

Newsletter

September 24th 2021

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



Please find our school newsletter for September 24th 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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September 24th 2021

Newsletter

Dear Parent and Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni,

Thank you for your cooperation with the new timings and the one-way systems. We really appreciate your consideration and patience as we have made tweaks this week. Thank you.

As you may be aware I have sent out a number of warn and inform letters this week in response to positive covid cases in classes. I know Miss Lambe from Bassaleg has sent out some FAQ's, so to save me reinventing the wheel I have stolen and tweaked !! Thanks Vic!

Q What is the current 'Risk level' in the Local Authority of Newport?

A The Chief Education Officer communicated a change to Headteachers on Tuesday evening that as schools across the city, we have moved from 'Low' to 'Moderate' risk (this is the second lowest of 4 categories) As a result, we have not needed to make any amendments to our risk assessment as we have protocols currently in place to mitigate such levels of risk.

Q Given the rising case numbers, what protocols does the school have in place to mitigate risk of transmission?

A As communicated to pupils, parents/carers and staff at the beginning of the year, we have kept in place almost all of the robust protocols our school community became accustomed to previous to the start of the Autumn Term; they include:

- One-way system in operation across the school;
- Class groups not mixing;
- Pupils have been allocated separate entrances to the school site;
- Adults wearing face coverings in communal areas
- All areas of school to be ventilated to their maximum capacity; windows and doors to be left open;
- Hand sanitisers on entry to every building and every classroom; pupils and staff are encouraged to wash their hands regularly and sanitise on entry to buildings and classrooms;
- All staff meetings are conducted virtually;
- All pupil assemblies are conducted virtually;
- No visitor policy.



Q Why has there been such a dramatic change to self-isolation rules; from all pupils in a class group to have been identified as 'close contacts' and therefore self-isolate for 10 days to now only pupils who have a positive COVID PCR/LFT result needing to self-isolate?

A The school is following Welsh Government Guidelines and TTP protocols; as such, should your child be identified as a close contact, we have been directed to send 'Warn and Inform' letters which advise that you:

- Book a PCR test;
- Avoid contact with anyone at greater risk from the effects of COVID-19 infection;
- Be alert for new symptoms;
- Limit contact with large groups of people as much as possible;
- Keep washing hands regularly.

Q Does my child need to self-isolate if they are awaiting results of a PCR test?

A If your child has received a positive LFT result they MUST NOT attend school; critically they must also NOT ATTEND school if they are showing symptoms.

Q Why am I receiving multiple letters, sometimes up to 4 in a week?

A We have been directed by TTP to send such letters **every** time your child has been identified as a 'close contact;' as such, should your child have been in the same lesson as someone who has tested positive, and this happens with more than one positive case, it will trigger a new 'warn and inform' letter being sent. I fully empathise with how frustrating it is to be in receipt of multiple letters; please be reassured I have raised this issue several times with the TTP team who are working hard to find a system that is 'fit for purpose' in schools. Until such time as the system is changed, it is far better for the school to be more cautious in our approach and so we must continue to send such letters should we feel your child has been at risk of transmission.

Q If I receive multiple 'Warn and inform' letters in one week, should I book more than 1 PCR test?

A This is something on which we would advise you make use of discretion. Clearly should you receive letters on three consecutive days, it would not be feasible to book in three consecutive PCR tests but would advise you to remain vigilant to symptoms and follow advice in the letter, cited above. It is essential that no parent/carer though becomes desensitised to the risk and should you receive a letter(s) each week, please continue to book your child in for a PCR test.

Q Should I be worried about rising COVID positive cases in Pentrepoeth?

A We remain in close contact with TTP, Health and Safety and Environmental Health; we have been advised of 'critical levels' of case numbers and trigger points to action intervention from such agencies. We have been advised that the current COVID protocols in place robustly mitigate such risk.

Q What can I do as a parent/carer to support my child at this time?

A Please continue to reinforce the importance of following the COVID protocols in place at school; following one way systems, wearing face coverings, washing and sanitising hands regularly etc.



