



Trellech Primary School

Newsletter

Week Ending—Friday 17th February

Reminder:

Tomorrow, Friday 18th February is an INSET Day and school is closed to Pupils. We wish you a well deserved break over half term and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 28th February.

Update to the School Day

Following the adjustment to the end of the school day from January 2022 we are pleased to say that following a reduction in Covid cases that all children walking or travelling home by car will be released using their current door at 3.25pm. For those of you with children in more than one class please continue to collect children from Foundation Phase and then collect older siblings after. All bus children and After School Club pupils will then be collected at 3.30pm, this will enable a smoother end of the day whilst returning some normality. We continue to ask for your co-operation to leave the school site safely and promptly. The pedestrian gates will be locked at 3.50pm. (Please see detailed update overleaf).

Volunteers

We are looking to increase the number of school volunteers from the parent body, who would be willing to accompany the school on outside trips, e.g. swimming and trips once these resume. Under Monmouthshire LA rules, all school volunteers will need to undertake a DBS check and provide their details and the details of two referees. We have a volunteer pack for parents to complete in order to facilitate this. All details will be stored securely and confidentially in the MCC volunteer database.

If you are interested in becoming a school volunteer, and feel that you have the time to attend occasional trips or outings with the school, please contact the school office and ask for a volunteer pack. If you are already a DBS checked volunteer and would like to continue, please let the school office know as we may need to renew your DBS if we have not already done so, due to the gap in volunteering caused by the Covid lockdowns. If you have any questions about the volunteer process, please contact the school office.

Be Bright, Be Seen!

Our Year 4 Junior Road Safety Committee have had a wonderful day today delivering their '**Be Bright, Be Seen**' day, each class has discussed the importance of wearing high vis clothes and using lights when out walking, walking dogs, cycling in the evenings to help us to stay safe. The children looked dazzling bright clothes! Year Four launched their poster competition, during their assembly. We look forward to seeing the entries after half term!

Louby Lou Workshops & Eisteddfod

Last week, Louby Lou Storytelling visited school to deliver practical interactive workshops linked to stories from Wales in readiness for our Eisteddfod. The children have been busy, following the workshops completing their Eisteddfod entries linked to the story they heard. Our Eisteddfod will take place on Tuesday 1st March and children are invited to come to school dressed in Traditional Welsh Costume or Welsh Sporting Kits. We will celebrate through the sharing of our competition entries and completing a variety of activities linked to Welsh Culture on that day.

World Book Day. (Reminder)

This years World Book Day is on Thursday 3rd March and marks the 25th anniversary of World Book Day and Harry Potter. With this in mind we are inviting children and staff to come to school dressed for the theme 'The World of Magic'. We look forward to seeing the children dressed to impressed in their magical costumes. Please do not spend large amounts on costumes, we are sure there are lots of resources in your homes that can be recycled!

Watches

It has been brought to our attention that an increasing number of pupils are wearing watches (such as V-Tech watches), to school that have the facility to take photographs and record videos. The taking of digital images without permission is something we spend a great deal of time speaking about as part of our Digital Learning within school. We ask that if your child has a watch that has this facility that they remain at home, if they are worn to school, we will ask them to be taken off and the staff member will keep them safe and return them at the end of the school day. We encourage 'standard' watches to be worn as an important life skill that supports our teaching within school as well as fitness trackers that encourage children to be healthy and confident individuals. These will need to be removed for gym sessions to ensure the children's safety during these lessons.

Children Arriving to School Late

Please could all children arriving late in to school in the morning report to the main School Office. This is of paramount importance in the event of an emergency as the registers have closed. In line with this any pupils who are collected late at the end of the day will need to be collected from the main office.



As fuel costs continue to rise, the Welsh Government recently announced that the annual winter fuel payment for eligible households has been increased from £100 to £200. In addition, the window for applications has been left open until 28th February 2022, giving households more time to apply. Monmouthshire County Council has confirmed that anyone who has already applied for this winter's payment, before the increase was announced will automatically receive a top-up retrospective payment, if they have been paid £100 already, or the £200 one-off payment if their application has not been paid yet. For more information visit Monmouthshire Council Council's website at <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/utilities/> where a link to the application form can be found, alternatively you can call the council's Contact Centre on 01633 644644 or pop into one of the Community Hubs where someone will be able to assist you. The council's Money Matters campaign is continuing to promote a wide range of support for those experiencing money worries. It's aiming to direct people to various means of support, while reminding us all that debt can affect anybody, whatever their circumstances. From essentials such as food, heating and cash to related support such as mental health, employment and housing, there is more help available than most people realise. If you are not sure what support you might need but would like to find out more, then you can visit <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters/> or call 01633 644644. Alternatively, Citizens Advice are also able to guidance on 0800 702 2020.



