

10TH FEBRUARY 2023

ST ETHELWOLD'S VA SCHOOL



Good afternoon and welcome to your weekly St Ethelwold's VA School newsletter.

Firstly, news that next week's planned industrial action has been postponed as union members consider a revised deal. If the deal is not accepted, strikes are planned to go ahead on the following dates:

Thursday March 2nd
Wednesday March 15th
Thursday March 16th

We will give you as much notice as we get and ensure that you know of any intended action as soon as possible.

On Tuesday of this week, we welcomed environmental charity, Size of wales, to the school. They worked with each class and you can see what the pupils got up to later in the newsletter.

Class 3 worked with Theatre Clwyd this week as two of their staff visited school to teach violin. The first session started off with singing so that the children got used to scales before moving on to how to hold the violin and plucking the strings. Using a bow will come a little later but the children all enjoyed their first session.

Class 1 enjoyed a very well attended Stay and Play day this morning where parents and carers visited class and joined in activities with their children. There was an outside obstacle course, a painting station, craft table and whole array of other activities set up. We plan these days each half term and are happy to see that they are so well received.

We are sorry to announce that when we return from the half term break, Breakfast Club prices will rise from the current 75p per person (maximum of £1.50 per family) to £1 per person (maximum of £2 per family). We understand that times are tough for everyone at the moment but that this still represents exceptional value for breakfast and 50 minutes childcare.

A reminder that next Friday 17th February is a teacher training day and school is closed to pupils from Thursday 16th February until we return from the half term holiday on Monday 27th February.

We hope you all have a fabulous weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Diary Dates

17th February- INSET day. Not open to students

18th February- Half Term starts

27th February- School re-opens

6th-10th March- Assessment week

13th- 16th March- Chester zoo providing workshops in school. Year 1-6



Size of Wales is a unique charity that is making Wales part of the global solution to climate change.

Their vision is to help create a future where forest communities can thrive alongside healthy tropical forests- to make our nation part of the solution, rather than part of the problem.

St Ethelwold's welcomed 3 outreach teachers from the charity who guided us through the risk to the world's rainforests and how we can help to minimise these.

Children in class 1 and 2 spent the morning learning all about the different rainforests of the world. We had a look at what animals live in each rainforest and what is special about these animals. We even became explorers and went through a rainforest on the hunt to save Elon the elephant! We had such a fun morning and got to end the session with a story all about Elon whilst enjoying a cup of hot chocolate!

Class 4 explored the location of all the rainforests around the globe and the dangers that each one was facing. This helped them realise the extent of the threat and the importance of raising awareness - the children decorated plastic bottles to represent those dangers and shot them into the sky to raise awareness.



Safeguarding at St Ethelwold's VA School

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- Preventing harm to children's health or development
- Ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

All staff at St Ethelwold's VA School are highly trained in Safeguarding Procedures and are vigilant at all times to any Safeguarding concern

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away. The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads at St Ethelwold's VA School.

- Mr Oliver (sehead@hwbcymru.net)
- Mrs Blackburn (blackburnl9@hwbcymru.net)

Both Mr Oliver and Mrs Blackburn have been trained to L3 Safeguarding

The governor lead for safeguarding is Chair of Governors Gary Cooper (cooperG27@hwbcymru.net)

You can also contact the school office on 01244 812932 with any Safeguarding enquiry and we will direct you to the appropriate person.

Children's Services can be contacted on 01352 701000. If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police immediately on 999.

Lord, we ask You to grant us the virtue of patience. We pray that it may mellow us, not harden or embitter us, that it may make us not irritable. That it may make us broad in our forgiveness, and never narrow, proud or overbearing.