



Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Head Teacher/Prifathro

Mr K McComas

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school following half term. The school is gearing up to its busiest time in terms of events in school and in the community. I thank you in advance for your ongoing support during the festive season.

Year 6 Remembrance Service

I am very pleased that so many parents were able to join us for our Year 6 Remembrance Service today. Our Year 6 demonstrated maturity and thoughtfulness when remembering the sacrifices made during World War 1 and World War 2. We were presented with emotive wartime poetry as well as songs that depicted these difficult times. A special thank you to both pupils and staff for sharing your service with us.

Urdd Cookery Winner

Congratulations to Ghianna in Year 5 for winning the Urdd cookery competition before the break. The event was very competitive with 33 pupils entering. I am grateful to our Welsh leader Mrs Sian Evans and Governor Ron Mounsey for organising and judging the competition. Gianna will now go onto the next round held at Ysgol Bro Myrddin later in the term. We wish her the best of luck!

[Urdd Winner](#)

Resignation of Community Governor Ron Mounsey

It is with much sadness that Vice Chair of Governors, Ron Mounsey, has resigned his post following over 20 years as a Governor. His children attended Johnstown School and it was during this time that he joined the Governing Body. I know that Ron is very proud of how successful the school has become, from a school roll of 270 pupils to nearly 500 pupils today. His responsibility as Chair of the Finance Committee utilised his effective business skills and ensured we made good use of our resources. He was also keen to develop our environmental curriculum and was often a vital link for us in the community. We wish him well for his retirement in the sun.

The Friends of Johnstown 'LIGHT-tastic' disco

On Thursday 9th November pupils across the school enjoyed this exciting well-attended event. Entry to the event was free and pupils were encouraged to have a fun time led by DJ Mr Cousins! Many thanks to The Friends of Johnstown for organising this successful evening. We are pleased to inform you that £517 was raised at the event.

Year 4 and Year 5 visit the Vue Cinema

Our Year 4 and Year 5 classes were fortunate to be invited to the Vue Cinema this week. They watched the Julia Donaldson short films, **The Smeds** and **The Smoos** and **Superworm**. The films had a theme of friendship, humility and overcoming prejudice.

Children in Need 'The Great Spotacular' and Water Aid – Friday 17th November

This year we will be combining forces between Children in Need and Water Aid to ensure that pupils' awareness of the water shortages and purity around the world is raised. In particular the impact that this can have on children. Dave Padfield from Water Aid will be running workshops during the day and pupils are encouraged to wear Pudsey Bear spots. We will also be holding fun fitness competitions throughout the day. Donations are accepted, small or large, and we will split the money

raised between each charity.

Medical form reminder

Over the last year, we have noticed a sharp increase in the number of medicine forms being sent in. Parents/carers should aim to administer medicines before school and after school. However, if medicines do need to be administered during the school day, please ensure that these are only **essential**, prescribed or non-prescribed medicines and that a medical form is completed in full.

Key dates for the remainder of the Autumn Term

- Tuesday 14th November – Flu Vaccinations
- Friday 17th November – Children in Need / Water Day
- Tuesday 5th December 9.30am - Reception Christmas performance (in school)
- Wednesday 6th December - Christmas lunch (Christmas jumpers welcome)
- Thursday 7th December 9.30am - Nursery Christmas performance
- Tuesday 12th December 10am – Progression Step 2 (Years 1-3) Christmas Carol Service at Christchurch
- Thursday 14th December 10am – Progression Step 3 (Years 3-6) Christmas Carol Service at Christchurch
- Wednesday 20th December 5pm - Christmas fayre
- Thursday 21st December - The Friends film afternoon
- Friday 22nd December - end of term (pupils in school on this day)

Learning this week:

Reception

Our 'Little Red Hen' climax at the end of term, was that the children helped her to make bread. They enjoyed following the instructions and were delighted to take home their very own bread roll. This week, we have been inspired by the artist, Jackson Pollock and have created our own firework art by flicking, dribbling and squirting different coloured paint. We thoroughly enjoyed 'free travel art painting,' where items were rolled through paint leaving marks and tracks – messy but marvellous! We have also enjoyed exploring colour mixing and how colours make new colours when mixed. We were fascinated when the water changed from yellow to orange by adding red food dye. We explored how much water different containers can hold and discovered that the tallest container does not always hold the most. A fantastic start to the half term - da iawn Dosbarth Derbyn.

RB

RE

Year 2

The children have settled back into the busy routine of Year 2 ever so well! We have used the morning maths sessions to recap on number bonds to 10 and beyond. Making use of the wonderful outdoor environment in Johnstown School has helped so much with this. As part of theme learning, the children have had opportunity to think and work like a typical celt villager. The children collaborated to decide on the best way to make a paintbrush using only materials available to a celt over 1000 years ago.

[2D](#)

[2E](#)

Year 4

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the outdoors recently. They developed their collaboration skills whilst deciding the resources they needed to create a large scale map of Wales and a boat. They further developed their understanding of the importance of communication and collaboration to facilitate successful outcomes. Year 4 have also harvested, cleaned, cooked and sampled vegetables which have been grown in our school garden. This week, Year 4 also visited Vue Cinema to watch 'The Smeds and the Smoos' as part of an 'Intofilm' initiative to promote filmmaking and ethical citizenship.

[4C](#)

[4M](#)

Year 6

Year 6 have been busy rehearsing for their Remembrance Assembly this week. They have all learnt their lines, the poems and enjoyed singing the songs – an excellent effort! In class, we have begun learning a portal-based story called 'The Gas Mask' using Talk4Writing strategies. This week we have created our own story map and focussed on the vocabulary within the text. In our maths, we have been working on our addition and subtraction methods. Well done year 6!

[6C](#)

[6D](#)

Celebration Video

Congratulations/llongyfarchiadau to all pupils who were awarded 'Gwasanaeth Gwych' and 'Seren yr Wythnos' certificates today. Please follow the link to see this week's video.

[Celebration Video](#)

I hope you have a good weekend with the family.

Yours sincerely



Mr K McComas
Headteacher