

Weekly Newsletter

November 27th 2020

A Caring, Respectful and Open Environment, where Success and Opportunity flourish



Please find our school newsletter for the week ending 27th November 2020. Click on the links for more information.

Please visit our website
www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor



Pentrepoeth Primary School

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Headteacher: Dean Taylor B.A.(Hons), P.G.C.E., L.P.S.H.

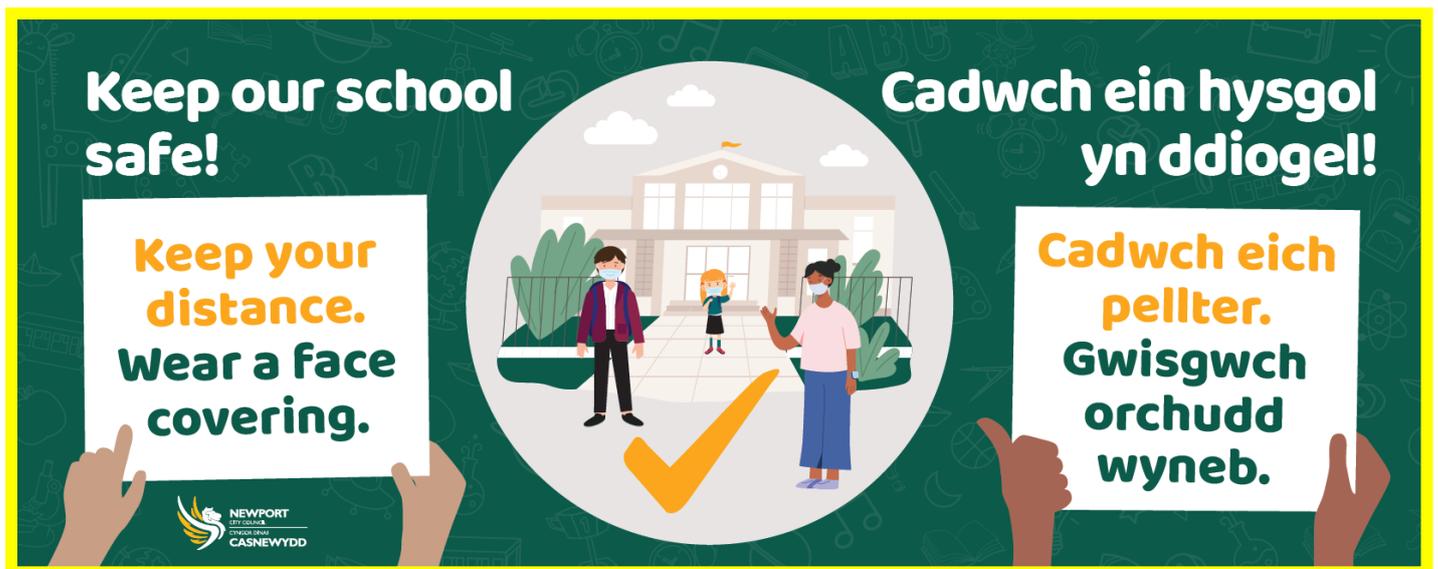
Deputy Headteacher: Tina Jenkins B.Ed. (Hons)

Weekly Newsletter

27th November 2020

Dear Parent and Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni,

Many thanks to you all for supporting our school community by wearing masks on the school site. This strategy alongside social distancing increases safeguards against the spread of Covid.



End of term

As some of you will be aware, Bassaleg Comprehensive school has made the decision to bring forward the remainder of their INSET training days in order to finish early for Christmas. Bassaleg will therefore be closed to pupils after Monday, 14th December.

We have received correspondence enquiring if a similar decision has been made for Pentrepoeth pupils.

Whilst we understand the reasons for the decision, we will remain open for the last week of term. As a primary school our age range and circumstances differ greatly to comprehensive schools.



The Welsh Government is continually updating operational guidance for schools. If a decision is made centrally regarding any changes to the school calendar, we will, of course communicate these in a timely manner.

Covid-19

Please also continue to inform us if your child has to self- isolate due to a family member testing positive or being symptomatic. Also, please let us know if your child has to go for a test and inform us in writing of the result.

A reminder that further information is available [here](#).

Dates For Your Diary !

