



Welcome to our Newsletter!

Annwyl Rieni (Dear Parents/Carers)

Dear families

I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed as the new Headteacher for Penygarn Community Primary School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Governing Body for entrusting me to lead this wonderful school.

I am honoured to take on this role - a place close to my heart. I can assure you that our school will continue to provide the best possible education, outcomes and experiences for your children. I am passionate about providing our pupils with a world class education - regardless of any barriers they face! I will never settle for anything less because your children deserve the absolute best and I will do everything in my power to deliver that!

Through education, we have the gift of inspiring love of learning; creativity and the courage to make positive choices to build the future.

Children learn so many academic things during their time with us and this is important of course; but children have also need to learn many more equally valuable things, including how to be a good friend, how to resolve conflict, how to persevere, how to find their own solutions and how to always do their best.

I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together, parents are crucial in making an important contribution to children's achievements at school, and I want to develop the relationship between the school and parents for everyone's benefit.

We can't always "be the best", but we can always "do our best" and I hope the children understand this and take this belief with them to high school, as kind, inquisitive, independent, curious children who love to learn.

Nursery

Nursery are enjoying our topic Splash! We started off by exploring different types of water including ice, bubbles, puddles and different colour water in the water trays. We have been learning all about floating and sinking and tested different objects found on our treasure hunt. We have painted beautiful waterfalls, rivers and puddles.

In music we enjoyed making our own rain makers using recyclable materials and enjoyed making our own water composition using a range of different musical instruments.

This week we have been exploring ice - how it is made, what it feels like and why it melts. The children have been excellent at filling and emptying containers in the water trays learning the language related to capacity.

Our new Rising 3 children have settled in beautifully. A big welcome to our new families.

Keep up the good work Nursery!

Reception

Bats and Foxes have really enjoyed our topic this half term. We have had fun at Penygarn Beach, building sandcastles, paddling in the water, visiting the Beach Shop and the Beach Café. We wrote post cards from the beach then went on a local walk to buy stamps and post our post cards. We hope you loved them!

We have also used coins within role play to buy real ice cream. We have looked at creatures we made find in the rock pool, made pictures with natural beach materials such as pebbles and shells and wrote senses poems about what we can see, hear and feel at the beach. Thank you for all your generosity with the donations of beach equipment, the children have loved setting up our beach and beach shop each day.

Woodpeckers and Badgers

Year 1 have been learning the topic "Splendid Skies", where we have shared our holiday experiences and created our own imaginary holidays. We have also created our own holiday places on Minecraft and written postcards to our families.

We have taken on the role of weather presenters in our role play areas and now know lots about the different types of weather and what clothes we need to wear for different seasons.

We have created a fruit stall to buy and sell real fruit, which has given us an authentic experience of using money.

We have also completed some amazing activities outside this term, from making an Earth Day cake, going on a sense's nature walk, to trying out our brand-new adventure play equipment!

Barn Owls and Moles

In Year 2 we have been wriggling and crawling and looking after lots of living things! We had class caterpillars which will soon be transforming into beautiful butterflies! We also had very special visitors from Roaming Reptiles and held lizards, snakes and tarantulas! We were very brave.

We are writing a fact file in both English and Welsh, and we have been learning how to measure, record data, and become much more independent in our learning.

We are looking forward to our last half term in Barn Owls and Moles together before moving to Year 3.

Red Squirrels and Dragonflies

Dosbarth Red Squirrels and Dragonflies have been having the most amazing time exploring PREDATORS. The children have researched facts, created their own leaflets, looked at food chains and created the most amazing art work.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support with home readers and spellings. We are really looking forward to continuing to explore and widen our knowledge of Predators after half term.

Buzzards and Kingfishers

Buzzards are continuing with their project called: The Romans are Coming! next half term, as we still have so much that we want to learn about the Romans.

This week we have taken part in two virtual workshops with Caerleon Roman museum: one about the life of a Roman soldier and the other about slaves in Roman times. The children have really enjoyed taking part in these workshops and we have learned a great deal.

Over the last term we have been learning new skills to play rugby. One of the Welsh Ladies Rugby team members, Teagan, has been coming in to work with us every fortnight. We have played lots of ball games and lots of reaction skills too. We have been very lucky to have had her visit and work with us.

PE is still on a Tuesday.

I can't believe that the year is nearly over and that my little munchkins will be moving up to Year 5 in a few months.

Thank you for your continued support.

Otters and Dormice

Year 5 have enjoyed their topic 'Roses and Royals', we got to experience an artefact crime scene, which even included a replica of one of Henry VIII's beheaded wives head. What a way to start the topic! We have learnt some interesting facts about him and carried out a science investigation to see what material would keep them the warmest.

The children have done really well this half term with their reading and it is lovely to see excitement on their faces when they pick up a book. Please listen to them read, if you can, and encourage them to read independently too. If you would like a home reading book, please let us know.

We are looking forward to the end of Year 5 and preparing for the last year in primary school. Lots of exciting things happening!

Red Kites and Tawny Owls

Year 6 are extremely excited to continue their topic of WWII. Next, we will be investigating surface area by making parachutes and also completing some outdoor learning sessions, using natural resources to design and build miniature Anderson Shelters.

Although this half term will be filled with sadness as Year 6 come to the end of their journey at Penygarn, it will also be filled with lots of fun and laughter as they share and make their final memories here with us and their friends.

Eisteddfod

On Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th of May, some amazing children from Year 2 and KS2 participated in the Pontypool Eisteddfod. They have worked hard over this past month to practise their words, actions and timings and it paid off!

Congratulations to Amelia for winning 1st place in the infants solo recitation, Ruby for winning 2nd place in the Year 5-6 solo recitation and Mia for winning 1st place in the Year 3-4 solo recitation.

Big congratulations to the group performances too, Year 2 came 3rd place and KS2 came 1st place. We are all incredibly proud of you for your outstanding effort and performances!

Rugby

We were recently invited to attend the Gateway 7's Rugby Festival at Principality Stadium, Cardiff. We had a fantastic day playing tag rugby and meeting some of the Dragon's rugby players. Our children were very well behaved and represented Penygarn fantastically too. Da iawn to all involved.



Uniform

School uniform - remember to order your school uniform from the office before the end of term ready for September.

Have a wonderful half term and enjoy your Jubilee celebrations.

Kind regards

L R Smith

L Smith
Headteacher

Dates to remember Save the Date

May Half Term

30.05.22 - 03.06.22

School closed to pupils

Training Day

06.06.22

School closed to pupils

Jubilee Party

10.06.22

Training Day

27.06.22

School closed to pupils

Sports Day

28.06.22

Years 3/4 Noah's Ark

04.07.22

Nursery, Years 5/6

Noah's Ark

05.07.22

Moving up Day

06.07.22

Reception Noah's Ark

12.07.22

Years 1/2 Noah's Ark

18.07.22

End of Summer Term

Thursday 21.07.22

