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Update Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write with a very brief update to keep you informed of things going on in school. Since I last wrote, I have enjoyed meeting many parents at a series of coffee mornings/afternoons. It was great to meet everyone and to gain a perspective of how parents would like to see the school develop. I am very eager to ensure that parents continue to play a very active role within the life of the school. With that in mind, I hope you have all received the list of important diary dates. If you haven't, please inform your child's class teacher.

I have visited all but one of our satellite provisions. I am really impressed with the provision and it's been lovely to meet pupils and staff.

I have also been really pleased to welcome an orchestra group into school to work with a number of pupils. It is clear that pupils have enjoyed these experiences and we look to add many more performing arts events throughout the year.

I'm delighted to inform you that our Department 2 football team took part in an interschool tournament in Bridgend and won every single match! I was very pleased to present them with their trophy and certificates in assembly. As a school, we have a clear ambition to improve pupils' access to physical activity including sport and I look forward to seeing how this develops.

Curriculum and Progression

Staff have been busy with our continued work in relation to the new curriculum in Wales. We are continuing to have many purposeful conversations about what progression looks like in our amazing school. We have completed a new baseline of pupils on a new assessment framework which aligns better with the requirements of Curriculum for Wales. We are also developing a new way of recording the work of our pupils which clearly demonstrates the significant progress they make in all aspects of their formal and informal learning. We look forward to sharing this work with parents/carers when it's completed.

Building Developments

The building work also continues to develop well. At the time of writing, the contractor is working on the drainage and the ground works which will support the new extension. It's been great to interact with the builders and many pupils are really enjoying seeing machinery on site. We are of course sensitive to pupils who find this noisy and are working hard to support them.

Over the next week, temporary fences will be erected around the foundation phase/primary playgrounds at the front of the school. This will ensure pupils, will be able to access these



playgrounds as part of their learning. The hydrotherapy pool works are also on track and I'm confident this will be ready for use by October Half Term.

Over the next few weeks, the main entrance to school will change temporarily. This is necessary to allow builders the space to remove the main canopy outside the current main entrance. The new temporary entrance will be located next to the nurses' room and still accessed off the main carpark. We have developed a social story to help pupils become accustomed to this change.

I thought it would be useful to include some architect's drawings of what the new extension will look like just in case you haven't seen them. I'm sure you will agree that they look wonderful. The work is on schedule.



As always, if you have any concerns, questions or ideas...my door is always open.

With very best wishes
David Jenkins


Executive Headteacher

