

# School News



We had a fantastic time watching the panto Jack and the Beanstalk last week at the Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot. It was an excellent show! Thank you to our school council for providing us with snacks.



Well Cymer Afan Primary certainly has talent! What a fantastic Christmas performance of 'Lights Camel Action.' Thank you again to all the parents that helped with costumes and learning lines, and to the children for working so hard to put on a great show.

**Attendance Update** Figures are averages for this academic year, ie from September to present. We aim for **AT LEAST 95%**

N	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Whole School	Croeserw	Glyn	Pen Afan	Fed (No N)	NPT
89.9%	94%	95.9%	88.2%	98%	96.4%	96.8%	94.7%	94.9%	93.7	94.5%	93.7%	95.04%	95.08%

## Federation News

The federation carol concert was a huge success. The standard of singing continues to grow under the guidance of Mrs Rumble - for the pupils to be involved in such quality of performance is a credit to them and will no doubt give them a boost in confidence.



# Merry Christmas to you all,



Cymer Afan Primary School  
Ysgol Gynradd Cymer Afan  
Newsletter  
December 2017



Dear Parents and Carers,

We're at the end of another extremely busy term which seems to have flown by. We really hope you were able to see your child in the school Christmas concert – we're in the fortunate position of being able to watch not just this school's concert but all of them across the federation. It's been a pleasure to see the talent that we have across the valley and also to share this special time of year together. Thank you again for your support throughout all of the Christmas concerts – this has helped to ensure that each performance was a huge success.

With regard to attendance, despite a number of coughs and sniffles through November, we're still on course to have a very successful year. Across the primaries, we have just about managed to reach our target of 95% (see the back page for details) - it would be great to maintain this throughout the year. However, there are a minority of families whose children seem to be off quite regularly, sometimes with no reason given; we must highlight how important it is for all children to be in school as often as possible. It is essential that this is the case for every child to reach his or her potential.

Lastly, please remember that the best present your child could possibly have this Christmas is your time. It is obvious in school which pupils spend time speaking and reading with their parents, even if it's for five or ten minutes a day. It's no coincidence that the children from those families often achieve the most in class. If you can persuade Santa to put a few books to share among your child's presents, it WILL make a difference. And remember, it's never too late to start!!

We wish you a restful Christmas and send you our best wishes for a very happy new year.

Mr C. Burden (Acting Headteacher), Mr R. Appleby (Primary Phase Leader) and Mrs V Quinn (Lead Learner)



January 8th 2018 - Staff return to School.

January 9th - Pupils return to School.

January 17th - Puberty and Personal Hygiene talk for Year5/6 class.

January 26th - Fire Safety Talks for Yr 1– Yr6.

January 29th - Year 5/6 Residential Week in Margam.

February 2nd - Pupils return from Margam.

February 6th - Dental talk with Years 3/4 linked to class topic.

February 6th - Writer's Day at the Comprehensive School. Year 5 and Year 6. (Packed lunch required).



19th February - 23rd February Half Term



Tuesday 27th February - Years 4 and 5 will be taking part in a weekly cycling session. Pupils will be required to bring their own bikes for these sessions if they have them.

## Nursery News Autumn Term (2) 2017

We have had a very exciting end to the year. We finished our topic "What a Colourful World" by helping Santa's Elves to wrap and make presents in our Santa's Workshop.

During **Red Week** we created some fabulous firework pictures using the iPads and tasted some lovely strawberries. We loved singing 5 little ducks throughout **Yellow Week** and using cotton buds with paint to form our numbers. We also, with the help from parents kindly gave donations to Children in Need and had a 'Spotacular' day. For **Blue week** the children got very messy by blowing bubbles in blue paint. **Blue week** was also anti-bullying week so we learnt how to be a good friend. During **Brown Week** we read and re-told the story 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear what do you see?' We learnt all about recycling during **Green Week**, with a little help from our friend 'Michael Recycle'. During **White Week** we created Christmas crafts, cards and calendars and wrote a letter to Santa! He even popped in for a special visit!

We ended the term with a Christmas concert that was fantastic. Miss Newberry-Wall, Mrs Gray and Miss Diane hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to hearing all about it in the New Year.

Merry Christmas  
Nadolig Llawen



## Y3/4

This half term we have been very lucky to work with Mr Paul Doyle to write some lovely poems about the river linked to our topic Flow.

We have talked about river safety and looked at coordinates to identify rivers in maps. We have created a flow chart to explain the life cycle of a river animal and linked our maths to real life problems.

We celebrated Remembrance Day by writing poems and following a set of instructions to make a poppy. We read In Flanders Fields and discussed its meaning.

We raised awareness during anti-bullying week and talked about what makes everyone special. We also looked at internet safety and talked about creating safe passwords.

We got spotty for Children in Need day and raised money for a good cause.

A wonderful time was had by all when we visited the pantomime in the Princess Royal, Port Talbot.

Thank you all for supporting us during our Christmas concert of 'Lights, Camel, Action' as well as during the Federation Carol Concert. It's wonderful to see all the children performing on stage.

We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas and we are looking forward to a new topic in January.



Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.  
Mrs Jones and Miss Thomas



## Rec/Year 1/Year 2 Autumn Term (2) 2017

This half term we have been finding out 'What happens when I fall asleep?' and discovering new things about Bonfire night, light and dark, bed time routines, night workers and nocturnal animals. We started off the topic with a pretend sleepover in class. We changed into our pyjamas and had porridge, hot chocolate and lots of bed time stories. We had lots of fun!

The last few weeks we've been learning about Advent, Christingle and the true meaning of Christmas. We worked really hard getting ready for our Christmas production of 'Lights, Camel Action' and I think you'll agree we did a fantastic job.

We hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Don't forget to find out what our class has been up to on our school twitter feed @cymerprimary or follow us using the Seesaw parent app.



## Year 5 & 6 A Child's War

We've had a fantastic half term!

We have carried on with our topic, A Child's War and have delved deeper into World War 2. We have created a database on WW2 planes using Hwb, completed a radio news report task pretending that the war has broken out and we have written a letter home pretending to be a soldier in WW2. We have also learnt lots about Anne Frank through research, completing a biography and completing presentations.

This term we have competed in the netball and rugby Wizard league games which were great for those involved! It's amazing to see so many children chosen from Cymer Primary. We have been super busy practising for the Christmas concert and Federated concert and we hope you all enjoyed! Year 5&6 did a fantastic job! We also attended Swansea University to have a talk on 'Weird Creatures' from the TV presenter, Nick Baker! We also had lots of fun during our dodgeball taster session.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas!

Enjoy!

