

# Federation News

There have been many trips shared between the schools this term, from the youngest to the Y6s. We are very proud of our Wizards teams who competed successfully at Llandarcy Academy of Sport in their tournaments.



We have also continued to build our transition links with the comp through writers' days where the children have worked alongside their counterparts from the other schools.



## Attendance Update

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

N1	N2	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Whole School	Croeserw	Glyn	Pen Afan	Fed (No N)	NPT
81.3%	89.6%	90.4%	94.2%	89.4%	95.7%	96.3%	96.4%	95.2%	93.5%	92.3%	94.6%	91.3%	94.1%	94.6%

## Safeguarding

With a significant minority, we find ourselves having to deal with issues between pupils in school which have originated from a disagreement on social media, such as Instagram, Snapchat, Oovoo and so on. We ask you to consider very carefully the social issues which arise in the use of such apps and whether they are perhaps more suitable for your child to use at a later stage of their life. It can be very difficult to monitor the use of such apps and it may be that you decide as a parent that your child will be happier if they don't use them at all until they are in comprehensive school.



Please note that there are minimum age restrictions on such sites and computer games for a reason.

How many Easter eggs can you find in this newsletter.  
Challenge your friends, brothers, sisters, Mum and Dad.

## School News

### Attendance:

As parents are aware, we are closely monitoring pupil attendance and punctuality along with the Education Welfare Officer.

Pupils who are consistently late or absent will receive a letter from the EWO as we aim to achieve a 95% attendance rate as per Estyn requirements.



Cymer Afan Primary School  
Ysgol Gynradd Cymer Afan  
Newsletter  
March 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another term has flown by and we are fast approaching the Easter holiday. The mixed weather hasn't stopped the children from working outdoors and the benefits of doing so with the younger children cannot be overstated. All classes have benefitted from trips to enhance their learning and this will continue next term.

Attendance has been mixed due to the coughs, sniffles and chickenpox but, despite this, we are on course for some very impressive attendance figures across the valley this year. Thank you so much for your support in this area - it really makes a difference to your child's education and also their social wellbeing if they attend regularly. In the long term, your child will benefit hugely if they have attendance better than our goal of 95%.

### Primary Assessment Week: Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (inclusive)

It is very important that all children are present during these weeks. Assessment activities will be provided including National Numeracy & Literacy Tests for Y2-Y6 in order to set educational targets and to assess the children's progress. **Please do not book a holiday under any circumstances between these dates as tests cannot be sat outside this time frame.** You may have had some practice papers from school already. Reading with your child at home is excellent preparation too.

We hope you have an enjoyable Easter break. Go easy on the chocolate :-)



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

### Dates For Your Diary

- Monday 16th April - INSET
- Tuesday 17th April - Finesse - Whole School Photograph. Cycling session Years 4/5
- Thursday 19th April - Rugby (Federated Team players)
- Tuesday 24th April - Years 5 and 6 Writers' Day - Swansea University. Packed lunch required.
- Tuesday 24th April - Rec, Year 1 and Year 2 joint with Croeserw Rec, Y1 class St Fagans. Packed lunch required.
- Tuesday 1st May - Cycling Years 4 and 5
- Wednesday 2nd May to Friday 4th May - National Tests**
- Friday 11th May - INSET (which replaces 18th May Inset)
- Wednesday 4th July - Federated Swansea University Sports for Years 5 and 6 (Packed lunch required)
- Friday 20th July - Leavers' Assembly 9.30am pm disco
- Tuesday 24th July - End of Term



### Safeguarding Across The Federation



For the safety of our children, we would like to remind the community that the school car park is to be used by staff only as there is a risk of accidents happening (as has happened in the past) if a large volume of traffic were to enter the area. **This also applies to Breakfast Club times when pupils are entering the premises.**

**Those who hold blue badges can visit the office where suitable arrangements will be made to suit your needs.**

Visitors and delivery vans can access the grounds but **MUST** close the gate behind them and proceed at a sensible speed.

We are aware that there are times when the gate is left open but stress that at the times when a number of children are likely to be accessing the area **NO VEHICLES** are to enter or leave.



