



Trellech Primary School Newsletter

Week Ending: Friday 21st January 2022

Parental Feedback

A huge thankyou to you for taking time from your busy lives to complete the Feedback form, it helps us tremendously to reflect on current systems and processes in order to improve our offer moving forward.

Please see a summary of the feedback and our comment/actions

Report formats

84% of respondents liked the new termly format. Following feedback regarding the layout from Academic Year 2022/23 we will ensure the Glossary/ Explanations comes after the Pupil Progress table.

In response to feedback of brief content, our newer format is added to each term and will have specific reference to curriculum areas. Pre-COVID-19 there was just one main report in the Spring Term that detailed all curriculum areas, so we are not losing any detail, but ensuring termly updates.

Parent Consultations

84% of respondents felt that utilising the School Cloud Online Platform in lieu of phone calls was a positive move. Those respondents felt the meetings were more focussed. However, where there was criticism of School Cloud, the issues referred to the lack of time given to each appointment. From a school perspective, consultations have only ever been 10 minutes long, although this is open to misuse when meeting face-to face, leading to staff overrunning on meeting times and keeping other parents waiting for considerable lengths of time. This is something we feel School Cloud has improved, as well as access for parents who struggle to juggle school and work life responsibilities. For families who experienced challenges with technology, staff will make a point of rearranging a meeting or following up with a telephone call.

Sharing Sessions

84% of respondents found the Sharing Sessions a positive experience, finding the opportunity to share their child's work with them very valuable and enjoyable. Moving forward the areas we would like to develop following your feedback would be to enable more than one parent/ carer to attend the sessions, run a session after school to enable those working parents to have an opportunity to participate in the sharing sessions and allow booking of times to enable parents with multiple children time to look at each child's work during the session without feeling rushed.

Moving forward

When COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we will review this system, mindful that we will not please everyone all of the time, but try to strike the right balance for all families is of the utmost importance to us.

Glossary of Terms and Means of communications

We recognise that we are now using a number of platform to share information working on the theory of 'over communicate with clarity' will ensure that key messages reach everybody in a time fashion.

School Cloud

Online virtual parent consultation session replacing face to face parent consultations through COVID-19 and beyond. This is not Zoom or TEAMS but a separate system that requires current email addresses to send the invites out and allows a specific amount of time to be allocated for the session.

Sharing Sessions

These are arranged in the Autumn and Summer Terms to align with the School Cloud meetings, taking place beforehand to allow parents to look through work with their children and to use this information to support discussions in the School Cloud meetings.

Termly Reports

Each term we now send out a report of your child's progress, replacing the longer report that was historically sent out in the Spring Term. These give basic progress and attendance updates each term, focusing on how well your child has settled into their new class routines in the Autumn term, moving to a holistic curriculum overview in the Spring term, with a focus on literacy/numeracy and other areas of learning and experience. The Summer term focus is on progress over the whole year and teacher's general comments.

Communication channels

Email

Key information such as newsletters, COVID-19 updates, parent guides etc are sent via email, either directly or via Parentpay. Newsletters are sent on a fortnightly rota and contain dates, calendar reminders and class information.

Twitter

We use tweets to give parents a brief reminder of important information and a snapshot of daily life through photos and short videos.

Hwb

In Reception, years 1 and 2, staff use the Just2 platform to send messages through J2message and set home learning on J2 homework. The children simply need to log into their hwb accounts to access this. In years 3-6, the children use Google classroom for the same purpose. Year 3 transition from J2 to Google as the year progresses.

Website

All key policies and documents are also available for parents on our website which we try to keep engaging, easily accessible and up to date. There are easy links to each year groups Virtual Classroom.

Phone calls

If we have any immediate concerns, we will always call you immediately and we ask that you do the same. It's good to talk!

School Vision

Each year we revisit our School Vision and Core Purpose as a staff, with pupils and Governors. It is important that as a School Community we have a shared vision for the school. We have updated this as pupil and staff during the Autumn Term and would now welcome your feedback as parents and carers.

Nurture, Inspire, Succeed

Our Core Purpose:

Our school will nurture the wellbeing of ALL children, inspiring them to become healthy, confident, ambitious individuals who are ready to learn throughout their lives. We are passionate about teaching our children the skills, attitudes and beliefs that enable them to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society. Together we will empower our children for their future!

Our '5-a-Day' Culture

1. **Standards** High Expectations = High Standards. Relish every challenge, grasp every opportunity to learn.
2. **Modelled** Behaviour. Always model the very best that you can be. Understand the impact of your actions and words and learn from it.
3. **Inspiration** Be inspired! Be creative! Discover your talents and let them flourish. Don't be afraid to take risks in your learning.
5. **Listening** Every voice matters! Mutual respect is actively listening to other's opinions and responding appropriately.
6. **Ethical** Understand and value all cultures as part of a diverse society, respecting the needs and rights of all.

Our Vision and Core Purpose are at the heart of our school. If you have any contributions that we can help us further please do not hesitate to email Mrs Christofi or Mrs Peacock with your suggestions. Thank you in advance for your time and continued support.



