

Shirefest-ive

On Thursday 19th December, at 1:30, we will be holding a Christmas ShireFest-ival, so that pupils can sell their Christmas Enterprise Produce. Save the date - there will be carols and merriment and Christmas Craft a plenty!



Mathletics and Reading Eggs

We have recently written to you to let you know that as the home usage of Mathletics and Reading Eggs / Express was low, we were considering not re-subscribing. Usage of Mathletics has actually reduced since that time, and therefore we have taken the decision not to renew this year. We are investigating free alternatives in the near future and will keep you updated.

Outdoor Classroom

Some of you may have seen the developing construction of our new Outdoor Classroom over the last week. We are very pleased to say that it is very nearly complete and we cannot wait to start using it. Soon, we will be asking for Volunteers for our next Big Dig and Do Day, to put down a pathway to the entrance, and fill the floor with woodchip. I would also like to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to Andrew at SEWales Energy Agency for helping me to organise the grant funding which has been spent on the outdoor classroom and outdoor clothing for pupils to wear during the more inclement weather, as well as the PTA who contributed to the funds for construction of the classroom. Diolch!



Christmas Dinner Day - children are welcome to wear Christmas Jumpers!

Please remember to login to your child's Parentpay account to book their Christmas dinner for Thursday 12th December.

Festive Tombola

Thank you for your donations to the festive tombola today, it really is appreciated. They will go a long way to making the fete next Saturday a success!



School Photo Order Deadline

The deadline for ordering school photos with delivery to school in time for Christmas is Sunday 24th November. Please place your orders online directly with Colorfoto if you wish for them to be delivered to school.

Christmas Performances

All families should have received two tickets for each performance. If you don't need them, please send them back so that we can allocate these spare tickets to other parents / carers. Where we can, these tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

As in previous years, we would like to offer the chance for grandparents to attend our dress rehearsals. In the event that parents or carers cannot attend the main performance, you may attend the dress rehearsals, however, please do not attend both.

Rec/ Y1



Dress Rehearsal 10am, Monday 16th December
Performance 2pm, Wednesday 18th December
For additional ticket requests please click [here](#)

Y2/ Y3



Dress Rehearsal 10am, Monday 2nd December
Performance 2pm, Wednesday 4th December
For additional ticket requests please click [here](#)

Y4/ Y5



Dress Rehearsal 10am, Monday 9th December
Performance 2pm, Wednesday 11th December
For additional ticket requests please click [here](#)



Year 2 Stargazing

Our class book is "The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark" and some of our learning this half term has been linked to the story. In an upcoming chapter, Dark is Wonderful, Plop the Owl meets a man with a telescope who teaches him all about the star constellations.

We hope to have an evening under the stars on Thursday December 12th at 6pm. We invite Y2 children,

with an accompanying adult, to wrap up warm, bring a chair/blanket and see if we can see any of the constellations.

It also coincides with a meteor shower which we would like to take advantage of too. See the link for more details. [2024 Geminid meteor shower: All you need to know](#)

In the chapter, Dark is Fun, Plop learns about campfires with the cubs, so we'll light a fire and toast some marshmallows too.

An evening like this is obviously dependent on clear skies, so if the forecast isn't great, the event would be unfortunately cancelled. We do hope it goes ahead and very much hope that you are able to attend. Please confirm your attendance by completing the [Google Form](#)

Administration of Medication

School's policy is not to routinely administer medication to pupils. This is not because we don't want to, but there are a number of practical safety factors which mean that it is impractical to do so. In order to manage this policy responsibly we would ask that where you can, please schedule your child's medication so that they don't need a dose during the school day. We know that this isn't always possible, and, if your child does need medication during school hours, the following will happen:

- Only prescription medications will be administered, where absolutely necessary
- We will only issue non-prescription medicines in exceptional circumstances, with the agreement of the headteacher.
- Medications must be brought into schools in their original container, as dispensed by a pharmacist, labelled with your child's name. They must include instructions for administration, dosage and storage, as well as possible side effects.
- You must complete a medication form provided by school for your child to be given the medication. Please do not send medication in with your children without the medication form being completed and agreed by the Headteacher.

Building Work - Mynydd Bach Access

Work has been delayed again until **Monday 2nd December** and will last for approximately 4-6 weeks. During this time parents and children will not be able to use this gate to enter or exit the school.

