



# Trellech Primary School Newsletter



Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Happy New Year to you all....

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful festive break and are feeling refreshed and ready for an exciting spring term ahead. This term is always full of opportunities for learning, creativity, and growth, and we look forward to sharing our learning journey and activities with you. Our focus this term will be on fostering curiosity, building resilience, and encouraging every child to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your continued support—we look forward to working together to make this term a successful and enjoyable one for all.

## Rights and Values

This month as part of our work on Children's Rights we will be focussing on Article 29 Right to be the best that we can be and our value of the month is Truthfulness. We look forward to sharing our work with you on these important areas.

## Emergency Closures

Thank you for your support and understanding last week as we welcomed the new term amidst the unexpected arrival of snow and icy conditions. In the event of extreme weather, such as heavy snow, or an emergency (for example, a loss of water supply), we will communicate with parents and carers via Schoop. If a school closure becomes necessary, the decision will be made in consultation with the Chair of Governors and the Local Authority. When decisions need to be made early in the morning due to weather conditions, we will also liaise with Passenger Transport and ASC Phillips to ensure the safety of pupils traveling to and from school.

As I'm sure you appreciate, closing the school is never an easy decision. It is always made with the safety of our pupils, staff, and wider community as the top priority.

## Personal Items

We've noticed that more personal items are being brought into school recently. To help us keep everyone's belongings safe and avoid any upset if things get lost or damaged, we kindly ask that pupils do not bring personal items in unless needed. Thank you for your support

## Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for every child's learning and development. Being in school every day ensures that children can fully engage with lessons, build strong relationships, and make the most of the opportunities available to them. Good attendance helps children develop routines, confidence, and a sense of responsibility—skills that will benefit them throughout life.

We understand that absences can sometimes be unavoidable, particularly when a child is unwell. It is important that children remain at home if they are ill, both for their own recovery and to prevent the spread of illness within our school community. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please inform the school as soon as possible. This helps us monitor patterns of illness and take steps to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Thank you for your support in promoting excellent attendance and punctuality. Together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible start to their education.

## WG National Assessment

We would like to remind you that the Welsh Government National Assessments for pupils in Years 2 to 6 will take place between Monday 2nd February and Friday 13th February.

These assessments will cover: Reading, Numeracy and Reasoning.

All assessments will be completed online in the classroom setting under teacher supervision. The purpose of these assessments is to support learning and help identify areas where pupils may need additional support.

Further information can be found at:

<https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/reading-and-numeracy-assessments/personalised-assessments-information-for-parents-and-carers>



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## Head Lice

We have recently been made aware of cases of head lice (nits) in school. Head lice are common among children and can spread quickly through close contact. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat promptly if you find any signs of lice or eggs. If you do find head lice, we recommend:

- Using an appropriate treatment from your local pharmacy.
- Combing through hair with a fine-toothed nit comb after treatment.
- Checking all family members to prevent re-infestation.

Children can return to school once treatment has started. Your vigilance helps us reduce the spread and keep everyone comfortable.

For more advice, visit: <https://111.wales.nhs.uk/encyclopaedia/h/article/headliceandnits/>

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Parent Governor

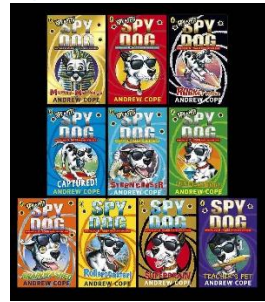
We are inviting parents to consider becoming a Parent Governor as part of our Governing Body. This is a fantastic opportunity to play an active role in shaping the future of our school and supporting our pupils' success. Join us in making a difference!

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Mrs Peacock (HT) or Mr Hockey (Chair of Gobs).

## Safeguarding Concern: Book Titles

We have been made aware of a safeguarding concern relating to several titles in the *According to Humphrey* and *Spy Dog/Spy Cat* book series.

Some copies of these books include a weblink on the back cover or on an interior page which no longer directs readers to information about the books. Unfortunately, this link has been compromised and may now lead to inappropriate and unsafe material that is not suitable for children of any age. Images of some of the book covers are included to help you identify whether you may have any of these titles at home.



