



# Newsletter

## Sign In System

We have had our new sign in/ sign out system installed in the front reception area. This will ensure all staff, visitors and volunteers to school sign securely and safely in line with GDPR regulations. This system also enables parents/ carers to sign in pupils who arrive to school after registration or need to leave during the school day. This will ensure we have accurate records of who is on site at a given point, particularly important during an emergency evacuation.

## Children in Need

Children in Need took place last week and everybody looked spotacular! We would like to say a huge thank you to Our Charity Committee along with Miss Light and Miss Ward for overseeing the day and particularly running additional fruit tuck and donating all the profits to Children in Need. We are very proud to share that we as a community raised £179.19.



## Welsh Athletics Cross Country

We are very pleased to share that James (Y5) and Molly (Y4) took part in the Welsh Athletics Regional Event on the weekend. Both pupils did exceptionally well with Molly coming second and James completing within an exceptional time. Both took part in the recent school event and are continuing this activity in their spare time. A splendid example of our Healthy, Confident Individuals— congratulations both.



## Stars at Trellech

This week the School Ambassadors have been creating little stars for the fantastic Teaching Assistants we have at Trellech Primary. These stars recognise the great work they do and say thankyou for all your help and support throughout the year so far.

## Pantomime to The Savoy

This year we attending the Pantomime at The Savoy Theatre on the morning of Friday 16th December. As all staff attend this event, we ask that children bring a packed lunch to school on this day. For those of you who access Free School Meals we ask that you contact the school office: [trellechprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:trellechprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk) to indicate you would like your child to have a packed lunch provided on that day by Friday 2nd December.

## PTFA Christmas Clothing Swap Shop

Don't forget to attend the big Christmas Clothing Swap event on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd of December from 3.20pm at the school. Where for just £2 an item you can stock up on your preloved seasonal jumpers and festive costume favourites. Don't worry if you can't make the after school swap sessions as there will be the opportunity to purchase any remaining outfits at the Christmas Fayre and Christingle events. Hope you'll be able to support this new initiative!

## Travelling Safely

We were very fortunate to have Gwent Police visit the village last week, carrying out a review of the speed of traffic through the village, along with assessing how safely vehicles are parked. We are very grateful to them for both being visible, ensuring the safety of our community but also the work that they have planned to do with our pupils.

## Thank you to PTFA

PS3 would like to say Diolch yn fawr to our PTFA who kindly funded the bus to Rodney Parade to watch Wales Vs Iran. Although the score wasn't what we hoped for the children had an amazing time watching the match on the big screens.



## Morning Routines

As the children continue to settle into the academic year, we ask that they are met at the gate by staff member on duty and walk in independently. This enables us to monitor and ensure the safety of all children walking in. As they are greeted by an additional staff member at their entrance. It also helps us significantly with the number of vehicles on site at this time, enabling buses to disembark the children in their care safely.

### Autumn Term

**Fri 25th Nov**— Y5/ Y6 Fanzone @Rodney Parade

**Thurs 8th Dec**— Christingle Service @St Nicholas Church— 2pm

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Dec**— FP Nativity 10am

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Dec**— Y3/ Y4 Nativity 2pm

**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**— Y3/ Y4 Nativity 10am

**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**— FP Nativity 2pm

**Fri 16th Dec**— Whole School Trip to Pantomime (The Savoy)

**Fri 16th Dec**— PTFA Winter Wonderland Event

**Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Dec**— Foundation Phase Party

**Weds 21<sup>st</sup> Dec**— Xmas Dinner

**Weds 21st Dec**—Yr5/6 Party

**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec**— Yr3/4 Party

**Fri 23rd Dec**— End of Autumn Term

### Spring Term 2023

**Mon 9th Jan**— Spring Term Commences

**Mon 9th Jan**— INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Fri 17th Feb**— INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Fri 17th Feb**— Half Term Commences

**Mon 27th Feb**— Spring Term Two Commences

**Weds 1st Mar**—Eisteddfod

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar**— World Book Day

**Fri 31st Mar**— End of Spring Term

**Weds 26th—Fri 29th April**—Yr6 Residential Gilwern

**Mon 17th April**— Summer Term Commences

**Mon 15th—Weds 17th May**—Yr5 Residential Viney Hill

**Fri 26th May**— Half Term Commences

### Summer Term 2023

**Mon 5th June**— Summer Term Two Commences

**Weds 14<sup>th</sup> June**: KS2 Sports Day

**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> June**: FP Sports Day

**Weds 21<sup>st</sup> June**: Reserve KS2 Sports day

**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> June**: Reserve FP Sports Day

**Fri 30th June**: INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Weds 12<sup>th</sup> July**: PS3 Summer Performance

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> July**: PS3 Summer Performance

**Fri 21st July**—End of Summer Term

**One further INSET Days to be confirmed: currently a sixth INSET Day is under consultation by Welsh Government**

### Monmouth Foodbank Christmas Donations

We are still collecting donations of food items listed below until Wednesday 30th November. Thank you for the donations so far. (no mince pies please)

- Christmas cakes and puddings.
- Christmas Crackers
- Tins of biscuits and chocolates
- Chocolate Santa figures and other small Christmas treats
- Custard and stuffing mix.

