



Online Safety

Last night saw the delivery of our Cluster Online Safety sessions at Monmouth Comprehensive School. These online safety training sessions provided by [SWGfL](https://www.swgfl.org.uk) gave staff, governors and parents an insight into popular technologies and how young people utilise them. The massive benefits and potential pitfalls, provided parents with advice, strategies, and resources to help them understand and engage with their child's online lives in a healthy, positive, and productive way. Much of the information shared demonstrated the power that digital technology has for our young people and the younger age children are accessing platforms, apps and games. Please find a link to the presentation from the evening: <https://prezi.com/view/4GCKbcJhBJM2ZSCi3TGK/> (this is time sensitive and will expire after 28days

It is important to consider our own digital footprint as adults to share this with our children— who see's what we share? Consideration to our own settings should be given— images and text remains online forever. Our role as positive digital citizens is instrumental for our young people for the future.

Some initial simple advice for the most used online media platform of YouTube is to only access [YouTube Kids](https://www.youtube.com/kids) and use the search engine: <https://www.swiggle.co.uk> to help keep our learners safer whilst using digital platforms.

The SWGfL platform has a huge amount of resources available to support parents in keeping their children safe digitally which include:

The SWGfL Magazine- <https://www.swgfl.org.uk/magazine> which shares articles on a range of topical digital areas.

The following links will be of use:

<https://www.swgfl.org.uk/resources/online-safety-guidance-for-parents>

and <https://www.swgfl.org.uk/audience/parents/>

This link gives information around social media platforms and guidance for settings, profiles and passwords and for those of you who wish to develop your own knowledge through safety training:

<https://www.swgfl.org.uk/training/online-safety-training/parents-and-carers/>

Trellech Primary School

British Science Week

Last week, was British Science Week and learners took part in a range of engaging activities and investigations including which paper breaks down easily, creating a bang, making lava lamps and activities linked to adaptation, variation, inheritance and selective breeding!



Welsh Workshops

This week we welcomed Tudur Phillips as part of a cluster project to work with Years 4, 5 and 6. They had an opportunity to develop Welsh Yard games and Twmpath. Each class showed great engagement and enthusiasm to teach the activities to the younger pupils! Bendedegid Bawb!



MCS Cluster Smart Phone Free Pledge

As a Monmouth Cluster we are promoting Smartphone Free Childhood. When we give our children access to the whole world in their pocket, we give the whole world access to our children. Children with smartphones are at risk of being exposed to harmful content, become addicted to the devices, are distracted from their learning, are at risk of grooming and 'sextortion', are vulnerable to cyberbullying and suffer worse mental health.

More details on all of this evidence can be found in more detail here:

[The problem — Smartphone Free Childhood](https://www.swgfl.org.uk/resources/online-safety-guidance-for-parents)

Apps
 Apps can be a fantastic tool for young people to connect with peers. Many enable instant messaging, social networking and digital sharing.
 Consider: 'YouTubes' can also be a great creative outlet. But:
 - They're personal and age-relevant
 - Talking to them about the content they share
 - Discussing the consequences of sharing messages and images.

Instant Messaging
 Apps often have a 'push' notification system that sends up alerts with what's going on right now. However, there is a lot of unwanted content if your child is using messaging services you don't control.
 Consider:
 - Look at the privacy settings
 - Discuss the implications that they may be taking to control their own data and the risks this brings
 - Talk to them about when it's not an appropriate to send.

Gaming
 Gaming is fun but be aware that it can be all-consuming. Some things to consider:
 - Use the gaming control safety settings
 - Discuss with your child how much time they can spend gaming
 - Be clear on the PEGI ratings and what they mean
 - Remember that some online games have in-app purchases
 - Be aware that your child might use avatars or 3rd party applications to avoid interactive online experiences.

Bullying
 Remember, it's not the technology that's the problem, it's the human behavior. Consider your own perspective:
 - Talking about bullying means
 - Learning your child how to use the technology
 - Be clear on the PEGI ratings and what they mean
 - Remember that some online games have in-app purchases
 - Be aware that your child might use avatars or 3rd party applications to avoid interactive online experiences.