The staff parking area should not be used for drop off or pick up at any time - this includes after school club and breakfast club. When work does commence, we will be closing the red gate to the staff car park during this time to minimise risk to our pupils and parents and disruption to the contractors.

Attendance Matters

If you are intending to take your child out of school during term time, please complete the google form. We will only respond if the absence will be unauthorised, as directed to do so by our Educational Welfare Officer employed by Monmouthshire CC. The link to the form is [Term time absence](#)



Ymadrodd yr Pythefnos - Phrase of the Fortnight

Our Phrase of the fortnight this week is

Dwi'n hoffi - I would like

Have a look at the video of some of our Criw Cymraeg modelling the language pattern for you.

[Siarad Cymraeg | Shirenewton Primary](#)

Digital Leaders

Who are we? Pwy ydym ni?

Our role is to promote ICT amongst pupils and the school community as a whole, especially how to keep safe when using the internet and how to be responsible online.

What do we do? Beth ydym ni'n wneud?

A digital leader is a pupil who is part of a digital leaders' team within our school. Our role is to support the use of technology, particularly iPads and chrome books across the school. We carry out a variety of jobs including:

- Support others to use iPads and chrome books to support learning.
- Share our skills and expertise with other pupils, classes and teachers.
- Help teachers and other pupils in understanding coding and other applications.
- Set up equipment in classrooms.
- Test and review new digital resources (websites, computer software, hardware or apps).
- Give our opinion about future development of technology in our school.
- Lead tech clubs.
- Have a good understanding of how to stay safe with technology and share that with others.
- Provide first line technical support in school.
- Attend training sessions when they are arranged in school.



★★★★★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
Ellis Harrison Morgan	Carys Dawson Joseph	Alys Lowri Luca	Max Thomas William	Ffion Kara Oliver S.	Aoife Morgan Noah	Huw Mila Isla

PTA Notices



We want to start by saying a huge thank you for everyone's tombola donations this morning, it was wonderfully generous of everyone. Please do come to the fayre and have a go at winning anything from a bottle of Gin, to Christmas chocolate or a bottle of fizz, all are lovely prizes.

We are continuing to take mystery bags filled with little pre-loved items and wrapped sweets and raffle tickets up until Friday 29th November, these can be dropped to school.

Toys, books and pre-loved teddies are to be dropped at the PTA bin in the main car park.

We still have a few volunteer spots available at the fayre or the afternoon before when we will be setting up. Any help you can give will help make the fayre a success.

<https://volunteersignup.org/MMK77>

And please do come along on Saturday 30th November 11-2pm, there will be a chance to meet father Christmas in the grotto, clay craft, a Christmas donkey to meet, hot food and mulled wine, tombola, stalls and lots of games. We look forward to seeing you all.





Diary Dates 2024/25

New information highlighted in yellow

Autumn Term 2024	
Mon 25th Nov - Y6 One Planet Trip Mon 25th Nov - Governors' Meeting Tues 26th Nov - Y4 Museum trip Wed 27th Nov - Y2 We the Curious trip Sat 30th Nov - Christmas fayre Mon 2nd Dec – Y2 and Y3 Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal - Grandparents' invited 10am Wed 4th Dec – Y2 and Y3 Christmas Concert 2pm Mon 9th Dec – Y4 and Y5 Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal - Grandparents invited 10am Wed 11th Dec - Y4 and Y5 Christmas Concert 2pm Wed 11th Dec - Y2 and Y3 performing at Itton Church Thurs 12th Dec - School Christmas dinner Thurs 12th Dec - Reception 2025 Information Event	Thurs 12th Dec - Y2 Stargazing 6pm Friday 13th Dec - Year 3 Penny Whistle Performance (timings TBC) Friday 13th Dec - Year 5 - Doods Performance (timings TBC) Friday 13th Dec - Year 2 - Toots Performance (timings TBC) Mon 16th Dec - Rec and Y1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal - grandparents invited 10am Mon 16th Dec - Y6 Carol Concert at Shirenewton Church 6pm Wed 18th Dec - Rec and Y1 Nativity Performance 2pm Thurs 19th Dec - ShireFest-ive, Christmas enterprise 1.30pm - parents invited Mon 23rd Dec to Fri 3rd Jan - Christmas Holiday