### Finally Thankyou...

to Mr Cotton, our caretaker who is leaving us today. Mr Cotton has worked at Trellech over the last two years with dedication. He now moves on to pursue new challenges and we wish him our very best wishes for the future.

### ... and Newport County

For their kind donation of P.E. equipment which can be used by all pupils in school to enhance their learning.



## Class News

### Reception:

Reception have had a busy two weeks; we are enjoying spending time with Year 1 and 2 to practise our Christmas Nativity performance and the children are really excited to share this with you in the coming weeks. If I could ask you continue to practise the songs at home, this would be extremely helpful. Just a reminder that all costumes need to be brought into school, in a bag, with your child's name, on by the 5th of December at the latest. I'm sure the children have already told you about the magic paintbrush, we've had a huge mystery in Reception as we don't know where it has come from or who brought it. Along the way the children have had some lovely discussions around our new topic Magic and Mystery, and we are still waiting to find out who put it in our classroom, I wonder when we will find out? The children have also decided upon their enterprise design and this week we are beginning to make our products in preparation to sell to you, the children are extremely excited. This week in numeracy we have been focusing on measuring different lengths. The children have measured themselves to find out if they are taller or shorter than objects in our classroom. In Welsh, the children have been learning the different colours in a rainbow and have begun learning 'llywiau'r enyfs'. As a reminder, reading books need to be brought in to school every day for us to read with your child, on a Thursday the books will be changed and handed out on a Friday. The books will only be changed once they have read three times with a comment, thank you for your continued support.

### Year One:

This fortnight, Year 1 have had a couple of very wet Forest Schools! The children have shown great resilience to the wet and cold, putting their all into making magic wands, potions and tree spirits. Please try to pop some spare socks in your child's bag on a Monday, as we have a limited supply in school. We have begun creating our Enterprise products and are excited to sell these to you. The children have really put their hearts into their work with these! Our Foundation Phase Nativity rehearsals are well under way. I have sent out songs and lyrics to be practised on j2homework. Costumes must be in school **no later than Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec**. This fortnight has also been full of language learning, with children finding 'The Enfyf in Me' – recapping the colours in Welsh – and identifying emotions in German. Da iawn and toll arbeit!

### Year Two:

It has been a very busy couple of weeks in Year Two. Despite the cold and rainy weather, we have been learning lots through fun activities. In literacy we have created posters to advertise Children in Need Day, highlighting the importance of the charity. Pupils dressed up in spotty clothing and costumes to celebrate the day. In numeracy we have been learning that multiplication is in fact repeated addition and we have been revising both the x2 and x10 tables. We also used our Forest Schools visit to learn about symmetry and create symmetrical art. Pupils also enjoyed a visit from 'Safety Seymour' in our carbon monoxide awareness workshop. They were great ambassadors for our school; listening well and asking thoughtful questions. We have been learning how to ask about possessions in Welsh and greet someone in French. The pupils have been practising really hard for the upcoming nativity and are looking forward to performing for you .





### **Year Three:**

Over the last few weeks in Literacy, we have been studying the picture book *Varmints*, about a creature whose habitat is destroyed, as well as watching the short film adaptation. We have been using a range of different techniques to develop our descriptive writing, including contrasting conjunctions, extended noun phrases and personification. Linked to our work in Literacy, our Science learning has been looking at different habitats around the world. We have started to find out about the essential elements a habitat needs to have, the needs of different animals, and which animals are suited to living where through a range of activities – researching to find out information, creating different habitats from construction materials, building a 3d triarama representation of our chosen habitat, and sorting animals using Venn diagrams according to their needs. Our Numeracy work has focussed on telling the time on an analogue clock – knowing what each hand represents, how to read the hands, and the key numbers on the clock face. Our work making a natural clock in Forest School really helped to consolidate our understanding. We then moved on to digital time, and converting between the two. This week we have started to prepare for our Year 3 and 4 nativity, which we hope you will all be able to attend. Children should have brought home their lines to learn, and we have discussed what they need to wear - I have posted information regarding costumes on our Google Classroom. I have also uploaded the songs – tracks and lyrics – that we are learning into our Year 3 Google Shared Drive so that the children can continue to practise at home.

### **Year Four:**

A busy few weeks again in Year 4! We have been studying the novel- *Varmints*. This is a beautiful, thought-provoking picture book with dramatically lit artwork and intriguing text. *Varmints* tells of a pastoral world in need of protection, and of the souls who love it enough to ensure its regeneration. The children have been using a range of connectives to extend their written work and identifying noun phrases. In Numeracy we have been identifying digital time on a 24-hour clock. We then used this knowledge to solve a code breaker and devise an itinerary for the World Cup. The children have also looked at reading information from a timetable, including working out journey durations. (We will be keeping an eye on the scores whichever team we support!). Come on Wales, I mean England, I mean.....! This week we are starting our Enterprise project. We will design and plan what we want to make, price how much items cost and how much profit we want to make. Hopefully you will like our items and buy them, (PLEASE). We are now busily preparing for our school Nativity. Hopefully your child has some lines to learn and knows what they need to wear. Any problems please pop in or drop us an email. At Forest School the children were creating clock times out of natural materials. We were so impressed with their creativeness- numbers made from moss, sticks and leaves. We even had a clock with roman numerals made out of twigs. Thank you for your support.