We have been asked to raise awareness of this issue so families can take appropriate precautions.

## Advice and Next Steps

- If you have any of these books at home, we strongly advise that you either remove the book entirely or remove the page containing the weblink.
- Please be extra vigilant with all children's books that include web links and ensure they are checked by an adult before children access them.

Thank you for your continued support and positivity in working together to keep our children safe.

## Key Dates: 2025/ 2026

**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan:** Y3/ Y4 Urdd Jambori @Pontytpool LC

**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Jan:** ALN Coffee Morning (am)

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Café Cynefin & Clean Green Shop: 2.30pm

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>– Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Feb:** National Assessments (Y2– Y6)

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Feb:** End of Spring Term 1

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb:** Spring Term 2 Commences

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Café Cynefin & Clean Green Shop: 2.30pm

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar:** Whole School Eisteddfod

**Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Mar:** World Book Day

**Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Saplings Easter Performance

**Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Pupil Reports to Parents/ Carers

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Y4/ Y5: Drumming Performance

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Café Cynefin & Clean Green Shop: 2.30pm

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar:** End of Spring Term

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April:** Summer Term Commences



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**Fri 1st May:** Cluster INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May:** May Bank Holiday

**Thurs 21st May:** Colorfoto Class Photos

**Fri 22nd May:** End of Summer Term 1

**Mon 1st June:** Summer Term Two Commences

**Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> June:** FP Sports Day- 1.30pm

**Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> June:** Y3-Y6 Sports Day 1.30pm

**Weds 10<sup>th</sup> June** Reserve FP Sports Day- 1.30pm

**Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June:** Reserve Y3-Y6 Sports Day- 1.30pm

**Fri 26th June:** INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Mon 6th– Weds 8th July:** Y6 Residential to Gilwern

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July:** Leavers Assembly

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July:** Last Day of Summer to Pupils

**Mon 20th July:** INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

**Mon 20th July:** End Of Academic Year

## Class News

### Dosbarth Derbyn

Croeso yn ol! Blwyddyn Newydd dda.

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and managed to take some time to rest with family and friends. It sounds like the children all had a magical Christmas from the conversations we had in their return to school last week.

We have had a great start to the new year and half term. In maths we started back by looking at one, two or three less of a number to support us with our work on Subtraction. Once confident, the children began writing and completing subtraction sums within 3, 5 and 10. I was so impressed with their understanding of this as this kind of maths isn't the easiest, but the children certainly rose to the challenge. We have finished our week by beginning to look at and explore capacity by estimating and ordering amounts such as empty, nearly empty, half full, nearly full and full. This is going to support us with our topic book – 'The bog baby' which the children have loved so far. We are yet to read the book, but we have been using our imagination to think about what the bog baby

may be like, how we would describe him, where he might live along with any questions we have for him. We have also spent some time using our senses to describe the setting of the story. The children had to pretend they were in the setting of the story and use the pictures to think about what they could see, touch and possibly smell / hear. In Welsh we have been looking at how to ask and respond to how old we are. This is quite tricky, but we are using our resilience daily to keep trying. Thank you for a great start back Dosbarth Derbyn! For now, I hope you have a lovely weekend and I look forward to welcoming both you and the children back on Monday.

### Dosbarth Un

Wow! What a busy few weeks it has been in Dosbarth Un. With the launch of Seesaw in our class, it has been truly lovely for us to share and show you all what we get up to in class.

Literacy has seen us studying our new book 'The Bog Baby' where the children have been looking into the character and using similes to describe the Bog Baby. We have also looked at describing the setting using the senses, which the children have truly loved! It has been lovely to see how much their writing has developed!

In Maths, we have been looking into odd and even numbers and how to decipher if a number is odd or even. This has allowed for the children to work more hands on with the resources and the resilience that they have shown has been amazing. They have really got stuck in with this and listening to their reasoning as to why they believe they are correct has been truly eye opening to see just how much they have retained.

We have also been fortunate enough to have Newport County's 'County in the Community' taking Dosbarth Un on a Monday Afternoon for their outdoor PE lesson. They have worked super hard at these games and the collaboration that I have witnessed has been so wonderful to watch.

