



Penygarn Community Primary School

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2016

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Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that there is only four weeks until Christmas! We've got a really busy few weeks ahead. All the dates you need can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Bumblebees

All bumblebees have settled into Nursery brilliantly, we are so pleased!

We have been learning all about nocturnal animals and know the story of 'Owl Babies' very well. Thank you to all of you who attended our Stay and Play session, I hope you enjoyed yourselves.



We will be sending out information about the Christmas Concert soon so please keep an eye on the school website, Schoop, Dojo and letters.

Foxes and Bats

We have had a busy time back after half term and it has been lovely to hear all the children's stories about Halloween and Bonfire night. We had a wonderful show and tell session, where the children brought in something that is special to them. It was lovely to find out more about our Bats and Foxes.

The children are moving quickly through their sounds in Read Write Inc and are doing a fantastic job! Please look out for the formation sheets that you will have every Friday for homework.

Please can we remind you that reading books must be returned on your child's reading day.

In Maths the children have been practising lots of number skills, learning all about ordering numbers, smallest/largest numbers and one more and one less. They have also been having lots of fun sorting different objects outside.

We have begun our preparation for our Christmas Concert "Whoops a Daisy Angel" and are looking forward to all parents/carers coming to see it!

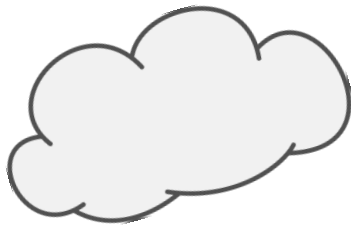


Barn Owls and Moles

We have been working really hard this term on our topic Remember, Remember - we loved creating acrostic poems all about bonfire night and learning all about Guy Fawkes and the gunpowder plot.

This week is anti-bullying week; we have listened to lots of stories about being a good friend and have written poems about bullying and friendship.





We are starting to learn our Christmas Concert songs. Parts have now been decided and lines and costume information will be with you in the very near future. Please help your child (ren) learn their lines. The children are getting very excited for Christmas already!

Moles and Barn Owls Stay and Play session is on Thursday 8th December 2016 at 2.00 pm. We look forward to a fun afternoon.

Woodpeckers/Badgers

Just a few reminders:

- PE is on Thursdays (PE kit is required every week)
- Snack money is 30p per day
- Homework and book bags need to be returned by Thursday ready to change and resend out on Friday.
- Christmas Concert costumes - If you need another letter please let the class teacher know.

Our Stay and Play is on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 2.00 pm. Please join us to make lots of lovely Christmas craft.

Water Voles and Red Squirrels

Water Voles and Red Squirrels have been extremely busy working on our topic Gods and Goddesses. We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Caerleon where we visited the Roman Baths, Amphitheatre, Barracks and the Museum. We enjoyed re-enacting a Gladiator fight in the amphitheatre.

In Science we have learnt about our bones and the organs that they protect, in Language we have been working hard to produce an extra scene for the playscript of the Gruffalo. In ICT we have enjoyed using our new iPads to research our topic and have enjoyed using the new apps to practise our ICT skills.

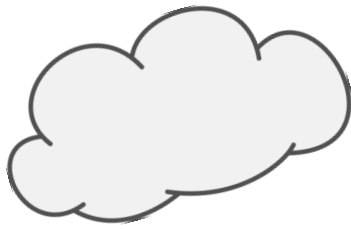
Christmas is fast approaching, parts have been allocated and your child should know the costume that they need, please ask if your child has forgotten this. This year we will be performing 'Nativity Rock'. We look forward to seeing you at the performance.

Kingfishers and Tawny Owls

Kingfishers have been working really hard over the last few weeks. We are not much further away from earning our first class reward of the year! Preparations for the Christmas performance are well under way - make sure you are practising your lines and songs at home.

We have really enjoyed our Topic this half term "Scrumdiddlyumptious" where we have been learning all about chocolate and food. We have sampled different kinds of bread and compared them, as well as making our own chocolate bread - that was great fun, although it didn't taste as good as we hoped!





As well as tasting bread we have also tasted a chocolate loaded cake that Miss Evans made for us, but before we could eat it we had to draw it, focusing on all the small details of the different types of chocolate. The book that we are reading at the moment is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, we have created our own character for the story, imagining that there was a 6th golden ticket. We are now writing a new chapter to the story where our new character find a mysterious door in the chocolate factory. I wonder where the door will lead? Watch this space!



Otters and Dormice

Every Tuesday afternoon Year 5 have been enjoying making music using the *Garage Band* app on the iPads with a tutor from Upbeat. We are currently learning a song and are looking forward to sharing our work with you in an assembly soon ... watch this space!

Please remember to return any library books that were borrowed to Pontypool Library or school if you cannot get to the library. Also, all pupils need to bring goggles for swimming lessons on a Friday 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

Year 6 have had a busy half term. We have looked at Black History week where we have found out about Frederick Douglass who was a slave who educated himself and tried to flee captivity. We have also carried out a range of work as part of anti-bullying week. Year 6 have focussed on cyber bullying where we have looked at the different ways in which someone can be cyber-bullied. We created key note presentations as well as Popplets on the iPads. We will look forward to you seeing them.

We have a busy few weeks coming up where we will start practising for our Christmas Carol Concerts. We hope to see you there. Can we once again thank you for your continued support so far this year.

Fun Friday

Friday afternoon in the Community Room was very glittery! Parents came in to school to try out our new idea, Fun Friday. Each term we will be holding an event in school on a Friday encouraging parents/carers to come in to school and take part in different activities. Some of these will be with children, others will be parents only.

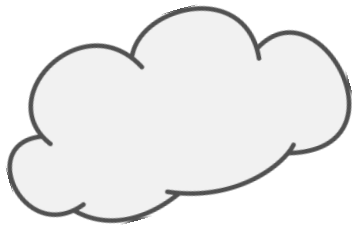
Our first one was parents only and we learnt how to make snowflakes from old toilet roll inners.



We have added pictures showing you the process to our Facebook page just in case you would like to try this with your child, along with some snaps of us involved... it was very glittery with creative skills being tested and expanded (loving the two tone glitter combination ladies).

Thank you to all that came. Mrs Edmunds, Mrs Carter and Mrs Healy really enjoyed themselves and we hope you did too!





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.

Breakfast Club

All children must be handed over to a member of staff in Breakfast Club. DO NOT drop them off at the school gates.

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.

Food Co-op

We are still taking part in Food Co-op. Orders to be in school and given to the office or Mrs J Carter on Wednesdays with the money. £3.00 for a bag of fruit, salad or vegetables and £1.40 for a dozen eggs. Goods will be ready for collection Friday afternoon.

For further details please contact Mrs J Carter in Breakfast Club.

Pontypool Relay for Life Youth Committee

After a successful first year, we are now looking to set up a Youth Committee and looking for youth volunteers from all the local primary and secondary schools in the area. If you would like to represent your school please come along to our first meeting on Tuesday 29th November 2016 at 4.00 pm at Griffithstown Primary School. Parents are encouraged to chaperone their children.

For more information follow us on Facebook - Relay for Life at Pontypool Park.

Photographs

You should have received your child's Individual/Family Group photograph from school. If you would like to place an order please send the money into school by **Friday 25th November 2016**.

School Website

Please see all our events that are going on in December on the school website www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

L Sellars
Headteacher

