

Newsletter

February 18th 2022

A Caring, Respectful and Open Environment, where Success and Opportunity flourish



Please find our school newsletter for February 18th 2022. Click on the links for more information.

Please visit our website
www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Dean Taylor



Pentrepoeth Primary School

Cwddy Drive, Rhiwderin Heights, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8JN

Tel: 01633 896101

Fax: 01633896367

email: Pentrepoeth.primary@newportschools.wales

website: www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Dean Taylor B.A.(Hons), P.G.C.E., L.P.S.H.

Deputy Headteacher: Sarah Cook B.A. (Hons)

February 18th 2022

Newsletter

Dear Parent and Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni,

Please find some news and information for week ending 18th February.

Covid-19

Please continue to inform me of any positive cases so that I can send out TTP letters. A reminder that we have a small store of covid tests at school if parents need them. Gwent ITM will be reviewing the school risk level in the coming days and I will update you as soon as any changes are announced.

St. David's Day

A reminder that children can wear Welsh dress/costume to school on Tuesday 1st March.

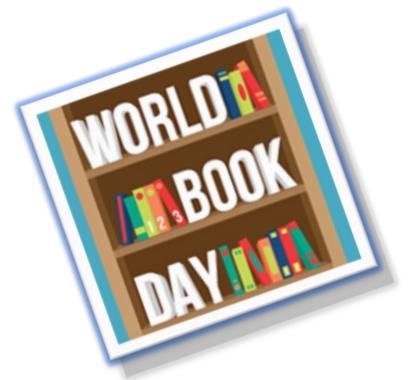
Eisteddfod Competitions

All children are welcome to submit entries to the Eisteddfod competitions on Seesaw (Foundation Phase) and Google Classroom (KS2). The four categories are: singing, dancing, baking and playing a musical instrument. Children can upload videos or photographs and all entries must be submitted by Thursday 3rd March. Winners will be announced on Friday 4th March.



World Book Day

Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday 3rd March.



It was lovely to see parents join us for the parent workshops on ALN and our 'Challenge' Curriculum. We have recorded both presentations and these will be available on the school website after half term.

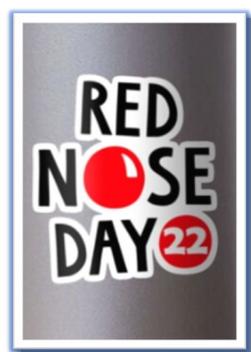
Further workshops are planned on spelling, reading, handwriting and writing. Please join us if you can. These will also be recorded and placed on the website.

A workshop for reception parents will also be held. This will focus on ways in which parents can support with wellbeing, spelling, reading, writing and number work in Reception.

All dates are in the Diary section of the newsletter.



Links for parents to book online Parent Consultations were sent out this week. If you have any difficulty in booking an appointment please contact Miss Norton in the school office either by phone or via the school e mail.



We will be supporting Comic Relief on **Friday 18th March**. Children may come dressed as super heroes, wear red noses, red nose t shirts or something red or any combination of these !! Donation buckets will be available at drop off and pick up.



Diary Dates

February		
Fri 18 th February		INSET Day 4 - Curriculum - School Closed for Children
Mon 21 st - Fri 25 th February		Half Term Week
March		
Monday 28 th Feb - Fri 4 th March		<i>Language, Literacy and Communication Week - Welsh focus - visits from authors Daniel Morden and Claire Donald</i>
Tuesday 1 st March		St. David's Day Eisteddfod Activities - <i>Children can wear Welsh costume to school</i>
Wednesday 2 nd March	5.00pm	Parent Workshop - Reception Parents - How to help your child at home
Thursday 3 rd March		World Book Day - <i>Children can come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book.</i>
Monday 14 th - Friday 18 th March		<i>Science and Technology Week - STEM workshops, visits from Techniquest and Value Added Education</i>
Friday 18 th March		Red Nose Day - Super Hero costumes, red noses
Tuesday 22 nd March	5.00pm	Parent Workshop- Helping your child with Reading - All parents
Wednesday 23 rd March	5.00pm	Parent Workshop- Helping your child with Spelling and Handwriting- All parents
Thursday 24 th March	5.00pm	Parent Workshop- Helping your child with Writing- All parents
22 nd March - 8 th April		Parent Consultations via Teams. Booking available from Thursday 17 th February.
April		
Friday 8 th April		Easter Assemblies Foundation Phase Easter Bonnet Parade School Closes for Easter Break



