



FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2024

ST ETHELWOLD'S VA SCHOOL

Welcome to your St Ethelwold's VA School Newsletter.

I would like to congratulate Abigayil Miller on her recent election to Chair of Governors of St Ethelwold's VA School. Abigayil excelled in her roll as vice chair in the last year, visiting school and challenging us to meet targets and provide evidence of doing so. Abigayil was elected in by her fellow Governors at the last Governing Body Meeting.

Whilst we are happy with Abigayil's appointment there is a tinge of sadness that Gary Cooper is no longer in the roll. Gary has served as a Governor in this school for 27 years and latterly as chair of governors for 5 years. He has always had the school's best interests at heart and has been a great ambassador for the community, the pupils and the school - we will miss his dedication and hope that he stays in touch and keeps visiting us

The school year started, as I am sure you have picked up, with one of our pupils suffering a serious road accident a few weeks ago. The pupil was airlifted to Alder Hey hospital, where they remain in a stable condition and we await news of when they will return to school. This accident was devastating for the family, who, under the most harrowing pressure, have managed to remain strong, courageous and positive and I know that they have appreciated the support from you, the parents of pupils from St Ethelwold's.

We were amazed by the response from the emergency services, particularly the Welsh Air Ambulance - an organisation which does not receive any government funding and relies entirely on voluntary donations and support - and as such we will be holding a charity event for them, details of which are below:

Sponsored Walk up Moel Famau in aid of Welsh Air Ambulance
Sunday 24th November 10am

Staff are inviting all parents to take part in a sponsored walk up Moel Famau. Bring your children, your family and your dogs!

I am meeting with Debra Sima who is the Regional Fundraising Manager of Welsh Air Ambulance and after that meeting I will send more details of how to fundraise for the event.



We have had a number of visitors to school so far this year. Wellies in the Woods is into it's third week this week and we have also welcomed Kerry from Deeside Community Trust to teach rugby to our Year 3 and 4. Tia from Big Stars Theatre School is back with us on Mondays and Thursdays and Harry the Dog visits on Mondays. I have worked with Leyla Beattie who is helping to coordinate our application and work to become a School of Sanctuary and I will bring you news of any events around this when we have them.



Lead us
everyday to
the way of
humility and
openness to
your will. We
ask this
through
Christ, our
Lord

We are still looking for parents to form a parent council. Members of the parent council would have a meeting with a member of school staff each half term where you would put forward the views of parents, whether it's homework, lost jumpers, school dinners or school communication, we will listen to you and try to act on it. If you are interested in this role, please contact either Mrs Duggan or me.

This week we have started a Harvest Collection in School, if you would like to donate, please bring tins, packets and dry foods - all donations will be given to Flintshire Foodbank.

Lastly could I remind you that all pupils should have a bottle of water in school every day. Children are able to refill their bottle during the day should they run out, but we are not able to provide cups or beakers if a child does not have a bottle. If your child does not have a bottle, we will contact you to provide one.

Safeguarding at St Ethelwold's

All staff have been trained in Safeguarding procedures and it is timely to remind you of how we ensure your children are always safeguarded in school:

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 Ellis (ellisr221@hwbcymru.net)

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

The governor lead for safeguarding is Chair of Governors Abigayil Miller (millera85@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.