Harvest

Our Harvest Festivals will take place on Friday 15th October. We will again be supporting local food banks and will be asking families to donate food items that we can distribute locally.

We will be celebrating National Poetry day in school with a virtual assembly of class poems and children reading and writing poems during the day.



Our **Nursery** and **Reception** Teams would like to say a big "Da iawn" to all of the children for an excellent start this term. They are extremely proud of how well the children have settled and what a pleasure it has been to get to know each and every child! Our Nursery

pupils have continued to have fun completing a range of settling in activities involving small group work focussing on kindness and sharing, as well as developing pupils' independence. Our Reception pupils have been exploring signs of autumn and the children have been very busy making mud and play dough hedgehogs. They have searched for missing hoglets in the tough spot tray, made delicious autumn soup and created fork paintings of hedgehogs. The children thoroughly enjoyed completing an autumn hunt around the school grounds and sharing their findings with their friends.

Pupils in **Year 1** have looked carefully at the photographs of their houses and discussed the features that they could see. They looked at the lines and shapes and enjoyed drawing their houses from the photographs. Pupils have been practising the language pattern 'Dwi'n byw yn y.....' and have enjoyed playing lots of Welsh games using this language pattern. They have worked with a partner to build their houses out of junk model materials and used their knowledge of 3D shapes to select appropriate materials. In Numeracy, they have looked at multiplication by grouping. Pupils have been talking about themselves and what makes them unique and have enjoyed writing about themselves in their Learning Journals. They had lots of fun on National Fitness Day and learnt some new basketball skills which we shared on twitter. Pupils continued to learn about how to safely use tools on our woodwork table and have had lots of fun tinkering.

Year 2 pupils enjoyed reading the story of The Shark With No Teeth and made sure they read with expression especially when they saw speech marks. They used their literacy skills, ICT skills and teamwork working together using books and the iPads to research facts about sharks. Pupils organised the information collected using capital letters and full stops. They used their oracy skills and teamwork once again when they discussed why sharks are so buoyant and in Science carried out an experiment to test things that float or sink. They made predictions and discussed reasons why they thought the items sank or floated. Numeracy work has involved investigating place value and identifying how many tens and units are in different numbers. Pupils used this knowledge and their mental strategies to add ten to a given number. In Project work, pupils looked at several different types of sharks and located which oceans they live in around the world. They also learnt the scientific names for the different parts of a shark. Creative activities involved making sharks out of toilet rolls and shark masks using simple tools and application techniques. Pupils enjoyed celebrating National Fitness Day using a variety of activities and equipment including the



parachute.

Our **Year 3** pupils have enjoyed another busy week. In Literacy, they have continued to use Nesy for their spellings and learn the first 100 words sight vocabulary. They continue to practise their handwriting and focussed on the "al" joins. Pupils have enjoyed reading Little Red Riding Hood in preparation for their recount of the fairy tale in their Big Write session. Numeracy work has involved looking at 10 more, 10 less, 1 more and 1 less using 100 squares as well as developing their skills using the TAPAS board. Pupils have continued with their project on Unwanted Invaders and enjoyed listening to the story of Romulus and Remus before sequencing it into the correct order. They have also learnt about the armour that Roman Soldiers wore and made detailed drawings of Roman soldiers. In Welsh, pupils have revised the language patterns associated with the questions "Beth yw d'enw di?" and "Beth yw enw d'ysgol di?" They have played games to reinforce questions and answers eg "Dwi'n mynd i ysgol ..." as well as taking words to fluency in their written Welsh. Pupils enjoyed their National Fitness Day where they played team games involving careful listening and following instructions e.g. The Bean Game, Cone Game and Rock Paper Scissors.