### **Year Five:**

It has been a busy fortnight in Year 5. We have begun to look at our new topic – ‘Power, Politics and Protests.’ This has allowed us to have really detailed and informative discussions in terms of issues that have arose in the world both in the past and present. For this topic, we have been looking at the film ‘Hidden Figures’ which focusses on the lives of Mary Jackson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Katherine Johnson. The children have really enjoyed learning about how these three women have influenced our history in terms of the world of space, science, and the fight for equality. As well as this, the children have also been looking at ‘The Windrush.’ They have created mind maps to display key information as well as worked collaboratively with Year 6 to create a Windrush timeline. The children braved the cold and were able to use different resources and natural materials to complete this. Last week, we showed our support for road safety week, anti-bullying week and children in need. We learnt about different road signs, designed our own odd socks, and surrounded them with ‘kind words’ as well as wore lots of colourful spots and dots. In particular, the children had so much fun in creating their own ‘children in need activities.’ These ranged from code breakers, colour by numbers and board games. Miss Light certainly enjoyed playing some of the board games alongside them. Not only that, but Miss Light would also like to say a very special thank you for a lovely first few weeks in Year 5! Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing what the next two weeks brings.



### **Year Six:**

It has been a fortnight of visits and visitors for Year 6. We were very lucky to receive a visit from the CO Crew who came to teach us about the dangers of carbon monoxide and how we can keep ourselves safe. The Blake Theatre was the venue for a science workshop where we were able to watch some very impressive experiments using air and fire. We then welcomed Gwent Police to school as part of our Heddlu Bach initiative and learned all about the training and work of police dogs. Our final trip was to the football fan zone at Rodney Parade to watch Wales v Iran, such an incredible experience for our children, kindly given to them by the PTFA. In the classroom we have begun our new topic of Power, Politics and Protest. This has led us to learning more about the Windrush, the reasons they left the Caribbean and the treatment they received upon arriving in the UK. For literacy we have focussed on the film ‘Hidden Figures’ which follows three black women who helped NASA to launch it’s first rocket and the discrimination they suffered along the way. The children have studied this with such sensitivity and maturity, da iawn blwyddyn 6. Children in Need was a spotty/socky day with the children looking wonderful as they raised money for CIN and celebrated anti-bullying week. We have also begun designing and costing products for our Christmas Enterprise Week, watch this space for the fantastic products they will soon be making!



**Saturday 17th December**  
**Christingle Service**  
**Carols and Lantern-Making**  
**in St Michael's Church, Tintern**



**2.00pm** Lantern-Making and Decoration  
**3.30pm** Lantern Parade  
**4.00pm** Children's Christingle Service with  
carols and display of the Christmas  
story by children of Llandogo School

**Followed by mince pies and Christmas punch**

**More information from Vanessa Dodd [vanessa51@live.co.uk](mailto:vanessa51@live.co.uk)**

Sponsored by Tintern Festivals Association



## Worrying about money?

You are not alone. Money worries are more common than most of us realise. It might be an unexpected drop in income, bills starting to pile up, or finding it harder to cover the basics - these issues can affect anyone.

Remember, there's more help available than you might think. There are people and organisations who can help with some of the most common financial problems. These might include:

- Checking to see if you're entitled to more money in benefits or small grants.
- Help with reducing essential costs and connecting with local support.
- Advice on managing debts and ways to reduce your repayments.
- Help getting back into work or into more secure employment.
- Support to help you stay in your home.

If you are struggling it is always better to seek help and advice sooner rather than later - but it is also never too late to ask for help. You may be surprised at how much can be done to help you get back on your feet.

We have a short guide to help you see the types of help and support that are available, with details of national organisations as well as local links and connections. Help may be available in places you might not expect.

Visit: [monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters/](http://monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters/)

If you're not sure where to start, places like Citizens Advice or your landlord (if you are a social housing tenant) are a great place to find all the help and support that is right for you.

You can also phone Monmouthshire County Council's contact centre or walk into any of the council's Community Hubs in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow or Monmouth or Usk, where staff will be happy to have a conversation with you about some of the help you could access.



**monmouthshire**  
**sir fynwy**

**01633 644644**



@MonmouthshireCC

[monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters](http://monmouthshire.gov.uk/money-matters)

In partnership with:  
Abergavenny: 01873 856466  
Caldicot: 01291 422119  
Chepstow: 01291 622185  
Monmouth: 01600 773297  
[citizensadvice.org.uk/wales](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/wales)

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