PONTNEWYDD PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: **Ann-Marie Maloney**

Chair of Governors: **Steve Evans**

23rd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Urgent: School Closure Due to Extreme Weather Warning on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June 2026

In preparation for the red weather warning for Wednesday and Thursday of this week, we have undertaken a comprehensive health and safety risk assessment of our school buildings and grounds. Since Monday, we have been experiencing very high temperatures on site, and the forecast is expected to increase further. After careful consideration of all available information, including Met Office guidance, advice from the Local Authority and Welsh Government, discussions with local headteachers, and support from the Chair of Governors we have made an informed decision **to fully close the school on Wednesday and Thursday this week.**

Please find the details of the key arrangements for the closure below:

- **We will be moving to blended learning. Work will be posted via Dojo and staff will be available throughout the day for the children or parents to message.**
- **Free School Meals: Pupils who are eligible for free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch to be collected from school at 9.00am tomorrow morning. LRB pupils will be bringing a lunch home today.**

This decision has been made to keep pupils and staff safe with the following factors being a particular influence:

- Increasing classroom temperatures, making it difficult to maintain a safe and comfortable learning environment.
- A lack of shade onsite and the need to ensure all pupils are appropriately protected from the sun, including access to shade and suitable protective measures during unstructured times.
- The risks associated with journeys to and from school during the hottest part of the day, particularly as a number of pupils use transport, when extreme temperatures may make travel unsafe and pupils unprotected.

During periods of extreme heat, the temptation to cool off in open water is incredibly high. We urgently ask all families to speak to their children about the severe dangers of swimming in local lakes, rivers, reservoirs, and quarries. Cold water shock, hidden currents, and underwater hazards can be fatal, even for strong swimmers. Please reinforce the message to keep away from these areas entirely during this hot spell.
Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and swift support as we adapt to these unusual conditions to keep our community safe.

We will be open as usual on Friday and we look forward to seeing all pupils back in school.

Yours sincerely,

A Maloney
Headteacher