

Newsletter

October 15th 2021

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



Please find our school newsletter for October 15th 2021. Click on the links for more information.

Please visit our website
www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor



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

October 15th 2021

Newsletter

Dear Parent and Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni,

It has been another busy week in school!

Mrs Jenkins

As you may be aware Mrs Jenkins has been unwell. We are hoping that she will be able to return to school in the near future. However, after many years at Pentrepoeth, Mrs Jenkins has decided to retire and will finish at the end of this term. I will have much more to say about this before the end of term! I know you will join me in wishing Mrs Jenkins a speedy recovery and a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Miss Cook

After an extensive and rigorous interview process Governors have appointed a new Deputy Headteacher. Miss Sarah Cook will start in January 2022. Miss Cook has been Deputy Headteacher at Woodlands Primary School in Cwmbran since 2012 and has been an Associate Headteacher at the school for two of those years. I am very much looking forward to working with her and welcoming her to our Pentrepoeth family.

Harvest

Thank you so much for the kind donations for our Harvest festival. These will be distributed to local food banks.



PTA



Pentrepoeth PTA Newsletter



Thank you so much to our generous sponsors – it is thanks to you directly that the children of Pentrepoeth will get to take part in more creative workshops and activities this year!!



Best Scarecrow competition will be taking place on our Facebook page over half term - cast your

votes  Pentrepoeth PTA 



Keep us updated on your adventures via Twitter

 @PentrepoethPTA

Use our Scarecrow Trail Hashtag #ppsscscrowtrail21



A SPOOKY HALF TERM AWAITS YOU IN THE

SCARECROW TRAIL



Saturday 23rd-31st October
Enter your own scarecrow for £5



Our map has been sent off for printing – but it is not too late to get involved – an online version of the map will be updated with any new scarecrows. Join in the fun – drop us an email to pentrepoethpta@gmail.com to enter.



Christmas Cards

We are using "Cauliflower Cards" again this year to produce children's Christmas cards, mugs, notebooks, wrapping paper and gift labels. This proved very popular last year as the results were professionally printed into beautiful cards, mugs etc. We will send children's artwork home on Thursday, October 21st. If you would like to purchase items, please return the artwork to school by Monday November 1st. Please remember to tick the box on the form to show that an order has been placed. Parents can only order and pay online, please do not send cheques or money into school. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Jenkins.

Parent Consultations

Due to Covid restrictions we will again be holding parents evenings via Microsoft Teams. Parent Consultations will take place as per the timetable below:

Booking will be available from next Thursday. There will be a mix of afternoon and evening appointments available.

Date	Year Groups
9 th , 10 th November	Nursery
10 th , 11 th November	Reception
11 th , 12 th November	Year1
10 th , 11 th November	Year 2
17 th , 18 th November	Year 3
9 th , 10 th November	Year 4
16 th , 17 th November	Year 5
9 th , 10 th November	Year 6

Parent Planners

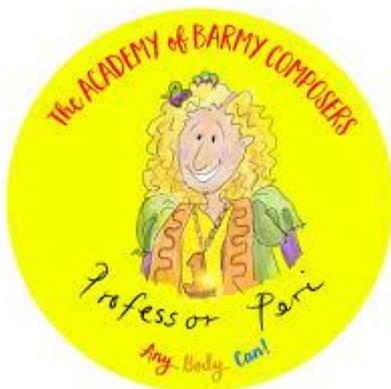
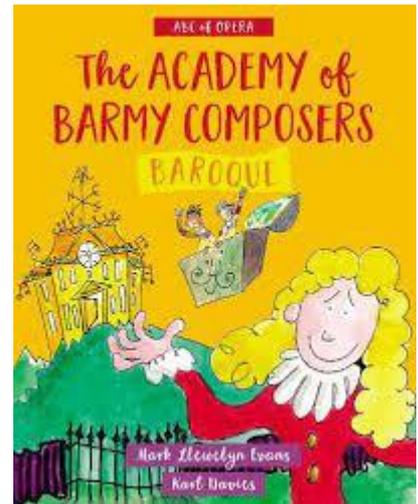
Parent Planners will be sent out separately by text and will be available on the school website.