School term times and holidays



INSET Days

There are 6 INSET days next year. The dates arranged so far are:

- Thursday September 2nd 2021
- Friday September 3rd 2021
- Friday October 8th 2021
- *Friday February 18th 2022- Cluster Curriculum*
- *Friday June 24th 2022 - Team Teach*
- *Friday July 1st - Curriculum, Assessment, Progression*

School year 2021-2022

Term	Start	Half-term starts	Half-term ends	Term ends
Autumn 2021	2 September	25 October	29 October	17 December
Spring 2022	4 January	21 February	25 February	8 April
Summer 2022	25 April	30 May	3 June	22 July

May Day - Monday 2 May 2022

Our children celebrated World Thinking Day which will take place on 22nd February by wearing their uniforms to school on Wednesday with pride.

Information on world Thinking Day can be found [here](#).





In Nursery, our Sound of the Week has been v, v, for vulture and Valentine's Day. We have enjoyed designing and making Valentine's cards after having lots of discussions around this celebration. We asked the questions, What is it? Why do we celebrate it? Who is special to us? Why? How do they make us feel? In the sand tray, we had lots of fun finding the love hearts, counting them and matching the amount to the number, on a number fan. Nursery children also enjoyed learning about capacity when making love potions. We counted how many jugs it took to fill each container and used language such as full, half full and empty.

A Gruffalo?
What's a Gruffalo? Why, didn't you know... This week Reception

had great fun exploring the story 'The Gruffalo'. They have been serving owl ice cream and scrambled snake in the Gruffalo Café and baked their very own Gruffalo Crumble. The children have enjoyed searching the school grounds for clues and followed the mysterious footprints to find the notorious Gruffalo. Reception have been demonstrating their acting skills at the Gruffalo Theatre to retell the story and enjoyed getting into character. They have also been using their fabulous creative skills to make their own real-life Gruffalo and discussed its features. Our Reception detectives completed a shape hunt and explored the school looking for 2D and 3D shapes.



In Year 1 this week, we have continued learning about Wales and what makes us proud to be Welsh. We discussed an important event coming up - St David's Day and talked about why people in Wales celebrate this special day. We have had a busy week drawing and painting Welsh Dragons, learning a Dragon poem and singing Welsh songs. We are looking forward to St David's Day after half term and presenting our poems and songs to the rest of the Foundation Phase. In maths, we priced up different Welsh items and enjoyed 'visiting the shop' to buy items. We had Welsh hats, dragons, rugby t-shirts, flags and a Welsh teddy bear. We enjoyed learning about these items and in particular, why a Daffodil is often worn on St David's Day. We also enjoyed a walk

to forest school where we found and measured sticks to make a Welsh flag. We estimated which ones would be long enough and then measured them using rulers and cubes to see if we were correct. We are looking forward to a well-deserved week off and our teachers are very proud of us.





Year 2 have planned their own story this week, creating a picture plan to assist them in their big write. The children discussed their stories with each other and then challenged themselves to ensure they had capital letters, lots of punctuation, fingers spaces, neat handwriting and connectives in their writing. In maths this week, children looked at data, collecting data in the means of what is the favourite dinosaur of their peers and then showing this data as a tally chart, block chart and a bar chart. Children also had problem solving questions based around data that they worked with as a group. In topic this week, children looked at comparing dinosaurs. They then created their own order for dinosaurs, dependent on length, weight, or height from smallest to largest in number. Children also created their own paper dinosaur after following a YouTube video and compared dinosaurs on the carpet using a Venn diagram. Further to this, the children researched how dinosaurs adapted to protect themselves and recorded their research in their topic books. Finally, children practised their Welsh dancing performance and recapped Sammy Spider's Shabbat.