Trellech Teas is back at Trellech Church

Starting Friday 4th March

2.30-4.30 pm

The teas will be every other Friday so
dates for your diary are:

18th March; 1st & 29th April; 13th & 27th May.

Academic Year 2021/ 2022

Spring Term

Thurs 10th Feb– Louby Lou Storytelling Workshop

Fri 18th Feb– Cluster Inset School Closed to Pupils

Fri 18th Feb– Half Term Commences

Mon 28th Feb– Commencement Spring Term 2

Tues 1st March—St David's Day– Welsh Costume

Thurs 3rd March– World Book Day– Magical Costumes Welcome

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.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The forthcoming Jubilee celebrations take place on June 2nd– June 5th. An additional Bank Holiday for this celebration takes place on Friday 3rd June, as a result the Monmouth Cluster have agreed that Monday 6th June will be taken as the additional Bank Holiday– therefore school we return from the half term break on Tuesday 7th June. We are in the process of planning with the pupils and the community how the celebrations will be planned in Trellech. Mrs Fawsitt kindly represented the school at a community meeting last week to help contribute to the village plans and we look forward to being part of those celebrations. Within school we will all celebrate with a school event on Thursday 26th May– further details to follow!

Class News

Reception:

I hope you liked your Valentine's card in the style of William Turner. We were very proud of the children's creations. We have been learning all about St Valentine and why we celebrate this special day. In Science, we have been predicting which objects might float or sink and then experimenting with a tub of water. The children found some surprises. They all thought the apple and the conker would sink, but it doesn't! We will make a start on making our own boats out of junk materials, discussing our choices along the way. At Forest School, we looked for heart shaped natural objects and had a go at making hearts out of forest treasures. In PE, we have been working as a team to travel across the apparatus in different ways. I have seen some fantastic upper body strength when moving in various ways. Louby Lou (a story teller) gave us a treat with an interactive retelling of the Welsh legend- Merlin and the Red Dragon. Did you know how the red dragon appeared on the Welsh flag? This week we are going to create poems based on this ancient tale for Eisteddfod. It has been a busy term as always, but try and have a lovely rest before an action packed Spring Term.

Year One:

Year 1 have had a packed end to the term. We thoroughly enjoyed participating with the story of Merlin and the Dragon told by Louby Lou, learning about where the Welsh dragon on our flag comes from. This has influenced our Eisteddfod preparations, as we have written poems and drawn story maps retelling the tale. Year 1 have been painting daffodils and learning the Colours of the Rainbow song in Welsh, ready to perform on St. David's Day. In maths, we have been learning to tell the time in o'clocks, and have also looked at where the hour hand is at half past a time. I was really impressed with the children's resilience with this, so they should all feel very proud of themselves. We ended our gymnastics lessons with some movement and yoga, creating positions independently and in pairs or threes. Children were challenged to connect their positions using different parts of their bodies and hold them for 10 seconds. They demonstrated fantastic team work in doing so – da iawn blwddyn un!

Year Two:

Wow what an end to the half term! We have enjoyed taking part in Children's Mental Health Week and Reaching for the Stars through dance and creating our own stars with our goals. As part of Internet Safety Day we created our kindness spells for using digital platforms safely and in a kind way. We have developed our football skills and utilised in our matches this week, we are hoping to show off our skills with some Eisteddfod matches on St David's Day. We thoroughly enjoyed our Louby Lou Workshop acting out the story of the Red Dragon in readiness for our writing this week for the Eisteddfod. Our digital musical skills have continued to develop as we prepare to create our composition utilising all of our skills. We have learnt about fractions of a whole, temperature and solving problems linked to the Winter Olympics. It has been such a busy couple of weeks again and we were blessed with a gap in the weather to end half term by visiting Forest School to create our bug hotels. We can't wait to see your Eisteddfod Flag entries after half term

Year Three:

I can't believe we are halfway through our time together in year three already! Recently we have planted cress seeds when discussing growth in Health and Wellbeing and at Forest Schools we have made bird nests. In Literacy, we had a visit from a storyteller who inspired us to retell and write a Welsh myth in our own words. In Numeracy we have been using multiplication to solve problems and reading both positive and negative numbers on a thermometer. We have been learning about the main body organs and their functions in Science & Tech. As far as ICT is concerned, pupils have been using Adobe Creative to edit and create an invite and a poster. After half term, pupils will be using Google Classroom more often to increase their confidence with this platform.

