

"Learning Together, Achieving for Life"
"Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd, Cyflawni am Oes"



3rd February 2023
Edition 19

DRIVING ON SITE

A polite reminder to please take care when driving into and away from our school site. Recently I have noticed that a minority of parents and carers are driving too quickly. Please restrict your speed to 5 miles per hour or less when dropping off and picking up. The safety of all of our children is paramount. Thank you.

FREE BOOKS

Tonight, your child will come home with a free book from the Books Council of Wales. All of these books have been carefully chosen following consultation with a sample of schools across Wales, and we're sure the children will love the selection.

This is part one of Welsh Government's Schools Love Reading campaign and provides a free book for every child in school to keep. They will also bring home a bookmark and a postcard of tips to develop good reading habits at home.

READING RECORDS

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 will bring home a reading record today. On the reading record will be the day of their Guided Group Reading Session.

The Reading Record will be filled in by the class teacher once a week - it may be a short comment about a skill they have developed, an achievement observed, or just a general well done! There will be a place for you to comment on your child's reading too.

Please do:

Use it as a place to celebrate listening to your child read with you, and let them (and us!) know you enjoyed it

Please don't:

Use it as a place to communicate with your child's class teacher. If there are any worries or concerns you may have about their progress, please make an appointment with them so that your concerns can be addressed in the best way.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Next week, on Tuesday 7th February we celebrate Safer Internet Day 2022. This is an annual day to raise awareness of how important staying safe online is and as a school, we take part in it every year as it complements lessons that we teach throughout the year. At some point this week every class will have taken part in an online safety lesson.

With everything that we do in school, it is so important that at home awareness-raising is continued. There are a number of fantastic resources on the Internet to support this. There are a number of excellent resources produced for parents and carers, as well as more information on Safer Internet Day 2023, which can be found below:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023>

▶ Supporting young children (6 -10s) online | Internet Matters

▶ Supporting pre-teens (11 - 13s) online | Internet Matters

MOBILE PHONES AND WATCHES WITH PHOTO / RECORDING / INTERNET / COMMUNICATION CAPABILITY

As you are aware, we do not allow mobile phones in school. Also, we have noticed of late an increase in the number of watches being worn into school with internet / communication / recording / photographing capabilities. These are great devices, however they are not appropriate for school. Please do not send your child into school with one on.

If the school needs to contact parents/carers, this will be done using our school communication systems.

We ask that mobile phones and the watches described above are left at home where they are safe and cannot be damaged.

We understand that for a very small number of pupils, on very few occasions, there will be a valid reason for bringing a phone/watch into school. In these cases, we ask that these devices are given to teachers to look after in a safe place during the school day for safeguarding reasons, as devices are not permitted to be used whilst in school. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

DYDD MIWSIG CYMRU

Don't forget that Dydd Miwsig Cymru is on Friday 10th February. It is a day for celebrating Welsh music and artists and to mark the day, we will be carrying out various music activities in class and your children are welcome to come into school wearing red, white and green.

EISTEDDFOD

As in previous years, we will be holding our annual school Eisteddfod on Wednesday 1st March. Children are invited to wear traditional Welsh costumes on that day or dress up as / wear something related to Wales e.g. dragon, daffodil, leek, coal miner, wear a Welsh rugby/football shirt or simply wear a red top.

As St David's Day is the third day back after the half term holiday, classes will be working on their Eisteddfod entries in the next 2 weeks prior to half term. Some of the competitions are compulsory and will be completed in lessons - art, handwriting, creative writing, Welsh reading and best Welsh book. Other competitions are voluntary and pupils will put themselves forward if they want to - singing, recitation, model making, instrumentals, animation (Y4-Y6), cookery (Y4-6), gymnastics tumble (Y2-6) and dance (Y2-6). **Individual class teachers will share further details via Seesaw and Google Classroom later on this week.**

The model making competition is a home learning task and we invite you to start making it now and send it into school w/c 12th February (with Friday 17th being the closing date for entries). Pupils are free to use materials of their own choice but we ask for it to be no larger than 30cm x 30cm so the winning entries will fit in our display cabinets. If you need help with resources, please ask your child's class teacher. Each class is invited to make a different model:

Reception = Daffodil

Year 1 = Sheep

Year 2 = Castle

Year 3 = Dragon

Year 4 = Coal mine

Year 5 = Welsh building/ monument

Year 6 = Puppet of a famous Welsh person/ character

If your child plays a musical instrument, make sure they get practising! Staff will be holding prelims w/c 6th and w/c 13th February and will Schoop nearer the time to let you know what day they need to have their instrument and music in school.

