

**Learning Together | Achieving for Life**  
**Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd | Cyflawni am Oes**

**8th September 2023**  
**Edition 2**

**Thank you!**

What a great start back to the school year! We have welcomed new members of staff, a brand new reception class and some new pupils. Welcome, croeso, one and all. Everyone of our pupils (and staff) has done a great job adjusting to the big jump from holiday to school mode. I am especially proud of the efforts that the children are making in their presentation and behaviour around the school. I talk lots about manners, respect (more on that later) and kindness. It's so lovely to see our children working hard to show these qualities not just to us but to each other as well. Da iawn, pawb!

I'd also like to say a great big thank you to you all for the efforts you have made with the children's uniform. They look great! Diolch!

**Leaving the school site**

After School Club operates from our premises from 3:30 and they use the outside area of the school. As a result, it is really important, in order to safeguard these pupils, that parents and pupils who do not attend After School Club leave the site as quickly as possible. Thank you.

**Drop Off and Pick Up**

We recognise that the beginning and end of the day are very busy - and we want to get this right for everyone. Below is a reminder of the routine.

**Beginning of the School Day**

School starts at 9am and doors will be open from 8:50 a.m.

Any children arriving after 9am, must enter via the main entrance and sign their child in.

**The End of the School Day**

Please be prompt.

Children who are collected in Reception to Year 2 are to be picked up by 3:30pm from the classroom doors. Obviously adults picking up cannot be in two places at once! Therefore doors to the Reception to Year 2 classes will be opened slightly earlier to allow siblings to be picked up as soon as possible after that.

Siblings not picked up in a timely manner will be brought up with the walking bus to be collected from the gate. If they haven't been collected from the gate, they will be brought back to the office.

Children in Y3-6 on the walking bus will be brought up to the car park after 3:30pm.

Please be swift in collection so that we can free up the car park.

After 3:35pm, you will need to collect your children from the office.

**Value of the Month**

A value is a principle that guides our thinking and behaviour. As a school we believe that the ethos of the school should be built on a foundation of values. The values that we will focus on are:

- Peace
- Equality
- Courage

- Hope
- Consideration
- Positivity
- Trust
- Self Belief
- Self Control
- Pride
- Confidence
- Tolerance
- Empathy
- Patience
- Determination
- Love
- Compassion
- Respect
- Kindness
- Humility
- Friendship
- Unity
- Responsibility
- Freedom

We will work hard to teach and reinforce them through whole school assemblies, lessons, through our approach to positive behaviour management and especially when resolving conflict: our values will permeate the whole curriculum.

Each month we will celebrate one of these values, and use them to help us to develop our children socially, intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and morally. We will encourage children to consider these values and thereby to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable them to develop as reflective learners and grow to be stable, educated and civil adults.

Our values will help us to fulfil the ambition for all our learners to be ethical and informed citizens; ambitious and capable learners; healthy and confident individuals; and enterprising and creative individuals.

We will start the month of September exploring the value of **Respect**.

### **Administration of medicines**

We do not routinely administer medication, only as part of an agreed health care / medical plan. If your child requires medication, please ring school and speak to Mrs Partridge. . Please could all parents / carers ensure that agreed medications (part of health care / medical plans) such as EpiPens are in date, and in school if they have not already done so. Parents will need to bring them to the main office and sign the medication in via our medical forms provided. Pupils who have asthma pumps please let us know via the school email so we can ensure our records are up to date.



### **Big Dig and Do Days**

On Saturday 16th September, we are calling on gardeners, carpenters, diggers, ploughers, planters, painters and much more.

Please save the date. Many hands make light work and we would love to see you, whatever contribution you can make.

If you have any equipment such as:

- Spades
- Shovels
- Wheelbarrows
- Loppers
- Shears
- Saws
- Crow bars
- Axes
- Thick gardening gloves

please consider labelling and loaning it to us, or even better bringing it and using it for next Saturday's big dig day!

