

20th March 2024

re: WM/ParentsCarersLetter/March2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you're well.

It's been a fantastic term across the Federation where our pupils have once again achieved great outcomes as part of their learning.

We've again held a number of fantastic events over the Federation over the last few weeks and it's been lovely to see how much our pupils have enjoyed the events within the schools as well as across the Federation. A few highlights from the term are:

- World Book Day where our pupils and staff came into schools dressed up bringing in their favourite books
- Welsh Fayre on St David's Day where we celebrated Welsh food and culture
- Red Nose Day where pupils and staff came together to support this great cause

Western Learning Federation Magazine

I'm again delighted to share with you the latest edition of our Western Learning Federation Magazine, please visit the Federation website to access key information and highlights across the spring term: [Magazine | Western Learning Federation](#)

Building works and Estates developments

As you'll know there is significant growth within our schools and I'm delighted to share some updates in relation to the ongoing building works, projects and estates developments across the Federation:

Riverbank School

Development of a Sensory Room: I'm so pleased that we have renovated our garage and created a wonderful, fun, innovative and creative learning environment for the pupils across the school and launched this exciting opportunity on the 4th March 2024. A special thanks to Gary Board our Estates Manager who worked incredibly hard on this project. I've attached a link to our Twitter feed to show the video of the new provision:

<https://x.com/CardiffWestern/status/1765461494681006370?s=20> .

Outdoor surfacing for our Modular Accommodation: Over the Easter Break, we will be installing some outdoor surfacing on our new modular accommodation to enhance the pupil play and learning experience

Ty Gwyn School

Extension Building Project: As you'll know from my previous letter, we've been working with Cardiff Council over the last year to develop three additional classrooms alongside some intervention spaces and I'm happy to confirm that this project is in its final few weeks before it's officially handed over to the Federation. Staff have recently had a number of walks and tours of this new area and it's looking fantastic- a huge thank you to everyone involved.

Woodlands School:

Ocean Park offsite provision: As we continue to develop the offsite provision at Ocean Park, I have some really positive news to share, works have been completed on our quiet learning area providing additional intervention and learning space for our pupils.

Furthermore, works have also been completed on the kitchen area which now means pupils who access Ocean Park can choose from a hot meal provision, which will be **available from Monday 8th April 2024**. As Parents/Carers you can make this choice on ParentPay each day or the pupils can let the staff know each day if they wish to have a hot meal. I'd like to thank you for your patience over the past few months whilst the Council complete all renovation works on these areas, it's not gone unnoticed.

Fairwater Campus

We continue to work at pace with colleagues across the Council and wider as plans continue to move forward in relation to this fantastic opportunity. Some of our recent meetings have been in relation to the Furniture, Fixtures and fittings, active travel strategy as well as internal and external finishes. I'm hopeful in the new term dates will be shared with you as part of ongoing Parent/Carer engagement sessions with the Council.

School Meal Prices

Cardiff Council Education Catering have informed us that there is an increase in School Meals, per meal, with the new prices below:

Primary age pupils

- Current price is £2.75 per meal and the new price is £2.85 per meal, and increase of £0.10p per meal

Secondary age pupils

- Current price is £3.30 per meal and the new price is £3.40 per meal, and increase of £0.10p per meal

We understand times are difficult financially, if you require any support, please contact the school admin offices who will signpost you to the Councils support teams.

Pupil ICT devices

Cardiff Council ICT have asked us to contact you to request that if any of our pupils have any school ICT at home i.e. iPads, Chromebooks etc, please can they be returned to schools after the Easter break as the devices may have gone into locked mode and will require updating.

Easter Activities

We understand that sometimes, identifying activities over the Easter break maybe difficult, so I've outlined some possible activities that may interest you following information that was shared with us from Cardiff and Vale Disability Index:

AP Cymru

25 March Family Experience Session - Buzz Trampoline Park

27 March Family Experience Session - Colliers Farm

2 April Family Experience Session - Party - Jump

4 April Family Experience Session - Mountain View Ranch

To take part in their inclusive activities for neurodiverse children, young people and their families or to join their charity you can find further information on their website, by phone or <https://www.apcymru.org.uk/>

Cathays Inclusive Holiday Project (Cathays Community Centre)

[Inclusive Youth Provision \(Holiday Schemes\) | Cathays & Central Youth & Community Project](#)

SNAP Cymru

<https://www.apcymru.org.uk/>

Please see the term dates for 2023-24 below:

Summer Term 2024

Starts: Monday 8 April 2024 (**Not Riverbank Pupils, Inset Day Dates below**)

Half term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Ends: Monday 22 July 2024

Please see below the remaining Inset Days for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Riverbank	Ty Gwyn	Woodlands
8 th April 2024	24 th May 2024	28 th June 2024
22 nd July 2024	22 nd July 2024	22 nd July 2024

WESTERN LEARNING FEDERATION

Mr Wayne Murphy - Executive Headteacher
Miss Rachel Faulkner - Deputy Executive Headteacher
Ffordd Vincent/Vincent Road, Trelái/Ely, Caerdydd/Cardiff, CF5 5AQ



I'd like to wish you a happy and enjoyable Easter break and we'll see you in the new term.

Yours sincerely,

Wayne Murphy

Mr W A Murphy- **Executive Head Teacher, Western Learning Federation**