It is one of our favourite days of the year, so we hope your children take part in as many activities as possible.

PTA DISCO

Unfortunately, the PTA disco has had to be postponed. We will update you about the next date in due course.

WIZARD OF OZ

Y6 will get to go to see Chepstow School's production of the Wizard of Oz on Monday

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES AT EARLSWOOD HALL

I was lucky enough to get to see some of our children perform alongside members of the Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society - it was an absolute blast! Well done to everyone involved, it was a performance for the ages!

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
Arkadii Bow Harrison	Dottie Eres Heti	Daniel Ifor William	Milo M Noah Ruby S	Alexandra Charlotte Henry G	Callum Ruby Zak	Jessica S Lucy Pippa

Diary Dates 2022/23

Spring Term 2023 – Key Dates

Any changes/additions to be highlighted in yellow

Mon 23rd Jan - Governors Meeting

Wed 1st Feb - Y5 Gilwern pre-visit meeting

Fri 10th Feb – Dydd Miwsig Cymru

Thur 9th Feb – PTA Disco

Mon 13th Feb - Y6 to Wizard of Oz at Chepstow School

Wed 15th Feb - Y5 to Gilwern for 2 nights

Thur 16th Feb - Y6 Urdd Football Competition

Mon 20th Feb to Fri 24th Feb - Half Term Holiday

Mon 27th Feb – Back to School

Tues 28th Feb - Rookie Rugby - Y5/6 Girls

Wed 1st Mar - Eisteddfod

Fri 3rd Mar - Eisteddfod Coffee Morning 9:15am

Tue 14th Mar - Rec to Y6 Parents' Evening 4-7pm

Thu 16th Mar - Rec to Y6 Parents' Evening 4-7pm

Mon 13th Mar - Governors' Meeting

Tues 21st Mar - Digital Leaders to Sony Educational Centre

Tues 28th Mar - Rags to Riches collection

Thu 30th Mar - Easter Assembly 9:30am

Fri 31st Mar - Last day for pupils

Mon 3rd Apr to Fri 14th Apr - Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2023 – Key Dates

Mon 17th Apr – INSET Day

Tues 18th Apr - Children back to school

Wed 19th Apr - Year 4 swimming all term

Mon 1st May - May Day (school closed)

Mon 15th May - Governors' Meeting

Fri 19th May - Sports Day 9:15am (Y4-6) & 1:30pm (Rec-Y3)

Fri 26th May – INSET Day

Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd Jun - Half Term Holiday

Mon 5th June – Back to school

Fri 9th June - Reserve Sports Day

Fri 16th June – School photos

Wed 21st June - Y5/6 invited to watch evening cricket in Cardiff

Sat 24th June -Summer Fayre

Fri 14th July - Hogroast

Mon 3rd Jul - Governors' AGM Meeting

Mon 3rd Jul - Y6 to LLangrannog for 2 nights

Wed 5th Jul – Y5 Transition morning at Chepstow School

Tues 11th Jul – Y6 Transition Day at Chepstow School

Wed 12th Jul – Y6 Transition Day at Chepstow School

Fri 21st Jul - Y6 Leavers assembly 9:30am

Please note – 1 additional INSET Day will be added to the calendar later on in the year.

COMMUNITY CORNER

MUSIC FOR ALL!



FREE
For Schools!

16th February 2023

Log on and join in with the Gwent Music
"Music For All" concert 2023.

Enjoy live performances from our talented team
of tutors, across lots of different instruments!

Two showings are
available to attend
at your convenience!

Performance 1:
13:15

Performance 2:
14:15

The interactive experience will be
live-streamed for schools across
Gwent, with opportunities for
children to ask the tutors any
questions they may have!

Let us know which performance you would like to
access and we will send you the invitation link!

Caldicot Leisure Centre

Free Taster Session 29th Jan 4-6pm

Main Sessions Sundays 12th Feb - 26th Mar
u11s: 4-5pm
u13s: 5-6pm
Girls: 4-5pm

u15s: 6.30-7.30pm Fridays 13th Jan - 24th Mar

£20 for a whole year of cricket!
Mens and Ladies teams available for interested parents too!






**#SEEIT
#BEIT**

