

PENYGARN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

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Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

News

Thank you for your support again this half term; it was another busy time at Penygarn!



We would like to say a fond farewell to Miss K Edwards who will be leaving us on Friday. Good luck in your new job!

Bumblebees and Butterflies

Our next Stay and Play session is Wednesday 8th June 2016, letters will be going out soon.

We will also be having a Nursery Sports day and picnic towards the end of June, letters will also go out about this.

We have arranged a trip to Noah's Ark at the end of June. Please watch this space for more information.

Home learning task for May half term - we will give each child a paper plate, and the task is to create a healthy plate. Children can draw, paint, stick things on, use plasticine etc. Please return to school by Monday 6th June 2016.

Please also practise reading and writing numbers.

Bats and Foxes

Reception are continuing to enjoy our topic "Animal Magic". We have started a new story called 'Giraffes can't dance' and have been learning to write letters and



emails to Gerald the Giraffe to cheer him up!

We are really enjoying our PE lessons, where we have been outside in the spring sunshine learning to roll and dribble a ball. It is quite tricky, but we are working really hard!

We have also been enjoying learning about our local area, drawing maps of places we pass on the way to school.

The Reception staff are extremely proud of the progress the children have made in Reception classes so far and as a special treat we are really looking forward to having chips and ice cream at Barry Island. Well Done Bats and Foxes!

Barn Owls and Moles

A big thank you to all the parents who came to watch our end of Creative Schools Project Concert.

We had such a fantastic time learning maths through music!

We hope you all have a lovely half term and are excited for the final half term before you move to Year 2!

We have lots of lovely things to do like designing our own pirate maps, learning about Sir Henry Morgan the Welsh pirate and we are hoping to have a pirate day where we all come in dressed as a pirate and do lots of fun pirate things - more information to follow!



Badgers, Hedgehogs and Woodpeckers

Hedgehogs have been working extremely hard this term; we have been focusing on up-skilling our sentences using adjectives, synonyms and a range of connectives.

In maths we have been working on measuring using standard measures and developing our ability to read time both analogue and digital.



We are very excited to continue learning about Pirates and the World around us after half term.

Can all reading books and homework be brought in on Wednesday as this gives us time to change books and mark before the new homework is given out.

Thank you for 100% attendance during the week of the tests it meant the tests ran really smoothly. You will receive the results of the tests with your end of year report in July.

Please make sure anything your child brings in is labelled clearly with their name.

Thank you to those of you who have brought in your 'rubbish' for our junk modelling project we will be making desert islands out of it all very soon!

I hope you have a fantastic half term!

Water Voles and Red Squirrels

Water Voles and Red Squirrels have been extremely busy working on our topic Nature Detectives.



We learnt about the life cycle of a crab and thoroughly enjoyed the funny story about Carl, his girlfriend Mae and their baby Dec. Please ask your child to tell the story. We didn't stop laughing all afternoon.

In Science we went on a Mini Beast hunt where we learnt how to fill in a tally chart and then compile a bar graph from the evidence found.

In Maths we have been busy learning our 3, 30, 4 and 40 times tables. We have been learning different ways in which we can add two three digit numbers in our heads.

In Language we learnt how to write a letter and wrote a letter to Mummy Wolf telling her about our news and the houses that we had built. We are now working hard to produce a set of instructions.

Dormice and Otters

Year 5 are currently learning about the Human Body and have created their own PowerPoints about the functions of the organs in the body.

They have presented these to their class. All children are making excellent progress in their weekly swimming lessons. A big well done to Cheyenne from Otters who swam 28 lengths in half an hour and to Thomas from Dormice who swam the furthest in his class!

Year 5 enjoyed Gamelan workshops on Wednesday 25th May 2016. They learned to play instruments from Indonesia and made shadow puppets ready for their performance on Friday 27th May 2016.

Buzzards and Red Kites

Throughout this half term all of the year 6 pupils have worked extremely hard to achieve their targets.



During April the pupils demonstrated great perseverance when practising for the National Tests. All of their teachers are immensely proud of the hard work each and



every one of the pupils has put in this year - well done! This week the pupils had the opportunity to take part in a Lego Robot workshop from STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

The pupils learned programming skills as well as problem solving skills. All of the children engaged well and enjoyed the workshop thoroughly.

School Meals

The prices are as follows:
 Infant meal £2.10, Junior meal £2.20

Attendance

Unfortunately we have fallen below our school target of 94%. Can you all ensure that your children are in school every day unless they are ill. If they do have medical appointments only take them out of school for the necessary amount of time.

We still have a number of pupils who are late, it is really important for all pupils to be punctual, those first minutes are important.

DOORS OPEN 8:55 am
DOORS CLOSE 9:05 am

It is your responsibility as parents to inform the school if your child is absent.

Valuable time is lost by staff making telephone calls/leaving messages and texts to find the whereabouts of pupils.

Litter

Unfortunately there is a large amount of litter being left in and around the school grounds after the children have been picked up to go home.

A lot of the areas being affected are the children's outdoor learning areas, which we

are sure you can understand is not pleasant for the children to work and play in.



Please do make sure any litter is placed in the bin.

Wet Weather

If it is raining please send your child to school with a waterproof coat and sensible shoes/wellies. Please also provide a change of trousers and socks in a labelled bag.

Reminders

Don't forget that our school website is a mine of information, which you may find useful. Please take a look at:

www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk

Fundraising

The School Council held a cake sale on Wednesday 25th May 2016 and we are pleased to tell you with your help and support we raised £208.15 towards school funds!



I would like to say a massive thank you to parents/carers for donating such delicious cakes to sell and to you all who came and supported us.

Yours sincerely

L Sellars
 Headteacher





Dates for your Diary

30th May - 3rd June 2016

HALF TERM

8th June

Stay and Play session in Nursery

10th June

Queens Official Birthday Tea Party - Dress up Day
Football Tournament - Nant Celyn Primary School
6.00 pm - Year 5 Parents and Pupils visit West Mon

18th June

Country Dancing - Cwmbrian Town Centre

22nd June

Sports Day

23rd June

(Back up day for Sports Day if 22nd is wet)

24th June

Training Day - closed to pupils

28th June

Nursery Picnic and Sports Day

29th June

(back up day for Nursery Sports if 28th wet)

30th June

Reception trip to Barry Island

1st July

Year 4 visit West Mon (Sports)

2nd July

Summer Fete - 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm

4th July

Year 3/4 trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park

5th July

Year 5/6 trip to Oakwood Theme Park
Year 1/2 trip to Dan Yr Ogof

6th July

Moving Up Day
Meeting for Parents of children joining Reception
Class September 2016
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm - Open Hour

15th July 2016

Year 6 Leavers' Disco

18th July 2016

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Reception Class Picnic - parents invited

20th July 2016

End of Summer Term - 3.20 pm