



# Penygarn Community Primary School

## END OF TERM NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

### **LLYTHR NEWYDDION MEDI 2018**

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely, restful summer holiday and are ready for a hectic term ahead!

It is great to see all the children looking so lovely in their uniforms, it makes such a difference when they wear their uniform and I hope you will continue to support us in our quest to keep up appearances! Thank you! **Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled.**

Please visit our website on a regular basis to keep you up to date with everything that is going on at Penygarn Community Primary School at [www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk](http://www.penygarn.torfaen.sch.uk)

#### **News**

We would like to give a warm welcome to the new children in Nursery and Reception and our new members of staff - Miss R. Jones, Mrs D. Squirrel, Miss J. Lilley and Mr R. Williams.

Mrs N Davies one of our support staff will be sadly leaving is on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Mrs Davies has worked in our Nursery for the last 12 years. We all wish her the best of luck in her new adventure.

#### **Bumblebees**

The Bumblebee children have settled beautifully into Nursery life. Miss Otterstead, Miss Busby and the rest of the Nursery Staff are so proud of every single one of them.

We have enjoyed talking about the people who are special to us as we begin our first topic of the year 'Why do you love me so much?' Can we remind parents/carers to provide a family photo for your child to bring in to school if you haven't already done so.

Thank you so much to everyone who has signed up to the Class dojo app to receive up to date information about Nursery. Pop in and let us know if you need any help with getting set up.

#### **Bats and Foxes**

Reception have had a great start to the term. The children have been busy settling in and exploring their new classroom.

In class, we have been busy practising our numbers, learning new sounds and have been doing lots of different activities including creating lots of masterpieces, listening to stories and singing nursery rhymes.





### **Barn Owls and Moles**

Moles and Barn Owls have settled in really nicely into Year 1. Our current topic is Ysgol so the children are enjoying learning about schools in the past and how life was different.

The children are doing a really good job of earning their class rewards for excellent behaviour and we will arrange a treat for when they have all been collected.

Please can we remind you that children need to bring in coats as the weather starts to get colder. Please can both classes bring in waterproof coats and wellies for outdoor learning every Friday.

PE is taking place every Tuesday so please remember to send kits in ASAP (kits can be kept in school until half term). Can names also be written on school jumpers and cardigans.

Lastly, can children bring in water bottles so that they can easily have a drink during the day.

Our first 'Stay and Play' will take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 2.30pm and will be a 'Firework Craft' session.

Many thanks for your continued support.

### **Badgers, Hedgehogs and Woodpeckers**

The Hedgehogs have all settled in brilliantly in to their new classroom. We are a happy, lively bunch and are always smiling!

We are enjoying being Street Detectives and learning about our school and local area. We have done lots of brilliant maths, reading, writing and drawing already!

Thank you to all those who have returned book bags so far, please do so if you haven't already.

The Woodpeckers have all really enjoyed exploring and learning in our new classroom. We're having lots of fun with our new topic, Street Detectives and have already been out on a walk to learn more about our school and local area.

We've been getting lots of praise for our fantastic maths, reading and writing work from Miss Lilley!

If you haven't already, please return your book bag so we can begin to send reading books home.

### **Red Squirrels and Dragonflies**

We have been busy this term so far learning about predators and what owls eat. We will be dissecting owl pellets and discovering what they eat and how their digestive system works.

In our language we have been reading 'The greedy Zebra' and are learning to write a recount which is fantastic! Our Maths has been very interesting by collecting data and representing it in graphs.

Our PE days are a Thursday so please remember your kits.



We are very proud of us all wearing uniform which means we have 5 dojos everyday we wear full uniform.





Our attendance is improving and our lateness has reduced, we need to keep this up and improve to 100%!

For the next two weeks on a Friday Dragonflies are attending forest school with Mrs Squirrel so please remember appropriate clothing in a bag please. Red Squirrels will be the following three weeks.

### **Kingfishers and Buzzards**

Kingfishers have had a great start to the year. Everyone has settled in really well.

Thank you for all the amazing sea creature homework for our first topic 'Blue Abyss'. They are hanging proudly on our new display!

A few reminders for the year:- PE will now be on a Thursday. Reading books will be given out on a Friday and need to be returned by the following Thursday. The children will be coming home with spellings and timetables to practise weekly. Don't forget to log on to class dojos to view your child's rewards.

### **Dormice and Otters**

Welcome back to school, we hope that everyone is well and the children are beginning to settle into their new class routines.

Here are some useful information that will help keep everyone informed.

Our Class topic this term is Castles and Kingdoms and we will be learning about medieval times as well as studying Welsh history and legend.

**ClassDojo**: is the primary class teacher home link, please make sure you are connected and aware of any updates and notifications.

