



Half-Term Update

It has been quite a term since September and I am sure all the children are ready for a rest. It has been a wonderful end to the half term by celebrating 'Spooky Day' and trying to give the children a positive Halloween experience that they are unable to have trick or treating this year due to national restrictions. We want to say the biggest thank you to all those staff members and pupils that have had to isolate to keep others safe. It is hard not to be able to step foot outside the front door or to have anyone at all enter the family home so the biggest thank you to you all for following the rules to keep our community safe.

This half term will be different and one that is quite restrictive for all of us. Take the time to enjoy your time at home and with your household family. We hope that in the not too distant future that life will return to some form of 'normal' and that we can enjoy and celebrate Christmas with our loved ones. Keep safe all.

Keeping Safe during National Lockdown

We will be making some adjustments in order to restrict the amount of adults attending the school during this national lockdown period and to keep the community safe. From the first day back after half-term, only 1 adult that lives in the household will be able to pick up and drop off children. We will **not** be handing over children to parents in other households as this is not permitted in the national lockdown regulations. Please be vigilant with your children over half term and take this opportunity to have quality time together as a family.

Knowledge Organiser

Your child will be coming home with a copy of a knowledge organiser for home learning today. This will supplement the 'Genius' homework. It includes key areas of learning that your child needs for this term in Literacy and Numeracy (at the front of the booklet). It is important that we promote the use of the Knowledge Organiser as much as possible over to encourage children to develop their learning. On the inside of the you'll be able to see the reward scheme in place for the number of activities completed. Each child will have their own 'learning passport' which will be stamped and signed by the class teacher once an activity is completed. There are also milestones (bronze, silver, gold) certificates and badges to be awarded when a certain number of activities have been completed. When children reach the milestones photos of some activities and certificates will be shared on Twitter and class teams. We are in the process of sourcing lanyards that children can attach their badges to and collect (just like Disney World). Please encourage your child to complete these to a high standard to be awarded a completed stamp!

We are looking at the 'handing in' of knowledge organiser activities and we're swaying towards creating a file on teams titled 'knowledge organiser' and then having individual

HEADTEACHER.

MR. S. CLARKE

BERTHA ROAD
MARGAM
PORT TALBOT
SA13 2AN

www.ysgolcwmbrombil.co.uk

TEL: (01639) 760110

EMAIL: ysgolcwmbrombil@npt.school

[@ysgolcwmbrombil](https://twitter.com/ysgolcwmbrombil) 



pupil files within that. Here, children will be able to upload their knowledge organiser learning to a specific location. We will keep you updated on class teams as to how to do this.

INSET Day

Reminder, the first Monday after half term is an INSET day for pupils. Pupils will return to school on Tuesday 3rd November. Staggered starts will continue to be in place until further notice.

Breakfast Club

Our emergency breakfast club will resume on Tuesday 3rd November for pupils that have already been attending. If your circumstances have changed and you would like your child to attend please contact me on keyk2@hwbcymru.net

Free School Meal Payments

You may be aware that the government has agreed to paying all pupils entitled to free school meals during the holiday periods, including Easter. This will be paid directly into your bank account. Since the first week in October, all pupils that have been self-isolating on advice from 'Track and Trace' will receive payments. These are processed automatically on information that is supplied to us from them and you as parents. If you have been advised to take a test or self-isolate please contact us immediately.

Communication

Can I remind you it is vital that we are able to contact you via telephone and e-mail under the current situation. If you change your number or are not receiving regular e-mails, please contact Mrs Gaunt in the office to provide us with up to date information.

School Meals

These will resume as normal after half term so there is no need for packed lunches if you would like your child to have a hot dinner. May I remind you all the importance of a healthy packed lunch and to send water in daily with your child. Please make sure the children have breakfast in the morning before starting school.

School Photographs

The photographer will be taking school photographs on Tuesday 3rd October. Unfortunately, we are unable to take sibling photographs this time again due to restrictions around breaking 'bubbles'. A text went out to say that if we do not hear from you we will automatically accept consent. If you do not want your child to be photographed, please contact Mrs Gaunt. The children will come home with a code and all photographs can be viewed online and purchased directly from the company, further information will follow.

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Children in Need

The children can come to school dressed in Pudsey Bear clothing or anything that resembles the theme for a donation! Get creative and start painting and designing some clothes over the holidays, It's a great activity to do together during lockdown.

Families Struggling

We understand that life is very difficult for many of our families and community members at the moment. We are extremely proud of the work that our school carries out to support families in a variety of ways. This includes access to our school food bank, food bank vouchers for Port Talbot, help with learning materials amongst a lot of other things! If you know of any organisation or friends/family member that would like to donate, please get in touch. We will also be launching our 'YCB Christmas Child Appeal' after half term, more details to follow.

Please do not struggle- we are here to help. Contact me if you need anything at all (keyk2@hwbcymru.net). Information is extremely confidential- we all need help from time to time.

Dates for the Calendar

The photographer

Date:	Event:
3 rd November	INSET Day
11 th November	Theme Day for Year 1 and 2 (see class newsletter for details)
12 th November	Fluenz vaccination (Reception children – Year 6)
13 th November	Children in Need
16 th November	Anti-bullying Week
17 th November	Theme Day for Year 3 and 4 (see class newsletter for details)
24 th and 26 th November	Virtual Parents Evening
2 nd December	Theme Day for Nursery and Reception (see class newsletter for details)

Lastly, I would like to thank all our families and extended friends for all your continued support. If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (keyk2@hwbcymru.net) and I will try my best to answer your questions as quickly as possible.

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YSGOL CWM BROMBIL

FORGING FUTURES TOGETHER

Kate Key
Primary Phase Leader

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