



# Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Head Teacher/Prifathro

Mr K McComas

10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have enjoyed a change in weather this week, with lots of wonderful sunshine. Please remember to send plenty of water and a hat in for your child in this warm weather. Also, ensure that you have applied sun cream to your child before they come to school.

## **Year 6 trip to Stormy Down**

Year 6 had a very informative visit to Stormy Down on Tuesday. They learnt all about how much electricity electrical items in our homes use and the importance of turning plugs off at the mains to reduce our energy consumption. They stood underneath the 100m tall wind turbine whose blades were spinning at 34 mph, walked through the 2,940 solar panels that were on site and learnt how they generated electricity. They then explored the sustainable eco house which was designed by Cardiff University and runs solely on renewable energy. They are looking forward to using everything learnt from their visit in this term's theme and cannot wait to design and make their own sustainable houses. Da iawn Blwyddyn 6, you were a credit to Johnstown.

## **Physical Education (PE) / Physical Development (PD) lessons**

Please ensure that your child wears suitable clothing and footwear on the day that they have their PE/PD lesson. Crop tops and short tight cycling shorts are not part of the school PE/PD uniform. Instead, a t-shirt and/or jumper should be worn along with suitable jogging trousers/leggings/sports shorts. Children must also wear shoes which are suitable for physical activities, avoiding shoes such as boots or sandals. For safety reasons, no jewellery is permitted to be worn. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

## **Outcome of Rising 4s Consultation on Admissions Policy 2025/2026**

Following a consultation, Carmarthenshire County Council have made the decision to remove the rising 4s policy. This change will take effect from the 2025/2026 academic year and will affect children born on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 onwards. The School Admissions team will contact all parents who have already made applications. Parents who are yet to make applications for a full time school place should be aware of these changes. Please also be aware that a separate application is required for a part-time and full-time school place. More information can be found on the Carmarthenshire County Council website.

[Carmarthenshire County Council School Admissions](#)

## **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:**

### **Nursery**

Nursery pupils have had an enjoyable few weeks and have finally had the opportunity to enjoy our outdoor area fully this week. Pupils have been planting flowers, strawberries and herbs in the garden, and, from pupil voice, wanted to make a scarecrow from recycled materials to keep the birds away. Pupils have been relaxing and have enjoyed recreating different yoga poses in our new 'Zen Den' under the canopy outside.

We have had lots of fun in this area, and even the adults are getting involved with the moves! To develop our fine motor skills and our creativity, pupils have continued to enjoy still-life painting and making flowers out of loose parts. We are still learning the story of Handa's Surprise and are even having a go drawing our own story map in the mark making area. To develop our maths skills, we have been combining quantities and are practising number formation through mark making, drawing shapes to represent a quantity and pupils are even interested in having a go at writing out a sum.

[Nursery Mrs P](#)

[Nursery Miss K](#)

## **Year 1**

Year 1 have been enjoying the book 'Centipede's 100 Shoes' to help them with their multiplication skills. They investigated how many shoes and socks each type of minibeast would need, linking their addition, doubling and x2 skills. Outside, creative skills have also been linked to mathematical skills to create a symmetrical insect. There were some fantastic designs and great collaboration too. In our theme lessons, pupil voice has led us to sorting and classifying animals and trying to find out all about which habitats minibeasts prefer to live in and why. We are particularly interested in the types of flowers, bees and butterflies like to visit as we were really shocked by how few of these insects we noticed in our school grounds. Fantastic observation and noticing skills Year 1 - Ardderchog!

[1H](#)

[1T](#)

## **Year 3**

In Year 3 we have been doing more outdoor learning the last couple of weeks. We have continued to interpret data using pictograms and bar charts. We have also conducted mini beast hunts and used co-ordinates to show where they were found on a map of the school grounds.

[3B](#)

[3H](#)

## **Year 5**

It has been a very busy week in year 5! In maths we have been focusing on coordinates and how they help us work out where things are located. The pupils conducted class surveys to collect data and create their own bar charts using Excel, using sub categories to break down the data. They have also explored prime numbers and used arrays to prove that numbers are prime. In literacy the pupils have continued to develop writing strategies, such as using action verbs to add detail to descriptions in their finding stories. Pupils have conducted a science investigation to use their knowledge of photosynthesis to predict whether plants left in the light will take up more water than those left in the dark. The planting has begun in Year 5 and pupils are busy maintaining and tending to the vegetable beds. As part of our health and well-being learning the pupils have discussed the importance of friendships and made friendship charts.

[5D/5H](#)

## **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 an enjoyable weekend with your family.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

**Mrs L. Reynolds**  
**Deputy Headteacher**