

Weekly Newsletter

December 11th 2020

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



Please find our school newsletter for the week ending 11th December 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

11th December 2020

Dear Parent and Carer,
Anwyl Rhieni,

End of term



You will be aware that Welsh Government has directed secondary schools to switch to learning online from next Monday. Primary schools have not received the same direction, however Newport City Council has decided that primary schools will also switch to online learning next week with Wednesday being the last day for face to face teaching. Details [here](#). There will be online activities available for Thursday and Friday that will have a Christmas theme.

Attendance

I have received a number of e-mails and correspondence from parents who are choosing not to send their children in during the final week. Thank you for informing me. Any absence for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be recorded as unauthorised. As Newport City Council have made Thursday and Friday online learning days, this will be authorised.

Changes to activities next week

Christmas dinner in school will now be on **Monday 14th December**, not Wednesday as planned.

Parties will now be on Tuesday afternoon – children can wear party clothes

Movie afternoon will be Monday afternoon, after Christmas dinner

Santa will be visiting us Tuesday.

Online Access to Christmas Concerts

These will be available for a limited period via the school website. You will need a password to view, which we will text out to you next week.



Christmas class assemblies with candles will take place throughout the week.

Informing School of Positive Test Results over Christmas

Unfortunately, it is possible that I may have to continue to inform families of the need for children to self-isolate into next week. Please continue to inform us via the school e-mail pentrepoeth.primary@newport.gov.uk if your child has tested positive for covid-19.

I will also be informed of positive results of children in our school by Environmental Health and TTP. I will be monitoring the school e-mail over the Christmas holiday period.

Dates For Your Diary !

Spring Term 2021

School will re-open for the Spring term on **Monday January 4th 2021**.

Existing Nursery children will start on **Tuesday January 5th 2021**

New Nursery Starters will start on **Monday January 4th 2021 for the afternoon session.**



PTA News

Pentrepoeth PTA Newsletter

Thank you so much for supporting all our events this term – there have been a lot of changes and you have all been amazing at getting on board and helping us with our fundraising!

We have now raised enough for 24 out of the 60 Chromebooks we are aiming for!! Thank you!!



Super supporter!

We are so lucky to have a great PTA support network! From help running and attending our fundraisers to parents that go an extra mile (or several) as detailed below.

Logan's mum Sabrina decided to take up the challenge of doing a sponsored walk – covering the perimeter of Pen Y Fan.

Friends and family sponsored her and they raised £90 which she donated to the PTA.

Her employers Lloyds match funded her another £90!

That plus the money raised with Xmas Teddy sales funded another Chromebook!!

THANK YOU!!

Message from Becki (Chairperson) – "I just wanted to say a massive thank you to the parents and friends of Pentrepoeth PTA. This has been a really strange year for our PTA – we haven't been able to run any of our events as we usually would and everyone has been so supportive. Whatever the new normal looks like we will continue to try and find new ways to raise money for our children, Stay safe and take care everyone! There will be a full update of this terms activities in the final Newsletter."

Covid -19 Information

Self-Isolation

If your child has been asked to self-isolate, then the child should remain home. Do not go to public areas or other people's houses, and do not use public transport or taxis for 14 days or until you have been told that it is safe to do so. Minimise contact with other people in your home and do not invite people to visit your home.

A reminder that Welsh Government has reduced the number of days required for self-isolation from 14 to 10 days.

Face coverings

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.



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](#). (note – this will need to be changed to reflect WG changes to the number of days for self isolation).

One Way System and Parking/Safety whilst dropping off

Thank you for your continued support with social distancing and the use of the one-way system. Another gentle reminder (after receiving some telephone calls from residents this week)- please be considerate with speed, parking and noise in the surrounding roads in the community. Thank you!



LEARNING

Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed their story of the week, "Is it Christmas yet?" and sequenced and retold the story using a story map. They have also enjoyed choosing and exploring a variety of Christmas reading materials. They enjoyed singing their Christmas songs, performing actions and playing musical instruments. They have developed their creative skills by using clay to make and decorate Christmas decorations and used their feet to paint Christmas cards! Numeracy skills have involved counting sets of Christmas objects and matching the correct number to the set. They have also sequenced the days of the week and described the weather in Welsh.