Expressive Arts Week

We are thrilled to be holding our Expressive Arts week next week in school. Rhiannon Roberts will be working with our children to create murals based on our school, Newport and Wales.

Mark Evans and team will be visiting to develop the ABC of Opera as well as drumming, samba and many other creative activities. Keep an eye on your child's class Twitter feeds next week!



LEARNING

Autumn Term 2021 Week 6

Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed their book of the Week, "A Home for Little Tiger" and discussed the characters, the type of home Tiger had and what happened in the story and why it happened. Pupils looked at and discussed different types of homes and talked about their features and learnt the vocabulary related to this. Pupils also discussed where they lived and the features of their own homes e.g. type of house, how many bedrooms, windows, doors and the shape of them. They enjoyed creating their own home using the IWB and Simple City and used the skill of 'drag and drop' to design and create their houses. In Numeracy, pupils were introduced to simple 2D shapes and investigated the names and number of sides. They sorted simple 2D shapes, created a 2D shape house and described its features as well as naming and counting the shapes that they used. Pupils continue to develop their fine and gross motor skills through Squiggle, Flipping and Flapping, outdoor activities, threading, tweezer and pegging activities and cutting skill activities.

Reception pupils have had great fun being 'shape detectives' and explored the school grounds on their 2D shape hunt. They used iPad's to take photographs of the shapes that they found and discussed their properties with their group. In the craft area, the pupils used their model making skills to build a dream home and sorted the 2D shapes in the tuff spot tray. The pupils have been discussing different types of houses and used their artistic skills to paint pictures of their own homes. In Forest School, we explored the length and height of sticks to find the perfect arms for our class scarecrow. We can't wait to show everyone our class scarecrows and are very much looking forward to our Expressive Arts week when we will be taking part in a Samba workshop!

Pupils in **Year 1** have enjoyed investigating maps and plans. They used Google Earth to find our school and talked about the surrounding areas where they lived. The teachers drew a map of the school on large sheets of paper and pupils worked in small groups learning how to direct the beebots around the school using whole and half turns. In Numeracy, pupils have been looking at stories of 6 and enjoyed using coat hangers and pegs to make their stories. Pupils had great fun developing their fine motor control too! They continued to explore signs of Autumn in the forest and enjoyed singing and recording their favourite Harvest song - Harvest Samba with Mrs Berry. Pupils have also loved retelling the story of Little Red Hen using story maps and acting it out on our outdoor stage.

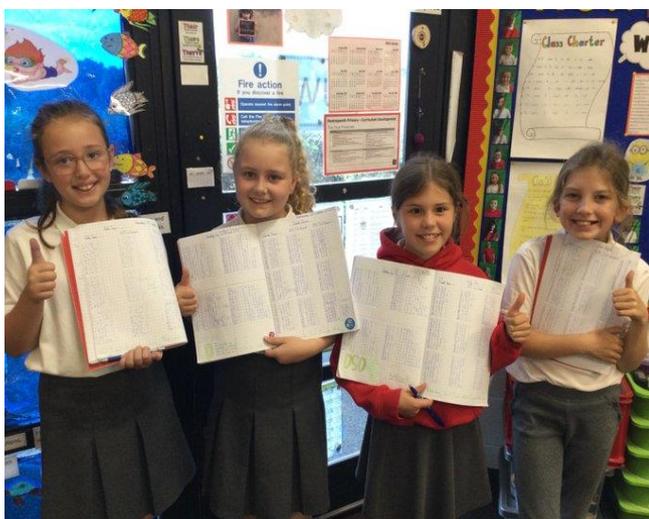
Year 2 pupils have explored the world of Noah's Ark and discussed the fact that it is a story from the bible which is a special book. We talked about how some people in the world believe this is a true story and that some people do not, and that it is acceptable to have different views to other people. Pupils listened to the story and talked about why God flooded the world and whether they thought this was the right thing to do. They completed a Body Biography on Noah, thinking about what he saw, felt, heard and smelt whilst on the Ark. Pupils also talked about God's promise to never flood the Earth again and thought about what promises they would like to make and why it is important to keep promises. They played a memory game where they had to listen carefully and remember which order the animals went on to the



