



## Welcome to our Newsletter!

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

### Nursery

Nursery are enjoying our new topic Once upon a time... We started off by enjoying a bedtime story session in our pj's with hot chocolate, cream and marshmallows. We then put together a basket of all of our favourite books for us to read at the end of each session. We have been reading classic stories such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears and The Three Little Pigs. The children have worked hard to retell the stories, look at where different stories are set and creating new characters. Measuring porridge oats and learning about size using mummy, daddy and baby bears bowls was also a favourite.

Outside the children have been building dens to hide from the big bad wolf and building strong houses for the three little pigs in the block area. We are looking forward to developing our gardening area in the coming weeks. We would welcome any donations of seeds and soil. Thank you so much!

### Reception

Bats and Foxes are enjoying their new topic of Dangerous Dinosaurs. They went on a dinosaur safari and had to identify the dinosaurs. We were very impressed by some knowing the names of the dinosaurs and the fossils. In the craft area the children have enjoyed making fossils out of playdough.

In maths, the children have been busy learning numbers up to eight and everything to do with that number. The children have impressed us by finding different ways of making a number.

In language the children have been busy learning to recognise and write their sounds, reading cvc words and reading some high frequency words. The children are enjoying working in the dinosaur museum exchanging coins, studying and digging for dinosaur bones.

In the outdoor area the children have loved selling hats, gloves and scarfs in the shop. Thank you for the lovely art work that you helped the children to make at home. It is on display in our hall.

Reading books will be sent home soon for the children to enjoy reading with you. Please can you click on the link that will be sent for you to agree to our policy.

### Woodpeckers and Badgers

Badgers and Woodpeckers are having a wonderful time learning about our topic - Paws, Claws and Whiskers. We have learnt all about the story "The Tiger who came to tea", where we have drawn story maps, made tiger masks and performed the story and even written the story ourselves!

We have been busy weighing and comparing animals using balancing scales. We are also going to do a sponsored event to help raise money for the RSPCA.

### Barn Owls and Moles

In Year 2 we had a wonderful Royal time learning all about Magnificent Monarchs and creating invitations. We also had a fantastic Welsh week learning our Eisteddfod recitation and creating lots of daffodils and castles.

We are now getting stuck into our new topic 'Scented Garden' where we will be doing lots of planting and gardening, and learning the story of 'Jack and the beanstalk'.

We are so pleased with how independent the children are becoming and how much progress they are making with their learning.

### Red Squirrels and Dragonflies

This term our topic is 'Mighty Metals'. We have been exploring the different materials used to make parks and have designed our own parks ready to make. We are exploring different types of metals and are researching what they are used for.

This week, we have been really enjoying Science Week and all the fun experiments we have had the chance to do.

### Red Kites and Tawny Owls

Year 6 are looking forward to learning all about their new topic Britain at War. We will be researching and exploring the key events of WW2, understanding how it would feel to be an evacuee and building Air raid shelters. We are looking forward to the last term in Year 6 and having lots of fun with our friends.

### **Buzzards and Kingfishers**

Our topic this half term is Misty Mountain, Winding River. We are learning about the journey of a river, and how it flows from the mountain to the sea. We will be finding out about the vocabulary associated with rivers and mountains, such as meander, source, mouth, etc. Atlas skills will be high on the list; finding out where the longest rivers and highest mountains are in the world.

Literacy work is learning how to write effective stories with all the features needed to write well. We are completing our first lot of "Hot Spots" where the children talk independently in front of the class.

In Maths we are focussing on fractions and decimals, as well as continuing to learn our multiplication tables.

PE is on Tuesdays and children may wear their kit to school if they wish. If we take part in Forest School, I will let you know on Class DOJO. Buzzards are continuing to take part in an extra PE session every other Thursday, with an ex Welsh Rugby ladies player.