**Mathletics**: If possible please encourage children to spend approximately 1 hour per week completing set tasks and brushing up on skills learnt.

**Parent Meetings**: before half-term 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October and will be an opportunity to meet and discuss progress and address any concerns.

**PE**: Children will require their outdoor door PE kit on Mondays and Fridays.

**Swimming**: is on Fridays, when weather permits we will be walking to the Leisure Centre and on these occasions no payment will be required. Children will all be provided with goggles by the school.

**Year Trip to Caerphilly Castle**: - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 - Otters and Dormice will be visiting Caerphilly Castle to develop relevant historic experience important to their Castles and Kingdom Topic. The all inclusive price will be in the region of £5 and letters with full details will be out soon.

Year 5 children will be beginning group guided reading this week this will be a daily activity with a spelling test of HF Words on Friday.



Please continue to encourage regular reading with your children and some practice for weekly spelling tests.





Thank you for your continued support, stay in touch on Class Dojo and we look forward to speaking soon and parent consultations.

### **Tawny Owls and Red Kites**

Welcome back! We have had a fabulous start to the year in Year 6 learning all about WWII and the effects it had on children and the impact it had on Wales. We've had a brilliant production based on WWII and it really brought to life how it would have felt living in this time. Well done to all of the children who have been awarded a Super 6 role, you are doing a fabulous job and there are lots of children who are showing that they are close behind you in also becoming a Super 6.

Keep up the good work Year 6.

### **Free School Meals**

Infant £2.30

Junior £2.40

If you think that your child/children are entitled to free meals or you require any further information please contact school.

### **Nursery Admission**

Application forms are now available for Nursery admission January, April and September 2019, Closing date is 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

### **Secondary Admission**

Year 6 application forms for admission into secondary school are now available, closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

### **Jeans for Genes Day**

Thank you all for your support for 'Jeans for Genes Day'. We raised £230 towards this worthwhile charity.

### **After school clubs**

Mondays - Year 5/6 Rugby

Tuesdays - Keystage 2 Hockey

Wednesdays - Year 3/4 Multi Sports

Thursdays - Years 4, 5, 6 Football

All clubs are from 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm. Children will need to bring appropriate kit (i.e rugby boots, tracksuit, trainers, shorts and t-shirt).

### **Attendance**

Our target attendance is 95%. At present we are sitting well below that at 94.3%.

### **Attendance Procedure**

Children with an attendance percentage of less than 95% will receive a phone call home, a further absence would require a letter be sent home. If the child then had another absence, parents would be asked to attend a meeting at the school. If there were to be no improvement, a referral would be made to the Education Welfare Officer.





### Late Children

Late children are met at the school office by the Education Family Links Worker and, if in Reception class, escorted down to class. Year 1 - Year 6 children are required to make their own way to class once signed in. If children are late to school three times, a phone call is made to parents. Ten late arrivals would invoke a letter and meeting at the school. If there were to be no improvement, a referral would be made to the Education Welfare Officer.

### School Term and Holiday Dates - 2018/2019

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Tuesday 04.09.18	Monday 29.10.18	Friday 02.11.18	Friday 21.12.18
Spring	Monday 07.01.19	Monday 25.02.19	Friday 01.03.19	Friday 12.04.19
Summer	Monday 29.04.19	Monday 27.05.19	Friday 31.05.19	Monday 22.07.19

Training Days - School Closed - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

Yours sincerely

L Sellars  
Headteacher





## Dates for Your Diary

01.10.18	Year 6 Taster Day at West Mon
04.10.18	Harvest Festival
17.10.18	Fundraising for Breast Cancer - Wear Pink Year 5 out - Caerphilly Castle
18.10.18	Book Fair arrives Individual Photographs
19.10.18	Individual Photographs
22.10.18	Flu Immunisation - Reception - Year 6 Reception Stay and Play - 2.30 pm
23.10.18	Parent Consultations
24.10.18	Parent Consultations
26.10.18	Autumn Dress up Day
29.10.18-02.11.18	Half Term
06.11.18	2.30 pm - Year 2 Stay and Play
07.11.18	2.30 pm - Year 1 Stay and Play
16.11.18	Friendship Friday - Wear yellow
28.11.18	2.30 pm - Reception Stay and Play
06.12.18	3.30 pm - 5.00 pm - Christmas Bazaar
07.12.8	Christmas Hat Day
10.12.18	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm - KS1 Christmas Disco (Rec, Year 1 and 2)
11.12.18	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm - Year 3 and 4 Christmas Disco
14.12.18	Christmas Dress up Day
18.12.18	4.30 pm - 5.30 pm - Year 5 and 6 Christmas Disco
21.12.18	Term Ends - Christmas Jumper Day
07.01.19	Training Day - School closed to pupils