Ark, it was great fun. Pupils enjoyed visiting Forest School and worked in teams to make an Ark out of the natural materials that they found. Pupils revised the names of 3D shapes and investigated how many faces, corners and edges each shape had. They also thought about where they would find these different shapes at home and in school.

Our **Year 3** pupils have enjoyed keeping their Literacy skills sharp by using the popular Spelling Planet from RWInc. They have investigated words containing the “a” sound e.g. all, ball talk etc. Numeracy work has involved revision and consolidation of a variety of methods to halve 2 digit numbers as well as practising partitioning of numbers using Mathletics. Pupils have also enjoyed completing Abacus Quick Maths to reinforce this work. They have continued to develop their creative and IT skills to design and construct Roman mosaics. Pupils continue to enjoy their topic about Unwanted Invaders and used their senses to describe a Gladiator in battle as well as identifying the different types of gladiators. They have investigated Roman numerals and used their knowledge to complete problem solving activities where pupils enjoyed cracking the codes. In Welsh, pupils used a variety of language patterns to describe their eye and hair colour e.g. Pa lliw ydy dy llygaid di? Pa lliw ydy dy wallt di? In Forest School, pupils have learnt why leaves change colour in the autumn and used natural resources to create their own autumnal trees. In PE, pupils used multi skills cards to create their own pathways to follow, highlighting specific footwork.

Year 4 pupils have focused on non-fiction writing and looked at the language and organisational features of a biography. They used a key and their detective skills to identify features of a biography using a WAGOLL text. Pupils researched information on the Internet about the life and experiences of Ed Stafford. They drew and labelled a story plan to map out the events of the explorer’s life in chronological order before writing a biography of his life in their Big Write books. Pupils are developing proof-reading and editing skills to improve their writing. In Numeracy, pupils continued to use their knowledge of number bonds to find complements of 100 using a numberline and bead bar. They used the concept of ‘If I know..., then I know ...’ to find multiples of 50 to make 1000 e.g., $350 + 650 = 1000$. They consolidated number family facts and recognised that addition is the inverse of subtraction. Pupils are mastering their addition skills to mentally add strings of single digit numbers together. In Forest Schools/Science, pupils created classification keys to identify different plants and animals and produced an identification key using the Just2Easy programme on Hwb. They learnt about the scientist Charles Darwin and organised the events of his life into chronological order using a timeline. Darwin was surprised to see the rare, unusual, exotic animals that inhabited the Galapagos Islands and pupils discussed how he recorded the results of his findings during Victorian Times. During Expressive Art lessons, we practised making different pencil markings to create textures and observed the shapes of different giant tortoises to produce observational sketches.



Our **Year 5** children have continued to work on dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, with children completing some tricky questions, including up to 2 decimal places. Pupils also converted 12 hour clock times into 24 hour digital clock times, as well as reading and understanding timetables. In Literacy, pupils have focussed on the different aspects of ISPACE to vary their sentence openers. They looked at six different interesting ways of starting sentences and will be using these to write a descriptive paragraph based on a fun setting or short story. Pupils have also revised and consolidated work on basic punctuation, including when to use capital letters correctly. In Welsh, pupils continued to write short character profiles about themselves and practised



reading these out to one another. Science work has continued with paper aeroplane activities, pupils have measured distances, collected and analysed class data and looked at mean, mode and range, as well as creating bar charts to show results. They have continued to research interesting facts about their topic 'Beyond Belief' and used this information to design creative fact files and timelines in their Learning Journals. They have also been introduced to the ABC of Opera, where children have designed their own front cover page for our mini topic next week, where children will be learning all about Opera around the world. Pupils have learnt about Dr Barnardo with Mrs Clissold and Mrs Ahern and used their knowledge to create fact files about him and his life achievements and legacy in their Learning Journals.