Academic Year 2021/ 2022

Spring Term

Fri 18th Feb– Cluster Inset School Closed to Pupils

Fri 18th Feb– Half Term Commences

Mon 28th Feb– Commencement Spring Term 2

Fri 8th April– End of Spring Term

Summer Term

Mon 25th April– Summer Term Commences

Fri 27th May– Cluster INSET School Closed to Pupils

Fri 27th May– Half Term Commences

Mon 6th June– Bank Holiday in lieu of Queens Platinum Jubilee

Tues 7th June– Summer Term Two Commences

Fri 22nd July– End of Academic Year

1 further INSET to be confirmed.

Class News

Reception: Welcome back to the Spring Term. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. Our topic this term is Commotion in the Ocean. We have discussed with the children what they would like to learn, and they have come up with lots of interesting ideas. We have been finding out about the artist William Turner, and are currently in the process of creating stormy pictures using water paints. This term we have introduced the term-sentence. The children are using their phonic knowledge, together with high frequency words to write a simple sentence. Please keep up with regular reading and blending the word time words. This makes such a difference to your child's reading and writing. It was lovely to get back to the forest last week and the children had so much fun frolicking in the mud. "Childhood is that state which ends the moment a puddle is viewed as an obstacle instead of an opportunity." Kathy Williams.

Year One: It has been brilliant to welcome back year 1 to a new term at Trellech. We have a new topic of Commotion in the Ocean, and the children have done a brilliant job coming up with ideas for what they would like to learn about. The photography studio has become a pirate ship and the class has filled the ocean below it with sea creatures and boats. Some of them even made a treasure chest out of Lego! We have been looking at the various types of transport in and on the ocean, and children have been enthusiastic in drawing and labelling detailed pictures of boats. We have also realised a great interest for the Titanic. In our Big Write, I was impressed by children's use of prepositions to describe their ocean pictures, created using Jit5. Year 1 have also enjoyed the start of their tennis sessions, as well as being pirates using problem solving skills to avoid the shark-infested oceans to cross the hall, jumping from boat to boat. In a few weeks' time we will be making our own boats out of recycled materials, so if you have anything that might be suitable for boat-building please send it in. We will be sharing the materials so do not worry if you haven't got anything. Thank you to those who have brought things in already!

Year Two: It has been a super start to the new term with Year Two, as we begin our new topic 'Nurturing Nature'. We have begun to think about the new year and resolutions we can make, the children were very thoughtful thinking of ways they could look after the planet as well as share peace and kindness. We have learnt about ourselves and how we grow and change, learning the Human Life Cycle, we have also learnt the names of different food groups and recognised the need for a balanced diet. At Forest School we used our observation skills to look at patterns around us, we used our photography skills to record our pattern and on our return to school we have created our patterns using pastels or paints...how wonderful they look. We have begun to learn how to say our name as well sing some songs in French this week.

Year Three: Welcome back to school Year Threes. It's lovely to be working with you again! We have been sharing ideas for our new topic of 'Nurturing Nature' and we are looking forward to learning new things. We have been adding two digit and three digit numbers and subtracting numbers using a number line. In Science we have started to learn about the main food groups and the importance of a healthy balanced diet. During our Humanities lessons we have been looking at the human life cycle and in Health and Wellbeing we are learning passing and dribbling skills in PE and demonstrating moving and balancing skills in gymnastics.

Year

Four: It has been fantastic to see all the children back this term, after so many were absent from school before Christmas. The children have enjoyed re-connecting with each other and have all settled back really well into class. We have made a great start to our new topic 'Blue Abyss.' Already the children have been finding out about the different seas and oceans of our planet and the layers that make up the ocean. We have revised reading and plotting co-ordinates in maths, reading clocks both digital and analogue and have started to study 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo in our Literacy sessions. We have been using our skills of justification to decide on which items to take sailing around the world. A new and exciting development to our weekly timetable is the introduction of learning French! These sessions are a fun introduction to some basic French language, starting off with some common greetings. We hope the children have come home and shared their new skills with you! P.E will continue on a Thursday until further notice.

Year Five: It is so lovely to have all the children back and feeling refreshed after the Christmas break. We have made a great start on our Blue Abyss topic, and have already begun to build our understanding of the world's oceans and seas, and life underwater. Linked to this we will be studying the wonderful Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo. We are only a few chapters in, but have already thought about the pros and cons of going on a voyage around the world, what we would need to take with us, how we could describe the things that we might see, and had a go at writing our own diary entry for the Captain's Log. In Maths we have done some recapping work on co-ordinates, learnt how to translate shapes on a grid, and practised telling the time on analogue and digital clocks. Over the next few weeks we will begin learning French, starting with some basic greetings, questions and answers - très excitant!

Year Six: What a busy start to 2022! Yr6 are excited to start our new topic, Blue Abyss and have been planning ideas to develop their own learning. Our new novel, Kensuke's Kingdom had all of us thinking about sailing around the world and what it would be like. There were some interesting ideas for and against with seeing exciting new places to missing our friends and family and no WiFi!! We also started learning about our seas and oceans, using atlases to locate the oceans and the different layers. We have also had the opportunity to start swimming again which is great and lovely to be able to taking part in an activity outside school. It was lovely to hear the instructor tell me how polite all the children in the class are. Bendigedig Yr6

