

Penygarn Community Primary School

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

LLYTHR IONAWR 2017

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are now enjoying some peace at home as the children return to school.

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017. What a busy start we have had to the year.

Bumblebees

Our topic this term is 'Splish Splash Splosh'. We will be learning all about water - rain, ice, the ocean, rivers, ponds and animals that live in water. We have an ocean and a pond in our class too!

Please keep your eye out for home learning tasks and Stay and Play information. We will also be performing a Nursery assembly towards Easter time, which will be a collation of everything we will learn this term. We also welcome all the new Bumblebees to Nursery.

Foxes and Bats

We have had a fantastic time talking all about what we have been up to over Christmas and sharing some of our toys that Father Christmas brought.

We have begun our new topic "Splish, Splash, Splosh", bringing in our wellies and splashing in puddles. The children have come up with some amazing ideas for our role play aquarium. We are hopefully going to have a trip to Bristol Aquarium on Wednesday 8th March 2017.

We will be enjoying lots of lovely books related to water, such as "Come on Daisy" and creating tables and graphs all about our favourite water animals. We are also very lucky to be having Upbeat music classes every week!

Barn Owls and Moles

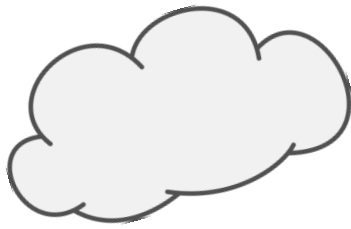
A big welcome back to Barn Owls and Moles - everyone has already settled superbly into the new term!

Our topic this term is 'Amser Stori' which means story time in Welsh! We are really looking forward to this topic because we absolutely love stories and books!

We are still collecting and displaying any work that you may have done over the Christmas holidays about your favourite story, so please continue to bring it in.

We are hoping to visit the Library this term to find out more information about the different types of books and to experience how libraries are run which will help us in our class role - play area 'Penygarn Library'. If you have any ideas for this, please let us know.





This month we are starting a six week block of lessons with Upbeat - a company that is coming in to teach us stories through dance - very exciting!

Reminders: PE kit is needed on a Thursday. Please return book bags and homework weekly and 30p daily if your child requires tuck. Don't forget to keep checking the Class Dojo app and Schoop for important class information.

Woodpeckers/Badgers

Badgers and Woodpeckers have had a brilliant start to our new term. We have enjoyed learning about stories from around the world as part of our topic Amser Stori. We have also been working hard collecting data about our favourite fairy tales and using this data to create block and bar charts. Please could all Amser Stori homework, which was set over Christmas, be brought in as soon as possible as we would like to celebrate it in class.

Red Squirrels

In Red Squirrels we have been looking at data and how we can collect information and display it.

In Language we are learning about Children of the Revolution. Our class book we are reading is Street Child, and we are learning how to write our own diary in our own style.

In our Science we are learning about World of Water, which has included life cycle of a frog and food chains. Thank you to those who brought in homework it is on display in our room, and there is still plenty of time to bring in some if you have not already.

Our morning mile is working very well and the children are enjoying the challenge. Please can I remind you that school uniform is to be worn every day.

Water Voles

Water Voles have been extremely busy this half term. In Maths we have busy looking at bar and line graphs and interpreting the data in them.

In Language we are reading Street Child by Berlie Doherty in preparation for our diary writing in the character of Jim.

In Science our topic is World of water. We have learnt and written about the lifecycle of a frog.

Our overall topic is called Children of the Revolution, we have been learning about the jobs that Victorian children did and examined the population of Great Britain in Victorian times. We put this information into a bar/line graph.

In Welsh we have learnt to say where we went in the past tense. Phew, we have been busy. There is still time for Victorian homework to be sent in to go on our special display board, a sketch of Victoria and Albert, historical facts, facts about Victorian objects etc.



Just a polite reminder that due to the extremely cold weather that we are having the children need to have a warm coat in school every day of the week and also the children should be in school uniform on a Friday. Thank you for your continued support.



Kingfishers and Tawny Owls

Welcome back Tawny Owls and Kingfishers, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. Just before Christmas Tawny Owls held a cake sale to celebrate the end of our topic, we made over £100! All of the children worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of themselves.

This term our topic is "Children of the Revolution" where we will be learning all about the Victorians, and the children who lived in Victorian times. We will be able to compare our lives with the Victorian children. I wonder what things will be the same and what will be different.

Dormice and Otters

As part of the spring topic of Technotastic Year 5 have been thinking about what would happen to the world if all books were banned and technology took over.

We are lucky to be working with Mrs White as part of a Creative Schools project to use drama as a way of developing imaginative story writing.

During language sessions we will be working on developing a story about books being banned and we have begun this term by finding out different ways of writing to socialise.

In science we are learning about forces. We made our own paper planes to investigate how forces act on aeroplanes and have many more forces investigations to come!

We have also found out about street art through reading a newspaper article about a Welsh Street artist named Bryce Davies and have looked at some of his beautiful art that is displayed around Cardiff.

Dinner Money

Reminder that school meals are:

Infants: £2.10

Juniors: £2.20

Please put in an envelope with your child's name.

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

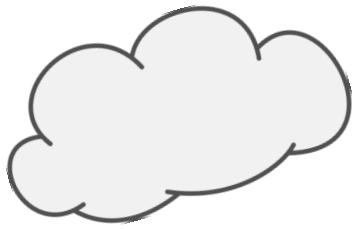
All children must be handed over to a member of staff in Breakfast Club. DO NOT drop them off at the school gates.

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.

Christmas Cards

Thank you all for your tremendous support in buying your child's Christmas cards. We received a commission of £264.60 which will go towards school funds.

School Website, Social Media and Schoop

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

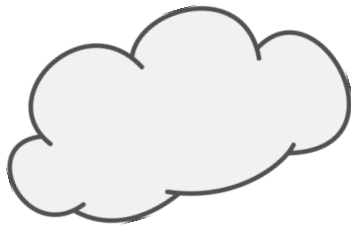
We are now on Twitter, as well as Facebook. You can follow us at @penygarnschool for all the latest news and information.

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for Schoop. You can download the app onto your phone and select our school by using the school ID 10493. Class information and reminders will be sent via this app.

Yours sincerely

L Sellars
Headteacher





Dates for Your Diary

01.02.17	10.45 am and 2.30 pm - Nursery Stay & Play 2.30 pm - Reception Stay & Play
03.02.17	Kingfishers and Tawny Owls Class Assembly
09.02.17	Science Workshop - KS2
10.02.17	Fun Friday afternoon - Cupcake Making
13.02.17	Tawny Owls and Kingfishers visit Cog Moors Education Centre
14.02.17	KS1 PTA Disco - 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm
16.02.17	KS2 PTA Disco - Year 3/4 - 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm Year 5/6 - 5.00 pm - 6.00 pm
17.02.17	Water Voles and Red Squirrels visit Cog Moors Education Centre
17.02.17	7.00 pm - Choir Concert organised by Pontypool Community Council
17.02.17	End of Term - 3.20 pm
20.02.17-24.02.17	Half Term
28.02.17	Year 5/6 - Techniquet Workshops - here
01.03.17	St David's Day
01.03.17	3.45 pm - Curriculum Evening on Welsh Dimension
02.03.17	World Book Day
03.03.17	Fun Friday - Pottery
08.03.17	Reception Classes visit - Bristol Aquarium

06.04.17

2.00 pm - Easter Bonnet Parade
10.00 am - Year 5 Class Assembly

07.04.17

School closed for staff training