Year 6 pupils have enjoyed the fabulous autumnal weather which has allowed them to take part in physical activities. They have been incredibly inventive and led various parts of our P.E. and Games lessons. Rugby skills activities were particularly popular and kept their hearts pumping. An all-round great activity afternoon – fast and furious! The Year 6 scarecrows are well underway, the children were especially inventive and created a Hallowe'en / Strictly Come Dancing theme, while a children's book has provided the inspiration for another. Broomsticks have never looked so creative – a great start to our forthcoming Expressive Arts week. In Numeracy, pupils applied their multiplication and division by 10, 100 & 1000 skills to convert a variety of different units of measurements, e.g. cm – km, km – m, g – kg. Discussions also developed around which unit of measurement would be needed to measure the length of a football pitch or a tic tac. As part of the Climate Change topic pupils have analysed weather reports from a variety of sources including "Derek the Weather" and identified phrases to use in their own weather reports. Children will practise their delivery to ensure they are expressive and engaging for the viewer and results will be filmed. Pupil voice has really come to the fore and as a result of the Jam boards children completed earlier, they have begun their final research project on the polar caps melting. Chrome books have proved invaluable and the work produced independently is of a high standard. Information is key and pupils are becoming much more aware of the need to write their own thoughts and opinions about the subject. Again, a more challenging skill to develop. The annual Great Beany Baby race has begun, beans have been planted and children are recording daily observations using the key scientific vocabulary after studying the life cycle of a flowering plant. Pupils enjoyed their first visit from Bassaleg students and were given the opportunity to learn about the experiences of past pupils and their journey through Bassaleg. The children responded very positively, asked sensible questions and listened attentively, all eager to learn about Bassaleg and what will be required of them. These visits help to reassure our pupils that the next stage of their education will be a positive one.



Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed their book of the Week, "Family" and discussed their families and who lives in their homes. They discussed different types of families, the different roles of family members and pupils drew pictures of their families. Pupils were introduced to the sound of the week "m" using Read Write Inc strategies and enjoyed a sound hunt, as well as making a sound booklet and mark making. In Numeracy, pupils discussed that anything can be counted and during their physical maths sessions counted body movements including jumps, hops, skips etc. Pupils matched the number of movements to its corresponding numeral and showed the numbers on their fingers. Everyone continues to enjoy the outdoor area and garden activities, encouraging pupils to be more adventurous and confident whilst using the enhanced provision. Pupils have also loved further developing their gross motor skills using "Squiggle whilst you Wiggle".

Reception pupils have had great fun ordering the superheroes by height and working together to build different size towers in block play. Pupils enjoyed drawing their families during circle time and discussed why they are special. They used their magnetic eyes and fine motor skills to create superhero noises in the tuff spot and capture the Evil Pea in the gloopy gelli baff. Reception thoroughly enjoyed learning some new songs with Mrs Berry ready for our Harvest celebrations. They have been marvellous mathematicians and have worked hard to practise writing their numbers using paint, chalk and whiteboards. In Forest school, the pupils had fun collecting different size sticks and worked as a team to order from tallest to shortest. Da iawn, Reception.

Pupils in **Year 1** have enjoyed learning their bonds to 10 using a number bond line. They also listened to the story "Little Red Hen" and made fantastic efforts to retell the story orally. They have enjoyed spending time outdoors exploring Autumn colours and looked at the painting "Wheatfield with Crows" by Vincent Van Gogh. Following this, they created their own Harvest paintings looking at warm and cool colours, working to a horizon line and investigating mood and atmosphere. Pupils have been learning all about Harvest in the past and present time and looked at the different ways in which food is harvested. They also learned about different food groups and discussed the importance of healthy eating. Pupils have also started making their class scarecrow in preparation for the PTA scarecrow trail in half term!

