



9th November 2018

Dear all,

Welcome back to school! So the festive time of year is upon us, plans are afoot to make this season a magical one.

9th November – Firecracker Disco @ 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Get your dancing shoes at the ready! Entry price - £2.50 per child, £5.00 per family

12th, 19th & 26th November, 3rd & 10th December – Urdd Art Club @ 3:30-4:30

Calling all of our talented artists – join in with a variety of art and craft projects. There will be no weekly charge for this club – however, we do ask you to enter the Urdd so that your child's masterpieces can be entered into the competition in the Spring. Please join up online at <http://www.urdd.cymru/en/join/>

12th November – Urdd Swimming Gala

Good luck to all of our competitors. If your child has been entered, they will have been notified separately.

13th November – Cross County @ Dolerw Park, 1:00pm

All pupils in Year 3 – Year 6 have been entered into the race. Please come along to support our young athletes.

16th November – Children in Need Day

The theme this year is *Do Your Thing. We've all got one. A thing we love doing, a thing we've always wanted to do or just a thing we could do. Whatever it is, when we do it, we can really make a difference. Do your thing and change children's lives across the UK.*

So there we go – this year we will be doing our own thing. Wear your own clothes, bring in something from home to show off your thing, whether it be a scooter, a drum, or a book! Please bring in a £1 donation for Children in Need.

17th November – Singing Day for Young People @ Mochdre Old School, 10:15pm-3:30pm

A free workshop for all children aged 6-13, finishing with a concert for parents at 3:00pm. For further information, ring 01686 627076 / 01686 628803

19th November – School Photographs

Our photographer will be in school to capture the beauty of your little darlings. If you would like younger siblings to be involved, then please bring them to school at 8:30 where they will be photographed before the beginning of the school day.

21st November – Parents Evening @ 3:30pm – 6:30pm

An opportunity for you to speak with your child's class teacher and see the work that they have been busy at. The children really love to show off their developing skills – please make every effort to come.

24th November – Readers Squad @ Newtown Library

Pupils in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 have been invited to join the *Reading Squad* at Newtown Library – this is an exciting opportunity for all avid readers. Go on, join up!

29th November – Dosbarth Castan & Dosbarth Onnen Theatre Hafren Trip

Awful Egyptians Live On Stage! What an exciting opportunity for all pupils in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. Consent slips will be sent home with your children.

30th November – Christmas Fayre @ 2:00pm

All of our little elves will soon be busy making all kinds of Christmas Crafts that will adorn your houses with festive sparkle – please come along to support their entrepreneurial efforts! If you know anybody who may be interested in booking a table, then please direct them to a member of the *Friends of the School Team*.

1st December – Nativity Lights Switch On @ 5:30pm

Our school has been invited to be a part of the Nativity Procession during the *Turning On of the Lights*. We have aptly been given the role of the *angels* – our Year 5 and 6 children have been given this honour. We will also have a stall, selling our Christmas crafts. Please come along to support our school.

5th December – Nasal Flu Vaccine

This is now available for all pupils, Reception to Year 6. More details to follow.

6th December – Urdd Netball County Tournament @ Caereinion High School, 3:30pm – 6:00pm

Our netball team will be busy practising throughout November to be ready for the County Finals!

7th December – Carol Singing and Bag Packing @ Tesco

Helpers at the ready! We will be carol singing and bag packing at Tesco, hoping to spread the Christmas message and raise some funds for our school. If you would be able to help us with our mission, then please let us know, so that we can plan the day effectively. Your School Needs You!

11th December – Bedwen Panto & Celyn Nativity @ 1:00pm

Prepare to be entertained by our budding actors and actresses – all ready to shine in their very own special way.

12th December – Bedwen Panto & Celyn Nativity @ 6:00pm

Encore! A second chance to be blown away by our very own performers. We cannot wait!

14th December – Christmas Party!

Wear your Christmas Jumper as we celebrate the festive season with fun and games!

18th December – St Mary's Christmas Dinner

Powys have decided not to offer a Christmas Roast this year, offering a picnic box instead on 20th December. Therefore, in keeping with our wish to keep our *Christmas Dinner* a special family occasion, we will also be offering *St. Mary's Christmas Dinner* on this Tuesday – roast turkey! *Friends of the School* will be kindly supplying the festive touches so there will be no additional cost.

20th December – Special Visitor @1:30pm

Have you been naughty or nice this year?! A last minute chance to check if your name is on the list... All little siblings welcome.

21st December – Carol Service @ 1:30pm

Join us as together we celebrate the coming of Jesus into the world.

21st December – School Closes for the Christmas Holidays

By this time, we will all be ready for the curtain close!

Notices / Requests:

- For all pupils born between 01.09.07-31.08.08, the Secondary School Admission Round closes on Friday, 15th November. Go to <https://customer.powys.gov.uk/article/1161/Apply-for-secondary-school-place>
- Piano lessons a go! We now have a piano tutor who is keen to meet our talented musicians. Lessons will be £7.50 for 15 minutes. If you are interested, please let Mrs Whittington know so this can be arranged.
- If there is anybody skilled at sewing, could they help to make angel costumes for the Nativity Turning On of the Lights. Please let Mrs Whittington know if you are willing and able to make our children sparkle!
- In the entrance foyer we will be collecting a 'barrelful of chocolate' to be raffled off as a pre-Christmas treat. Please donate an item of chocolate so that everybody is desperate to buy a ticket at our forthcoming events – let's make this Wonka's Chocolate Factory!
- If there are any reading books belonging to the school, could you please return them. We have quite a few missing!
- Could you please collect empty round / hexagon shape boxes, ribbon scraps, buttons and wool to send in to school.
- The recycling batteries competition is well on the way. Mrs Davies, who has organised this, is very eager for us to win – so please keep sending old batteries in... £500 Amazon Voucher up for grabs!
- When buying online, please go through the easy fundraising page – it costs you nothing, but every purchase you make generates funds for our school. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarysnewtown/> and get spending!

Finally, a massive **thank you** to the efforts of the **Friends of the School**. They are determinedly working on supporting our school in all manner of ways. The bingo night was hugely successful, raising £245 – I think a Christmas shopping list is needed! Well done all!

The Christmas Countdown has begun...

Yours sincerely,

S. Ruggeri
Acting Headteacher