

22ND  
APRIL 2024



Good afternoon and welcome to the first newsletter of the Summer Term.

Firstly, I have some staffing news. Mrs Blackburn has decided to leave the school to pursue a new career challenge. We see her leave with sadness but wish her well for her future endeavours. Miss Gorrell will continue in Class 2 whilst the Governing Body meet to plan how we will structure the school moving forward and I will communicate this to you as soon as the information can be shared.

We have some important dates for you below which we will also post on our Facebook page:

## Diary Dates

24th April- Year 3- BBC Now musical performance  
1st May- Fluoride Varnish. Nursery-Year 2  
6th May- Bank Holiday. School closed  
7th & 8th May- Parents Evening  
13th-24th May- Assessment weeks  
23rd May- Parents Open Day. TBC  
27th-31st May- HALF-TERM  
7th June- Class 2 swimming lessons start  
19th-21st June- Bardsey Pilgrimage  
24th June- Diversity & Refuge week  
27th June- Whole School transition day  
4th July- Sports Day  
16th July- Leavers' Service

Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM) - It is Welsh Government's aim that every child in primary school in Wales will be eligible for a universal primary free school meal (UPFSM) by 2024, regardless of household income. There will be no forms to fill in. Receiving a UPFSM in this way does not automatically entitle families to receive other **benefits such as school essentials grants**. For more information on UPFSM go to: [www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Free-School-Meals.aspx](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Free-School-Meals.aspx)

Free School Meals (eFSM) - Some families who meet certain criteria, for example those on lower incomes or in receipt of certain benefits, are entitled to receive a free school meal (eFSM).

On a successful application for eFSM families are then eligible for other benefits to cover the cost of school essentials such as school essentials grants (PDG).

Even though the roll out of UPFSM will begin in September 2022, and eligible year groups will begin to receive free school meals, **families who are eligible for eFSM should continue to use the eFSM application process to ensure they don't lose out on other benefits.**

Applications can be made at: <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-Tax-and-Benefits-and-Grants/Free-School-Meals-and-School-Essentials-Grants.aspx>

## 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](mailto:sehead@hwbcymru.net))

·Mrs Ellis ([ellisr221@hwbcymru.net](mailto:ellisr221@hwbcymru.net))

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

The governor lead for safeguarding is Chair of Governors Gary Cooper ([cooperG27@hwbcymru.net](mailto: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.