December	
Dec 1 st	<i>Mr Taylor's 100 Book Reading Challenge Starts! Books arriving soon!!</i>
Fri Dec 11th	<i>Christmas Jumper Day – whole school can wear these to school – donation £1 Save the Children</i>
<i>Mrs Jenkins and Mr Taylor to hold Class Candlelight Assemblies this week</i>	
Wed Dec 16 th	School Christmas Dinner in classes Christmas Movie Afternoon
Thu Dec 17 th	Class Christmas Parties
Mon 21 st Dec – Fri 1 st Jan	CHRISTMAS BREAK
January	
Mon Jan 4th	Start of Spring Term 2021



Changes To Ordering School Lunches

We are changing the way we are asking parents to order school lunches.

With the current restrictions in place, the majority of children are having their dinners delivered to their classes from the kitchen. Whilst this is working relatively well, the ordering each morning is causing significant issues.

We have been exploring other options.



From Monday 30th November, school dinners need to be ordered from home via ParentPay.

You can order a meal up until midnight for the following day and up to 100 days in advance, (hence the early update so you can have a look at this over the weekend).

Once you log into ParentPay, click on your child's account and select, 'make bookings', 'lunchtime' and relevant week commencing.....

You will then be able to see the menus and choices for the week. Simply select the choices for the following day(s) and the kitchen will automatically receive the details each morning.

Payments for hot dinners will be in the usual way via ParentPay. A reminder please that the school is unable to take cash.

Not only should this arrangement make things much easier to organise in school, but it is also a good opportunity for families to engage more with what children are having to eat from the school canteen. Please can I ask that you do sit down with your child(ren) and go through the ordering options so that we can avoid the children telling staff "I don't know what I'm having".

Obviously, with any change I am sure we will have some teething problems but it should be a more effective system as it develops.

Parents must clear any existing arrears before ordering. Please ensure you select a MAIN and a SIDE – this is very important.

Please see the attached guidance info if you need any further info. Click [here](#).



Christmas 2020

Christmas Concerts



Thank you for your responses regarding permissions for recording of the children recording their Christmas songs and readings. I will write to you in the next fortnight with details of how you are able to watch them.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR CHILD TO BE RECORDED PLEASE E MAIL THE SCHOOL TO NOTIFY US.

We have used the permission consent forms you gave us as the basis to record and Miss Norton has checked with all parents who did not give initial permission.

Christmas Cards

Children have been asking if they can bring Christmas cards in to school for their friends. In order to do this safely, children will be able to bring Christmas cards to school for friends in **their class only** which should be placed in their class box. These will be left in the box until the last week of term when they can be sorted safely.



Christmas Lunch



Christmas Events

Please see the dates for your diary section and also information via the PTA Newsletter.

A simple thank you is enough!

We understand that families are really keen to show their appreciation and gratitude to the adults in school at Christmas time but this year we are urging parents to think carefully about what they are planning. Given that 2020 has been such a crazy year and many of our families have had a change in personal circumstances as a result of COVID-19 please know that a simple and heartfelt 'thank you' really is enough.



PTA News

Events this Term for Chromebook fundraising



Entries close this Saturday (28th November)
6 Categories - You have to be in it to win it!!

Amazing selection of prizes up for grabs

Visit Pentrepoeth PTA on Facebook for the entry details

Pentrepoeth Teddies

We have sourced some cute Pentrepoeth Teddies. These will be for sale throughout the whole year. Each fluffy bear comes complete with a printed Pentrepoeth shirt.

2 Designs - Nursery or School colours

To guarantee delivery before Xmas we need your payment and order in by the end of November!

Send your request to pentrepoethpta@gmail.com



We have a direct line to the North Pole this year - if you want your little one to receive a personalised hand delivered letter and chocolate please Email: PpsSantaElf@gmail.com

Letters cost £3 each



Big Winter Raffle **14th December 2020**



Please send your stubbs and money in to school ASAP
Any unsold tickets please send back in to be redistributed to
people asking for more