Live Streaming
 Broadcasting online brings an image that can be addictive. Encourage your child to think about:
 - Body image: Ask to them about how they want to be perceived online and what that appearance might be
 - Live Streaming: Ask to them about how they want to be perceived online and what that appearance might be
 - Live Streaming: Ask to them about how they want to be perceived online and what that appearance might be

Online Safety Guidance for Parents
 Pick up a copy of this checklist along with other online safety resources from www.swgfl.org.uk. We are a not-for-profit charitable trust providing schools, learning and training to improve outcomes, and working with the UK Safer Internet Centre, the UK Safer Internet Centre, and the UK Safer Internet Centre.

Key Dates : 2024/ 2025

Tues 11th Mar: See How they Learn Parent Workshop (Rec Parents)

Tues 8th April: Saplings Spring Performance 9.30am (Y2/ Y3)

Fri 28th Mar: Café Cynefin

Weds 9th April: Pupil Reports Published

Fri 11th April: Y4 & Y5 Upbeat Drumming Showcase @ 10.30am

Fri 11th April: End of Spring Term

Mon 28th April: Summer Term Commences

Weds 30th April– Fri 2nd May: Y6 Residential to Gilwern

Mon 12th May: Sharing Session

Tues 13th & Weds 14th May: Parent Consultations

Fri 23rd May: End of Summer 1 Half Term

Mon 2nd June: Summer Term 2 Commences

Weds 4th June: FP Sports Day 1.30pm (Reserve Date 11.6.25)

Thurs 5th June: KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm (Reserve Date 12.6.25)

Fri 27th June: **INSET Day** School Closed to Pupils

Weds 2nd July: Move Up Day

Weds 2nd & Thurs 3rd July: Y7 Taster Days @MCS

Mon 21st July: **INSET Day** School Closed to Pupils

Mon 21st July: End of Academic Year.

Stay and Play Sessions

It is wonderful to see some lighter evenings and spring session enabling more members of the school community to join the stay and play sessions each Wednesday evening. Please may we ask for your support in remaining in the stay and play area and KS2 Yard. At this time we still have pupils on school site attending After School Club who access the outdoor area and field nearest the hall. It is essential that Playworks staff ensure the safety of the children in their care in this area of the school.

Promoting a Nut Free School

We continue to promote healthy eating in school with fruit and vegetable being eaten at break. These should be brought to school in a reusable container to reduce waste. At break children should not eat cereal bars, crisps, popcorn etc and pupils will be asked to place these back in their bag for lunchtime. **No nuts or nut products** should be included as a snack or part of a packed lunch due to the specific needs of individual pupils and the risk associated with coming into contact with nuts in any form. Your support in the ensuring the safety of all our pupils is much appreciated.

Golden Ticket Winners!

Following World Book Day we had ten golden ticket winners, with much excitement linked to the prizes. Please note that arrangements for these sessions will be communicated directly from school via Schoop. Film afternoons, Non-uniform days etc. need to be planned into the school day to ensure they align to teaching and learning plans and visitors who maybe attending school for specific reasons. Diolch yn fawr to our wonderful PTFA who arranged a very exciting World Book Fund Raiser!

Come and celebrate!

Monday 24th March 2pm - 4pm

We are holding a celebration to mark the end of a significant phase of our school garden project. Working with Keep Wales Tidy, a group of volunteers and our amazing children have built an allotment area, laid wild flower turf, planted an orchard as well as more than 800 bulbs throughout the grounds and in pots. ACE Monmouth and the Narth gardening club have also provided funding and we received trees from the Woodland Trust and the Tree Council. We are extremely grateful for every contribution which we have used to enhance our incredible grounds.

Join staff, governors, volunteers, representatives from Keep Wales Tidy as well as Adam Frost BBC Gardeners World presenter, author and garden designer who will be dropping in to enjoy the celebration with us.

You can also see Adam live at the Savoy Theatre, Monmouth later on the 24th where he will be talking about his life as a gardener and his new book. Tickets area available via the theatre website.

Please confirm attendance via email.

tre.primary@monmouthshireschools.wales



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Dosbarth Reception

Prynhawn da, Reception have been busy during the past fortnight. In maths, we have looked at ordering the seasons of the year as well as looking at what happens throughout these different seasons. The children have learnt that there are four seasons and each season changes after three months. We also discussed some of the key celebrations that happen in each season of the year. We have also been recapping addition within 5,10 and 15 for some using ten frames. The children have enjoyed creating their own sums as well as following and listening to instructions to create them too. The children have loved using the tens frames and choosing their different coloured magnets to support them in creating their sums. Last week, we enjoyed making Welsh cakes. We hope that you enjoyed them! From this, we took our learning about Welsh cakes and used it to create instructions for a code which we will be completing over the coming weeks. In P.E, we have started looking at football and focussing on the key skills of dribbling and passing both individually and when working with partners or small groups. We are slowly building up to having our own mini games soon. We have also continued to make progress in our toot sessions when learning and playing the different notes. We have started focussing on playing the toots to the rhythm of a song which is great. Our first session back at forest school was so lovely, especially as the sun was out. The children enjoyed collaborating with Year 1 to create tally charts based around the different signs of Spring. We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to welcoming both you and the children back on Monday.



