



Penygarn Community Primary School

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2016

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Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

What a busy start to the year we have had.

News

We offer our congratulations to Mrs S Rodda who was successful in her application for a Deputy Headteacher at a school in Newport to commence in January 2017. Well done Mrs Rodda we are so proud of you! You deserve it but oh my word we are going to miss you.

Bumblebees



The Bumblebees have all settled so well into Nursery! We have been drawing self-portraits and are learning about a different colour each week.

We made beautiful owls with our families on our 'Stay and Play' day. Thank you to all who attended. We are going to learn all about owls and night time. We also love our camp site role play and love to have picnics under the stars!

Foxes and Bats

Reception have had a wonderful start to their first year in school! They have been busy making new friends, learning our classroom/school routines and getting to know their school environment. We have started our topic "When I fall asleep" and the children have been busy making things for their sleepy zone role play.



We have also been learning all about autumn and on our "Stay and Play" on Wednesday 5th October we made real life Scarecrows for our garden. Thank you all for your support!

Woodpeckers



Woodpeckers have settled in really well to their new classroom and lots of children have been sharing their special memories with the class. We have started to find out about the Great Fire of London and about Samuel Peyps. We were very lucky when our local Fire Brigade visited our school on Tuesday 27th September 2016 to tell us about their job and how they keep safe.



I will be keeping you up to date with various news via the dojo messaging service so please make sure you are signed up to receive updates. If you need another invite please let Mrs Bailey know.

Mrs Parfitt will be leaving us for a short while to have an operation but Mrs Dumbleton will replace her until she returns.

Reminder - Please can all money be put in a labelled envelope. PE is on a Tuesday.

Badgers

The Badgers have been super busy learning all about the Great Fire of London. We have been learning about it using the information recorded in Samuel Pepys' diary.

The pupils have also enjoyed learning about fire safety. Last week we had a visit from New Inn Fire Station, they told us all about the different jobs they attend, how they keep themselves safe and how we can keep ourselves safe around fires and what to do in an emergency. We were very lucky and were able to climb aboard the fire engine and use the hose!

Just a reminder that if you would like a parents evening appointment please returns forms to Miss Richards as soon as possible otherwise a time will be allocated to you.

I would like to say a big thank you for your support regarding PE kits, three quarters of the class are now brining in PE kits.

Otters and Dormice



Year 5 have had a very busy couple of weeks. Many of the children went to Llangorse Lake on a camping trip and took part in bush craft, raft building, hill walking, climbing, abseiling and kayaking. Some of us got a little bit wet...!!

The pupils developed their independence skills, thinking skills and team building skills too and had a wonderful time in the process. Well done to all of the pupils who set themselves challenges and achieved them; we are very proud of you!



The pupils who remained in school took part in a Design Technology project making Tudor Houses. They had to research structures and the style of Tudor houses before constructing one in pairs. These will be on display for you to see at Parent Consultations.





Pupils also visited Pontypool Library this week to find out more about the Tudors. They learnt about the Tudor monarchs and created their own Tudor roses. Pupils were allowed to borrow books, but these must be returned to the library by 25th October 2016. If you are unable to get to the library, send them into school and we will return them.

Now that Pontypool Active Living Centre pool has reopened all pupils will be attending swimming lessons weekly. All pupils need to bring goggles and as the weather gets colder girls will need a swimming cap so as they don't have wet hair all day.

Buzzards and Red Kites

We had a fabulous start to our new school term in Year 6. We were happy to receive the children's home learning and they are displayed in the classroom if you would like to come in and see them.

We spent the first week finding out about our class animal and now feel that we are experts!

We have begun work on our new topic - The Tudors and have begun some research already. We are studying Shakespeare for our Language focus and are reading *The Tempest* (which is really exciting).

In Maths, we are focussing on number and making sure we are confident with the bead bar, magic stick and place value boards.

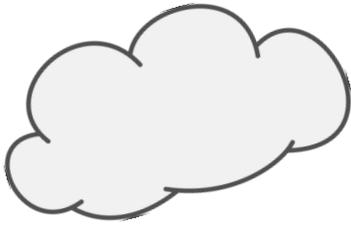
In science our topic is Electricity and we have already had many 'lightbulb' moments. We have been making circuits and finding out about conductors and insulators.

We have a trip to Pontypool Library planned soon where we will be involved in researching The Tudors and taking part in some craft activities.

Thank you for your donations for the Harvest Festival which were gratefully received by the food bank. Mr Big came into school and personally thanked us for the generous donations, which really do make a difference to individual lives.

Please remember that PE is on a Monday and ALL children are expected to bring their kit to school (it may be easier to leave it in school) as it is a statutory part of the curriculum.





Children have enjoyed their first few climbing sessions. They have overcome some fears already! If your child is not attending this session, they will have the opportunity later on in the year to do so.

We have some transfer days coming up to the secondary schools so keep your eyes open for letters informing you of the dates (they can also be found on the website).

Dinner Money

Torfaen Catering have introduced a new policy which means that a child will be refused a school dinner if a parent owes for five meals. All debts must be paid in full before a child may resume using the service.

If you think that your child/children are entitled to free meals or you require any further information please contact school or call the Catering team on 01633 647715 or visit their website at www.torfaen.gov.uk.

Litter

We have an unacceptable amount of litter on school grounds. Please can I remind you to either take your litter home or put it in the bins provided around the school.

Yours sincerely

L Sellars
Headteacher





Dates for your Diary

11.10.16	11.15 am - NAM - Christmas card Sale 2.45 pm - whole school - Christmas card sale Reception - Birds of Prey
17.10.16	Parent Consultations this week Book Fair Arrives - please support us!
18.10.16	Year 3/4 visit Caerleon Museum
21.10.16 - 24.10.16	HALF TERM
02.11.16	Curriculum Evening 6.00 pm - parents welcome
03.11.16	Flu Immunisation for Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3
08.11.16	Individual Photographs, Family groups, Siblings, KS1
09.11.16	KS2 individual Photographs
16.11.16	6.00 pm - Curriculum Evening - Anti-Bullying
18.11.16	Children In Need - 'Wear spots' £1.00 Donation
02.12.16	Christmas Bazaar organised by the PTA - 3.30 pm
6.12.16	10.00 am - Year 1/2 Christmas Concert 'Hey Ewe' 2.15 pm - Year 1/2 Christmas Concert 'Hey Ewe'
07.12.16	Abersychan Pantomime - Year 6 Beauty and the Beast 10.00 am - Reception Concert 'Whoops A Daisy Angel' 2.15 pm - Reception Concert 'Whoops A Daisy Angel'





08.12.16	11.00 am - Nursery Concert - small hall 2.30 pm - Nursery Concert - small hall 6.00 pm - Year 5/6 Carol Concert
12.12.16	6.00 pm - Year 3/4 Christmas Concert
13.12.16	2.00 pm - Year 3/4 Christmas Concert KS1 Disco - 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm Abersychan Carol Service - St Cadoc's - 7.00 pm
14.12.16	KS2 Pantomime visit Congress Theatre - Aladdin
15.12.16	KS1 Pantomime visit Congress Theatre - Aladdin 1.30 pm - Year 5/6 - Carol Service St Cadoc's Church Year 3/4 Disco 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm Year 5/6 Disco 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm
16.12.16	End of Autumn Term 3.20 pm A special visitor will arrive - Santa and his Reindeer
03.01.17	Training Day - School Closed to Pupils
04.01.16	Spring Term commences

