



One more week to go until we finish for the Christmas break. A reminder that our last day of term is Friday 20th December, and we return to school on Monday 6th January

Well-being Council Donations

Well-being council would like to thank everyone who donated to their appeal to support vulnerable people. Joining forces with Street Life Sarnies, they asked for donations of various items to support rough sleepers, vulnerably housed children and families including those in foster care and refuges, hostels across Monmouthshire, Newport and Bristol/Gloucestershire. The items have been handed to Street Life Sarnies this afternoon, and their representative will be coming into school to visit us next week. Diolch



Christmas Performances

The quality and standard of our Christmas plays this year has been superb. We are so proud of all our children - their singing, acting and costumes have been outstanding. Year 2 and 3 went to Itton Church this week for an encore performance of their play, which went down a treat. Thank you so much for your support in helping us to get the shows opened - it is definitely feeling like Christmas

now!

Our final performances are next week with Christmas with the Aliens, performed by Reception and Year 1. If you require additional tickets please click [here](#)

Shire Fest-ive

Please join us on Thursday 19th December at 1.30pm for Shire Fest-ive. Children have been working hard this week on their items and they cannot wait to welcome you all next Thursday.

Musical Performances



Today we welcomed parents and carers of our pupils in Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5. Gwent Music have been teaching the children as part of a music project for the last 10 weeks, Year 2 have been learning Toots, Year 5 Doods and Year 3 Penny Whistles. They were all amazing today and should all be very proud of themselves. Da iawn pawb!

Absence due to sickness

As per Public Health Wales guidelines any child who has been sick or has an upset tummy must remain off school for 48 hours from the last episode of sickness/ diarrhea.

Swimming Lessons

A reminder for parents that swimming lessons are not an optional school activity. Any genuine reason for not taking part should be accompanied by a letter from parents explaining the reason, where possible the day before. Please make every effort to ensure that your child has the right kit in school on the day. Children who don't attend lessons cannot go to the pool with their class and therefore need to be supervised in school, which adds logistical difficulties to an already busy day.

Attendance Matters

Please remember to complete a [Term time absence](#) form if your child will be absent from school.

★★★★SEREN YR WYTHNOS★★★★


Congratulations to the following learners for earning themselves a headteacher certificate this week. "Longyfarchiadau" i...

Tîm Coed Coch		Tîm Helyg		Tîm Derwen		Tîm Collen
Dosbarth Reception	Blwyddyn Un	Blwyddyn Dau	Blwyddyn Tri	Blwyddyn Pedwar	Blwyddyn Pump	Blwyddyn Chwech
Jamie D Matilda Ralph	Elsie Huxley Lyndon	Harrison Hattie William	Archer Jemima Oscar	Dylan Finley Oliver S	Digby Olivia Rhys	Alexandra Catherine Henry G

PTA Notices

Diary Dates 2024/25

New information highlighted in yellow

Autumn Term 2024	
<p>Mon 16th Dec - Rec and Y1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal - grandparents invited 10am</p> <p>Mon 16th Dec - Y6 Carol Concert at Shirenewton Church 6pm</p> <p>Wed 18th Dec - Rec and Y1 Nativity Performance 2pm</p>	<p>Thurs 19th Dec - Y3 visit to Crick Nursing Home</p> <p>Thurs 19th Dec - ShireFest-ive, Christmas enterprise 1.30pm - parents invited</p> <p>Mon 23rd Dec to Fri 3rd Jan - Christmas Holiday</p> 
Spring Term 2025	
<p>Monday 6th Jan - Return to school</p> <p>Thursday 9th Jan - Parent Gilwern meetings, Y4 3.45pm, Y5 4.30pm</p> <p>Mon 3rd-Tues 4th Feb - Y4 Gilwern</p> <p>Thurs 13th Feb - Y3 Gilwern</p> <p>Mon 17th-Wed 19th Feb - Y5 Gilwern</p>	<p>Mon 24th-Fri 28th Feb - Half term break</p> <p>Mon 3rd Feb - Return to school</p> <p>Mon 14th-Fri 25th Apr - Easter Holiday</p>

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

Winter **WATER SAFETY**

In winter, more people who are walking or running alongside water fall in and drown than in any other season.