Please find below a list of prizes and our amazing donors

Bungee Jump - donated by Red letter days -

<https://www.redletterdays.co.uk/adventure/bungee-jumping>

£100 Voucher - donated by The Ruperra Arms -

<https://www.facebook.com/theruperraarms/>

Facial - donated by Polish & Glow - <https://polishandglow.uk/>

£10 Voucher-donated by Village Fish Bar

<https://www.facebook.com/villagefishbarbassaleg/>

10 Play and 5 Play Active sessions -donated by PLA-Y Active -

<https://www.facebook.com/playactive19/>

£30 Voucher - donated by Good Taste Foods - <https://www.goodtastefoods.com/>

£25 Voucher - donated by Riverford Organic Farmers -

<https://www.riverford.co.uk/>

£50 Voucher - donated by Cleany Queeny -

<https://www.facebook.com/cleanyqueeny123/>

No7 Goodie bag - donated by Boots - <https://www.boots.com/no7>

Xmas bath bombs donated by Heathers Homemade Soaps

<https://www.facebook.com/AccioBubbles/>

Echo Dot - donated by Alphabyte - <http://www.alphabyte.it/>

Nail Treatment - donated by Cariad Beauty - <https://www.facebook.com/Cariad-Beauty-by-Dani-105018604600474/>

Rugby merchandise - donated by Dragons Rugby -

<https://www.dragonsrugby.wales>

£160 Voucher - donated by Studio 27 Photography -

<https://www.studio27.photography>

Sweet box - donated by Little Sweet Treats-

<https://www.facebook.com/Lovelittlesweettreats/>

One month Silver Membership - donated by The Farm -

<https://www.thefarmstrength.com/>

4 ball Voucher - donated by Parc Golf Club - <http://www.parcgolfclub.co.uk>

Family Golf - donated by Heatherton - <https://www.heatherton.co.uk>

£20 Voucher - donated by The Nook Rogerstone

<https://www.facebook.com/thenook/>

£20 Meal Voucher -Donated by Curry on the Curve -

[Www.curryonthecurve.co.uk](http://www.curryonthecurve.co.uk)

Deliver of logs to Winners door donated by Parent



LEARNING

Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed their new book "Here comes the Crocodile." They have focussed on the "s" sound of the week. Activities have included creating a sound book, practising making the sound, mark making the sound and

linking the sound with objects beginning with the "s" sound. They have discussed the importance of brushing our teeth and talked about how and why we should brush our teeth. They have practised the correct brushing technique using individual resources and sequenced how they should brush our teeth. Numeracy activities have included counting teeth and using mark making to record the number of teeth. They discussed foods that are good and bad for their teeth and sorted foods into healthy and unhealthy groups. They created a healthy meal in a lunch box and discussed the importance of eating these foods and how often we should eat them. They also looked at the importance of keeping fit and healthy and discussed ways in which we can do that. They enjoyed taking part in yoga and loved playing outdoors on the assault course, bikes, scooters, running and playing fun games.

Our children in **Reception** have completed another busy and enjoyable week. They decorated their "All About Me" bags and chose four special items to fill their bag. It has been an absolute treat for Mrs Starke and Mrs Matthews to see the excitement on their faces as they took the special objects out of the bag to show and talk about. They discussed their favourite toys, foods and places. They had fun in the Block area drawing plans of their special places before working together to create some incredible buildings. In Numeracy they have been recalling number bonds to 5. They recorded the number bonds in their books using the symbols for addition and equals in their number sentences. They enjoyed many different games to reinforce number recognition and recording numbers to 10 and beyond. Numicon city was a huge success! They worked together in groups to match the appropriate numicon shape to complete the Superhero Numicon city outline. In Forest School, the children worked in groups to collect items that were spikey, soft, rough and smooth to fill an egg box. They showed their collection to the rest of the class and talked about them.

Year 1 pupils have been learning about Reindeer and have collected lots of interesting information about them. They have also discussed all the different types of homes that Santa visits every year and drew pictures of houses and homes in their Learning Journals. They talked about their own houses using pictures uploaded on seesaw and used the Welsh phrase "Dw i'n byw yn..." when talking about their homes. They discussed the importance of family and enjoyed a circle time discussion talking about special people within their families. In Numeracy, they enjoyed playing board games to reinforce counting in 2's and 5's and also looked at early division by sharing and shared out the presents from the story "A Christmas Collar." For PE this week they have been developing their ball skills within small team games. In Forest School they have created their own unique games using natural materials.