Year 2 pupils have retold the story of "The Shark with no teeth" making sure that they remembered to use speech marks to show when Cruncher was speaking and use full stops at the end of sentences. Pupils have worked on the "sh" grapheme, thinking of as many words as they could that included this blend and inserted these words into sentences. In Numeracy, pupils have developed their subtraction skills and looked at the variety of mathematical vocabulary for subtraction, e.g. minus, take away and less than. They also investigated different strategies that can be used to complete subtraction sums such as counting down or jumping back in tens. Pupils really enjoyed looking inside a shark's mouth and compared it to their own and discussed the similarities and differences. Pupils then looked at how a shark's diet affects the type of teeth that they have, before they matched different sharks to their teeth. Pupils also used their comparing skills to look at the sizes of different sharks and ordered them from smallest to largest. Pupils used their impressive artistic skills to create amazing watercolour paintings of their favourite sharks.

Our **Year 3** pupils have enjoyed planning and performing an oral retell of the fairy tale Hansel and Gretel using Pie Corbett strategies including a picture trailing exercise to help retell the story. They continue to keep their literacy skills sharp by using Nessy to further develop their reading and spelling, as well as



practising their “cl” join in their handwriting. Numeracy work has involved doubling and halving 2 digit numbers using a range of strategies. Pupils have continued with their project on Unwanted Invaders and revised and consolidated features of Wanted Posters before completing their Boudicca poster designed to find the Celtic Queen. Pupils have also looked at the features of persuasive writing before designing an advert aimed at selling a Roman villa. They have developed their mapping skills and completed a detailed map of a Roman town including a key to locate the main areas. Pupils have enjoyed developing their creative skills by planning, designing and creating Roman mosaics. In Welsh, pupils have used a variety of language patterns to describe hair and eye colours.



Year 4 pupils have revised their punctuation and proof-reading skills and edited a piece of writing about Mr. Twit, making sure that capital letters and full stops were used correctly as well as identifying proper nouns. They learnt about the British explorer Ed Stafford and wrote sentences about him using capital letters accurately. On Thursday, we celebrated World Poetry Day by using a variety of adjectives to write a poem about an explorer. In Numeracy, pupils used their knowledge of number bonds to 10 to find number bonds to 100, 1000 and 10000 and used a bead bar and number line to find complements to 100. Pupils consolidated their knowledge by completing activities on Mathletics and Abacus. In Forest Schools, pupils used leaf identification keys to help identify the different trees along the nature trail and in our Forest

Schools area. They discussed the impact that ash dieback has had on our school grounds and completed their autumn wreaths. Pupils used the chrome books to research the life and achievements of the explorers Amelia Earhart, Ed Stafford, Neil Armstrong and Roald Amundsen. They discovered when they reached their goals and discussed details of their bravery during their explorations before reflecting on their learning in their Learning Journals. Pupils enjoyed singing Harvest songs with Mrs. Berry and PE with Mrs. Ahern/Mrs. Clissold. Pupils also reflected on their learning in Welsh and completed their base assessment. Another really enjoyable but busy week in Year 4.

Our **Year 5** children have continued to work on addition and subtraction, focusing on using RUCSAC to solve word problems before moving on to multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000, including multiplication using decimal numbers. Pupils have consolidated this learning by completing Mathletics tasks. In Literacy, pupils completed their Harry Potter diary entries, focussing on editing and up levelling their writing. Pupils have also ensured accurate use of punctuation, in particular the use of capital letters to identify proper nouns. They have also looked at using ISPACE as a way of using different sentence openers to further improve their writing. In Welsh, pupils have written short character profiles



about themselves describing where they live, their ages, family, friends, likes and dislikes. Science work has continued with various paper aeroplane activities, involving measuring distances, collecting and analysing class data, calculating mean, mode and range, as well as creating bar charts to show results. As part of World Space Week, pupils took part in a live lesson online from the BBC to learn lots of different interesting facts about space. They used Chromebooks to research more information about space, including stars, phases of the moon, planets and much more and used these facts to produce outstanding work in their Learning Journals. Da iawn, Blwyddyn Pump!

