



Penygarn Community Primary School

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020

CYLCHLYTHYR TACHWEDD 2020

News

A big congratulations to Miss Bevan who gave birth to a beautiful healthy baby girl in early November! Both are doing really well.

We are looking forward to welcoming Miss Thomas and Mrs Bishop back from maternity leave after Christmas, we have missed you!

Bumblebees

We have really enjoyed exploring our topic 'Do Dragons Exist?' and have particularly enjoyed learning about and exploring castles in our classroom. We have read lots of different dragon stories and have even managed to make time to practice our numbers.

We have been very excited by the arrival of some special eggs in our classroom, and talked about what could be in them! We came in one day to find that the eggs had hatched and our classroom had been left in a big mess. Now we are busy working on writing a report to tell everyone what happened!

Bats and Foxes

Bats and Foxes have had a lovely immersion into their new topic of 'Can you read me a story?' On the first day they were very excited to explore the classroom and examine the clues to find out the name of the traditional tale. The children looked wonderful in their costumes and enjoyed watching a pantomime in the afternoon whilst eating popcorn. Mrs Lang taught them to boo the baddies.

The children have enjoyed learning the stories of The Gingerbread Man, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and will be learning Little Red Riding Hood next week.

In Maths the children have learnt how to add one more and will be learning one less next week.

In Language the children made missing posters so the Gingerbread Man can be found, hopefully safe and well.

Reception have enjoyed their outdoor sessions. They have explored our nature area, used the loose parts to build bridges and followed the outdoor gingerbread man trail. They have loved making mud gingerbread men and planting magic beans. They can't wait to find out what they grow into.

Just a reminder that the children need a snack and water bottle for the afternoon session.





Thank you for your continued support.

Badgers/Woodpeckers

Year 1 started our topic 'Moon Zoom' with an alien crash landing in our school! From that, the children became investigators and solved the mystery of the crash site. We can't wait to continue this topic, making our own aliens and discovering all about planets.

We have also learnt all about the meaning behind the poppy and created poppy wreaths for Remembrance Day.

The children are also enjoying their PE sessions on a Wednesday, and learning how to use the iPad in lots of different ways.

Barn Owls and Moles

Year 2 are enjoying our new topic of 'Street Detectives' where we are learning about people in our community who help us e.g. police officers, doctors, vets. We had a fun Immersion Day where we dressed up and took on the roles of different community helpers.

The children have been learning how to identify and use rhyme and we are building up to writing rhyming poems. We have also been practising our number sequences, shapes, patterns and turns.

A big thank you for helping the children with their spellings each week, they are making great progress with these.

Mathletics and MyOn are available for the children to use at home also, please let us know if you need the log-ins again.

Red Squirrels and Dragonflies

Red Squirrels and Dragonflies have been very busy exploring their new topic 'Predators'. We have been looking at a range of predators from around the world, food chains and life cycles. In addition, we have designed a leaflet for Chester Zoo, and a new enclosure for aquatic predators.

For our outdoor learning we have been looking at frost and taking photos of ice on leaves, grass and twigs.

Thank you to everyone who's been supporting their children at home with Mathletics and MyOn.

We are looking forward to creating a special Christmas surprise for everyone!

Remember to check Class Dojo regularly for updates, messages and learning tasks.





Kingfishers and Buzzards

It has been a great term and the children have worked extremely hard. The children have been busy completing activities linked to our topic 'Blue Abyss'.

The children have also done lots of outdoor learning including identifying areas around the school where we can collect rainwater and discussing ways in which we can use this. This involved us collecting data on the amount of rainfall and using it to create a graph.

The children also spent time in the forest school climbing trees and toasting marshmallows. 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 Tuesday and can they come to school in their PE kits.

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

Otters and Dormice

As part of this topic we're going on a magical journey to find the gold hidden somewhere on Alchemy Island. We will read stories set in fantasy worlds that will inspire our story openings. We'll manipulate digital photographs, adding fantastical special effects.

Our Geography skills will improve as we look closely at maps of Alchemy Island, plotting routes and using coordinates. We'll explore the properties of materials and experiment with changes of state. If we're going to find gold, we'd better find out all about it!

In English we'll write soliloquies and poems inspired by the island's magical powers and dramatic landscape. The coding programme Scratch will help us to plot and correct errors in our route, and we'll use technology to create beautiful digital images. We'll use sound effects and mood music to reflect the atmosphere on Alchemy Island.

Eco Warriors

We have appointed our new Eco Warriors for the year and have created our new action plan. Thank you for your responses to the Eco Schools at home survey in the summer. We have used the results to inform our action plan.

This year, we will be trying to reduce our water use, energy use, reuse and recycle, plant more wild flowers, plant trees and stop litter at Penygarn.

Please help us to stop the litter by using the bins as you enter and leave the school. We look forward to sharing our progress with you over 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 and wearing face coverings.

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.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ!

The Welsh Government has updated its guidance on the use of face coverings in schools.



To reduce the risk of transmission amongst parents and relatives, **please wear masks when visiting school, and at drop-off and collection areas.**

Maintaining clear social distance at the school gates will also reduce risk and set a good example to pupils.

School staff will also be wearing a face covering, for the same reason





2020/2021 Academic Year

School Term and Holiday Dates - 2020/2021 Academic Year

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

School closed - May Day - Monday 3rd May 2021

Training days school closed to pupils:

Friday 18th December 2020

Friday 26th February 2021

Monday 7th June 2021

Monday 19th July 2021

Tuesday 20th July 2021

Yours sincerely

L Sellars
Headteacher





Dates for Your Diary

04.12.20

Dress Up Day

11.12.20

Christmas Hat Day
Christmas Dinner

14.12.20

Hearing Screening - Year 1 mop up

15.12.20

Christmas Party Day

17.12.20

Christmas Jumper Day
We are expecting a very special visitor!
End of Term



18.12.20

Training Day - School closed to pupils

04.01.21

Spring Term commences

