

PENYGARN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015
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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 till Christmas! We've got a really busy few weeks ahead. All the dates you need can be found at the end of this newsletter.

As you are aware we have a School Inspection next week. Parent and carers are invited to attend a meeting on Monday 30th November 2015 at 3.45 pm to meet the Inspectors.

Bumblebees

Nursery Christmas concerts dates - Monday 14th December 2015
10.00 am (morning Nursery)
and 2.00 pm (afternoon Nursery).



After the concerts you are invited into Nursery for refreshments, photographs and Christmas crafts.

Your child can wear any Christmas outfit e.g. a star, angel, party clothes, shepherd etc.

The Mother Christmas trip is Wednesday 16th December 2015 and it will be the full session, morning or afternoon. Please bring money and permission slips in as soon as possible.

PE kits should now be in school. Please also provide your child with a pair of wellies for when the weather is particularly wet.

Miss Williams would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support, as well as their attendance at parents evening and Stay and Play days. Nursery experiences are the building blocks for a child's future, and Miss Williams endeavours to make each experience a special and positive one for every child and parent.


Foxes and Bats

Reception children had a magic visitor into our room last week. We were left with paw prints and forest leaves everywhere! It was the beginning of our story Little Red Riding Hood. This week we have been very busy retelling the story with puppets, creating story maps,



and drawing pictures of the own superhero with special powers as characters and created our well as writing our own comic strips grandma's cottage. to go in our new role play area 'Superhero Station'. Keep up the

We have also been working hard with recognising our numbers, ordering them and comparing them. good work Year 1!

We are brilliant Bats  and fantastic Foxes at counting!

We are all looking forward to the forthcoming next couple of weeks to see what other wonderful learning we will be doing. reading area if you have any you would like to donate it would be greatly appreciated.

Moles and Barn Owls
This half term in Year 1 we are focussing on Superheroes, at the start of term we had a superhero

WOW day where all of the children (and staff) came dressed as their favourite superhero. Parents came in and worked with the children to complete lots of superhero activities such as designing a superhero top trump card, decorating capes, shield, cuffs, and masks as well as exploring spider webs and pinning the spider on the web! We performed a superman dance and our poem 'If I was a superhero...' to the parents. A big thank you to everybody who attended we had a wonderful time!

Woodpeckers/Badgers
Congratulations once again to Woodpeckers for having the highest attendance in the whole school 97.8% keep up the good work we want to continue to be above 95% for the rest of the year.

If anyone has any Superhero magazines at home that they don't need anymore please could we have them for our reading area?

We have lots of fun activities coming up including designing and making our treat day on Friday 20th November



2015 where they were allowed to come to school dressed up in pyjamas, fancy dress or sports kit and they also brought in a toy as their reward for earning all their Woodpeckers.

Great fun was had by all.

Water Voles/Red Squirrels

Water Voles and Red Squirrels have been very busy this half term. In Language they have been learning about recounts and have now invented their own, using the skills that they have learnt.

In Maths they have been learning about number sequences and have continued the patterns and have written the rule. They have used function machines and have learnt how to find the output number and also how to find the input number by using the inverse operation.

In Science they have been learning about rocks. They enjoyed planning and carrying out an investigation to find out which rock was the strongest. They are now going to investigate which rocks are absorbent.

Year 3 are thoroughly enjoying learning the Penny Whistle on a Thursday afternoon with Mr McKean.

If your child would like to continue their learning at home then they can purchase a brand new Penny Whistle for £5.00. Music will be provided.

Thank you for sending a PE kit into school, if you haven't already done so please could you send one in as soon as possible and also a water bottle.

Please continue to encourage your child to read at home and complete their homework and return their reading bags and completed homework to school so this process can continue.

Otters/Dormice

Year 5 have been enjoying receiving Taiko drumming tuition from Mr Williams this term and are looking forward to performing for friends and family on Wednesday 2nd December 2015. Please make every effort to attend.

The pupils have also been taking part in Anti-Bullying week by discussing how to deal with bullying, writing poems, songs and stories and creating friendship tiles. They also took part in an Anti-Bullying workshop.

Otters had a visit from the Police, who taught them vital First Aid.



They can now put a person in the recovery position, perform CPR if a person has stopped breathing and help someone who is choking. They are very proud to be given these awards and deserve a huge pat on the back for their continued hard work.

Dormice will also be learning this very soon.

Please continue to support your child with their home reading: children may now bring in their books to change whenever they need to.

Please also ensure that your child brings their PE kit to school with them every Tuesday. If they do not have their kit they are not able to take part.

Buzzards/Red Kites

Our Design and Technology transfer project to Abersychan has now finished and it was a really worthwhile experience. It was a fabulous opportunity to be able to work in the school and get a real flavour of what comprehensive school life is all about.

Mrs Robinson came into visit us from Pontypool Library, it was great to see her and she collected any library books we had. Please ensure that library books are either returned to school or direct to the library in Pontypool.

We are adding to the list of pupils who have been awarded their super

During the week of 19th October 2015 we were lucky enough to have a visitor to school and Year 6 took part in a Knex Workshop. We designed and built fairground rides, using computer coding program to control movement, sound and light. It was amazing! Please come in and see what we achieved.

During Tidy Wales week (October 19th) we took part in different activities and we were shocked at the amount of rubbish we collected during our litter pick at the front of school, please dispose of your litter responsibly.

Parent consultations were well attended but if you haven't seen the class teacher yet, please make an appointment as soon as you can.

Several children were chosen to represent the school on a visit to St Cadocs Church, Trevethin to lay crosses in remembrance of the fallen soldiers. The children were extremely proud to be chosen and represented the school brilliantly.

The soldiers would have been proud!



During Anti-Bullying week we explored the subjects of bullying and friendship. The NSPCC visited us for a special assembly and then we were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with them afterwards.

For all our up to dates news and dates for your diary please visit our website on <http://www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk>

Yours sincerely

Reminder

Please remember to send in a PE kit with your child. PE is Thursday, every week.

L Sellars
Headteacher

Fundraising

We raised a total of £151.53 in school on Friday 13th November 2015 in aid of Children In Need.



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.

There is a box outside the office for you to place dinner money in, please ensure it is put in a clearly labelled envelope.



Dates for your Diary

30.11.15 Meeting for Parents/Carers with Estyn Inspectors - 3.45 pm

04.12.15 PTA - Christmas Bazaar

09.12.15 Christmas Dinner

Christmas Jumper Day

10.12.15 KS1 visit Blackwood Pantomime - Snow White

Year 5 visit West Mon

Year 3/ 4 Disco 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Year 5/6 Disco 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm

14.12.15 Reception and Woodpecker classes visit Mother Christmas at Big Pit

10.00 am - Nursery Christmas Concert

2.00 pm - Christmas Concert

6.00 pm - Year 3 /4 Christmas Concert

6.00 pm - Year 5/6 Carol Service St Cadocs Church

15.12.15 Year 1 and the Badgers visit Mother Christmas

2.00 pm - Year 3 /4 Christmas Concert

6.00 pm - Year 5/6 Christmas Concert

16.12.15 Nursery visit Mother Christmas

KS2 visit Blackwood Pantomime - Snow White

10.00 am - Year 1 /2 Christmas Concert - big hall

10.30 am - Reception Christmas Concert - small hall

2.00 pm - Year 1 /2 Christmas Concert- big hall

2.30 pm - Reception Christmas Concert

18.12.15 Santa arrives in school

End of Autumn Term - 3.20 pm