Year 6 pupils have continued with their Wicked Weather topic and investigated a number of key issues affecting the world at the moment. They have identified the different types of climate on Earth and the differences between each climate. They have researched greenhouse gases and looked at the effects these have on our Earth. Pupils have worked tirelessly to collect information about Climate Change and presented their work independently in their Learning Journals. Research on Greta Thonberg has been completed and pupils have constructed plans in preparation for the writing of her biography in their Big Write session. Pupils have really excelled themselves and the amount of interesting facts and information they have discovered about her life is very impressive. I am sure their biographies will be fit to Tweet! Pupils have also discussed the impact and the contribution that people of colour have made to our society. As October is Black History month, we read the autobiography of Benjamin Zephaniah. His family arrived in Britain at the beginning of the 1960s and had an extremely rude awakening as they were promised that the “pavements were paved with gold” in “the motherland”. They soon found out that this was not the case. Benjamin’s story is one of hardship, but with a positive message for all. We have also discussed the building of a commemorative statue of Betty Campbell in Cardiff, the first black and woman head teacher in Wales. The children were appalled to learn that her own head teacher had told her that she would never become a teacher let alone a head teacher because of the colour of her skin. However, determination and resilience won the day and she became a very powerful member of the Cardiff community. A story of true grit and determination that we can all learn from.

Autumn Term 2021 Week 4

Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed their book of the Week, “I am special” and discussed similarities and differences between themselves and others and celebrated things that are special about each other. Pupils have joined in with nursery rhymes and songs to develop mathematical understanding of counting and ordering numbers along a number line. They have drawn self-portraits using the IWB and included as many facial features and body parts as they could using the Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes song to accompany. Children used mirrors to help draw their portraits as well as to develop their fine motor control. Pupils experimented with colour mixing and painted both their hands with different colours and then rubbed them together to create new colours. Children made lots of new colours and gave preferences for their favourite ones. Pupils discussed sounds within words and identified the initial sound in all of their names. The children were asked to collage their initial sounds, developing their independence in selecting their own resources and equipment. Pupils enjoyed the outdoor area and garden activities encouraging them to be more adventurous in using the outside equipment and resources as well as further developing their fine and gross motor skills.

Reception pupils have had a fun filled week attempting to catch the notorious ‘Evil Pea’ as part of their Superhero project. They have been investigating crime scenes, shared plans to help free the captured vegetables and mashed the peas in the tuff spot tray. The pupils enjoyed following instructions to create their very own Supertato cress heads and shared ideas of how they can help its hair to grow. They have also been brilliant mathematicians this week and used their number skills to count vegetables and match the missing keys to the Superhero padlocks. Reception pupils thoroughly enjoyed using their artistic skills to complete potato printing and draw pictures of the Evil Pea. Da iawn, Reception – your teachers are very



proud of you.

Pupils in **Year 1** have enjoyed writing about their families and the things they like to do at home with their families. Pupils have continued to paint and label their junk model houses and worked collaboratively with their partners to complete the finished products. Pupils have been learning how to add using a number line and by counting on in their heads. They enjoyed a wonderful singing session with Mrs Berry where they began learning lots of songs ready for our Harvest Service. This included "Autumn Leaves", Someone's brought a loaf of bread "and Mr Taylor's all-time favourite, "Big Red Combine Harvester". Pupils enjoyed singing them throughout the week, at the end of the day. They have worked in small groups with Mrs Pask and Mrs Jones to decide on the plants they would like to grow in our Polytunnel and are looking forward to starting their scarecrow for the PTA scarecrow trail in half term! Pupils enjoyed their forest school session this week looking for signs of Autumn and cannot wait to see what's in store for next week!

