



Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Head Teacher/Prifathro

Mr K McComas

21st May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an exciting week culminating in our Friends Disco yesterday. Pupils enjoyed a wonderful day of dancing and music as part of the Friends fundraising events which raised £930. As always, the money raised at this event will go towards providing resources for all pupils of the school. I am very grateful to Mrs Bloomfield who organised the event, staff and parents who supported the event. I am also pleased to report that on Monday we received news that our entry into the Welsh heritage School Award has received a prize. Diolch to all staff and pupils involved in the entry, particularly Mrs Paull for co-ordinating the entry. We will share more information about this prize following the award ceremony on 5th July.

Next week is half term, school will resume for pupils on Monday 3rd June 2024.

Dates for the diary (additional dates added)

- Monday 3rd June – school open to pupils for the start of the new half term
- Thursday 6th June – Year 5 Tag Rugby festival and Digital Museum launch at Carmarthen Athletic Rugby Club
- Wednesday 5th June – School Nurse visit to Year 5 and Year 6 pupils
- Wednesday 12th June - Progression Step 1 (Nursery and Reception) Sports **Morning** (weather permitting)
- Friday 14th June - Progression Step 2 (Years 1-3) Sports **Morning** (weather permitting)
- Friday 14th June - Progression Step 3 (Years 4-6) Sports **Afternoon** (weather permitting)
- Tuesday 18th June – Class Photographs
- Monday 24th June - Year 5 transition to QEH
- Monday 1st July - Friends of Johnstown Summer Fayre
- Friday 8th July – Reports home to Parents
- Wednesday 10th July - Fire Service visiting Years 1-6
- Thursday 11th July – Year 6 transition to QEH
- Friday 12th July – Year 6 transition to QEH
- Tuesday 16th July – Year 6 Leavers Assembly
- Tuesday 16th July – Friends of Johnstown Film Afternoon
- Thursday 18th July – End of school year for pupils
- Friday 19th July – INSET day (school closed to pupils)

New Menu

The School Catering Service have a new Summer Menu which will run from Monday 3rd June to Friday 25th October 2024. You will find the details of this menu attached.

Sporting Events

Several pupils in Progression Step 3 have represented the school at sporting events over the last week.

On Friday 17th May, pupils took part in a Primary Schools Football Tournament at Richmond Park Stadium. The school saw much success during the tournament including the Year 5/6 team who won all of their

games – da iawn ti! I am very grateful to the staff who supported pupils with this event.

A group of Year 6 pupils attended the Carmarthenshire Kwik Cricket Festival 2024 on Tuesday 21st May at Carmarthen Wanderers Cricket Club. We are really proud of how the pupils represented themselves and their efforts across the festival where they showed great sportsmanship, da iawn.

High pollen and warm weather

This week we have experienced warmer weather and a higher pollen count. Please can I remind you to ensure that your child has sun cream applied before they come to school and that they come to school with a sun hat. I also wish to inform you that, in line with Carmarthenshire County Council's 'Managing Medication in Schools' policy, non-prescribed medication to treat the effects of hay fever will not be able to be administered in school (this includes wipes and sprays).

Planting

A big diolch yn fawr to B&Q Carmarthen who have donated vegetable plant plugs to the school. These have helped to brighten up the entrance to the school to give a warm welcome to any visitors.

Theatre performance

Several of our pupils will be performing in Oliver Jnr next week at The Lyric Theatre, Carmarthen. We wish you the best of luck for these performances.

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 have had a fun few weeks enjoying the lovely weather. Pupils have really enjoyed caring for and tending to the plants in our garden area. Our new water wall is a favourite with our pupils and lots of time is spent working out which spout the water will come out of. Pupils have also enjoyed using the construction area tubes, drainage pipes and crates for creative and imaginative play. They have enjoyed exploratory play and have rolled cars, stones and all sorts down the pipes to see where their items would end up on the yard or which ones would travel the furthest. A new favourite on the yard are our new trikes. Pupils have been learning how to pedal and manoeuvre around the yard at various speeds and have been having lots of fun. The school disco was a great hit yesterday and pupils thoroughly enjoyed bopping away during their disco session. We would like to thank you for your continued support.

[Nursery Mrs P](#)

[Nursery Miss K](#)

Year 1

What a fantastic time Year 1 had in the Disco this week – it was lovely to see how much the children enjoyed. They were excited to meet our visitor Alison Fraser, the Chair of the Carmarthen & District Beekeeping Association, who came to share lots of facts about bees and how they make honey. The children were interested to see inside a beehive and to see her dressed in a beekeeper's suit. Both classes thought of lots of fascinating questions to ask her and she took great care to make sure she gave every

child their answer. In theme we have been drawing technical sketches of a variety of insects and creating our own imaginary minibeasts by combining different body parts. In PD, we have been preparing for sports day and have been practising skills for our races after half term! This week we have begun to write our non-chronological reports on our chosen insects. Over the past few weeks we have been learning our text map, collecting information about minibeasts and identifying useful vocabulary to write detailed reports. Gwaith anhygoel Blwyddyn 1!

[1H](#)

[1T](#)

Year 3

Over the past two weeks, we have had lots of fun completing different activities. For our new theme, which is all about animals and their habitats, we carried out a pupil voice to gather the ideas of what pupils wanted to learn. They came up with so many great ideas. We have now started some activities linked to these ideas, including using grid references to locate habitats on our school field and using adjectives to describe the natural features at that location, writing kenning poems, making bug hotels, looking at animals native to Wales, and creating top trump cards using our Maths skills of converting mm to cm, times tables, and measuring skills for the length of bugs. In Maths, we have been accurately drawing tables and graphs (indoors and outdoors), and now we are looking at telling the time. In language, we have enjoyed learning about how to describe what we like and don't like in Welsh, as well as learning our new story, "King of the Fishes," which we are now innovating to write our own stories. This will be done after half term so please continue to practise the story at home which is shared with your child/ren on J2E.

[3B](#)

[3H](#)

Year 5

We have been so impressed with some of the work we have seen in Year 5 the last 2 weeks! In Maths pupils have been revising negative numbers and where they can be used in the real world, such as temperatures. In Literacy pupils have been working especially hard to plan and write their talk for writing game stories – combining parts of work from across the half term to write imaginative and engaging stories. Our Theme work has been incredibly busy - pupils have been learning about parts of a flower and pollination. As a class we dissected flowers and learned about the different functions and how plants reproduce. We also learned about bees, their life cycles and the jobs that they do around the hive. Pupils were very lucky to have the opportunity to enjoy a squash taster session from Squash Wales! Pupils have also focused on their bodies and the musculoskeletal system and how we use the different muscles in their body. This was capped off with everyone having a great time together in the hall for the disco and celebrating the hard work that pupils have completed this half term!

[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](#)

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term with your families and friends.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mrs L. Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mrs L. Reynolds
Deputy Headteacher