Spring Term 2025	
Monday 6th January - Return to school Mon 3rd-Tues 4th Feb - Y4 Gilwern Thurs 13th Feb - Y3 Gilwern Mon 17th-Wed19th Feb - Y5 Gilwern	Mon 24th-Fri 28th Feb - Half term break Mon 3rd Feb - Return to school Mon 14th-Fri 25th Apr - Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2025	
Mon 28th Apr - Return to school Mon 5th May - Bank holiday Wed 21st May - Sports day (Y3-Y6 am, Rec-Y2 pm), parents invited Mon 26th-Fri 30th May - Half term break	Mon 2nd Jun - Return to school Wed 4th Jun - Reserve sports day (Y3-Y6 am, Rec-Y2 pm), parents invited Mon 9th Jun-Fri 20th Jun - National test fortnight Tues 22nd Jul - Summer holiday

Vacancy on Shirenewton Community Council

Shirenewton Community Council has a vacancy for a Councillor in the Shirenewton and Mynyddbach ward

If you think you would like to be a Councillor and are over 18 years of age, contact the Clerk by email at shirenewtoncc@gmail.com

What is a Councillor?

Councillors are elected to represent an individual geographical unit on the council, known as a ward or parish. They are generally elected by the public every five years. Between the elections if a Councillor seat becomes available it can be filled by the Council Co-opting the applicant onto the Council. A seat for Co-option has now become available.

What do Councillors do?

Councillors have three main components to their work.

1. **Decision making** – Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.
2. **Monitoring** – Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.
3. **Getting involved locally** – As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:
 - Going to meetings of local organisations
 - Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community
 - Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public

How much time does it take up?

Quite often councillors say that their duties occupy them for about an hour a week. Obviously, there are some councillors who spend more time than this – and some less, but in the main, being a community councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work.

You will be supported in your role and will be expected to undertake training. You should be comfortable working electronically. You should have a positive outlook and a can-do attitude and be willing to work as part of a team. If after reading this notice you are interested in applying, please contact the clerk to the council using the above details.



**Shirenewton
Community Council**



Intro to tennis for Girls

SUNDAY, 1ST DECEMBER

CHEPSTOW TC

10-2.30PM, £35 WITH KIT PACK

WWW.JANEJONESTENNIS.CO.UK

Book online via above website
coach@chepstowtennis.club
07845291993



Christmas Quiz Night

Sat 23rd Nov 24

QUIZMASTER

BIG ED THE QUIZ HEAD

£12^{PP}



CALDICOT CHOIR HALL, CALDICOT // START 7PM

FREE DRINK ON ARRIVAL // RAFFLE // HOG ROAST
INTERACTIVE ROUNDS // CASH PRIZES // FESTIVE FUN

Book your tickets for you and the team at
www.caldicottownteam.co.uk or scan here

Vegan/Vegetarian food options available on
request



Friendly and fun indoor and outdoor learning for children aged 2 ½ to pre-school

At Shirenewton Playgroup the children are at the heart of all that we do. Following the new Curriculum for Wales we engage and act upon the children's interests, planning activities each week to enhance their learning opportunities – from a bug hunt to building dens to making berry crumble – anything is possible!

**New extended
opening times**

Monday – Thursday 9:15am to 3pm
Friday 9:15am to 12:30pm

Starting January 2025.
From £28 per full day.



www.shirenewtonplaygroup.co.uk



SHIRE NEWTON VILLAGE

CHRISTMAS YOUTH MARKET

FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER
5.30-7.30pm AT THE REC HALL

FEATURING CRAFTS FROM OUR TALENTED UNDER 16'S

For more details contact Shirley - ayresandgraces@yahoo.com



SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23rd
10.30 - 12.30

AT THE REC HALL

FREE ENTRY

FOOD • CRAFTS • GIFTS • & MORE!



Advent Fair

In the Church Room

Sunday 1st December

11:00 - 12:00

Hand crafted Christmas goodies

Cakes, Biscuits, Mincemeat, Jams,

Jellies and Marmalades

And of course, a raffle

Coffee and mince pies.

And it's a cash-only bash.

The money raised will go to

Medicins sans Frontier