Pupils in **Year 2** have enjoyed reading the story "The Tiger and the Jackal." They have used powerful vocabulary to write a description of a tiger, written their own tiger poems and created their very own tigers using toilet rolls! They have also used the story in PE as a stimulus for team games using small apparatus. In Numeracy our Year 2 pupils have become Problem Solving Pups! They have transferred their numeracy skills to solve challenging mathematical problems. During Project lessons pupils have been learning about why tigers are endangered and have designed their own "Save the tiger" posters. Wellbeing activities have centred around this month's value, Patience. They have also learnt a song about the value and started to

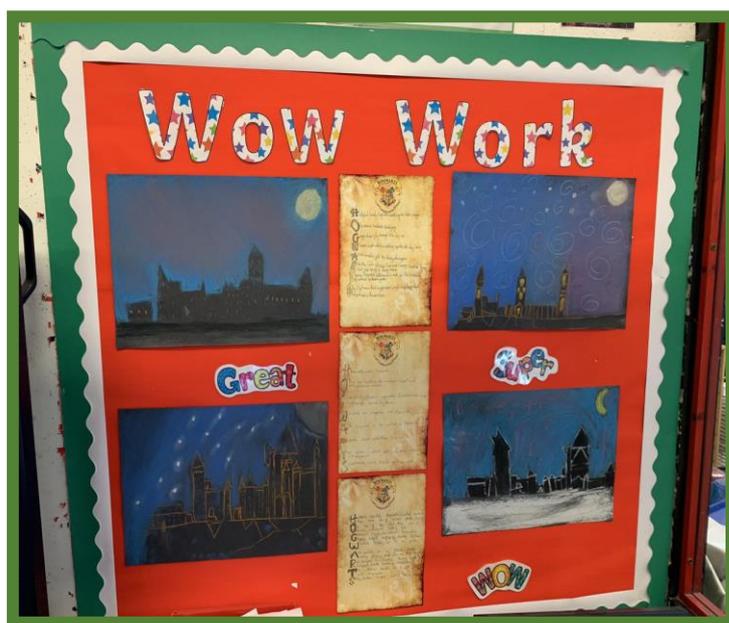


learn a song for Christmas with Mrs. Berry called "It was on a starry night." In Welsh they have practised taking the phrase "Dw i'n byw..." to fluency. IT activities have involved using the chrome books to practise changing the colour of the font. For Commando Joe they looked at Pocahontas and completed tasks linked to her story.

Our **Year 3** pupils have continued to use the story "Escape from Pompeii" as a stimulus for their writing. They identified the features of a play script, written a descriptive character list, a prop list, described settings for each scene, developed dialogue and planned their play script. All this work culminated in the writing of a play script for Escape from Pompeii. Numeracy work involved pupils developing their understanding of multiplication and division, using different IT platforms to develop their skills. They continued with their Roman project and looked at the different types of gladiator appreciating that every gladiator is unique in their armour and weapons. They also learned new playground games to develop friendship. Pupils have been learning about the different names for food in Welsh. All children have had the wonderful opportunity to further develop their reading and spelling with "Nessy", passwords will be sent home Friday. For RE, pupils have looked at the bible story of "The Good Samaritan" and used their drama skills to re-enact a scene from the story discussing each character's thoughts and feelings. PE activities have involved developing ball skills through small team games. In Forest School they created their own unique games using natural materials and used their oracy skills to explain how to play the game to others

Pupils in **Year 4** have looked at the organisational and language features of instructional writing. The week commenced with an oracy task where the children worked in pairs to follow instructions to draw a picture. They looked at the importance of time connectives and imperative (bossy) verbs. They used the text 'George's Marvellous Medicine' as an inspiration to plan and write their own set of instructions for Grandma's Gruesome Tonic! They have transferred their knowledge to their Science and have written instructions for keeping teeth healthy. Numeracy work has continued to focus on subtraction, using informal methods such as partitioning and the 'counting on' method to find the difference between two numbers. They also used the 'Counting Frog tool', allocated on Abacus, as a visual tool to aid calculations. These strategies have been applied to problem solving activities including finding change from £1 and £5 and solving word problems. The children considered the importance of looking after the environment and designed a Welsh poster on Google Classroom using the language pattern, 'Rhaid rhoi sbwriel yn y bin'. (You must put rubbish in the bin.) Pupils have looked at different rainforest animals and drawn labelled diagrams to show the features that help them adapt to their habitat. They will use their knowledge to create a new species of animal that lives in the rainforest as well as writing a fact file for their animal.

