

Weekly Newsletter

January 8th 2021

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



Please find our school newsletter for the week ending 8th January 2021. Click on the links for more information.

Please visit our website
www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor



Pentrepoeth Primary School

Cwm Cwddy Drive, Rhiwderin Heights, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8JN

Tel: 01633 896101

Fax: 01633896367

email: Pentrepoeth.primary@newport.gov.uk

website: www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

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

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

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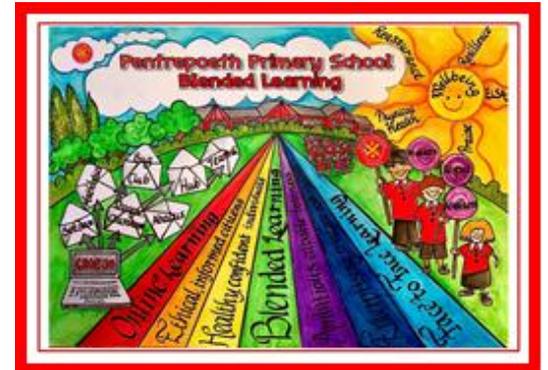
Dear Parent and Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni,

Welcome back to the Spring term 2021.

As per my text this morning, you will know that the Welsh Government has announced an extension to the period of school closure for face to face teaching. Media reports have stated this will be until half term unless cases fall, however, the official letter I have received from the minister this morning states that this will be reviewed on January 29th. As soon as I am formally aware of any decisions then I will communicate them to you in a timely manner.

Online Learning.

As I stated in our previous period of lockdown and during periods where children have had to self-isolate families will be juggling a whole range of situations – homeworking, childcare and managing online learning. Please be kind to yourself – we are genuinely all in this situation together and we can only do the best that we can.



As you will know from the previous online learning policy and plans that I sent to you we further developed our online offer for children during periods of self-isolation. This involves pre-recorded teacher instruction and video clips alongside communication via learning platforms that offer further explanation via text or instruction clips by teachers – for example, using Screen Castify.

As there is a further extended period of online learning we will introduce the use of weekly Microsoft Teams sessions. I will issue further guidance for staff, parents and pupils next week with the introduction of these live sessions from 18th January, subject to discussion with staff, consent from parents/ carers and approval by governors. A blended approach to online learning involving synchronous (live) and asynchronous (pre –recorded) sessions will have the biggest impact on ensuring pupil wellbeing and achievement during this time.



Please be patient for a response from staff to online learning as they will be managing Hub provision, planning and learning activities and recording video clips as well as responding to pupil learning and queries from pupils.

Please telephone or e-mail Mrs Harman at school if internet connection or IT provision is a problem for you. We will do all that we can to help.

Hub Provision

Hub provision at school is available for critical and key worker or vulnerable children. The provision is only to be used as a last resort. It should be used when both parents are unable to work from home and where there is no other childcare available. Welsh Government guidance is available by clicking [here](#).

A reminder that children should not attend hub provision if:

- They are a confirmed case of covid-19
- Experiencing symptoms of covid-19
- Living with a confirmed case of covid -19
- Identified as a close contact of someone living with covid-19 or
- Living with someone with symptoms of covid-19 who is awaiting a test result.

Also, a reminder that if children attend the hub provision they will form a 'contact' group and that if there is a positive case then your child will be asked to self-isolate for 10 days as per guidance.

If your child has attended the hub and displays symptoms or goes for a test please let us know by e-mail.

Covid -19 Information

Positive tests

Please continue to inform us if your child tests positive for covid-19. This is so teachers are aware and can be sensitive to their needs and learning via the learning platforms. Please continue to let us know via the school e-mail address Pentrepoeth.primary@newport.gov.uk

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 from 14 to 10 days).





Our **Nursery** pupils have enjoyed listening to the story "One Winter's Day" and had lots of fun designing a new red hat for little hedgehog. They also enjoyed some fresh air

and made their very own mud pie hedgehogs. Numeracy activities involved counting the number of snowflakes on pairs of gloves and deciding which had more or fewer than. They have practised counting in Welsh with Mrs Jenkins and discussed the weather. They have also been practising their pencil control and the "i" sound and made a collection of items that begin with the "i" sound. They have kept fit, healthy and warm with Joybob the Polar Bear in Winter Wonderland Yoga.