Year 4 pupils have continued to read Scaredy Squirrel books and enjoyed listening to the story of Elmer. They revised work on verbs, played charades and then created sentences incorporating collective nouns and verbs as well as thinking of imaginative adjectives to describe different nouns. Pupils used a story trail to organise their ideas when innovating a new Scaredy Squirrel story based on an exploration into the rainforest. Finally, they utilised techniques and language used by the author to write their own adventure stories. In Numeracy, pupils continue to use their partitioning skills, consolidating their understanding of place value. They used place value dice to create 4-digit numbers before comparing them using the greater than, less than and equals symbols. They ordered 4-digit numbers from smallest to largest and placed them on a bead bar/ numberline and applied their skills to order amounts of money and different measurements. Pupils listened to a piece of music by Saint-Saens called 'The Carnival of the Animals' and were flabbergasted when they learnt that he was 2 years of age when he learnt how to play the piano! They discussed the tempo of the music and listened to the instruments and could identify the lion's roar and the elephant trundling along! When Rob Biddulph listened to the music, he was inspired to draw a tortoise, so pupils followed his instructions to draw their own. They used the Britannica app on Hwb to research information about squirrels before creating their own PowerPoints using scientific language. In PE, pupils have developed their skipping, ball and teamwork skills.

Our **Year 5** children have worked on addition, 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. In Literacy, pupils have focused on writing instructions, first starting to read instructions and answering reading comprehension questions based on a text. Children wrote instructions on how to make a ham sandwich, before writing their own Revolting Recipes! Pupils have completed drama activities based on the first two chapters of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, where children have acted out their favourite moments of the book so far. Pupils focused on our value of the month Peace, learnt a poem about peace and designed their own posters to celebrate International Day of Peace. In Science, as part of our forces and motion topic, pupils researched how to make the best paper aeroplane and made these in class. Pupils are going to be testing them out on the yard and using their science knowledge will determine which aeroplane design is the best and why. In PE, pupils have enjoyed completing some fun team based netball activities, as well as completing fitness tasks, including the Daily Mile, to celebrate National Fitness Day on Wednesday.

Year 6 pupils have enjoyed the sunshine and the chance to take part in plenty of outdoor activities before the weather changes. Pupils have taken an active part in playing a variety of outdoor games, ranging from tipping up cones in the fast and frenzied Cup and Saucer game to chaos tag which really does look like chaos but the children love it! Their hearts were certainly pumping and the enjoyment in their faces was a



joy to see. In RE, they have learnt about the symbols associated with Christianity and the meanings behind them and why they are used. In our Wicked Weather topic work we have read the pupil voice Jamboards. The most common themes the children identified as of interest to them were tornadoes, tsunamis and hurricanes. As a result they have researched and prepared information on one of the above to write an explanation text in our Big Write on Friday. In Science the children have begun to learn about plants and how they survive and thrive in a variety of harsh conditions. This will also form part of our Wicked Weather topic as the children will find out about how plants reproduce despite being exposed to a variety of different weathers. In Numeracy, pupils have rounded decimal numbers to the nearest tenth and whole number on a number line. The children also drew their own number lines and plotted their numbers as well as creating tables to record their findings.

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



PTA NEWSLETTER

THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
FOR PARENTS AND CARERS.

Pentrepoeth PTA

The only thing missing is you



Email: pentrepoethpta@gmail.com
Registered Charity: 1029624



Fundraising aims 2021-2022

**ABC of Opera workshops-
part funding agreed ✓
£1500**

**Workshop visit with Artist
- part funding agreed ✓
£1500**

**Future workshops and
creative/fun experiences
for our children agreed as
main fundraising aim this
year.**

My35 Sponsorship

The My35 Sponsorship challenge last year was a great success. Can any outstanding sponsorship money please be returned to the school by Monday 27th. Thanks.

Scarecrow trail

This will run over the October half term

Your children are currently making a scarecrow in their class groups. These Scarecrows will take part in our Scarecrow Trail over half term.

We need your help to make it a success!!

Are you:

A business that would like to sponsor a scarecrow or advertise your business on our map?

Would you like to house your child's class scarecrow outside your home?

Can you help to design the trail map?

Can you help create games and activities to go with the map for children to enjoy?

Can you help with selling/advertising maps?

Prizes will be awarded for the 'Best Scarecrow' and a prize draw for all those who take part.

Prizes kindly donated by Morrisons Rogerstone

If you would like to get involved in this fun event please email us at: pentrepoethpta@gmail.com



Website - www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Twitter - [@PentrepoethPrim](https://twitter.com/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