Year 3 have had an exciting last week of half term. In Maths we have continued to use an empty number line to find missing numbers in bonds up to 1000. In Literacy we have written a newspaper report describing the kidnapping of Gerda by the blood thirsty robber band in the deep dark forest. We have finished our Egyptian project by finding out how to make a mummy! It's gruesome!! We reflected on what we have learned about the Ancient Egyptians and finished the week with a celebration day including an Egyptian feast and lots of fun activities.



This week, Year 4 have been writing newspaper reports about the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2020.

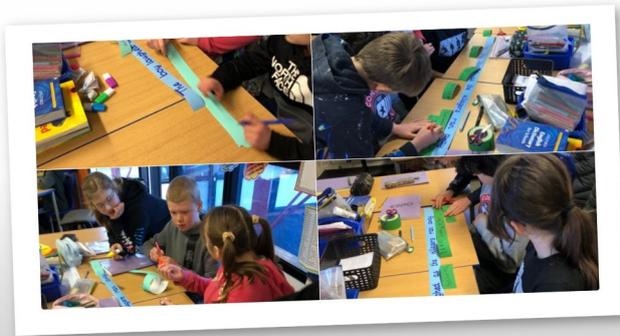


We created our own headlines before using the features identified during our English lessons last week during our Big Write task. We included quotes from eye-witnesses, photographs and captions. All our work this week has been based around volcanoes. On Tuesday, we utilised our Numeracy and IT skills to input data into Sheets to create a bar chart. We discussed the features that our bar chart needed such as a title and labelled axis. We changed the colours of the bars to make our work eye-catching and attractive. We also discussed what we learnt from reading the chart – that Indonesia had more active volcanoes than Italy. Our current project work is based on Extreme Earth and our inquiry question is 'Why is our physical world so wondrous?' On Tuesday's we always have access to the Chrome books and so we have been using the Internet safely to research information about 'Natural Record Breakers'. We discovered the name of the largest mountain, the longest river, the biggest glacier and the countries and continents that they can be found in. We have even located these wondrous places on a map. In addition to that, we have been continuing to look at developing a growth mindset. We discussed the power of yet – a small word but a huge change in our mindset. Even though we might not be able to do something yet, with practice and being taught the appropriate skills, we can achieve and be successful in the future. Another enjoyable, busy week in Year 4. Have a great Half Term everyone.



This week in Maths, Year 5 have been completing a challenge based on The Daily Mile. The children have been learning about the benefits of the Daily Mile on our physical, mental and social well-being and have been designing their own Daily Mile course for us to use after the half term holidays. Lots of Maths skills have been used when designing courses, such as scale factors, angles, measurements and some very tricky addition sums, with some brilliant courses being designed too! As part of our Crime and Punishment topic, Year 5 have been investigating a mysterious crime scene this week. The children have been studying 'The Case of the Barefoot Burglar'. Firstly, they studied the crime scene and made a profile of what they believed the suspect may be like. Then, the children looked at 4 different suspects and created a list of reasons why the suspect may be innocent and why they may be guilty. Finally, we turned the classroom into a courtroom and the children presented their evidence based on who they believed to be guilty. The rest of the class acted as a jury and decided which suspect they found guilty. We also completed a range of activities based on forensic technology such as fingerprint analysis, handwriting analysis, a police sketch activity and used Google Earth to study how CCTV could be used to catch criminals.





Oh my word! Year 6 is disappearing so quickly before our very eyes. The difference in the children from the beginning of the year to where we are now is immense. They are working more efficiently and are developing as ambitious and capable learners. They are all accepting the responsibilities given to them and are becoming independent learners – still a way to go but we are definitely improving our ability to move out of the Learning Pit and succeed. As teachers, we could not be prouder of them. In Literacy we have analysed a variety of Aesop's fables. The children have read and listened to number of different fables and have identified the features of fable writing. All were familiar with the more popular fables such as, the Boy who cried Wolf and the Hare and the Tortoise, but enjoyed reading less familiar fables such as The Jackdaw and the Eagle, The Fox and the Crane. We also discussed the different morals and their meanings. After this calming and