Reception pupils have enjoyed the story "One Snowy Night" about Percy the Park Keeper and have discussed and drawn their favourite pictures from the story. They have drawn story maps to show the main parts of the story. Our super scientists have been conducting "freezing" experiments using toys from home. Numeracy work has involved recognising 2D shapes and singing number rhymes to practise doubling and counting in 10's. They have enjoyed being shape detectives and hunted for 2D shapes. They have developed their creative skills and designed colourful winter hats to keep the animals warm. They have used their observational skills to hunt for signs of winter and enjoyed keeping fit by taking part in "Frozen Yoga". Thank you to Mrs Jenkins for helping us practise counting in Welsh.

Our **Year 1** pupils have enjoyed listening to Mrs Hill read "Commotion in the Ocean" and have written their own poems about sea creatures, chosen their favourite sea creatures and created a fact file about them. They have used their creative skills to invent their own sea creature with their own special features. They have discussed the importance of caring for our oceans by ensuring that our rubbish is disposed of correctly. Numeracy tasks have centred on telling and measuring the time and counting different amounts of money. They have developed their creative skills and made their own star fish using salt dough and created their own pet rocks! They have enjoyed keeping fit and healthy with Parsnip the Cat!

Year 2 pupils have started their new topic on "Dinosaurs". Mrs Beard found a large egg in her garden! Pupils in Y2 tried to imagine what was inside and drew and described what eventually emerged from the egg. They have developed their creative skills to make their own dinosaurs and kept fit and healthy with "Yoga with Dinosaurs". Numeracy activities have included practising digital times and matching analogue clocks to the digital times. They used ICT maths games to keep their number skills sharp. They even made their own games to reinforce analogue and digital times. Pupils have used past tense language patterns in Welsh to write about the presents they received for Christmas e.g., "Ces i ..." Thank you to Mrs Gage and Mrs Bell for sharing their interesting facts with Y2 and to Mrs Ahern for helping pupils stay fit and healthy by spelling out their names with actions to correspond with letters of the alphabet.

Our **Year 3** pupils have enjoyed reading the story "Theseus and the Minotaur" and extracted the relevant information from the text to answer both open and closed questions. They have written character descriptions, investigated direct and indirect speech and planned and written a recount



of the story. Numeracy activities have involved adding and subtracting multiples of 100 as well as adding and subtracting 2 and 3 digit numbers. They have enjoyed designing a menu for a Roman banquet, dressed up as a rich Roman in a toga and stayed fit and healthy by marching like Roman soldiers! They have extended their Welsh reading skills by reading "Y Parti Gwisg Ffansi" Da iawn Blwyddyn 3.

Year 4 children have read "Journey to the Jungle", the diary of a jungle explorer. They investigated synonyms and the meanings of new words in order to "grow their vocabulary" to become better writers. They have extracted the relevant information from the text to answer both closed and open questions. Numeracy challenges have centred around the topic Measurement and involved measuring lengths using cm and mm, converting different units of length and using different strategies to add and subtract different units of length together. Pupils have started a mini project about Space and ordered the position of the planets and created a bar chart showing the number of moons. Everyone is continuing to stay fit and healthy with the help of Joe Wicks.

Year 5 pupils have enjoyed watching the video "Rock, Paper, Scissors" and have written character descriptions based on the three characters. They have created a wanted poster for the character "Scissors" and written a dialogue between two characters using direct speech with the correct punctuation and planned and written their own re-count of the story. Numeracy activities have involved calculating the perimeter and area of 2D and compound 2D shapes. Pupils have researched life in schools during Victorian Times and started their new science topic on Water Life, listing what they already know about the topic. Welsh challenges have included drawing pond scenes and labelling in Welsh.

Year 6 pupils have investigated features of explanation texts before writing their own instructions on how to build a model Anderson shelter and write an explanation text to explain why air raid shelters were used. Numeracy activities include interpreting bar charts, reading and interpreting pie charts and conversion graphs as well as calculating the mean, mode, median and range. Pupils have started a new Science topic on Forces and the Solar System. They have researched and created presentations about the 1969 moon landing and created persuasive posters to sell a planet of their choice. Year 6 continue to keep their skills sharp by continuing to complete the "On the Boil Activities" including Mathletics, Abacus, Hit the Button, Bug Club and Just2Easy.



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	@PPSciandTech
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		

My continued thanks for your ongoing support and comments – they are very much appreciated by the team.

Stay safe, stay well – if we can help in any way please be in touch by ringing us or e-mailing us at school

Yours sincerely,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor
Headteacher