Dosbarth 1

Prynhawn da, we have had a very busy and enjoyable two weeks in Dosbarth 1. We have had a very successful couple of lessons with Mrs North teaching us how to play the toot. We have learned how to play the note D. We learnt a new song to help us with this tricky note and we will continue to practice. We can now play B, A, G and D. In Commando Joes we enjoyed working as a team following rules and learning that we can't always be successful in our missions and activities we do and that this is ok. Mission 4 completed, and all families (houses) crossed the river safely, we even made the mission harder as we were working together so well. In literacy we have been creating rhyming couplets and writing short poems, rhyming is more difficult than you think, we have been creating poems about spring and thought about places we liked to visit at spring to help us such as the countryside, woodlands and the seaside. This week we have begun looking at diary entries, another tricky concept but we have been concentrating and working so hard. During maths we have been working on measuring with non- standard units using cubes and even paperclips to measure width and height. We have been estimating before measuring and seeing whose estimate was closest. During our Country and the Community ball sessions we have continued to work together, be in teams, and practice catching and dribbling a ball. We love the warm up and cool down games and all are eager to participate. We have also been busy completing science experiments, visited forest school, listened to and discussed Welsh music and bands and celebrated red nose day! A quiet weekend welcome. Have a great weekend whatever you do. Diolch yn fawr.



Dosbarth 2

Prynhawn da. This half term is flying by and we have accomplished so much already. The pupils have been applying their maths skills to carry out a shop and calculate the change given; the total spends and the difference in prices. They have also been learning to tell the time; drawing the hands for o'clock and half past on a clock face. In literacy we have been writing up a non-chronological report based on a Welsh celebrity. We have found out so much about sports stars, Hollywood stars, historical figures and authors to name a few. We have been learning to name relations in Welsh and we are starting to ask the time and answer in hours and half past too. Da iawn year 2!! We have enjoyed the last swimming session and pupils really have improved with confidence in the water and with their swimming strokes. Lots of skills have been demonstrated in our County in the community sessions. The pupils are really increasing in speed and control when dribbling and shooting at goal in our hockey lessons.



Dosbarth 3

Prynhawn da, it is so lovely to see that Spring has come and the sun is shining. This marks the end of the Spring Bulb project. In October last year, the children planted a daffodil and crocus bulb and have been monitoring the daily temperature and rainfall ever since. It was so lovely to return after half term and see the flowers start to bloom. The children have been looking after their bulbs and noting down the date and height of when each flower appears. As you can imagine this has involved lots of quality real - life numeracy skills. The data has also been used within their own maths lessons to create pie and bar charts using J2E. The flowers will be sent home to blossom in the children's garden. As part of British Science Week, the children had so much fun investigating this year's theme, Change and Adapt. The children experienced exploding bags and bottles with lots of awe and wonder. Together with their experiments, they also set up their own pollution catchers around different areas of the school and made predictions using quality explanations. The class then decided they would like to make their own pollution catchers to explore the amount of pollution in the air at home. In Literacy the children have begun looking at Welsh Myths, our focus this week has been the story of Branwen. The children have enjoyed listening to the story and used a conscious alley to explore the perspectives from the different characters. Here, the children stood as a tunnel and each child took the role of a character. As they went through the tunnel the other children asked a range of questions to deepen their understanding of the characters thoughts and feelings.



Dosbarth 4



Dosbarth 4 cont.

