

Blaendulais News

"Making a Difference"

Welsh Government Tests

As we come to the end of the Welsh Government testing period for 2017/18, I feel it is important to draw your attention to how well many of the children have done. Few of us enjoy taking tests, and I think the pros and cons of the tests could be argued until the sun goes down, however, we are very proud of our children and the work they have put in. It is clear that when our children apply themselves, and work hard, they are capable of great things!

We often talk in assembly about our strengths and weaknesses. In school, I was pretty good at Maths, okay(ish) at English, loved Sport and loathed RE! We all have different strengths and I have made this very clear to the boys and girls. When they grow up and develop, as long as they try their very best, they will find something that they can excel at - the tests don't spot future artists, sportswomen or mechanical engineers!

It should also be mentioned that the tests are 'Standardised'. This means that Welsh Government will take in all the scores from across the country and 'measure' them against how well pupils have done. They also take into account the age of the child, so pupils born in September may achieve a different 'Standardised' score to pupils born in August - all very confusing!

The results will be published, with end of year reports, in July. As always, there will be an opportunity to discuss pupil progress with teachers before the end of the school year.



INSET Days - Monday & Tuesday 23/24 July 2018



Safeguarding Info

Pupils are actively encouraged to share any concerns they may have. These may be school or home based concerns.

This can be done by talking to parents / guardians, a member of staff, visitors to school, and writing to the 'Worry Box'.

When this happens, it might be necessary to speak to parents/ guardians about the concern.



Attendance

Our school attendance has declined of late, and is below our target at **94.7%**. In order to provide your child with the best possible education, please ensure you aim for at least **95%** attendance. We work closely with out EWO (Education Welfare Officer) to support all pupils whose attendance drops below 90%. If your child is absent due to illness etc, please inform the school as soon as possible.

Healthy Lunch Boxes

Please provide your children with healthy food at lunch time. It really does help them perform better in school, plus develop healthy habits for life!

Dinner Money

Dinner money must be paid for the week on Monday - £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week. Any credit will be returned the following week. **If dinner money is unpaid, then a healthy packed lunch must be provided.**

Dates for the Diary...

- 02/05/18 - Welsh Government Tests begin (until 09/05/18)
- 02/05/18 - 'Family Links' Parent Nurture Group begins (10 week course - limited numbers)
- 07/05/18 - Bank Holiday Monday
- 14/05/18 - Y4/5 Spectrum Project (Day 3 of 3)
- 16/05/18 - Warburtons Bread visit Year 3/4 (school based)
- 17/05/18 - Warburtons Bread visit Year 5/6 (school based)
- 18/05/18 - Colorfoto - Group Photos inc. families before school
- 24/05/18 - Year 1/2 Class Assembly (10.00am)
- 28/05/18 - Half Term
- 04/06/18 - Year 3/4 Swim Block begins
- 15/06/18 - Year 5/6 Beach Football tournament, Aberavon
- 18/06/18 - Year 5/6 Swim Block begins



It takes a village to raise a child