



# Penygarn Community Primary School

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

CYLCHLYTHYR MEDI 2020

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

First of all, may we say a HUGE welcome back to all of our children. Last year was a very unusual year for us all, and we missed you all so much. Children and parents/carers did a fantastic job with their remote learning and made us so proud!

May we also all say a very warm welcome back to Miss Sellars who has returned from her one-year secondment with CSC. It is lovely to have you back. We all missed you.

We welcome our new member of staff Miss K Williams, class teacher for Tawny Owls. Welcome to our little family Miss Williams.

Unfortunately, Miss L Taylor will not be returning to work following her maternity leave as she is going to enjoy spending time with her young children before they start school. We are sorry you have decided to leave us but wish you all the very best for the future.

Mrs L Hall, Midday Supervisor left us in June to take up other employment. Good Luck Mrs Hall.

Mrs Y Poulson, Midday Supervisor decided to hang up her apron after working at the school for over 18 years! We will miss you.

We also say goodbye to Miss Harvey who left us last week to go down a different career path - watch out for her patrolling the streets in her police uniform. We wish you all the best Miss Harvey.

It has been a pleasure working with you, Miss Taylor, Mrs Hall and Mrs Poulson.

## **Bumblebees**

Nursery have had a brilliant start to the year, we are so proud of how well all the children have settled in. They have really enjoyed exploring the classroom and making new friends.

Our topic this term is ourselves, our community, and our planet. The children have really enjoyed drawing themselves and making shape faces. They have also been busy making lots of different things to decorate our classroom.

We are really pleased to announce that from 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Nursery sessions will go back to 2 ½ hour sessions for AM and PM children.





AM Session 8.45 am - 11.15 am

PM Session 12.15 pm - 2.45 pm

Nursery will then be included in the sibling later time arrangement and AM children will be able to access Breakfast Club.

### **Bats and Foxes**

Reception children have settled in beautifully and are already showing great maturity. We are enjoying the lovely weather and using the outside area where we have been mark making, selling flowers in the shop, riding the bike, throwing and catching balls and playing in the mud kitchen

We have enjoyed painting our hands and having our photographs taken. We do look smart in our new uniforms!

We have been measured and are looking forward to seeing how much we have grown. We have been practising writing our names, reading and writing numbers and forming patterns.

We are moving around the school in such a grownup way, but it is such a long way to walk to the dinner hall. Please can all the children bring in a drink and a piece of fruit for our afternoon snack.

Please can all jumpers, cardigans, coats, water bottles and lunch bags be labelled please.

### **Badgers/Woodpeckers**

Woodpeckers and Badgers have settled wonderfully back into school life. They have grown up so much since Reception and Mr C and Mrs Evans are really impressed with all the children!

We have spent lots of time exploring our new classrooms and all the wonderful things to play with and learn with. We are making the most of the nice weather and using our outdoor area as much as possible.

Just a reminder that PE will be every Wednesday so please ensure appropriate kit is worn to school on that day. Also, you are welcome to send in 2 snacks each day, one for the morning and one for the afternoon.

Many thanks for your continued support. Mr C and Mrs Evans

### **Barn Owls and Moles**

Barn Owls and Moles have settled into Year 2 life so brilliantly, we are really proud of them! They have picked up all the rules and routines so well and have adapted well to all the new changes. It has been a delight to see them all playing, laughing and smiling, and reconnecting with their friends and peers. We are so pleased with how keen the children are to learn, and how enthusiastic they are about life in Year 2!



Reminders - PE day is a Wednesday so children can come in dressed in their PE kits.



- We are going outside every day for outdoor learning so as the weather begins to change please ensure the children are appropriately dressed for being outside in all weathers.

**Red Squirrels and Dragonflies**

Year 3 have been busy settling into school life again. We have had lots of fun learning about Banksy, different arts, bug hotel building, mini sports day and sketching! We are currently working on our art project; all will be revealed when complete!

We have been logging in to google classroom, Mathletics, Myon, and Accelerated Reader! We have been busy.

Just a reminder our PE days will be Tuesday so please wear your P.E kit to school. Please can you all write your child's name on their jumpers/cardigans and bring water bottles daily with just water.





### **Kingfishers and Buzzards**

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school over the last few weeks. They have settled extremely well into both Buzzards and Kingfishers classes.

**Buzzards** - The children have been busy completing lots of fun activities including a STEM challenge where the children had to try and build the tallest tower out of spaghetti and small marshmallows. We have also done lots of outdoor learning including making portraits of ourselves and making spiral patterns using natural resources. We are looking forward to completing more fun activities over the coming weeks.

