Federation News

TRIPS: We have had several trips out into the locality to enhance the pupils' learning within their topic, with most schools sharing their trip with other schools within the federation. It is lovely to see the children getting to know each other in this way - this will benefit them both now and in the future. This and last week, we also had our Y5/6 classes visit the Rock UK Summit Centre near Treharris where they took part in many outdoor activities.

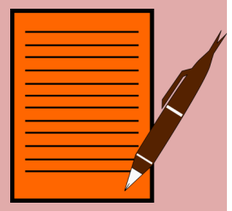
SPORT: We had a successful first 'Wizards' tournament this month, with our rugby and netball teams playing against some large schools and playing their socks off as usual. Rugby W2 L1, Netball W1 L2. Well done to Rhys Weaver (Pen Afan) and Regan Bogdan-Kingman (Glyncorrwg) for being picked to represent the Aberavon Schools Under 11s squad for the 2018/19 season. Good luck boys!

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	Cymer	Pen Afan	Fed	NPT
90.6%	96.3%	95.7%	99%	95.1%	93.9%	99.2%	94.6%	95.2%	91.7%	96.2%	92.5%	93.7%	95.1%

Dates for your diary.



Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November 2018—Half Term

Monday 5th November 2018—Whole School Photographs

Tuesday 6th November 2018—Bags 2 School collection.

Thursday 8th November 2018—Wizards League

Friday 9th November 2018—PC Garlick Y3/4—Friend or Foe Y5/6—Be Cyber Safe.

Thursday 15th November 2018—Wizards League

Tuesday 20th November 2018—Y5/6 Writers Day at Cymer Afan Comprehensive School

Thursday 29th November 2018—PC Garlick N/R - People Who Help Us.

Tuesday 4th December 2018—KS2 Princess Royal Theatre—Pantomime

Wednesday 5th December 2018 - 2.00pm Choir will be singing at the Christmas Tree Festival Noddfa

Thursday 6th December 2018—PC Garlick Y5/6 Anti Social Behaviour

Friday 7th December 2018—Y5/6 Cross Phase Project—Drug Awareness

Thursday 13th December 2018—School Christmas Concert at St Johns Church 6.00pm

Friday 14th December 2018—School Christmas Concert at St Johns Church 1.30pm

Monday 17th December 2018—Federated Carol Concert

Wednesday 19th December 2018—Reception Year 1/2 Santa experience at Zoar's Ark

Thursday 20th December 2018—School Christmas Dinner

Monday 24th December 2018 to Friday 4th January 2019—Christmas Holidays

Monday 7th January 2019—INSET Day

Tuesday 8th January 2019—Pupils return to school

The Federated Schools of the Upper Afan Valley

Glyncorrwg Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Glyncorrwg
Newsletter
Autumn 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Fundraisers: We are always so impressed with the support shown by our families when we try to raise money for the school and other good causes and this term has been no different. The children have already dressed up for a variety of reasons this year and it is important that you are aware of how thankful we are. Many thanks to you all.

Reading: *PLEASE HELP US TO RAISE STANDARDS IN READING*
Reading with your child is vital. Research shows that it's the single most important thing you can do to help your child's education. It's best to read little and often, so try to put aside some time for it **every day**.
Think of ways to make reading fun - you want your child to learn how pleasurable books can be. If you're both enjoying talking about the content of a particular page, linger over it for as long as you like.
Books aren't just about reading the words on the page, they can also present new ideas and topics for you and your child to discuss. Reading with your child makes a huge difference back in school.

Attendance: We are disappointed that we had our worst September attendance in the last five years. We ask that you ensure your child is in school if they are well enough to be here. Please give your child the best chance of success in the classroom by *arranging medical appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.* Also, for your diaries, National Tests this academic year will take place between the 7th and 14th May 2019 inclusive.

Many thanks for your continued support and we wish you a relaxing holiday.

Mr G Groves (Acting Headteacher), Mr Rob Appleby (Primary Phase Leader) and

Mrs Jayne Jones (Lead Learner)

Safeguarding

We are always striving to keep the children in our school safe, if any of you have any concerns please contact a member of staff.

PC Garlick has been in this term to talk to the children about SMART awareness. He talked about being aware of hazards on the internet and what to do if the children see or hear anything that makes them uncomfortable.

It is very important that all the children understand that they are not to open any of the main doors, even if they know the adult standing there. As part of our safeguarding policy all parents entering the school late, or during the school day, should report to the office in the Junior building. Please could all parents make sure that grandparents/aunties/uncles etc are aware of this rule also. Many thanks, Mrs Jones

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, and so on. There are also some children who play unsuitable games with a PEGI rating way above their age. We ask you to consider very carefully the social issues which arise in the use of such apps/games 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/games 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 for a reason. Mr. Appleby

Nursery Reception

Nursery and Reception have had a fantastic first term settling into school. Our topic has been 'Let's all be friends'; we have been getting to know each other and building friendships. The children have had a lovely time learning all about how we can be 'bucket fillers' by being a kind friend and they carried out some fantastic creative work making their own buckets. We have had an action-packed term with a lot of fun activities one of our class favourites was a 'Show me' friendship game where children had to act out different friendship scenarios.

To end our term, we had a class Picnic Party. We wrote invitations to our friends, shopping lists and thank you letters. The children had a fantastic time spending time with their friends and playing games.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term here with your children and look forward to next term where our topic will be 'Why do squirrels hide their nuts?'

Have a lovely half term!

Miss Evans and Kayleigh

Year 1&2

We have had a fantastic 1st term in Year 1/2. We have all settled in well and have thoroughly enjoyed our topic of Superheroes, which has included a focus on Real Life Heroes. We had some fantastic visits from the armed response police unit, our PCSOs and the RNLI. We got to try on some of their uniforms and even have a little sit inside their emergency vehicles. We especially enjoyed our visit to Maesteg fire station where we were even allowed to spray the hose!

We can't wait to see what we can get up to next term!

Mrs Keegan and Tina.

Year 3&4

Year 3/4 have had a lovely first half term! The year 3 children have settled very quickly and all the children are working very hard. We have been studying 'Potions' this term and have written lots of poems based on our novel 'George's Marvellous Medicine'. We have learned all about solids, liquids and gases and even had a chance to play with chocolate! We've had fun learning about capacity using Water Beads and coloured water. Autumn is here and we have been on a lovely walk around the village collecting leaves that we then made into leaf animals. We also took part in a Harvest assembly and collected lots of food for the Neath Food Bank. Many thanks to all who donated.

We have started developing our Junior outdoor classroom, we now have a lovely area to sit in and we are looking forward to all our new furniture arriving. Our next topic is called 'Scrumdiddlyumptious', we are looking forward to having lots of fun making sweets and learning all about healthy eating.

Year 5&6

What an action packed start to the new school year in 5/6! We have been very busy with lots of fun activities which have included a rugby/ netball training day, a trip to St Fagans, a Harvest class assembly, a Shwmae day, a Peri Roadshow with Cerdd NPT Music and lots of miles completed in our 'Mile a Day' course.

Congratulations to **Regan** who has been chosen to represent the valley and play for the Aberavon Schools Squad in rugby. Arddechog!

Another congratulations to **Aleara** who was recognised for speaking excellent Welsh by our Criw Cymraeg members; **Cole**, **Lars** and **Aneah**.

A final mention for the new School Council members, **Gracey-May**, **Harvey**, **Eleri**, **Josie**, **Harry and Eva** who have already planned this year's Halloween Disco. Keep up the good work!

For up to date news about what we get up to in **Year 5/6,** follow us Twitter using @GlyncorrwgPri