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Learning and Loving, Caring and Sharing
Dysgu a Charu, Gofalu a Rhannu

St Mary's Primary School
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YSGOL GYNRADD Y SANTES FAIR
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mrs R F Acton B.Ed Hons, NPQH
Headteacher/Pennaeth

4.9.23

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: - Welcome Back to School September 2023

I has been a joy to welcome all children back to school today after the summer break. I hope that you have all enjoyed a restful, fun-filled holiday with your families, despite the disappointing weather. I am pleased to say that the children look very smart in their new school uniforms, and everyone has made a very positive and promising start to the new school year. Thank you for your continued support as always.

Universal Free School Meals- rollout to include ALL pupils

As communicated at the end of last year, from today the Welsh Government is funding Universal Free School Meals for **ALL** primary aged children from Reception to Year 6. This means that parents no longer need to pay for school meals in St. Mary's. If parents are in receipt of eligible benefits and support payments, please make an application to the Local Authority if you have not previously done so. Making this application will allow eligible parents to access school uniform and equipment grants, and will also ensure that our school receives the correct amount of funding from Welsh Government. [Free school meals | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

Please note- It is vital that all parents pre-order school meals each day via the Parent Pay website to ensure that the cook can order and prepare enough food for everyone. Teachers should not be ordering meals in school. If you have any questions, please ask the school office.

Just by way of a few quick reminders at the start of a new school year

Attendance & Punctuality

- School gates open at 08:45 in the morning and close at 08:55. Gates open at 11:30 for Nursery collection and again at 15:15 at the end of the school day for Reception to Year 6.
- Children who arrive after 08:55 and before 09:15 will be marked late in the register



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- The school registers close after 09:15 after which time, children will be marked absent

Uniform and Presentation

- Full school uniform should be worn every day except on PE days. PE kit may be worn to school on class PE day.
- ALL children should wear **black school shoes**. Black trainers are not school uniform.
- Long hair (below shoulder-length) should be tied back
- Hairstyles should be kept sensible. Shaven heads (including extreme variance in hair grades and shaved lines in the hair), hair colours, tramlines, excessive spikes, fancy designs and coloured braids etc. are not acceptable and are not part of our school uniform policy.
- One pair of small stud earrings may be worn to school. No hoop earrings or other fancy earrings

Healthy Schools' awards

- In accordance with our Platinum Eco and Healthy Schools' Awards and Welsh Government guidance, we ask that all children bring a refillable water bottle to school to drink during the day- no juice/ fizzy drinks please (Year 1-Year 6)
- All children should bring fruit/ vegetable sticks only for snack- Monday to Thursday. On Friday, children are allowed to bring a 'treat' for their morning snack, if they wish- e.g. chocolate/ biscuits, crisps- no sweets/ lollies please. Please note:- Nursery and reception receive a healthy fruit snack each day (£1 per week)

The governors, staff and children are justifiably very proud of the excellent standards that we uphold at St Mary's and we thank all parents for their continued support and compliance with our high standards and expectations.

As always, if parents have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff.

We look forward to another happy, successful and exciting year ahead.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R F Acton'.

Mrs R F Acton,

Headteacher

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