



# Johnstown Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Tre Ioan

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Head Teacher/Prifathro

Mr K McComas

7<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all had a restful half term break and were able to enjoy some of the nice weather which was had.

## **Urdd Eisteddfod Success**

During half term the Urdd National Eisteddfod was held in Maldwyn. I am delighted to inform you that the competition proved extremely successful for one of our pupils. Heidi competed in the Learners Recitation competition for Year 3&4 children. After previous successes in the Preliminary round, County and Regional competitions, Heidi went on to represent Johnstown School, Carmarthen and West Wales. After a morning of tough competition in Maldwyn, competing against 16 others, Heidi was crowned the winner of the 'Welsh Learners Recitation Competition for Years 3 & 4' for 2024. We are incredibly proud of Heidi on her phenomenal achievement. Arbennig!

## **Eco School Award**

I share further wonderful news with you that pupils and staff have again proven their green credentials and been awarded the Platinum Flag Eco-Schools Award for the 8<sup>th</sup> time in a row! As part of their Eco-Schools Platinum assessment, pupils produced a case study on the work carried out as a whole school community to introduce the new waste regulations which came into effect on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 for all workplaces. Well done all!

## **Sports Day**

The current weather forecast for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June is rain. The school will continue to check the weather forecast between now and then. If the weather does not permit this event to take place for Health and Safety reasons, both PS2 & PS3 Sports will be run in school on a different, weather permitting, day. If this is the case, the races will be recorded and a link to the video will be sent out.

Please note the safety information below for these sports events. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

- Apply all day sunscreen to your child in the morning and provide a hat (please note that staff are not permitted to apply sunscreen to your child/ren).
- Provide plenty of fluids (water is best, no fizzy drinks please).
- Spectators are welcome to bring their own seating.
- No smoking or dogs on school premises.
- Young children must be kept under close supervision.
- All children must stay off the Trim Trail, Adventure Playground, raised garden beds and willow dome at all times.
- All visitors must position themselves in the designated area parallel to the running lanes and not in front of the finish line.

We kindly request that you refrain from using the school toilets during sports day, as this will help us manage the facilities more efficiently and ensure they are only available for emergencies. In an emergency, please speak with a member of school staff. We appreciate your cooperation with this.

## **Online Safety**

The school has been made aware of a number of incidents which have arisen following the use of

age-restricted websites and/or digital applications by pupils. It is essential that we work together to maintain an environment where digital tools are used responsibly and constructively to enhance learning experiences rather than posing risks to our pupils' safety and mental wellbeing. As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting safety online we will be holding Online Safety Workshops for parents on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 9.15am and 3.30pm. Your attendance is only necessary at one of these workshops as the information delivered will be the same in both. To confirm your attendance, please complete the Forms below.

[Online Safety Parent Workshop](#)

### **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**

Croeso nol! It was a delight to see the children return with radiant smiles and tales of holiday adventures. This week the children have continued to explore our mini theme of toys. The focus has been looking at toys through the generations. They have enjoyed looking at toys they play with as a five-year-old, compared with toys that parents and grandparents played with, when they were the same age. It is a difficult concept for a young child to realise that we were five years old once! Many thanks for the array of toys from the past that have had brought in. The staff as well as the children have enjoyed reminiscing! In Maths, we have been thinking about our enterprise project for the forthcoming Summer Fayre. We have lots of ideas and now must vote on our favourite. Linked to the Fayre, the children have been learning about money. We have been recognising coins and combining to make new amounts through playing shop. Da iawn pawb.

[RB](#)

[RE](#)

#### **Year 2**

The weather has been wonderful, and the children have settled in well after the well deserved half term break. Mathematics and numeracy lessons have seen a focus placed on both symmetry and

multiplication. Using natural materials, the children used their skill of collaboration to work together to create a range of symmetrical patterns on the school yard. Particular focus was placed on the fact that multiplication is simply repeated addition with lots of practical activities to reinforce this concept. Language lessons saw children learn the key features of an acrostic poem. Through their hard work and determination, the children were able to remember the key features needed in an acrostic poem and could create their very own poem all about the different types of weather. A big focus has also been placed on preparing in readiness for the sports day next week. All pupils have tried their absolute best and we are very proud of them.

[2D](#)

[2E](#)

#### **Year 4**

In year 4, we have been learning about our new theme 'how science changes tomorrows world'. In this theme we have been focusing on different states of matter and taking part in a variety of investigations. This week, we have been learning all about the water cycle and as part of our experiment pupils have created our own water cycle on a miniature scale. Pupils learned about the key words of a water cycle and what they mean and drew the key elements. When placing the plastic bag on the window, in direct sunlight pupils could see the water cycle in action, as the condensation appeared. This was really insightful for the pupils as a practical activity.

Linking with our new theme, pupils in year 4 have also taken the opportunity in outdoor learning, to learn all about the importance of litter picking and how to keep our environment clean. In outdoor learning this week, pupils had a challenge to time themselves picking up litter and assessing how long it took for a different piece of litter to be found on the playground. Pupils were surprised with how much litter was found. They then created a litter poem discussing what they have found and using adjectives to describe each item.

In maths pupils have been reflecting back on their learning on shapes and as part of their maths carousel this week, they had the opportunity to go outdoors to complete part of their carousel. Pupils found a range of sticks outdoors and they were using these to create their own shapes. With rulers, pupils then focused on measuring their shapes and working out the area through multiplication.

In Welsh this week, pupils have been focused on learning about different foods in Welsh. They have been also creating their own sentences discussing what their likes and dislikes are. Pupils have created their own questionnaires this week on the Chromebooks and took the opportunity to go outdoors and ask questions to their partners to fill out their questionnaire.

[4C](#)

[4M](#)

#### **Year 6**

Year 6 have had an enjoyable start to their final term. Linking to nature, pupils have been writing their own Kennings poem in literacy lessons. As part of maths this week, we have been using our skills to multiply and divide fractions. We have been creative in theme making our own artwork from reusable plastics. In addition, we have started planning a sustainable house for the future. We also had a visit from the school nurse, who helped us understand how our bodies change as we grow up. 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 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 and is contained within a thin black rectangular border.

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