Year Four:

It's hard to believe we are at the end of this half term already-it doesn't seem that long since we were returning after the Christmas break! We have packed an awful lot in and the children have risen to the challenge and worked extremely hard. Last week saw us participate in 'Children's Mental Health Week.' The theme this year was 'Growing Together,' so we identified ways in which we had changed over the last few years and how we hope to continue to grow. The children came out with such mature and sensible ideas, such as coping better with disappointment now and being more confident in making new friends and initiating new relationships. We also looked at our own 'support networks' and who we can turn to or people that help and support us. The children identified that their own network of support came from friends, family members, teachers, club/sport coaches etc, all who help to nurture and support. Over the last few week's, we have continued with our key text in Literacy- 'Kensuke's Kingdom.' The children wrote some fantastic descriptions of the island during a storm and used similes, metaphors, personification and onomatopoeia to describe. They were absolutely amazing- what budding authors we have in our class. We have also been studying the artwork of Welsh artist Clive Gould and drawn our own seascapes and painted them using water colours. The results were stunning! This week has seen us complete our Eisteddfod entries based on the tale of Merlin and the Red Dragon and our maths has focussed on the Winter Olympics. It has been fascinating to watch the medal count grow and create infographics on the data we have researched. Have a relaxing and happy half term and we will see you soon for more of our learning journey.

Year Five:

I can't quite believe we are already halfway through our time in Year 5!

Last week we enjoyed our interactive storytelling session of Merlin and the Dragon, and have been busy turning the myth into a narrative poem for our Eisteddfod. We have practised using lots of different writing techniques, including similes, metaphors and personification, and tried to include these in our writing. The children used images from different Welsh artists to inspire them to create their own mixed media seascape, and this week applied some of the techniques they learnt to paint a representation of the Welsh dragon. We have been trying hard to learn the Welsh national anthem - we found it quite tricky to begin with but are starting to get the hang of it now!

We have also been carrying out some real-life Maths linked to the Winter Olympics. We have kept a record of medals won by different countries, looked at different ways data can be presented, created our own graphs and infographics, and analysed a range of data. The children really enjoy seeing how the things we learn in school can be used in the real world! For Safer Internet Day last week we created a 'gaming guide' to deliver important advice to stay safe online, then had great fun bringing our characters to life using AI animation.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break after your hard work this half term!

Year Six:

Year 6 have had a very busy couple of weeks in the run up to half term. We have been continuing with the topic Blue Abyss completing their learning in a variety of different ways, including comparing seascapes by Welsh artists with The Great Wave Off Kanagawa by Hokusai and using watercolours to create our own paintings. Year 6 took part in the Barclays Internet Safer Day to learn about the importance of staying safe online including when using gaming apps and ensure we understand why the age ratings are important. In preparation for our Eisteddfod, Year 6 enjoyed listening to the story of Merlin and the Dragon to use as a hook into our activities, giving us inspiration for our art activities and writing narrative poems based on the story. I wonder if it will be someone in Year 6 who will be this year's Eisteddfod bardd? This week Year 6 have participated in the Careers Wales Discovery Week, watching the live lessons, asking sensible questions, and learning about different career paths in preparation for the future. We really enjoyed finding out about the different jobs that we could do and the paths we might follow. Thank you, Year 6, you have been great these last few weeks. It has been a busy half term and it's time to have a good rest next week.

Updated Welsh Government (Covid-19).

Following WG advice and guidance, we are now returning to Alert Level Zero for COVID-19. Case rates of Covid-19 have reduced drastically from the levels seen around the Christmas and New Year period, and now appear to have stabilised.

We will be reverting to the Local Infection Control Decision Framework from the start of the next half term i.e., 28 February 2022 as part of our cautious, phased and planned approach to easing restrictions. As part of our cautious approach, we continue to ensure we are following national advice on asymptomatic testing and the use of face coverings

We will be reducing staff LFD testing to twice weekly. This advice does not impact on arrangements for those identified as contacts of positive cases (who are advised to use LFTs each day for 7 days) or those who have symptoms (who should self-isolate and arrange a PCR test as soon as possible).