The plan is to (dependent on numbers)

- Dismantle most of the sheds
- Paint the remaining useful sheds
- Fix and paint the outdoor play equipment
- Move some of the furniture
- Weed the planters
- Remove most of the planters outside Year 3 and 4
- Restore the area outside the classrooms to a levelled area
- Construct a picket fence outside Reception and Year 1
- General tidy up!

In preparation for the day please can you let us know if you can spare any time and if so, how much! We aim to be ready by 9 am and off site by 4pm

Your lovely children are welcome to be helpers, but we are unable to take responsibility for them during the day.

**Please note, this day will be dependent on the weather!**

#### **Attendance Matters**

If your child is absent please telephone 01291 641774 and select option 1 for the dedicated absence line. Please leave a short message with the reason for your child's absence before 9.10am. When children manage at least 95% attendance this will have a hugely positive impact on the standards they achieve. If you have any questions on any attendance matters please do not hesitate to contact the school office for support and advice.

#### **Improvements to our Building**

During the holiday, the school has had some improvements made to the building, specifically brand new toilets in the infant and junior sections of the school. Mr Reynolds has also been busy painting the cloakroom and shared areas of the infant building and they are fresh, clean and ready for learning. It makes such a difference to the environment! During the course of this year we will be concentrating on doing the same to all the classrooms in the infant building, before moving onto the juniors!

#### **Nut allergies**

We have a number of children with severe nut allergies. No nuts are allowed in school including products that contain nuts. Please check before sending in lunch boxes.

#### **Mobile Phones / Smart Devices**

Please do not send mobile phones / Smart Communication devices, (including smart watches) to school with your child. If children need to make phone calls during the day they will be able to use the school telephones in the main office. School will not be able to accept any responsibility for any items that are lost or damaged.

### **No Dogs on Site**

No dogs are allowed to be brought onto the school site in the interests of all pupil, parent & staff safety

### **No Smoking on Site**

The school is designated a no-smoking area. This also includes any areas near the school gates. These rules also apply to any electronic forms of cigarette.

### **Healthy Eating**

Please ensure your child brings in a healthy snack, eg. fruit or vegetables and a drink ( water only as per WG guidelines). Children will be able to refill these during the day.

### **GDPR – Processing Information**

Our website holds details on how we process your children’s data in our school processing notice.

### **Talents and Achievements**

Lily was really excited to come back to school and start year 1 on Monday.

Over the summer holidays she had her 5th birthday and one of her present requests was a litter picker so that she could help keep her village clean! One of Lily's first jobs was to pick up litter around the outside of the school. What a great thing to do Lily; a fantastic way of showing our value of Respect by respecting your environment and looking after it! Diolch!



Shirenewton School @shirenewtonsch · Sep 5  
Llongyfarchiadau to all of our wonderful children who shared their talents and achievements today. We will be starting our celebratory display behind them!



Llongyfarchiadau to Monty who has worked really hard, persevering with his passion for football. His hard work has paid off, and he’s now been signed for PJSS football academy. Gwaith da, Monty

Has your child achieved something special outside of school? Please let us know and we can all celebrate fantastic achievements in our Talents and Achievements assembly. Please bring in any trophies, medals or certificates so that we may share and celebrate success together



### **Post Box**

Thank you to whoever was responsible for the wonderful knitted welcome our children had this week. It certainly made us smile!

★★★★★SEREN YR WYTHNOS★★★★★

Congratulations to the following learners for earning themselves a headteacher certificate this week.  
 “Llongyfarchiadau” i...

Tîm Coed Coch		Tîm Helyg		Tîm Derwen		Tîm Collen
Dosbarth Reception	Blwyddyn Un	Blwyddyn Dau	Blwyddyn Tri	Blwyddyn Pedwar	Blwyddyn Pump	Blwyddyn Chwech
Elsie Seya Isaac	Harry B William Jasper	Elliot Margo Haydn	Cara Samuel Betsy R	Digby Kiera Jacob	Finley Alexandra Jessica	Katie B William Henry

**House Captains**

Llongyfarchidau, to the following newly elected Captains and Vice Captains of:

Severn		Usk		Wye	
Captains	Vice Captains	Captains	Vice Captains	Captains	Vice Captains
Lola Ben	Freddie	Jack W Katie	Tilly Max C	George Anwen	Amelie Max G

All those who chose to put themselves forward showed courage and conviction in the persuasive speeches they made to their Houses: they should be congratulated for the grace in which they accepted the results, as well as the effort that they made. Da iawn, pawb!