### Nursery News

The children have enjoyed the start of our topic 'Are Eggs Alive?' We spent the first week back learning all about our country, Wales. The children enjoyed eating Welsh rarebit and tasting Welsh cakes! Due to our surprise snow days, the children celebrated St David's Day a week later, where they all looked exceptionally smart in their traditional Welsh costumes or Rugby Jersey's. During the second week, we learnt all about the story 'Jasper and his Beanstalk'. The following week we read the story 'Tedi Twt a Doli Glwt yn y ardd' and taught Tedi Twt how to plant a sunflower. We also got to dress up this week to celebrate World Book Day; the staff were very impressed with everyone's costumes. A superb effort was



made. The library helped us to celebrate World Book Day by providing fun and engaging activities for the children. More recently, we have been preparing for Easter with lots of Easter themed activities including measuring Easter eggs and searching for Easter eggs in our Easter egg hunt. As always the children have also been creative making Easter baskets and cards to bring home.



## Rec/Year 1/Year 2 Spring Term (2) 2018

This half term we have continued with our topic 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' and have been busy learning, performing and innovating the famous story 'Dear Zoo.' We hope you enjoyed watching our performance on Seesaw.



Due to the snow we celebrated **St David's Day** a little late but in style this year with a whole school special assembly, competitions and Welsh activities throughout the day.



We loved celebrating **World Book Day 2018**. We dressed up, had a quiz, read lots of new stories and shared our favourite books with the older children.



Recently our class has been hit badly by chicken pox! Let's just say we won't be winning any attendance awards during this half term. We were down to 11 children one day! Hopefully everyone is now

spot free and we will be back to normal after the Easter holidays.

Don't forget to find out what our class has been up to on our school twitter feed @cymerprimary and via our own Seesaw accounts.



## Meet our Cryw Cymraeg



Our **Cryw Cymraeg** is made up of pupils from years 3 to 6 who are enthusiastic about promoting Welsh in our school. We help other pupils to understand and use Welsh throughout the day. We are currently working towards achieving our Bronze award in the language charter 'Cymraeg Campus'.



Emily dw i. Dw i'n byw yn Duffryn gyda mam a dad. Dw i'n hoffi melfus ond dw i ddim yn hoffi tomatoes. Mae llysgaid brown da fi. Dw i'n 9 oed.



Kurt dw i. Dw i'n deg oed. Dw i ddim yn hoffi sbigoglys ond dw i'n hoffi chwarae fortnite.



Gracie dw i. Dw i'n wyth oed. Dw i'n hoffi ci a cath ond dw i ddim yn hoffi gwyddoniaeth.



Eleri dw i. Dw i'n wyth oed. Dw i ddim yn hoffi gwenynen. Dw i'n hoffi ysgol.



Regan dw i. Dw i'n hoffi chwarae PS4. Dw i ddim yn hoffi Barbie.



Grace dw i. Dw i'n naw oed. Dw i'n hoffi ci. Dw i ddim yn hoffi gwenynen.



Kayla dw i. Dw i'n byw yn Heol y Glyn gyda mam, dad, Kelsey, Junior, Lily a Leah. Dw i 11 oed. Dw i'n hoffi siocled ond dw i'n ddim yn hoffi tomatoes.



Ethan dw i. Dw i'n hoffi chwarae PS4. Dw i ddim yn hoffi lasagne. Dw i'n saith oed.



# Friends of Cymer Afan Primary

Thank you to 'The Friends of Cymer Afan Primary' members for ensuring all of the children received an Easter egg this year. It is lovely having a (PTA) Friends Committee to assist with fundraising and to join in with activities within the school. If you would like to join the Friends of Cymer group please give the school a ring, call in or speak with Lynne Rowlands the Chair who will keep you updated with regards to meetings and events.

Thank you to everyone who came to see our annual Easter Bonnet Parade around the village (in the School Hall for Nursery due to the weather) and to our first Easter Bingo afternoon. It was lovely to see you all there, what a brilliant community spirit we have in the valley.

Well done and thank you for making such a great effort with the Easter hats/Bonnets. It was a very difficult decision to make, but the winners were:

Nursery Runner up: Ollie Lewis

Nursery Winner: Mason Jones

Reception Runner up: Aiden Phillips

Reception Winner: Efa Mali Hopkins

Y1/2 Runner Up: Isabella Little

Y1/2 Winner: Tiaamii Parkinson

Y3/4 Runner Up: Gracie Rowlands

Y3/4 Winner: Gracie May Luke

Y5/6 Runner Up: Jack Howells

Y5/6 Winner: Emily Crawshaw Llewellyn



## Y3/4

### Burps, Bottoms and Bile

This half term has been a busy one! We have continued with our topic about the human body and looked at the human

skeleton. We have used our maths skills to measure the different bones in our bodies as well as labelling them and researching facts. We have completed an investigation to see if children with longer legs jump further and have enjoyed watching each other's oracy presentations about women who have changed medicine.