Our children in **Reception** have listened and enjoyed The Christmas Story. After talking about the events and characters the children used their amazing drawing skills to illustrate the story and talk about it. Once again we have been very impressed with their detailed drawings. The children have also enjoyed playing with the character puppets from the Christmas story and used them to retell the story in their own words. They have been extremely busy making their Christmas cards and calendars. Mums and Dads, you are in for a wonderful surprise. In Santa's Grotto, the children have had great fun dressing up as elves to help Father Christmas wrap the presents ready for Christmas. They have been practising their Christmas songs ready to sing to Mr Taylor and Mrs Jenkins. Not long to wait Mr Taylor, only three more sleeps. The children have been so excited to see Miss Ellis back with us. Welcome back Miss Ellis.

Year 1 pupils have enjoyed reading The Christmas Story and looked at the meaning of Christmas. It was an absolute pleasure listening to the children sing their Christmas song, "Little Donkey" outside in front of the Christmas trees with Mrs Berry. Mrs Batrouni, Mrs Drummond and the Year 1 team are really proud of their pupils. Numeracy work has involved halving numbers and practising counting in 10's using a number square. They have been busy completing end of term assessments in literacy and numeracy to identify ways in which to move their learning forward in the New Year. They have all worked so hard all term. They are looking forward to a fun filled week ahead with Christmas craft activities, a special visit from Santa, Christmas parties, Christmas assemblies and of course a delicious Christmas dinner.

Pupils in **Year 2** have looked at the features of letter writing and written a letter to Father Christmas. They have also written their Christmas cards using their best handwriting. They even wrote their letters in Welsh using the language pattern "Ga i..." Da iawn Blwyddyn 2. Numeracy work has involved working in groups to transfer their reasoning skills to solve Christmas mathematical problems. They have also used their mental maths skills to complete Christmas addition and subtraction sums. Project work has involved looking at how Christmas is celebrated around the world. Well-being activities have included discussing the reasons for Save the Children Christmas jumper day. Pupils have designed their own special Christmas jumpers with very creative results. Da iawn Blwyddyn 2.

Year 3 pupils have completed their investigation surrounding the mysterious death of Julius Caesar. They have adopted different roles to ask questions about his death. The pupil police came into the classroom to hold an important meeting to share all the information gathered. The pupils created a poster advertising the event and listed the key features needed in their poster. Pupils will now report their findings from the event in a newspaper article. They have been busy in maths revising their multiplication tables. They have played loop card games and danced with BBC Super Movers to reinforce and consolidate their tables. This knowledge was then used to establish the



link between multiplication and division. They have used R. U.C. S. A. C to solve division word problems and enjoyed spending time on Mathletics. They have had fun making clay owls and painting them, used their Roman Mosaics to create fabulous calendars and hand painted special Christmas cards for loved ones. They have looked at the story of the Good Samaritan and created freeze frames to portray how the characters were thinking and feeling. Forest school activities have involved creating 3D scenes with a Christmas theme.

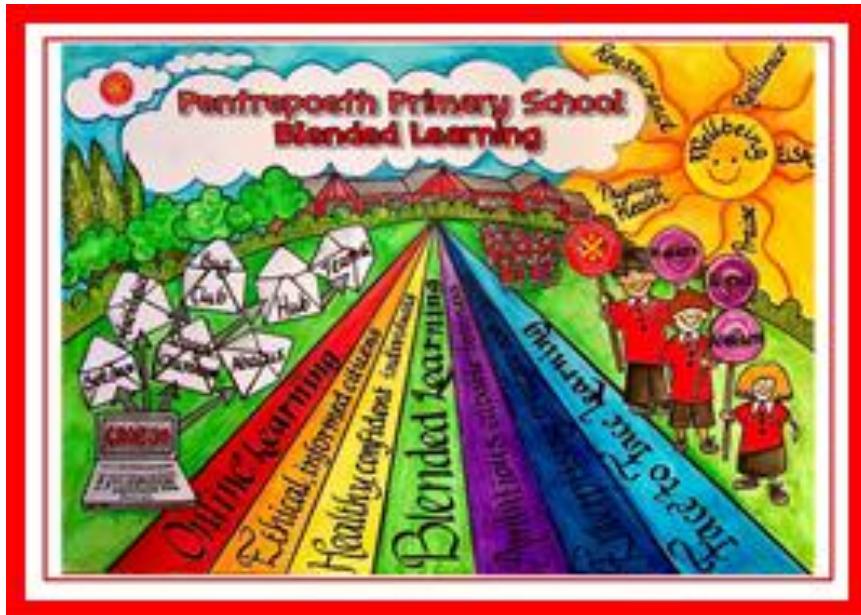
Pupils in **Year 4** have looked at the organisational and language features of a biography. They used their comprehension skills to answer questions about Roald Dahl and collected facts about his life to draw a map/diagram to organise the information in chronological order. This helped pupils to write their biographies about the remarkable life of Roald Dahl. Numeracy work has involved identifying and investigating properties of 2D shapes e.g., polygons, quadrilaterals and heptagons. They have investigated the differences between regular and irregular shapes and identified and classified different types of triangles. In Science, they investigated drinks which are acidic and unhealthy for our teeth. They predicted drinks which were acidic before testing them with red cabbage water. They have created posters to promote protecting and saving the rainforest and discussed the importance of our rainforests for supplying us with our food and medicines.