**The children should be bringing home a reading book on a daily basis. Please listen to them read, if you can, and encourage them to read independently too. They need to bring their book bags back to school every day, so that I can listen to them on a 1:1 basis as well.**

If you have any issues or problems, or even want to tell me that you are pleased with how your child is doing, please contact me on DOJO. I will get back to you as soon as I can.

### **Otters and Dormice**

Year 5 have enjoyed their topic: Sow, Grow and Farm. We planned our allotment, planted vegetables, fruits and new trees and are waiting for seeds to germinate to plant in the summer term.

We loved our school visit to Greenmeadow Community Farm and were lucky enough to see a new chick just after it had hatched! We learnt about plants and animals and dissected flowers to find out how they reproduce. We also debated about whether children should be allowed to have mobile phones in school. We developed our opinions and used lots of formal language to argue our points! Recently, we also visited West Mon Comprehensive School to take part in a languages day. We loved learning German and Welsh and the teachers were very impressed with our pronunciation! This term, we have also developed our skills in swimming. We have gained confidence in the water and are improving our techniques. We will continue with our lessons next term too.

### **Ukraine Appeal**

The awful plight of the Ukrainian people touched us all so much, yet there was little we could do; except help in a practical way. So, we decided to have a Donate for Ukraine week. A blue and yellow day started the week off, followed by PJ's and slippers, Bad Hair day, Back to Front day and Unhealthy Snack day.

The donations rolled in constantly through the week! We never imagined that so much would be given to help people that we had never met. From nappies, wet wipes, baby clothes, medical supplies to children's colouring books, crayons and sweets! The car was filled up at least seven times and taken to Llanyrafon Church and New Panteg Rugby Club, ready for it to be transported to Ukraine and Poland, where it would be needed. £155 was also donated and will be transferred to the Red Cross refugee fund.

### **Dates to remember**

#### **Save the Date**

#### **Training Day**

08.04.22

School closed to pupils

#### **Easter Holidays**

11.04.22 - 22.04.22

School closed to pupils

#### **Football Tournament**

29.04.22

Principality Stadium in Cardiff

#### **Year 2 - Reptile visit**

03.05.22

#### **Class Photographs**

12.05.22

#### **Pontypool Eisteddfod**

24 and 25.05.22

#### **May Day**

02.05.22

School closed to pupils

#### **May Half Term**

30.05.22 - 03.06.22

School closed to pupils

#### **Training Day**

06.06.22

School closed to pupils

Thank you so much to everyone who donated. For each tube of toothpaste, comb, bottle of shampoo, nappy and wet wipe. Everything will be gratefully received by those who desperately need it. The photographs and films on the news have touched us all. We needed to do something.

### Change of Headship

I am not sure if you are aware but Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 will be my last day as Acting Headteacher at this school. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and would like to say a huge thank you to all the children and staff in supporting me throughout the last year. I will revert to my substantive post as Deputy Headteacher so will carry on doing my utmost for Penygarn Community Primary School.

Mrs L Smith will be appointed on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 as our new permanent Headteacher so I am sure you will join me in welcoming her to our school. She is currently Headteacher at St Francis RC School in Newport.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Happy Easter! Stay safe and enjoy the break.

Yours sincerely



L Jones  
Acting Deputy Headteacher



### PTA

The PTA have raised a staggering £200 selling raffle tickets this week.

Thank you to all the parents for their support in buying tickets and standing out in the rain on Wednesday morning whilst the raffle was being drawn.

Our winners are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize - Sarah W
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize - Huw P
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize - Lorraine
- 4<sup>th</sup> prize - Marc P
- 5<sup>th</sup> prize - Keelah
- 6<sup>th</sup> Prize - Caroline
- 7<sup>th</sup> prize - Glenys M
- 8<sup>th</sup> prize - Esme

Congratulations to all the winners!

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022 the PTA will be selling donuts/cakes/cookies after school. More events to follow in the Summer Term.

A huge thank you to the PTA who have donated £100 to school towards the purchase of Easter eggs for the children.

The PTA also plan to help fund the Year 6 leavers' hoodies.