Year 2 pupils enjoyed using their problem solving skills to sequence pictures from the story "The Shark With No Teeth." They improved their oracy skills by asking and answering questions about sharks, making sure that they passed on information clearly using complete sentences. They have also learnt how to use time connectives and used them to record their floating and sinking experiment, as well as organising their written work into sentences, using capital letters and full stops. Numeracy work has involved working with money and pupils have role played in the shop making sure that they either gave the correct money or that the shop keeper gave the correct change. Pupils looked at using different coins to make given totals and used mental strategies to add 10p to given amounts. In Project work they looked at how our actions can have an impact on the life of a shark and designed a Save the Shark poster. We listened to Nicola Davies read and discuss her book called 'Surprising Sharks' and enjoyed a debate about whether we should be afraid of sharks or whether they should be afraid of us. Pupils developed their creative skills by following instructions to make a shark surprise puppet and practised their Welsh language patterns using "Sut wyt ti?"

Our **Year 3** pupils have enjoyed investigating the character of the witch in Little Red Riding Hood and devised a list of questions to find out more information about her. They used the information collected to design a Wanted Poster to put up in the forest in order to try and find the witch. Numeracy work has involved using a 100 square to add and subtract 2-digit numbers and near multiples of 10. Pupils have continued with their project on Unwanted Invaders and enjoyed entering a debate to discuss whether pupils thought they should cooperate with the Roman Invasion. They have also studied the character of Boudicca and designed a Wanted Poster designed to catch her. Pupils enjoyed singing Harvest songs with Mrs Berry, including Mr Scarecrow, Five a Day and Beautiful World. In Forest Schools, pupils enjoyed a mini beast hunt where they tried to identify as many different mini beasts as they could and discussed the different types of habitats that each type of mini beast was found in. In PE, pupils used movement and communication skills within small team games and played myths and legends Crazy Capers to further develop their gross motor skills.

Year 4 pupils have been editing, writing and illustrating their Scaredy Squirrel stories as a book. They looked at the features of a front cover before designing their own. Pupils watched video clips to learn how to draw like Melanie Watt and learnt how to draw different expressions to show how a character is feeling. Pupils used a range of different techniques including making specific words bold and using pictures to tell a story. In Numeracy, pupils rounded 2, 3 and 4-digit numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. They utilised their place value skills, discussing which digits change when rounding and used number lines and bead bars to visualize which multiple of 10/100 is the closest to our number when rounding. Pupils consolidated their skills by playing games on the chrome books allocated on Google Classroom. They also sorted numbers into odd and even numbers and investigated what happens if we add two even or odd numbers together. In PE,



pupils have developed dribbling and passing skills using a hockey stick and looked at different ways of travelling. Pupils discussed how and why the leaves change colour in the autumn before creating autumn wreaths. They researched the qualities and skills that explorers need before learning about some famous explorers and looked at the importance of survival skills and the equipment needed to take on expeditions. Pupils learnt about the importance of building shelters from items found in the environment before designing, making and evaluating our own paper debris shelters. In Welsh, pupils practised asking and answering questions in the past tense including 'Beth welaist ti?' and 'Beth gest ti?'

Our **Year 5** children have worked on subtraction, using chosen methods to complete questions based on adding 3, 4 and 5 digit numbers. They have also been solving word problems, using RUCSAC to break word problems down into smaller steps to be able to complete them. This week's Literacy focus has been on the use of adverbs both in the middle and at the beginning of sentences. Pupils have also focussed on writing diary entries and identified key features of diary entries, before planning their own from the point of view of Harry Potter, the day before his 11th birthday. Children will then be writing their diary entry, using the key events in Chapter 3 of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. In Welsh, pupils have written short character profiles, describing people's age, where they live, their appearance, along with other interesting personal information. Children have practised using this information to generate conversations with each other to improve their fluency. In Science, pupils continued with their paper aeroplane activities and investigated how different forces, such as lift, air resistance and gravity, impact on paper aeroplanes as they fly. Pupils measured the distance travelled by their paper aeroplanes and completed data analysis based on the results. Pupils have also learnt about Mother Teresa with Mrs Clissold and Mrs Ahern, this generated lots of class discussions before pupils researched interesting facts about her using the Chromebooks.

