

Cylchlythyr Hydref 1

Autumn 1 Newsletter

It's hard to believe how quickly this half-term has gone. We hoped that bubbles would now be over, but unfortunately, due to a high rate of COVID19 cases in Powys, this was not possible. However, it has been nice to see pupils back in the hall for their lunch.



The staff have created a fun half term for the pupils. Since September, all classes have started their **themes** and pupils have worked hard.

Miss Watkins' Class theme is 'Ar y Ffarm - On the Farm'. Pupils have enjoyed learning about different animals, historic machinery, present day and past farming techniques and learning about fruit and vegetables. Mrs Evans' class has been learning about India; how people dress there, how to save the tigers and national parks. They explored Bandhavgarh National Park as park rangers.

In KS2, Miss Brown's class have studied the book 'Wonder' by RJ Palacio as a theme. They have written diaries and poems and have created some lovely artwork. They've also been learning about trees in science. Mrs Turner's class theme is 'Cewri - Giants'. They have learned about Owain Glyndŵr and the class have been on a trip to Sycharth, Owain Glyndŵr's home near Llansilin (See WEDUC 'Newsfeed' for a video). Before Christmas, we will share videos of the work they have done.

Over the summer you may have seen some **changes to the school**. We have a new climbing frame, a new outdoor area in the foundation phase and a new CCTV system to keep everyone safe.

We have welcomed **new pupils** to the school. We are pleased to welcome Hefin, Elen, Lluan, Cillian, Dyfan S, Dyfan J, Koa, Lucy and Evie to the reception class. We have also welcomed William, Izzy and Lamara to Miss Brown's class.

We have had some **visitors** to the school. PC Gayle came in to talk to year 1 and 2 pupils about people who help us, to year 3 and 4 pupils about harmful substances and to year 5 and 6 about 'Your choice - substance abuse'. Karen from 'Kariad' held a magic workshop for years 2 and 3 and year 6 had a virtual meeting with Rob Rudge of Ysgol Llanfyllin.



Thanks to the parents who came to our **virtual parents' evening**, we hope that the next one will be face to face but this experience has given us flexibility. Virtual meetings may suit some better so we will be asking your views on these meetings shortly.

At the beginning of each year we set our **priorities for the year**. This year our 4 main priorities are the wellbeing of pupils and staff; literacy and numeracy; the new curriculum and implementation of the new ALN code. For more information on our priorities please ask. The governors' annual report to parents will be shared with you shortly along with spending plans for grant allocations.

A reminder that we are taking part in **'It's good to grow'** with Morrisons. A link has been shared on WEDUC. We also continue to collect **batteries** for recycling. There is a box in the hallway, leave your batteries in reception.

In early October, the **PTA AGM** meeting was held. It was great to see some new faces. The following officers were appointed:

- Ffion Jones (Chair) Sammy Jones (Vice-Chair)
- Beth Evans (Secretary) Cat Ash (Vice-secretary)
- Anna Evans (Treasurer) VACANT (Vice-treasurer)

If you are interested in the post of treasurer for 2022/2023, please contact us. The PTA is organising events and fundraising ideas for the year, more information on Christmas ideas will be shared with you soon. Last year, the PTA made a fantastic £650 with the Christmas hamper and by selling second-hand school uniform.

We have a vacancy as a **clerk to the governors**. I would like to thank Ann Klages who has been in the role for almost 10 years, she has done a great job. If you are interested or know of someone who will be interested, please contact us. The job advert will be posted soon.

A reminder of our **breakfast club** at £2 per pupil, 8-8.45am. You don't have to book ahead, just bring your child along and pay through ParentPay. Can you check your ParentPay please, as a lot of money is owed. If you have any problems, please contact us.

After half term, we will provide **morning snack** for pupils again. Parents can pay 20p a day, £1 a week towards healthy fruit and vegetables. We will insist on implementing our healthy eating policy again too, **so only healthy fruit or vegetables such as a snack in the morning if they continue to bring a snack in themselves**. This will start on November 1st. To make it easier for us when buying the food, we ask that you pay by cash, weekly or termly. Please send the money into school in a labelled envelope for the class teacher. Next term is 8 weeks, so it would be £8 for the half term until Christmas.



After half term, pupils in Dosbarth Miss Brown and Dosbarth Mrs Turner will **swim** again on Monday afternoons. However, pupils will not be able to share a bus due to bubbles, therefore they will swim every other week starting with Mrs Turner's class on Monday November 1st. We ask for a contribution of £2 for the bus each week please, and this will be payable on ParentPay.

Well done to some of the year 2 and 3 girls, who were in Miss Watkins' class last year. They sold their **soap** in a coffee morning at Llanrhaeadr hall with Miss Watkins and Miss Huws. They sold a lot of soap and raised £177. Da iawn!

Thank you for your support in raising money for our mental health charity, **Young Minds**. Pupils and staff wore the colour yellow for Hello Yellow day and raised £84.

Staff are growing increasingly concerned about what **films and video games** pupils watch and play and then discuss in school. There is a reason for different age ratings, and pupils in primary school should not be aware of programmes such as Squid Game (15), Game of Thrones (18) or Siren Head (12) or games such as Five Nights at Freddy's (12), Fortnite (12) or Call of Duty (18). These are just a few examples of some of the games that pupils talk about. We teach pupils about suitable ages but we also need the help of parents. If necessary, we will have to talk to individual families if the problem persists.

We're looking forward to the second half of the Autumn term which always offers fun, as we prepare for Christmas. We will update you with Christmas arrangements as soon as we know more ourselves.

I hope you enjoy your half-term and we look forward to seeing the pupils on Monday November 1st.

Kind regards

Mr Jonathan Richards



Cornel Cymraeg



As part of our work to work towards the Siarter Iaith (Language Charter), the Criw Cymraeg has been busy preparing jokes for 'Shwmae Su'mae Day'. Use this link to see what pupils got up to and to listen to the jokes. Maybe watch them with your child - [Diwrnod Shwmae Su'mae Link](#)

It has been a difficult few years for the Urdd and there is still uncertainty about what will happen later in the year. However, if you would like your pupil to join, please visit this link to join or to find more information - <https://www.urdd.cymru/en/join/>

