinner after the summer holidays then please order your meal through the ParentPay system. Should you require any further information then please speak with Mrs Prach in the school office who will be able to help.

Should you require any further information in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Yours sincerely

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Mr D Lloyd Headteacher