Year 6 pupils have continued with their Wicked Weather topic and witnessed climate change in action, when on Tuesday it started with a shower and within minutes turned into a torrent of rain! They have started to look at the effects of climate change on the world and the difference between weather and climate. The children have identified the different climates across the Earth and looked at the possible weather events that could adversely affect these climates. In Literacy, pupils identified the features of biographies and used the chrome books to research the young but very famous life of Greta Thonberg. They were given four websites to focus on, then were allowed to research other sites using Google. Using the Internet safely was emphasised and discussed very sensibly. The information collected was used to write a biography about Greta Thonberg during our Big Write session. Pupils also identified what they would like to learn about causal conjunctions and adverbials as they need a refresher to use in future writing opportunities. How mature that they are already considering their future literacy learning. Science work has involved extremely sensible and mature discussions about the seven life processes common to all living things. This provided an opportunity to talk about climate change and how man plays their part in this, e.g. The Amazon Rainforest is disappearing at an alarming rate and is thought of as the lungs of the earth helping to clear the atmosphere of harmful gases. In Numeracy, pupils focussed on written methods of addition, adding whole and decimal numbers using both the expanded method and the compact method and applying this to problem solving situations. The compact method was the overwhelming favourite. The children showed an excellent understanding of place value while they were partitioning and identifying the value of each of the digits.



School term times and holidays

INSET Days

There are 6 INSET days next year. The dates arranged so far are:

- Thursday September 2nd 2021
- Friday September 3rd 2021
- Friday October 8th 2021
- Friday February 18th 2022
- *2 others TBC*

Additional day for the Jubilee

School will also be closed on **Monday November 29th** as schools have been given an additional day in lieu of the additional bank holiday which falls within the half term break.

School year 2021-2022

Term	Start	Half-term starts	Half-term ends	Term ends
Autumn 2021	2 September	25 October	29 October	17 December
Spring 2022	4 January	21 February	25 February	8 April
Summer 2022	25 April	30 May	3 June	22 July

May Day - Monday 2 May 202





Nuts.

Recently we have received a number of separate enquiries from schools with regard to “nuts” in food, in order that parents are able to make informed decisions when choosing school meals.

I thought it best therefore to clarify for you all as there seems to be a degree of confusion with regard to “nut free” or nut aware.

The school meals contract that we have with NCC is a “no nut” contract and has been since the start of the first contract award in May 2011.

This means that we guarantee and assure both NCC and schools that we do not use any nut or nut derivative products within any of our recipes and on our menus. We control this by locking down our APL- (approved product list) making it impossible for any kitchen to order products that contain nuts or nut based products.

This has never changed despite the changes in legislation around allergens and labelling. Occasionally we will receive products from our suppliers that have a declaration statement of “may contain traces of nuts”, however we do detail these products on our allergen builder (available in every kitchen) if you have any parents of children with severe nut allergies who may be concerned about ordering from the main menu .

However.

We have never guaranteed and we cannot guarantee that our kitchens are completely nut free as we don't have full sovereignty over access to the kitchen. A school kitchen does not have separated food production areas in the same way that a large food production factory does.

Within the dining area and in particular home packed lunches, whilst as a school you can request parents to not send products that contain nuts or traces of nuts this is also very difficult for you to police and relies on an element of “blind trust”.

Chartwells do not endorse a completely ‘no nuts’ environment as we believe we have a duty of care to educate our pupils and staff on how to handle and manage their food allergy(ies) safely in the school environment.



World Mental Health Day 2021



Some useful links to a Healthcare Services Newsletter

<https://abuhb.nhs.wales/files/clinical-futures/spotlight-on/childrens-healthcare/spotlight-on-round-up-childrens-healthcare-services/>



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		

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor
Headteacher