In addition to this, we have started our new topic for the term 'Roots, Shoots and Muddy Boots'. This has opened up some wonderful conversations all about habitats and different areas of the world. Coupled with us reading the Lorax before lunch, we



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have truly had some mature and interesting conversations surrounding the environment.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing where these topics will take us.

## Dosbarth Dau

Croeso yn ol! Blwyddyn Newydd dda.

I hope you have all had a peaceful Christmas. A huge thank you for the wonderful Christmas gifts and cards.

The children have been enjoying their work based on the story of Farmer Ham; retelling, sequencing, describing the character and setting and writing their own version. In numeracy the pupils have been carrying out lots of revision based on odd and even numbers; rounding to the nearest 10; recognising the place value of numbers and doubling and halving. We have spent time adding and subtracting multiples of ten from numbers up to 100 and beyond and used reasoning skills to solve problems.

Following registration in the morning the children take part in daily Welsh activities which involves lots of oral work through many different interactive games. They are really enjoying these. In ICT we have discussed the importance of algorithms (instructions) and why we need them. The children partnered up and gave specific instructions to their partner to follow. They quickly realised that instructions have to be clear and precise. The pupils have learnt about the two-faced Roman god Janus so we can look back at the year gone to help us with choices and improvements for the year ahead. In science we have learnt about the layers of the Earth and linking this to the minerals and goodness in the soil. Which leads to our new topic. Our new topic is 'Farm to fork' so we have started suggesting ideas for our new 'Farm shop' role play area. The topic will look at farming, the journey of foodstuffs to our plate, the environment and fairtrade.



## Dosbarth Tri

Happy New Year and welcome back! A huge thank you for all the lovely Christmas gifts – your generosity and kindness are truly appreciated.

Our new topic this term is “**All Creatures Great and Small**”, and we have lots of exciting experiences and opportunities ahead. The children are already enthusiastic about this topic and have brought in books to share, which have been so helpful for research. Please feel free to send in more – they’re a fantastic resource! In Literacy, we’ve been using *Britannica Education* to research different animals, their habitats, and interesting facts to create fact files. The children worked in pairs to complete this task. In Mathematics, it’s all about fractions! We worked in groups to create fraction wheels, following step-by-step instructions before taking on the final challenge of designing their own. We also coloured different fractions and placed them on a number line. This week in Welsh, we have been focusing on what we like playing and extending our sentence patterns to express what we enjoy, love, and why. In Expressive Arts and Design, we’re exploring patterns and textures as we design animal masks over the next few weeks. This week, the children have loved exploring with LEGO Spike, following algorithms to create a safe shelter for an animal – a fantastic way to combine creativity and problem-solving.

We’re also excited to start learning songs for the upcoming Jambori!

**Our Right of the Term is Article 29 – I have the right to be the best I can be.** This has been a wonderful way to set New Year’s goals and targets. Let’s see what 2026 brings!



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and we're only just getting started! There's so much more to come this term, and we can't wait to share it all with you.

Thank you so much for the Christmas cards, messages and gifts. They were really appreciated. x

## Dosbarth Pedwar

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to a brand-new term – and what an exciting one it's going to be! Our Spring topic is **Wonders of the Earth**, and we're kicking things off with something truly delicious... **Chocolate!** We'll be exploring where it came from, how it was used thousands of years ago, and why it's become such a treat today. Chocolate isn't just tasty – it has a fascinating history! Did you know it goes back over 4,000 years? We've started researching how ancient civilizations like the Mayans and Aztecs used cacao beans to make a bitter, spiced drink, and even used them as currency. We've already been super busy (so much for a quiet start!). Here's a little peek at what we've been up to: We've been working hard on identifying and recording multiples of 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10. Then we took things up a notch by applying mental strategies to multiply and divide 2-digit numbers by a single digit. Lots of brain power needed. Our focus text has been *Chocolate Me* by Taye Diggs. It's a wonderful book that celebrates being unique and finding joy in who we are. We've had some brilliant discussions about positive identity and what makes each of us special. We've been talking about the importance of exercise and how it helps keep us healthy. Everyone has been thinking about the activities they do in school and after-school clubs, and we've even created our own exercise diaries.