very enjoyable start to the lesson the children thought about a fable that they would like to write. They discussed which creatures or force of nature they would like to include in their fable then created their plan using a structure to help them through the planning process. We discussed the importance of interesting scenarios and vocabulary, and the use of more powerful sentence openers. Some decided to adapt a familiar fable to their own requirement while the majority have really become very creative and are striving to create a new fable from scratch. We are so proud of their creativity and resilience. In Numeracy we have continued with algebra but have moved away from function machines as the children are so confident using them. We started off ensuring that everyone understood the notation and so we exchanged words for numbers and letters. Again, so proud of their willingness to learn, perseverance and achievements. Certainly a year group who use the power of "yet". The Winter Olympics continue to hold their interest and a little bit of lunchtime watching is always a winner and encourages a lot of talk among the diners. Favourite sports so far are the ice hockey matches (particularly when there is a scuffle between the teams) and the bob sleigh, tobogganing and luge. All fast and definitely furious, but have certainly interested the children and the work produced in their project books is of a very high standard. And so, just for a bit of fun, the children were given a length of tin foil and were shown how to construct a sculpture of a human being in the style of Giacometti. They watched a variety of YouTube videos and then they were off. The children followed the instructions to cut the foil and then use their hands to manipulate the foil into limbs, a torso and a head, looking at the proportions of the human body. Then they had a simple sculpture of a human being – various shapes and sizes, some limbs broken, but easily repairable. The next problem to be solved was to bend the limbs into a shape to make a recognisable Winter Olympic sport. Snowboarding and skiing was very popular! The children then created a variety of accessories according to their sport – ski poles, snow boards and even ice hockey sticks. The results are very creative and we are so proud of the effort they have made with their simple sculptures. Definitely a good example of enterprising, creative contributors! In Science we have been collecting data and creating tables to



display the data so that it is easy and quick to read. This is based on the planets of the solar system. In order to compare any differences the children have used chrome books to research the most recent data they can find. As result of this, they have created a second table of data to show their results and have discussed possible reasons for any differences in the data they have found. The children certainly deserve their week off so that they can come back refreshed for another jam packed half term of learning. Enjoy your week off everyone.



Website - www.pentrepoethprimary.co.uk

Twitter - @PentrepoethPrim

Other Twitter Pages ...



Click on the links in blue!

Class	Twitter	Area	Twitter
Nursery - Mrs Williams	@PPSMrsWilliams	Whole School	@PentrepoethPrim
Reception - Mrs Starke	@PPSMrsStarke	Expressive Arts	@PPSExpressiveArts
Reception - Miss Ellis	@PPSMissEllis	Health and Wellbeing	@PPSHealth_Well
Year 1 - Mrs Batrouni	@PPSMrsBatrouni	Humanities	@PPSHumanites
Year 1- Mrs Drummond	@PPSMrsDrummond	Languages, Literacy and Communication	@PPSLangandLit
Year 2- Mrs Beard	@PPSMrsBeard2jb	Mathematics and Numeracy	@PPSMathsandNum
Year 2 - Mr Nocivelli	@PPSMrNocivelli	Science and Technology	@PPSciandTech
Year 3 - Mrs Baxter	@PPSMrsBaxter		
Year 3 - Mrs Davies	@PPSMrsDavies		
Year 4 - Mrs Gooding	@PPSMrsGooding		
Year 4 - Mrs Jones	@PPSMrsJones		
Year 5 - Mr Merriman	@PPSMrMerriman		
Year 5 - Mr Willmore	@PPSMrWillmore		
Year 6 - Mr Cleaves	@PPSMrCleaves		
Year 6 - Mrs Symes	@PPSMrsSymes		

Both Miss Cook and I have visited all classes this week looking at learning in children's books and online. We have been blown away by the standard of learning and teaching and by the manners, kindness and respect shown by our children. We are all looking forward to our Languages, Literacy and Communication week after half term - the visit of Daniel Morden and our Eisteddfod activities. Have a really enjoyable half term break and stay safe in Storm Eunice.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dean Taylor'.

Dean Taylor
Headteacher