Face coverings will no longer be routinely recommended in classrooms unless staff expressly wish to do so. Face coverings will however be worn by staff and visitors when moving around indoor communal areas outside of the classroom, such as corridors, where physical distance cannot be maintained.

The latest alteration of the end of school session times will end on 18 February 2022. This means that from 28th February, all pupils who are being collected from school can be picked up at 3.25pm, with the same system as previously.

Collection Routines

Parents may come onto the school yards to collect pupils at times above – please be prompt to maintain reduced numbers on site.

Staff will release children to the parents at designated areas on the school yards

Foundation Phase

Children will be collected from identified points on the main infant

Yr. 2 at 3.25pm from the main school entrance

Yr.1 at 3.25pm from the main infant entrance

Rec at 3.25pm from their entrance

Key Stage 2

Year 6 at 3.25pm from the secondary KS2 entrance near the cloakrooms

Year 5 at 3.25pm from their fire door

Year 4 at 3.25pm from the main KS2 entrance

Year 3 at 3.25pm from their fire door

Where parents need to collect from both phases, please collect infant children first before moving to the Key Stage 2 yard.

Bus children will move to respective classrooms and be taken from there, to the buses at 3.30pm

All other core interventions remain in place. These include:

- reminding all staff, learners and families to follow self-isolation guidance
- reminding staff and learners to not attend school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms
- regular handwashing and respiratory etiquette to prevent spread and manage cases, incidents & outbreaks
- ensuring adequate ventilation
- maintaining appropriate levels of cleaning.

Our advice will remain under regular review based on the latest evidence and will be amended based on local rises in COVID-19 cases or national guidance

FREE FEBRUARY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	ABILITY	AGE RANGE	ACCESSIBILITY
WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB	1:00PM—3:00PM	UKULELE WORKSHOP	MAESGLAS COMMUNITY HALL	ANY ABILITY	8—11 YRS OLD	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN NEWPORT
WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB	9:00AM—2:00PM	DJING, RAPPING & BEATBOXING	THE NEON NEWPORT	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB	9:30AM—3:30PM	BRASS Buzzers & Blowers	TREDEGAR PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL	ANY ABILITY	8—11 YRS OLD	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB	10:00AM—1:00PM	HARP WORKSHOP	GWENT MUSIC HEADQUARTERS	GRADES 1—3	Any age range	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
WEDNESDAY 23RD FEB	12:30PM—3:30PM	HARP WORKSHOP	GWENT MUSIC HEADQUARTERS	GRADES 4 AND ABOVE	Any age range	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT



TO ENROL FOR ANY ACTIVITY PLEASE VISIT THE GWENT MUSIC WEBSITE AT GWENTMUSIC.CO.UK AND CLICK ON 'PARENT PORTAL' OR 'ENROLMENT'

FREE FEBRUARY HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	ABILITY	AGE RANGE	ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY 21ST FEB	10AM—3PM	SINGING DAY	BASSALEG CHURCH HALL	ANY ABILITY	11YRS—25YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
MONDAY 21ST FEB	9:30AM—12:30PM	SONG WRITING WORKSHOP	GWENT MUSIC HEADQUARTERS	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
MONDAY 21ST FEB	1PM—4PM	SONG WRITING WORKSHOP	GWENT MUSIC HEADQUARTERS	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25 YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
MONDAY 21ST FEB	9:00AM—2:00PM	DJING, RAPPING & BEATBOXING	THE NEON NEWPORT	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25 YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
TUESDAY 22ND FEB	9:30AM—12:30PM	SONG WRITING WORKSHOP	GWENT MUSIC HEADQUARTERS	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT
TUESDAY 22ND FEB	1:00PM—3:00PM	SONG WRITING WORKSHOP	MAESGLAS COMMUNITY HALL	ANY ABILITY	8—11 YRS OLD	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN NEWPORT
TUESDAY 22ND FEB	9:00AM—2:00PM	DJING, RAPPING & BEATBOXING	THE NEON NEWPORT	ANY ABILITY	8YRS—25YRS OLD in education	ALL PUPILS RESIDING IN GWENT



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