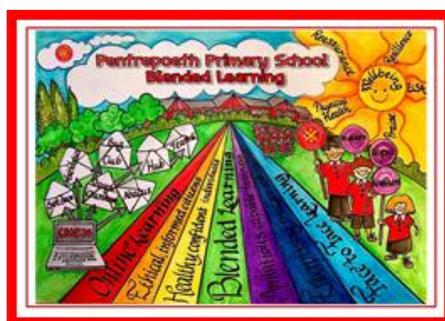
In **Year 5** there has been a big focus on grammar in Literacy lessons. They have looked at using apostrophes for possession and in contracted words and looked at a selection of homophones e.g. 'their' 'there' and 'they're.' They completed their acrostic poems based on Hogwarts. In Numeracy pupils investigated co-ordinates on a grid and looked at properties of 3D shapes. They identified nets of shapes and created 3D shapes using nets. They have started a new topic on fractions and looked at all of the different vocabulary related to fractions. In Science, pupils evaluated and summarised all of their learning this term in their 'Changing materials' topic and recorded their findings in their Learning Journals. This work focussed on solids, liquids and gases, and highlighted what



they have learned from investigations based on viscosity, density and melting/evaporating. They utilised their ICT skills by editing and redrafting a passage from Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, ensuring they have used the correct punctuation throughout. For Music they created their own piece of body percussion compositions. They listened to Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter and worked together to create the final performance. Children have also made their own Harry Potter Kahoot quizzes. In Welsh they have continued to use their placemats to practise Welsh oracy skills and watched the video "Yr Ardd". Follow up activities involved identifying and drawing things found in the garden and labelling them in Welsh. In Forest School pupils created their own unique games using natural materials. They thought carefully about adding levels of difficulty to the game and a scoring system.

Year 6 pupils have written a mini saga based on a forest setting entitled "A wander in the Woods." Pupils were given the choice of a horror story, a recount of a story, a twist on a myth, legend or fairy tale. Children planned and started to write the sagas in pairs before attempting their own. There were lots of amazing ideas from every pupil in Year 6. All the mini sagas will be sent in to the "Young Writers" competition. We have lots of excellent entries so fingers crossed we might have a winner. In Numeracy, our pupils have mastered simplifying fractions and have surprised themselves by the accuracy of their answers. Everyone is feeling a lot more confident and realises the importance of knowing their multiplication tables. The Science topic "Wild Woods" has come to an end, the children are currently reflecting on their work, identifying what they have learnt and what they enjoyed most. They are presenting their reflections and evaluations independently in their learning journals. Pupils have used the chrome books to research information about the Enigma machine and Alan Turing. They have been encouraged to work independently and have been in control of the planning and presentation of their work. It has been another busy and productive week in Year 6.

Blended Learning



As you will be aware should an individual, a class or year group need to self- isolate because the school has been notified of a positive test result or an individual is waiting for a test result then we will operate our blended learning provision.

For more details please click [here](#)



Website - www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Twitter - @PentrepoethPrim

Other Twitter Pages ...



Click on the links in blue!

Class	Twitter	Area	Twitter
Nursery – Mrs Williams	@PPSMrsWilliams	Whole School	@PentrepoethPrim
Reception – Mrs Starke	@PPSMrsStarke	Expressive Arts	@PPSExpressiveArts
Reception – Miss Ellis	@PPSMissEllis	Health and Wellbeing	@PPSHealth_Well
Year 1 – Mrs Batrouni	@PPSMrsBatrouni	Humanities	@PPSHumanites
Year 1- Mrs Drummond	@PPSMrsDrummond	Languages, Literacy and Communication	@PPSLangandLit
Year 2- Mrs Beard	@PPSMrsBeard2jb	Mathematics and Numeracy	@PPSMathsandNum
Year 2 – Mr Nocivelli	@PPSMrNocivelli	Science and Technology	@PPSSciandTech
Year 3 – Mrs Baxter	@PPSMrsBaxter		
Year 3 – Mrs Davies	@PPSMrsDavies		
Year 4 – Mrs Gooding	@PPSMrsGooding		
Year 4 – Mrs Jones	@PPSMrsJones		
Year 5 – Mr Merriman	@PPSMrMerriman		
Year 5 – Mr Willmore	@PPSMrWillmore		
Year 6 – Mr Cleaves	@PPSMrCleaves		
Year 6 – Mrs Symes	@PPSMrsSymes		

Thank you for your continued support, it is very much appreciated. Stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor
Headteacher

