



Week Ending—Friday 3rd February 2023

# Newsletter

## Trellech Primary School

### Thank you...

...to all of you who have contributed to our Fundraising to enable us to purchase a defibrillator for the school. The support has overwhelmed us and the staff are looking forward to scaling Pen-y-Fan on the 12th February. Many of you may know Grayson who is in Y3. Grayson has suffered with tonsillitis for many years and during his recent onset, was rushed to hospital and following an ECG was diagnosed with the hereditary condition known as Brugada Syndrome. As a result the urgency for this life saving equipment has become a priority for him, but will also benefit others who may need it.



### Expressive Arts Photography Project

Our leaders for the AOLE Expressive Arts are looking for your creativity from home, the challenge for this term is 'Photography'. As part of learning based around our topic 'Cynefin' this term we are inviting learners to take a photograph of their cynefin. It may a place, person or even hobby. We have had some super images already and look forward to displaying our images for all to share. Post them on twitter and tag @trellechprimary and @misslightlearns or email them to your teacher or Miss Light via email : lightj13@hwbcymru.net

### Tree Felling

Following a Tree Survey in the Autumn Term within the school grounds a schedule of work has identified necessary over the next three years, much of this work is linked to Ash Die Back being present. A contractor has been appointed and plan to complete the work as the weather improves.

### Industrial Action

Following communication with colleagues I can confirm that all classes will remain open during the planned strikes by the NEU through February and March.

### Read at Home

Each child has had the opportunity to select a book from a variety that we received from Welsh Government this week. The Book Council of Wales wants to ensure that every child has an opportunity Read at Home. We hope they have already been enjoyed.



#lovereading

### Music Projects

We were delighted to welcome Mrs North from Gwent Music to deliver sessions to our Reception, Year One and Year Three pupils this week. The school came alive with the sound of toots! We are looking forward to hearing them as they learn new skills each week.

### Celebrate, Share, Support, Refine

Last week we welcomed our School Improvement Partner and Chair of Governors, to school to join our monitoring process. It was a pleasure to complete a learning walk and listening to learner cycle as part of this day. Our pupils were a credit to you and shared lots of work that they were proud of. This is an important cycle that helps us in identifying continual improvement and areas that we will refine to help our learners to make progress in their learning journey.

### Congratulations

To Y4 who recently considered some of the ways that they could show care and concern for others. Having researched the work of many charities, they chose to hold a sponsored silence in aid of the World Wildlife Fund, raising a magnificent £305.50. Well done to you all and thank you for your support.



### Spring Term 2023

**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

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

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

**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

### Staff Contact Details

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### Sporting Achievements

Wilf in Y4 recently took part in a downhill mountain bike race in the Forest of Dean. He came first in the under 10's Advanced category!!

Lyra, Y4 played in a tennis comp at Cardiff Met on Sunday. It was a 10U Grade 4; county level competition in which Lyra was unseeded so was not expected to do so well. She won 2 matches and got into the final which she sadly lost in the match tie break, but still came 2nd! Well done Lyra!



### Eisteddfod

Our annual Eisteddfod will take place on Wednesday 1st March. Children will complete competition entries in school. However our Homework task will be decided by our Criw Cymraeg Pupil Committee during their meeting next week and this will be shared with you prior to half term, We are looking for pupils who would like to enter our Musical Competition by playing their chosen instrument. Please could they let their music teacher, Mr Green or Mrs Peacock their intention to enter. All children are invited to wear something Welsh to school– whether this be a sporting kit, traditional costume or simply something red. We encourage you not to go out and purchase items for the day. We will spend the day celebrating the children's talents and linking our learning to our National Day.

### Celebrating our Pupils of the week.



## Class News

### Reception:

Over the past two weeks the children have been focusing on retelling the story of George and the Dragon in our Literacy sessions. The children have really enjoyed creating their own story maps and using the language from the story to enhance their performance. The children have also been continuing with their daily RWI sessions. In numeracy the children have been using their mathematical language to program a bee-bot to move around the map, it is lovely to see the children using both their ICT skills and their numeracy to complete this activity. We have also created our very own shop in Reception. The children have been focusing on the value of 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p and have been busy designing their signs and pricelist. I am excited to show you the result next week. As part of our topic, we have been looking into what it means to belong to a family and our class, the children have started some lovely discussions around the importance of their own family and their own cynefin. Reception have particularly enjoyed spending time outdoors on our bird hunt and collecting natural materials ready to create a bug hotel for our outside area. We can't wait to show you! Thank you for your continued support.

### Year One:

This fortnight, Year 1 have had the pleasure of starting music lessons with Gwent Music. They had an introduction to toots (mini flutes) where they learned to play to a beat using a soft breath to make a beautiful sound. We are very excited to continue these lessons each week! In maths we have been learning to count in 2s using whisper counting (whispering every other number) and clever counting (counting in 2s). This is beginning to help us to recognise odd and even numbers, thinking about whether an amount can be shared equally between two groups. It has to be said that the children have been blowing me away with their writing! We have been reading George and the Dragon by Chris Wormell, writing recounts not only about George and the dragon but looking at the story from the princess' perspective, too, and considering what might have happened next in the story. In science we have learned about how we can keep our cynefin's environment happy and healthy, so that it can continue to keep us happy and healthy in return. In Welsh we have been asking 'Ble mae...?', looking at a map of Trellech and finding the landmarks we know. We have an exciting two weeks left of this half-term with lots of visits to look forward to!

