

**Ysgol Llwyn yr Eos, Penparcau, Aberystwyth,SY23 1SH**

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**Pennaeth/Headteacher: Mr Brian Evans**

Tuesday July 2nd 2019

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your child was moved up to their new class today as a taster ready for September. Foundation Phase classes will be taught by:

**Nursery: Mrs Louise Flynn**

**Reception: Miss Ceri Bonner**

**Year 1: Mrs Lucy Davies**

**Year 2: Mrs Donna Fitches**

The four resource bases will be taught by the same teachers:

**ALC 1/Dolphin: Miss Kay Sandford/Miss Jenny Mansfield**

**ALC 2: Mrs Kath Gaskell**

**Pili Pala: Miss Laura Mayos**

**Enfys: Mr Nic Pugh**

We have had to make some changes in Key Stage 2 due to rising pupil figures and budgetary cuts that have seen us go from 5 classes back to 4. The 4 classes will be taught by the following teachers:

**Eos 1: Miss Anne Johnson/Miss Catrin Arthur (26 year 3 pupils and 6 year 4 pupils)**

**Eos 2: Mr Emlyn Jones (20 year 4 pupils and 13 year 5 pupils)**

**Eos 3: Mrs Leah Hargreaves (32 year 5 pupils)**

**Eos 4: Mrs Jane Thorogood (28 year 6 pupils)**

Mixed-age classes are common in schools in the local area and pupils are not at a disadvantage if they are in a mixed age class. Over the page you will find some of the frequently asked questions and our response to them.

 **Why does my child have to be in a mixed age class?**

Unfortunately, we are in a position where we have had to cut back from 5 classes to 4 in Key Stage 2 due to budgetary cuts by the LEA. We will however be running 5 classes for literacy and numeracy for the Autumn Term.

**Why can’t the year group be taught in one class together?**

Whilst it is possible to have larger classes in Key Stage 2, I do not believe it is beneficial for pupils to be taught in large classes. If I organised our KS2 classes like that, we would have some classes exceeding 35 pupils, one of which would be a class of 44.

 **Is my child covering the same curriculum?**

All pupils will be covering literacy and numeracy in the morning lessons. Children will be set according to their ability for these lessons. The afternoon lessons will follow themes that change every half term. These themes cover all aspects of the national curriculum and children then use literacy, numeracy and ICT skills that they have been taught in the morning lessons in their work.

**Is my child disadvantaged by working with children in a younger or older year group?**

No. All pupils are taught according to their ability. We set the children in mixed age and ability groups for the morning lessons and the work will be differentiated accordingly in the afternoon lessons. Our teachers are skilled professionals and manage this effectively - it is what they are trained to do.

Sometimes work given is challenging – pupils are learning something new and will be supported with this.

Sometimes work given is felt to be easy – this is useful as evidence that your child has securely understood the topic

Usually work is somewhere in between, so your child can work independently but still needs to think about what they are doing as they apply their learning.

**How do I know my child is making progress?**

The class teacher assesses your child constantly in many different ways. This helps them to plan learning opportunities to ensure your child will make progress.

Each term teachers assess the sublevel that your child is working at in reading, writing, maths and Welsh and that data is put into our tracking system. We then look at the progress of all pupils to identify those that may be falling behind. If your child does not make expected progress in one term, it does not necessarily mean they are falling behind – pupils all learn at different rates so they may catch up the following term, but we keep an eye on them to ensure this is the case.

If we are concerned that your child is making below expected progress, then you will be informed and we will discuss the support that we will put in place to help them get back on track.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brian Evans

Head teacher