Slippery paths, patches of ice and a lack of daylight can make being near water more dangerous than in the summer months. If you fall into the water, the cold temperatures make it difficult for you to control your breathing, to use your hands to climb out and can even cause you to have a heart attack.

So, follow our safety tips to make sure that your winter walks are enjoyable and safe.



KEEP BACK FROM THE EDGE

When walking alongside water keep back from the edge.



ONLY USE WELL LIT AREAS

Time your walks to make the most of the daylight; if you need to walk in the evening only use well-lit areas or take a route not alongside water.



KEEP DOGS ON THEIR LEADS

Keep dogs on their leads when near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.



TEACH CHILDREN NOT TO GO ON TO THE ICE

Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.



DON'T GO ON THE ICE TO RESCUE A DOG

Don't go onto ice or into the water to rescue a dog, move to somewhere that the dog will be able to climb out and call them towards you.



Quarry water is much colder than rivers, lakes or the sea – you could die from ‘Cold Shock’ in less than 2 minutes.

Cold shock can cause you to gasp and drown immediately or can lead to hypothermia, making it very hard to breath.

Assuming you survive the cold shock, the drop in temperature causes finger stiffness (making it difficult to climb out), reduced coordination (making it difficult to swim/tread water) and general muscle weakness. It is impossible to help yourself.

If cold shock and the reduced physical capabilities don't result in drowning, hypothermia may kill you.

Quarries are dangerous:

- Deep water may contain hidden currents or submerged plants which can drag you under
- Submerged abandoned machinery/car wrecks which you can impale yourself on if jumping in
- Underwater ledges/ recesses where you can become trapped
- Dead animals/excrement cause disease
- Pollution/rubbish causing eye and skin irritations, stomach problems, fungal infections and rashes
- Poisonous/toxic algae

Supported by

SARA

Severn Area Rescue Association

Welcome to Our Candle Lit
'Christmas Praise' Service

in Shirenewton Church
Sunday 15th December
at 10 o'clock



Its a light service with poems,
readings and the latest
'Recollections',



And plenty of carol singing for all!
With angelic top-sop descants.
There will be a cash collection for
Medicines sans Frontiers

Mince pies and coffee afterwards
in the Church Room



**Come and join our
Walkabout Christingle!
on Christmas Eve
Tuesday 24th December.
Between 4 and 5 pm**



**What a lovely way to start Christmas!
Make your own Christingle as you walk the
path to Bethlehem.
Meet the kings in Shirenewton Church Room
and collect your orange.
Talk to the Shepherds in the Church porch
and pick up your candle.
See the angels under The Chantry veranda
and choose your sweets and your sheep.
And finally visit Mary and Joseph and the
baby Jesus in the garage, watched over by
two lovely real donkeys! Ahhh!**



Cash Collection to The Children's Society

HELP AND ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES THIS HOLIDAY



Wellbeing Support

- [NHS 111](#) If you or someone you know requires immediate medical attention, or in immediate danger, then dial 999 or go to A&E. If you or someone you know needs urgent mental health care, but it is not life threatening, call [NHS 111](#) and select Option 2. **Phone: 111**
- [CAMHS \(Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services\)](#) Emergency support – **Phone: 01633 749 519**
- [Papyrus](#) For young people at risk of suicide, the organisation offers help, advice and resources. **Phone: 0800 068 4141**
- [Mind Monmouthshire](#) Experienced staff who are welcoming and friendly, here to help you in Monmouthshire – **Phone: 01873 858 275**
- [Live Fear Free](#) Providing help and advice about violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence – **Helpline: 0808 8010800**
- [Melo](#) contains information, advice and self-help resources to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing.
- MCC Children's Services **Phone: 01291 635669** (during working hours) after 5pm and at weekends please ring the South East Wales Emergency Duty Team **Phone: 0800 328 4432**.
- [Chat Health](#) is a safe and easy way to speak to one of our qualified school nurses. If you're aged 11-19, **text 07312 263 262** for confidential support and advice, you don't even have to give your name.