We have looked at writing stories and spent time describing settings and characters and using speech marks in our writing. We have all enjoyed listening to our class book 'The Demon Dentist'.



We had a wonderful day celebrating World Book Day, again thank you for all your hard work. During World Book Day we completed databases on David Walliams' books and used our measuring skills to create rectangular bookmarks as well as enjoying a day of stories.



Thank you all for the amazing effort with the Easter bonnets and supporting us on our Easter parade and our family bingo as well as our 'steps' challenge for Sport Relief. It really is appreciated.

Please could we have your continued support with reading books being sent back in on the correct day. It's very important that your child reads frequently at home. Have a lovely Easter, Mrs Jones and Miss Thomas



### Year 5 & 6 - Stargazers

This half term has been very interesting! We have delved deeper into our topic of space and have discovered lots more! We have completed science investigations on why planets have craters, wrote a newspaper report and a poem on the first moon landing and discovered lots about the moon. We went on a fantastic trip to Technquest where we all left there as 'Space Cadets'. Our talk on space was very interesting and interactive.

Year 5&6 also participated in 'Writers' Day' at Cymer Comprehensive, Wizards league netball and rugby matches, St David's Day, Cycling, Easter parade/bingo and fire safety talks. This term we are very lucky to have ukulele lessons too!

We hope you have a wonderful half term and Easter.

Over half term, please can children try their best to use the practise papers that are being sent home to build their confidence for the May tests. They will all do brilliantly but with a bit more practise their confidence will grow.





WORLD  
**BOOK**  
DAY

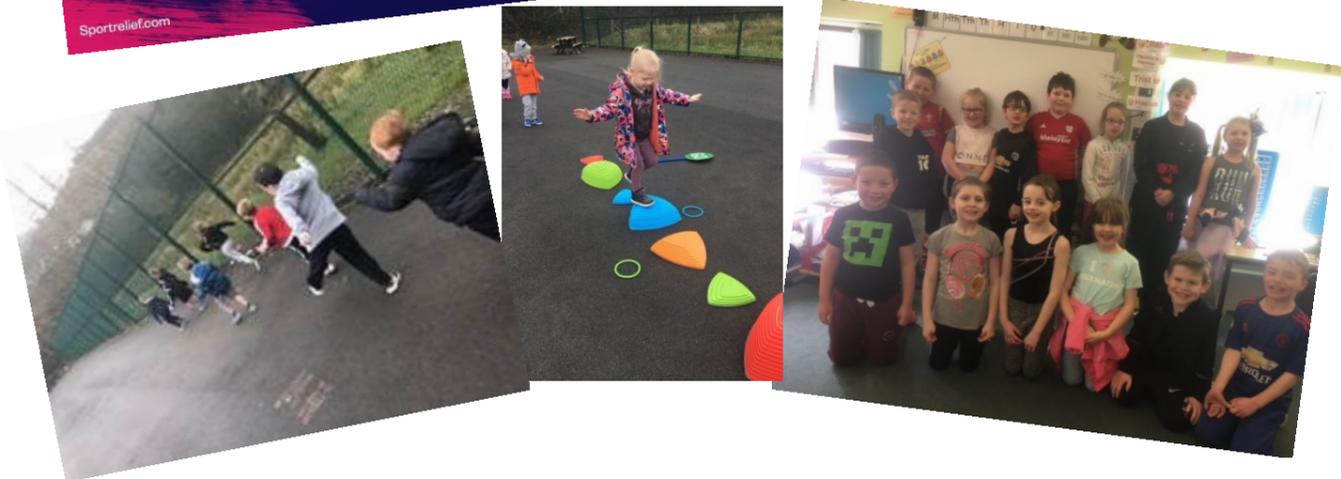
PIC-COLLAGE



Well done everyone for making such a fantastic effort for World Book Day 2018. We had a wonderful day sharing stories, talking about our favourite books and buddy reading around the school.



We managed over a quarter of a million steps between us to raise money for Sport Relief. Thank you everyone that so kindly donated. We managed to raise £54 whilst having a lot of fun!



### Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant!

Congratulations / Llongyfarchiadau to our special prize winners for such fantastic flag designs, poems, handwriting and paintings created during Welsh Week, and well done to everyone else who entered. Even though it was delayed due to the snow, we had a great week celebrating everything

### St David's Day