Please can we remind you that your child's PE day is a Wednesday and can they come to school in their PE kits.

Thank you once again for your understanding and support this half term.

**Kingfishers** - This term we have begun with finding our 'Rainbow after the storm'. To get back into the swing of things multiplication tables, practising our handwriting and some spellings were on the agenda. We have completed some super STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities building the tallest towers we possibly can.

Our outdoor learning sessions is something we have had a lot of fun doing, exploring our outside surroundings and linking this to our Maths and Language learning. Wellbeing has been very important during this topic. We have discussed things that are important to us, what makes us happy and our goals for the year ahead!





Our PE day is Tuesday, please remember to wear kit to school! Children need to remember water bottles, coats and appropriate footwear, as Outdoor Learning will take place whatever the weather.

### **Otters and Dormice**

This half term, Otters have been searching for our 'rainbow after the storm'. We have delved into a world of magic when writing newspaper articles for the Daily Prophet, and we have been sorted into our Hogwarts houses.

We have been focussing on our multiplication tables and revising our basic skills in Maths. Children have had fun exploring during outdoor learning sessions. We have been on treasure hunts and learned some traditional games.

Well-being has been at the forefront of our learning. We have built upon our relationships through team-building activities, collaborate learning and circle time sessions. We have enjoyed talking about the things that are important to us and identifying our wishes for the academic year ahead!

Can all children bring a coat to school regardless of the weather and bring a water bottle with their name on each day, as we are unable to supply this. P.E day is a Monday. Can children please wear kit to school. Thank you.

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

We have had a busy start to the term, with lots of "getting to know you" activities. We decided on our class contract and what we felt our classroom should look like and sound like. I asked the questions:

"What kind of learners should we be?" and "What kind of teacher do Red Kites want?" Most of our ideas were about mutual respect and being happy in school.

Over the last three weeks, we have been learning about the work of Rene Magritte, a Surrealist artist who uses the themes of clouds, birds, apples and men in bowler hats and suits! We have explored how to use sketching pencils and the effects they can produce on paper and used some of Magritte's work as a basis for our own sketches.

Classroom routines have played an important part of our settling in period. After almost six months of no school, this has been an important part of getting back to the "new normal!" We are getting there!

PE days are on a Monday and it would be helpful for the children to come dressed in a PE kit on those days. We have also been spending more time outdoors, and with the weather beginning to change, the children will need a coat or waterproof jacket, in case of rainy days.

Please use DOJO if you need to contact me about any issues within school. If you are not joined up to DOJO, please send a note with your child and I will get back to you as soon as I can.





### **Outdoor Learning**

We have been making the most of the lovely weather this September and have enjoyed lots of outdoor learning. We will be developing our school grounds this term and enjoy the changes in the seasons.

Reception took part in an outdoor learning immersion day last Friday. We planted lots of flowers and winter vegetables, created recipes in our mud kitchen, made outdoor musical instruments and flowers for our garden centre outdoor role play area.

We also loved using all of our new outdoor writing equipment! We have added a new log circle for Foundation Phase to enjoy in the coming months.

### **Pupil, Parent and Staff Safety**

In these unusual times we have to take a few extra safety precautions in and around the school and ask that all adults follow the guidelines set out by the Welsh Government on social distancing.

Children are arriving at school at staggered times to try and reduce the amount of people on site at any one time. Please bring your child in at their designated class start time, or later with a sibling if applicable. Children must not arrive at school early. Please can all adults leave the school site as soon as they have dropped off/collected children.

## **2020/2021 Academic Year**

School Term and Holiday Dates - 2020/2021 Academic Year

<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Begins</b>	<b>Half Term Begins</b>	<b>Half Term Ends</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Autumn</b>	Tuesday 01.09.20	Monday 26.10.20	Friday 30.10.20	Friday 18.12.20
<b>Spring</b>	Monday 04.01.21	Monday 15.02.21	Friday 19.02.21	Friday 26.03.21
<b>Summer</b>	Monday 12.04.21	Monday 31.05.21	Friday 04.06.21	Tuesday 20.07.21

School closed - May Day

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Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021





Yours sincerely

L Sellars  
Headteacher

**Dates for Your Diary**

21.10.20-22.10.20

Photographs - Individuals pupils only

26.10.20-30.10.20

Half term - school closed

09.11.20

Flu Immunisation - Reception to Year 6 pupils