We've been learning some lovely Welsh songs ready for the Jambori next week – can't wait to hear everyone singing! Plus, we've set some exciting goals for the term ahead. Friday was a real highlight – author **Paul Leyshon** came to visit! He shared his journey to becoming an author and led a creative workshop that had everyone buzzing with ideas. What an inspiring day! So, as you can see, it's been a jam-packed couple of weeks already –



## Dosbarth Pump

Croeso back and Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks for the thoughtful and kind cards and gifts. Your generosity and support are truly appreciated. We have returned to the Spring Term full of enthusiasm and excitement for our new topic: Scented Garden, which forms part of the whole-school theme Wonders of the Earth. To launch the topic, our classroom was transformed into different habitats and natural wonders, including a volcano area! The children were given passports and explored each area, discussing their findings and sharing fascinating facts. They were thrilled to enter the classroom through a hidden cave, which created a real buzz of learning throughout the day. As part of our mini-topic launch, the children worked in teams to match pairs of garden plants using their sense of smell—an activity that encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and curiosity. In Maths, we have continued developing place value skills by solving multiplication and division problems in a variety of ways, including short and long methods, the bus stop method, and using counters and grid methods to visualize number values. In Literacy, we have started our new text, *The Curious Garden*. The children have



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explored ways to uplevel sentences using expanded noun phrases and figurative language to create vivid imagery. They wrote diary entries as the character Liam and confidently edited and self-assessed their work using success criteria. Within PE, our focus is on developing netball skills. The children have listened carefully to the different types of passes and are beginning to understand the rules of the game. Finally, as part of our ongoing STEM project with LEGO Spike, the children worked in teams to build a LEGO Hopper. They showed perseverance and teamwork, and the classroom was filled with shouts of "Yes, we did it!"—a wonderful celebration of achievement and a love of learning. We have lots more LEGO Spike projects planned for the term and look forward to sharing more soon!

particularly engaging, focusing on the flow of energy in food chains and key terminology. It was fabulous to see the students learn about a specific term and then teach it to their peers. Their teamwork and presentation skills were commendable! In expressive arts, we have taken on the role of musicians, learning to play the glockenspiel. The students have enjoyed playing together using the notes B, A, and G, performing a mix of jazz, rock, and folk tunes—bendigedig! In PE, we have started playing netball and learning gymnastics, acquiring many new skills along the way. To tie in with our Beast Creator topic, our health and well-being studies have involved analysing the differences between weather and climate, as well as the human actions contributing to climate change. The sensitivity and maturity with which the students approached this topic was fabulous.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to an exciting term ahead!



## Dosbarth Chewch

Welcome back to a brand new term! We are excited to dive into our new topic, Beast Creator, where we will explore the wonders of the Earth through the lenses of science and technology. We've already made a fantastic start! In literacy, we are studying "On the Origin of Species" by Sabina Radeeva. This wonderful book introduces concepts of evolution, adaptation, and natural selection, inspired by the work of Charles Darwin. So far, we have addressed common misconceptions about evolution, drawn inferences from images, and presented our findings on Darwin's life and contributions. The students have also created summaries of the main themes using the Book Creator app, showcasing their understanding in a creative way. In numeracy, we've been busy drawing line graphs and interpreting data. We've also explored averages, including mean, median, mode, and range. The class has been split into groups to tackle an exciting challenge with LEGO Spike, where they are creating and coding a quality check robot. This task has proven to be quite challenging, but the class has risen to the occasion with great enthusiasm! Our science lessons have been

Penallt Panto Players  
at Pelham Hall Present

**SNOW WHITE**  
and the Seven Dwarfs

5th Feb - 7th Feb 7:30pm  
Matinee 2pm Sat 7th Feb

Adult £12 16 and under £6  
Family Ticket (2 Adults + 2 Children) £30

For tickets go to [www.penallt.org.uk/panto26](http://www.penallt.org.uk/panto26)

NHS 111 Wales

**1112**

& PRESS OPTION

For urgent mental health support  
call 111 and press OPTION 2

Healthcare advice you can trust - 24 | 7

111.WALES.NHS.UK