

20th December, 2019

Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian,



PHEW! We made it!

The end of the Autumn Term is upon us. The concerts are done and the Christmas Fayre's has been a huge success. **WE** are all glittered and tinselled out!

Thank you to **ALL** staff and pupils for all their extra hard work these past few weeks. We could see that you all enjoyed the concerts. We certainly have an abundance of talent here at our great school.

We start back on Monday 6th January. Both Monday 6th and **Tuesday 7th January** are both INSET days. The children's first day will be Wednesday 8th

January. Please ensure the children are refreshed and ready to go. The Staff are busy writing up their medium term plans ready for the Spring Term. We will share these with you in the first week back.

We still have not received information from Welsh Government on the 6th Inset Day (Extra allocated to us). This day is for schools to use in readiness to the new Curriculum which will be statutory in 2022. The final (5th Inset Day) will be **Monday 20th July, 2020.**

Our attendance target is 95%. For the month of October we achieved 92.8%, which is lower than previous years. The current attendance percentage is 93.8% which is 0.5% down from last October 2019. Please let us know if your child/ children cannot be in school for whatever reason on the day of their absence. The lateness of some pupils are also causing us concern and is on the increase. Could you please ensure that you arrive at 8:50am. Please keep us informed if you change your mobile number. Children must be collected by a responsible adult (i.e. a person who has officially left school) and is on the pink form. If anyone different is collecting a child for whatever reason at the end of the day, the class teacher must be informed in the morning.



Below are lists of important dates for your diaries.

Dates for the diary:

20 th December 2019	-	End of Autumn Term
6th January 2020	-	INSET DAY
7th January 2020	-	INSET DAY
8 th January, 2020	-	Pupils back into school
13 th January, 2020	-	Jujitsu taster sessions, whole school
13 th January, 2020	-	Year 5 Manor Adventure Parents meeting (3:30pm)
15 th January, 2020	-	Jujitsu taster sessions, whole school
17 th January, 2020	-	Year 3/4 Rugby Skills at Llandarcy Academy
20 th – 25 th January	-	Year 3 Swimming Week
27 th – 31 st January	-	Year 3/4 Swimming Week
3 rd -7 th February	-	Year 4 Swimming Week
10 th -15 th February	-	Year 4/5 Swimming Week
17 th – 23 rd February	-	HALF TERM
2 nd March	-	St David's Day Celebrations at school
3 rd April	-	Last Day of Spring Term
20 th April	-	Start of Summer Term

NB dates will be added to this list as and when they are organised.

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to all the pupils, staff and parents who helped to create a very successful PTFA Christmas Fayre. The event was a huge success and yet again our wonderful PTFA has exceeded expectations considering the weather.

Manor Adventure Residential for Year 6

This was the first time that we had used this company and the feedback received from staff and pupils certainly exceeded all expectations. All pupils who attended had a wonderful experience and have certainly made some wonderful memories. The children were a credit to both you and us. My thanks to ALL the staff that spent the few days with the children.

Oracy Project and Inset Day at Gnoll Primary

We have finalised our Oracy Inset Day here. This will be **Tuesday 7th January 2020**. Our aim this year is to create an Oracy Project including the whole school. As you know, we set priorities each year through our school development plan (information on the website). This year we are once again targeting opportunities for pupils to have formal and informal opportunities to present. This day is assigned in working with Poet/Story teller Mr Mike Church where staff will be upskilled in readiness for the summer project.

Parental Engagement Sessions

As you know, we take pride in the successful parent groups that we have had over the years here at Gnoll Primary. We have held several parent workshops/courses this term however, this we have had a poor turnout to these. They are here to support family involvement and learning. Please make every effort to attend.

Parents have enjoyed the learning offered and have built new relationships with other families within the school. In January 2020, we will continue to forge new family partnerships and we have been busy forming the new courses/family networks. These events will take place in the iZone

Families Connect and Relationship Based Play.

If you wish to take part in any of the courses, we have on offer, please either speak to Mrs Davies and Mrs Hurst or the staff in the office.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I look forward to working with you in 2020.

New Playgroup

Miss Evans has been busy meeting with parents and I am pleased to say that we have a newly formed committee which will be starting a baby group in the near future so keep an eye on the newsletter. If you know any first time mums they can also come along to the sessions. They may not know what school can offer them already.

Rhys Harris

Headteacher

School Email:
gnollprimary@npted.org

School Website:
<http://gnoll-primary-school.j2bloggy.com/>

Twitter:
@GnollPrimary