Year 5 children have enjoyed reading "The Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens and written a character description for Scrooge. This included a setting description with a focus on powerful imaginative language. They have also plotted key events from the text and written a section of the story as part of their Big Write session. Numeracy activities have involved simplifying fractions and completing the Harry Potter Maths shopping challenge. Pupils have been invited to Hogwarts and asked to use their knowledge of fractions to complete the challenge. In Welsh pupils have been identifying things associated with Christmas. They have finished reading their Harry Potter book and watched the film identifying similarities and differences between the two. They have been busy recording their Christmas readings and songs ready for our virtual Christmas concert.

Year 6 pupils have continued to work hard both in school and at home. They have studied a World War 2 poem, "I saw a sad man in a field" by Joan Bachelor. The poem describes a German POW and how he was treated by the inhabitants of a small village in England. The understanding shown by the children was very mature and thoughtful and led to a wider discussion about stereotypes and visual perceptions of other people. They have also looked at the story "Eric" by Shaun Tan and investigated the use of pronouns and determiners. They have looked at how to edit a familiar story and add a twist. Numeracy work has involved investigating number patterns, particularly square and triangular numbers. They have looked at data, including line graphs, pie charts, conversion graphs and calculating the mean or average. The World War 2 topic is coming to an end and pupils have completed a detailed research about women's occupations during the war. Our pupils have constructed very creative Anderson shelters using a wide variety of materials, it is obvious that a lot of time, care and effort have gone into making them. Pupils have researched the festival of Ramadan and created a piece of Islamic art. Pupils have enjoyed choosing and wrapping gifts from our Santa sale. Creative skills were most definitely employed wrapping some odd shaped presents! There is a very festive feel to our penultimate week of the Autumn term in preparation for Christmas.



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

[Nursery – Mrs Williams](#)

[Reception – Mrs Starke](#)

[Reception – Miss Ellis](#)

[Year 1 – Mrs Batrouni](#)

[Year 1- Mrs Drummond](#)

[Year 2- Mrs Beard](#)

[Year 2 – Mr Nocivelli](#)

[Year 3 – Mrs Baxter](#)

[Year 3 – Mrs Davies](#)

[Year 4 – Mrs Gooding](#)

[Year 4 – Mrs Jones](#)

[Year 5 – Mr Merriman](#)

[Year 5 – Mr Willmore](#)

[Year 6 – Mr Cleaves](#)

[Year 6 – Mrs Symes](#)

Twitter

[@PPSMrsWilliams](#)

[@PPSMrsStarke](#)

[@PPSMissEllis](#)

[@PPSMrsBatrouni](#)

[@PPSMrsDrummond](#)

[@PPSMrsBeard2jb](#)

[@PPSMrNocivelli](#)

[@PPSMrsBaxter](#)

[@PPSMrsDavies](#)

[@PPSMrsGooding](#)

[@PPSMrsJones](#)

[@PPSMrMerriman](#)

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[@PPSLangandLit](#)

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[@PPSSciandTech](#)

I will write out again on Wednesday – continue to stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor
Headteacher

