



Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Head Teacher/Prifathro

Mr K McComas

31st January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Dates for the diary

- Monday 3rd February 2025 – Spring term after school clubs (run by school staff) begin
- Tuesday 4th February 2025 – Carmarthenshire Schools Football Tournament (more information to follow for those pupils taking part)
- Thursday 6th February 2025 - Air Quality and Sustainable Travel Theatre performance for Year 5 (in school)
- Thursday 6th February 2025 – 5pm Friends of Johnstown (PTA) Annual General Meeting held via Teams
- Friday 7th February 2025 – 9.00am-9.45am Parent Coffee Morning
- Thursday 13th February 2025 – Parent Forum (9am, 3.30pm or 5pm)
- Friday 14th February 2025 – Year 6 transition day at QEH
- Friday 21st February 2025 – 9.30am Year 5 St Davids Day celebration (Year 5 parents welcome)
- Monday 24th – Friday 28th February 2025 – half term break
- Thursday 6th March 2025 – World Book Day (more details to follow)
- Wednesday 19th March 2025 – Re-arranged Spectrum RSE workshops for Years 2 & 6
- Thursday 20th March 2025 – Re-arranged Spectrum RSE workshops for Years 2 & 6
- Friday 21st March 2025 – 9.15am - 10.45am Wales Restorative Approaches Partnership parent workshop (more details to follow)
- Tuesday 1st April – Thursday 3rd April – Spring Term Parents Evening Meetings

Punctuality

Please can I remind you of the importance of your child arriving in school on time. If you would like any support with this, please speak to a member of staff.

Did you know? A pupil who is 15 minutes late each day will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year.

Respecting our neighbours

Sadly, we have been made aware of pupils and parents from our school acting in a disrespectful manner towards the properties of our neighbours. Please can I ask parents to remind their children of the importance of showing respect on their journey to and from school. We will be setting a home learning challenge to encourage this important message. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

My School App

Next week will be the last week in which we will use both Schoop and My School App together. A demonstration of the features in My School App will be given during the parent forum meetings on Thursday 13th February. If you have any questions or queries in the meantime, please contact the school office or email admin@johnstown.ysgolccc.cymru

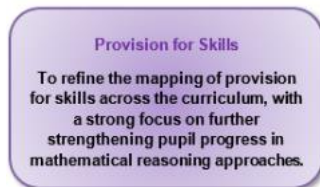
Sporting Achievement

Johnstown Primary School were delighted to be represented by Alice and Charlie at the Urdd Cross

Country Competition on 25th January. After a challenging race, both pupils brought home a medal – huge congratulations!

School priorities

We hope that you found the recent Spring Term planning overview which was sent useful. This supports our school priority 3 (see below). In our upcoming parent forum, we will be sharing more about our school curriculum and answering any questions which you have about it.



ALN Drop in Reminder

If you would like an appointment to discuss any Additional Learning Needs (ALN) you feel your child may have then sign up for a discussion with Mrs Davies. Drop-in sessions will be held on the last Thursday of every month.

[Drop in Link](#)

Learning this week:

Reception

What another fabulous fortnight we have had! We began learning the traditional tale of the Red and White Dragon, which then developed into building a bank of 'power words' to describe the dragon. We used our empathy skills, just like Bing, and thought about how the character would've felt during different stages of the story. As part of our number learning, we have been learning about direction, focusing on forward, backwards, left and right. We planned various routes for the Beebot and programmed the device to travel from a starting point to an end point. This linked to our outdoor learning session of mapping our outdoor environment. We used the positional language from our number learning, to take photos and plot the different features on a map. We finished our week by celebrating Santes Dwynwen, the Welsh patron saint of love, which was celebrated on the 25th of January. We have also investigated the quickest way to melt ice. We predicted how the ice would melt the quickest and were excited to find out that heat had a big impact on the timing at which the ice melted. Da iawn plant y derbyn.

[RB](#)

[RE](#)

Year 2

Over the last fortnight pupils have demonstrated great perseverance skills with their learning – da iawn. In Maths we have been using mental maths strategies to add 1- and 2-digit numbers such as placing the biggest number in our head and counting on and using known facts when adding 2-digit

numbers. We have started learning our Talk for Writing focus text Cantre'r Gwaelod and have discussed the importance of adjectives to describe a character. In Theme we have celebrated St Dwynwen's Day and Chinese New Year. Pupils have developed their digital skills by designing word art and uploading it into their j2e files. Pupils have also completed activities linked to their pupil voice and have looked at Chinese symbols to write their names.

[Year 2](#)

Year 4

It has been a very productive fortnight in Year 4. Pupils have continued to develop their numeracy and mathematical understanding with arrays. Our theme 'Media-S4C' continues to be a big hit in Blwyddyn 4. Pupils have had the opportunity to sequence the history of how media has changed beginning in the 1970's right up until present day. They worked together to find the correct information to match the correct decade. Following on from this, they then looked at why S4C moved from Cardiff to Carmarthen and compared the Urban environment of Cardiff to the rural environment of Carmarthen. This enabled fantastic discussions amongst the pupils and helped them to understand the key differences between a city and a town. To help consolidate this learning, pupils then created a collage that showed rural and urban environments using local landmarks from both Carmarthen and Cardiff.

[Year 4](#)

Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed the first of the RSE workshops last week. The workshops are linked to wellbeing and are promoting the importance of healthy relationships. We have also started our new theme, "Theatre". To begin, we engaged the pupils by exploring what they would like to learn this term. They shared their ideas and insights through a pupil voice Padlet, ensuring their interests help shape our learning journey. In maths this week, our focus has been on long division. Pupils have been applying their mathematical skills and knowledge to tackle challenging long division calculations with confidence and accuracy. As part of our theme, we are learning to write a play script inspired by the legend of The Lady of the Lake. To deepen their understanding, learners have created story maps to visualise the narrative and have explored the key features of a play script.

[Year 6](#)

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend with your families and loved ones.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L. Reynolds
Acting Headteacher