### Year Two:

Year twos have been enjoying collaborating with year threes this term. We have been busy practising our Welsh Folk dance; quickly picking up the choreography. We have also been learning about the geographical features of Trellech in Humanities lessons. During our second outdoor activity of the Spring Term, both years have worked well in teams to create Welsh landmarks out of natural objects. We saw some great examples of pupil interpretations of the Severn Bridge, Pentre Ifan stones and The Principality Stadium. Year two pupils have also been enjoying the Clever Writer approach to literacy. They are working hard on their use of time openers, question openers and sentence structure to retell stories. In Numeracy we have been calculating change with the use of number lines, answering reasoning questions related to money and adding and subtracting using a number square. The children have been enjoying their French lessons and have been learning how to ask people their age and how to answer it. We have been extremely busy but we are learning lots and still smiling.



### **Year Three:**

We have continued our Clever Writer work over the last couple of weeks, and we are already starting to see some fantastic results. The children are becoming more confident using time and question openers to add variety to their writing and this week we have been focusing on writing descriptions using similes and our senses to create a clear image in the reader's mind. In Maths we have been finding out about 3D shapes and their properties, as well as looking out for 3D shapes in context – we were surprised by how many we could find! We are learning how to talk about where we live in more detail in Welsh, describing the area we live in and beginning to think about what things are around us. This term we have been collaborating with Year 2 for lots of our learning, and we are really enjoying working with new people! We continue to work on our Welsh country dancing, and have worked in teams to create Welsh landmarks outside using natural objects. On Wednesday we had our first music session learning to play the doods (mini clarinets) – this proved quite tricky to begin with but we were all able to make a sound and play a rhythm by the end, and we look forward to developing our skills more over the coming weeks.



### **Year Four:**

This week we have been researching the photographer, Drew Buckley. He is an award-winning professional landscape and wildlife photographer based in Pembrokeshire, South-West Wales. As the term progresses the children will capture interesting pictures from around the school grounds and Forest School. We actually captured a beautiful photograph of the pond in Forest school a few weeks ago when it was partially frozen. Please feel free to bring any photographs, that you have taken yourselves that capture something interesting. We are continuing to focus our writing using the book, King of the Sky. The children have been using different sentence openers to retell parts of the story, and we were really pleased with their choice of vocabulary. In Humanities, we have been researching the village of Trellech- amenities, attractions and why people like to live in Trellech. Perhaps you could share with your child why you decided to live where you currently live. In Numeracy, we are focussing on 3x and 4x tables, in and out of order. We have also been identifying compass directions, turns and angles; in particular, right angles, obtuse, acute and reflex angles. In P.E we have been continuing with hockey, developing our dribbling, passing and attacking skills. Thank you for your continued support.



### **Year Five:**

Year 5 have had a busy fortnight. We have continued with 'I am a clever writer' in Literacy based around the novel 'King of the Sky.' The children have been looking at different openers to support them in their writing. Not only have they thought carefully about different openers, but this week have also started to describe different settings and scenes in our story. The children enjoyed hearing a short text which described a busy train station. They then had to use what they heard from the text as well as their imagination to re-create the scene from the description. Last week in maths, we looked at angles. The children enjoyed going out on a angle hunt as well as creating their very own fun houses using right, acute and obtuse angles. This week, we have been focussing on our reasoning skills. We have been working collaboratively in groups to complete online activities as well as 'write it, prove it and explain it' activities. The children enjoyed trying and listening to all the possible strategies and ways that one question can be tackled and answered. It was a great opportunity for them to take what they already know and apply it in different ways. As we continue with our whole school topic of Cynefin, in Humanities the children have been learning about Trellechs local landmarks. They created short presentations about a landmark and then put their knowledge to the test to create a video about why Trellech is the best place to be and live. The children were contacted by 'Miss Ford' who has been considering moving to Trellech but needed



### **Year Six:**

Year 6 have been building on their understanding of Cynefin and have been learning about the role of the Senedd. They have learnt about the powers of the Senedd compared to the UK government and then debated as to whether they think the Senedd should have more or less power. Our maths focus has been angles being able to measure them, draw them and then use them for displaying data. All children were given a fictional budget and asked to allocate it to specific departments depending on their needs. They had to justify why they had given the money to specific departments and draw pie charts to display the data – their justifications and use of angles were fantastic! For expressive arts year 6 have worked with year 5, taking photographs around the school in the style of Welsh photographer Drew Buckley and edited them using different filters to judge the effect. The Trellech/cynefin websites are progressing quickly with each group adding webpages and information about the area. This week we focussed on the local landmarks and have recorded videos to add to the websites. Year 6 have enjoyed creating their own Welsh dances to a piece of modern Welsh music by composer Jaffro, incorporating dance techniques such as mirroring, cannon and matching. They have also shown themselves to be extremely clever writers as we continue our writing based upon "King of the Sky" using fronted adverbials of time, place, manner, simile openers and descriptive settings. Keep up the fabulous work Year 6!



The Melville Theatre , Abergavenny

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A  
TAP DANCING MERMAID?

Presented by Tessa Bide

Thursday 23rd February, 2pm  
(45 minute show)

Tickets:

Adult £9

Child (under 12yrs): £5

Family (2 adults, 2 children) £25

Reserve tickets by calling 01873  
853167 or email [melvillecamanager@gmail.com](mailto:melvillecamanager@gmail.com)



T R E L L E C H P T F A

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

9th & 10th Feb at 3:20

In the playground

Items from 50p

TRELLECH SCHOOL PARENTS TEACHERS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION : CHARITY NUMBER 1101355





the national sleep helpline

# Want to know more about sleep?

ASK US THE QUESTIONS YOU WANT ANSWERS TO



**03303 530 541**  
 Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm  
 Wednesday 9am - 11am



**Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point\***

**WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?**

In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

**HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP ME?**

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in mental health wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why you might not be sleeping well and how that can change

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