**Diary Dates 2023/24**

**New information highlighted in yellow**

Autumn Term 2023	
<p><b>Monday 4th September</b> – Back to School for Pupils</p> <p><b>Wednesday 6th September</b> – Y5 swimming this half term (every week until half term)</p> <p><b>Friday 8th September</b> - House Captain Elections</p> <p><b>Friday 15th September</b> - First Pupil Committee Meetings</p> <p><b>Friday 15th September</b> - Girl's Football Tournament</p> <p><b>Saturday 16th September</b> - Big Dig and Do Day</p> <p><b>Monday 18th September</b> Y6 Parent Forum:5pm</p>	<p><b>Monday 6th November</b> – Back to School</p> <p><b>Wed 9th November</b> – Y6 swimming this half term (every week until Christmas)</p> <p><b>Sunday 12th November</b> - Remembrance Sunday</p> <p><b>Wed 15th November</b> - Open Morning for parents 9:15am</p> <p><b>Fri 17th November</b> - Children in Need day</p> <p><b>Mon 27th November</b> - Governors' Meeting</p> <p><b>Monday 4th December</b> – Tim Helyg Dress Rehearsal</p> <p><b>Wednesday 6th December</b> – Tim Helyg Concert 2pm</p> <p><b>Monday 11th December</b> – Tim Derwen Dress Rehearsal</p>

**Tuesday 19th September**

Rec Parent Forum: 4pm  
Y1 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Wednesday 20th September**

Y2 Parent Forum: 4pm  
Y3 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Thursday 21st September:**

Y4 Parent Forum: 4pm  
Y5 Parent Forum: 5pm

**Fri 29th September** - MacMillan Coffee Morning 9:15am  
(all parents/grandparents/carers/local community welcome)

**Monday 2nd October** - Governing Body Meeting

**Saturday 14th October** - Shirenewton ShAMBLE

**Sunday 15th October** - Shirenewton ShAMBLE

**Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th October** - Parent Consultations this week

**Thursday 26th October** - Y4 and Y5 Romans trip

**Friday 27th October** - School closes for half term

**Wednesday 13th December** - Tim Derwen Concert 2pm

**Tuesday 19th December** – Y2 and 3 to Itton Church

**Thursday 21st December** - Last day of Autumn Term

**Friday 22nd December** – INSET Day school closed to pupils

**Mon 25th December to Friday 7 January** - Christmas Holiday

**Monday 8th January** - INSET Day school closed to pupils



ShAMBLE 2023 - Sat 14th & Sun 15th October.

ShAMBLE news - The Rec Hall is booked for the Saturday night of ShAMBLE! Don't miss the opening night party! We will have a selection of wine, beer and soft drinks available at **last year's prices!** It's family friendly, everyone is welcome.

You might have spotted some ShAMBLE info pinned up on the village notice boards and in the old telephone box over the Summer. We will soon be visiting the scrap store to buy more art materials for the community, watch this space!

**ShAMBLE 2023 registration is now open!** Register by 30th September please.

Go to: [www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk](http://www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk) and follow the instructions...

The theme this year is **children's books**.

Dates for your diary; Registration to decorate a window closes 30th September.

2pm 1st October - 'craft, cake & conversation' at the Rec Hall. We will have art materials available for everyone to have (for a small donation). A nice excuse for a chat & a cuppa! All welcome.

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[lta.org.uk/prime-video-youth-girls](https://lta.org.uk/prime-video-youth-girls)



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*But it's not just about exams! The point of learning the piano is to become a proper musician, able to play in any style: classical, contemporary, jazz, or whatever you love the most.*

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*Please contact [jazykazmusic@gmail.com](mailto:jazykazmusic@gmail.com) for further details.*

*Karen Millar DipABRSM CTABRSM*

*Member EPTA.*