Well, what a busy couple of weeks. Science Week started with a bang- using fizzy drinks and mentoes to create an explosion. Which drink created the highest explosion? What was the reaction that caused this? We then added alka seltza to a small amount of water to create an explosion (but that was quite disappointing). We used a whole box of them before we got the hang of it. We made a wormery which we are feeding each day and monitoring. Then, we carried out an experiment to collect pure water from salt water. So, we will be okay if we get stranded on a desert island. The most interesting one was testing different types of paper to discover which ones disintegrated the most. Therefore, being most suitable for toilet paper. We had lots of in-depth discussions on this topic which was great. We have now decided to test various types of toilet paper to see which one is the best. Perhaps we can send our results to Welsh Water. We are halfway through our weekly African drumming sessions, which the children are absolutely loving. (We knew they would!). Hopefully you will be able to come in and see what the children have been doing. In Literacy, we completed comic strips and this week we are looking at the language and text features of a balanced argument. Currently, we are creating a Spring picture in the style of the Welsh artist, Therese James, together with designing a Mother's Day card (Shhhhh), in the style of Georgia O'Keefe. St Patrick's Day was last Monday, and we looked at the significance of Irish symbols, together with finding out about St Patrick. Forest School was cold, but at least it was quite dry over there. We always seem to get so muddy. The children worked in pairs to make algorithms from sticks. The children then tested the algorithm and debug it if necessary. Can we just remind you to ensure your child has a water bottle in school with them each day. Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your support.

Dosbarth 5

What an exciting couple of weeks we've had! Our classroom has been buzzing with activity, particularly during British Science Week, where the children truly embraced the spirit of exploration. They've loved integrating ICT into their learning, and we've seen some fantastic engagement across the board. In Science, we had a blast with various experiments, including melting ice cubes and creating a magic bag. We also explored the theme of change by demonstrating the three states of matter – we even made butter! Lots of laughter and fun was had by all. In Literacy, we've been diving into the concept of stereotypes and discussing how individuals are smashing these stereotypes, particularly in the fields of STEM. The children undertook research on contemporary scientists, engineers, and game developers, culminating in the creation of an iBook using our iPads. This week, we turned our attention to our own imaginative creations by designing and describing dragons for our upcoming class "Dragonology" book. It's been delightful to witness their creativity soar! On the sports front, our hockey skills are progressing wonderfully, and we enjoyed our very first mini-match this week. The children showcased their tackling and dribbling skills, and their enthusiasm was wonderful. We're also excited to be learning Taiko drums, a traditional form of Japanese drumming. The children are picking up new rhythms and the accompanying chants with impressive speed! The children loved being able to be back in the forest as the weather was kinder to us and enjoyed making 3D models of dragons. In Maths, the pupils have been designing their dream homes and calculating the area and perimeter of their creations. We've also explored the connections between fractions, decimals, and percentages in a practical way. To wrap up the week, we focused on Comic Relief, where the children created their own Newsround-style report. Thank you for your continued support!



Dosbarth 6

Prynhawn da, over the last two weeks, our Dosbarth 6 have been both excited and enriched as they engage in a variety of subjects that foster creativity, critical thinking, and well-being. In Forest School, the children have been inspired by the artwork of Andy Goldsworthy, creating their own nature-inspired pieces that celebrate the beauty of the outdoors. In mathematics, they are diving into the world of ratios, enhancing their problem-solving skills through practical applications. In literacy, students are exploring different writing forms, including diary entries that reflect their personal experiences and persuasive texts aimed at influencing their audience. Our focus on health and well-being continues as we discuss the importance of sleep and its significant impact on physical and mental health. In P.E., we've kicked off a new football unit, where teamwork and coordination take centre stage. Finally, in science, we are advancing our understanding of databases while learning the scientific names of bones that are fundamental to the human body.

Families are invited to
St Nicholas Church Trellech
9.30^{am} 30th Mar
Mothersing Sunday

to honour our mothers &
 give them our deepest thanks

music from
 Caroline (organ & piano)

*Flowers given out during service
 Tea, coffee, soft drinks & biscuits
 afterwards. Parking at Babington*

**Our Misadventures
 in Development Aid
 around the World**

Illustrated Talk by
Drs. Sandy & Wyn Richards

**Babington Centre
 Trellech**

7.30 Friday 28 Mar

£5 children free Bar
 Friends of Trellech Church

Join Chepstow's annual celebration
 as a Walkers are Welcome town

**Chepstow
 Walking Festival**

22nd—27th April 2025

Programme and booking details
walksinchestow.co.uk

WALKERS ARE WELCOME IN
 CHEPSTOW
 A GREAT PLACE TO WALK

DOBRO I GERDOWA
 WALKERS ARE WELCOME




**Trellech Teas is back
 at Trellech Church**

2.30-4.30 pm

Dates for your diary are every other Friday:

8th & 24th January

7th & 21st February

7th & 21st March

4th April 2025