

# Penygarn Community Primary School

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

### LLYTHR MAWRTH 2017

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

#### **Bumblebees**

Once again, a fantastic and busy busy busy term with lots of learning, fun and friendships going on. We have been sorting, making patterns, finding shapes and following instructions. We have also been doing lots of drawing of ourselves and our favourite book characters and lots of us are trying really hard to write our names.

We are doing up our outdoor areas and after Easter hopefully our new equipment and resources will have arrived for us to use; please help us to look after it!

We look forward to welcoming new Bumblebees after Easter.

#### **Foxes and Bats**

Reception have had a very busy half term. The children have loved learning about all the water animals in our topic 'Splish, Splash, Splosh' and have really enjoyed playing in our role play aquarium. They have learnt lots about water animals and were able to visit Bristol Aquarium to learn more about the different types of water animals there are. The children had a lovely time and were extremely well behaved during our visit. Look out for photographs on school website.

#### **Barn Owls and Moles**

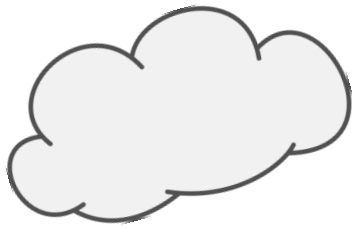
Well done to all of the children in Barn Owls and Moles - you did a fantastic job in your class assembly. We are very proud of you! Thank you to all the parents who attended for your continued support.

We have been doing lots of lovely learning in our classes! In maths we have been focussing on adding and subtracting numbers. In language we are having a big push on using different punctuation in our writing and the different types of sentences we can use to make our writing more exciting! In topic we have been learning about different celebrations.

This week we learnt about Holi - the Hindu festival of colours. We drew colour balloons to create some art work - we had so much fun!

Next week we will focus on the celebration of Easter and making beautiful Easter cards.





### **Woodpeckers/Badgers**

Reminder PE kit for Thursday.

Any money to be in an envelope with child's name written on it and what it is for.

Dinner money can be paid into the red box inside the school foyer. Please put your child's name on the envelope, along with the dates the payment is for.

Thank you to all those who completed the Welsh homework over half term - we had some fantastic creations that are now on display in the hall for all to see.

### **Water Voles and Red Squirrels**

Water Voles and Red Squirrels have had a very busy half term. We thoroughly enjoyed our sessions with Upbeat where we learnt to play the drums. Every Monday afternoon our teachers complained of headaches.

We had a fantastic day out at Cogmoors Water Recycling plant where we caught mini beasts and identified them using microscopes. We learnt the process of what water goes through to eventually come out of our taps.

Our teachers were extremely proud of us during the Eisteddfod. We took part in a handwriting, creative writing, and an art competition. The whole class performed and acted out a Welsh poem in which Water Voles achieved first place.

Some children in Water Voles represented their class and school at Pontypool Community Council Eisteddfod on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017. We all looked fabulous dressed in full Welsh costume, miners and rugby shirts. We worked extremely hard on learning the Welsh National Anthem for the special day.

### **Kingfishers and Tawny Owls**

We have learnt a lot about Victorians during the Spring Term, we have learnt all about how children were used to work as chimney sweeps and as trappers and drawers down the coals mines.

We are so glad that the law changed and children are no longer made to work in dangerous jobs. We will end our topic by visiting Big Pit so we can experience what life was really like down the mines.

Our Summer Term topic is Robot Rampage. We will be learning all about the technology needed to make robots and about a range of different mechanisms used in technology and how these can be powered using electricity.

Thank you for a wonderful Spring Term Tawny Owls.





### **Otters and Dormice**

We've had such a busy term and have recently completed an Electricity Stem Workshop and a visit to the Life Exhibition at Pontymoile Mission Chapel.

Our Languages day at West Monmouth School was great success with some excellent feedback received:

*"I just wanted to say that the Year 5 languages days have gone exceptionally well this week and it has been a pleasure to have your pupils with us. Their behaviour, attitude and effort have been excellent, and they appeared to enjoy the activities. They were all a credit to themselves and to their school. Please pass on a big well done to them."*

Well done Otters and Dormice!

### **Buzzards and Red Kites**

What a busy term we have had so far! We have enjoyed two treat days because of much improved behaviour in class, several pen licences have been given out and more to come before Easter.

The children have taken part in several project days. A Lego and ICT afternoon was great fun. We gave Lego robot instructions for movement and completed challenges in teams, this helped develop team work as we worked together.

We have started some sessions provided by Bron Afon about Safer Relationships, this will help with transition up to comprehensive school, making new friends and meeting new teachers.

We have also been fortunate to be involved in a new ICT music project that will last five weeks. We will be using an app called Pykaloop, by recording a variety of sounds we can compose music.

The trip to Crucial Crew in Cwmbran was a great success, we learned how to keep safe and be responsible young people in a variety of settings: railways, around electricity, wearing seatbelts, food hygiene and more. Behaviour on our morning out was 'perfect'.

We are looking forward to the Summer term now, our last at Penygarn, let's make it a good one!

### **Dinner Money**

Please note that with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, school meal prices will be increased as detailed below:

- Infant pupils - £2.30
- Junior pupils - £2.40



### **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](http://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.

### **School Website**

The school website homepage has been updated. We have added a live Twitter feed, more 'Latest News' and a quick link into our photograph galleries. Please take a look and also see all our events that are going on, on the school website [www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk](http://www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk)

### **Fundraising**

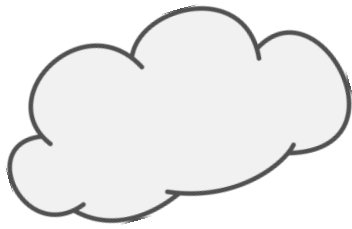
On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017 we held a Pyjama Day in school for Cancer Research, I am pleased to say we raised a total of £330. Also on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 was Comic Relief "Wear Something Funny For Money" we raised a total of £267.15.

Thank you so much.

### **News**

Congratulations to Anulika who gained a distinction in her recent drum exam. Well done we are so proud of you.





### Eisteddfod Pontypwl

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017, our children took part in Eisteddfod Pontypwl at the Active Living Centre and won the following:

Country Dancing - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Choir - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Group Recitation Foundation Phase - Merit

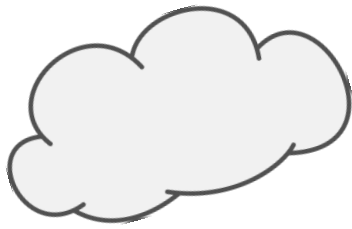
Group Recitation KS2 - 3<sup>rd</sup>

I'm sure you will agree that they have really done us, and you, proud. Congratulations to everyone who took part, and thank you for all your hard work.

Yours sincerely

L Sellars  
Headteacher





## Dates for Your Diary

31.03.17	9.00 am - Buzzards - Life Exhibition at Pontymoile Chapel 10.00 am - Red Kites - Life Exhibition at Pontymoile Chapel
03.04.17	Barn Owls Parent Consultations
04.04.17	Year 1/2 visit Techniquest in Cardiff 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm - Parent Consultations
05.04.17	3.30 pm - 6.00 pm - Parent Consultations
06.04.17	10.00 am - Year 5 Class Assembly 11.00 am - BBAM Easter Bonnet Parade 2.00 pm - Easter Bonnet Parade 3.30 pm - Acorn Camping meeting for parents
07.04.17	School closed for staff training
10.04.17-21.04.17	Easter Holidays
26.04.17	Wings To Fly - Year 6
01.05.17	May Day - School Closed
16.05.17	Class Photographs
29.05.17-2.05.17	Half Term

