Tonysguboriau Newsletter 11th September

Message from Mrs Harries

Welcome to the new school year at Tonysguboriau Primary School. It has been wonderful to see our pupils return to school. They have settled quickly into their new classes and routines, and I have been impressed with their attitudes to learning. Please take a moment to look through the diary dates in this newsletter, including our Meet the Teacher sessions, Open Evening and Macmillan Coffee Morning, as well as other important events planned for the term. I would also encourage you to visit our website to learn more about our school priorities for the year ahead and how they support our commitment to providing the very best learning experiences for all pupils. I look forward to working with pupils, parents, carers and staff throughout the coming academic year as we continue to learn, grow and succeed together as a school community.

School Development Priorties 2026 2027

A note from Mr. Blears

Shwmae!

Welcome back one and all. It has been lovely to see everyone at the gates. The children have adapted back quickly and have been straight into their learning. We have exciting events

coming up including our Meet the Teacher events next week. I look forward to talking to the parents in year 6 about our upcoming residential at the Meet the Teacher event.

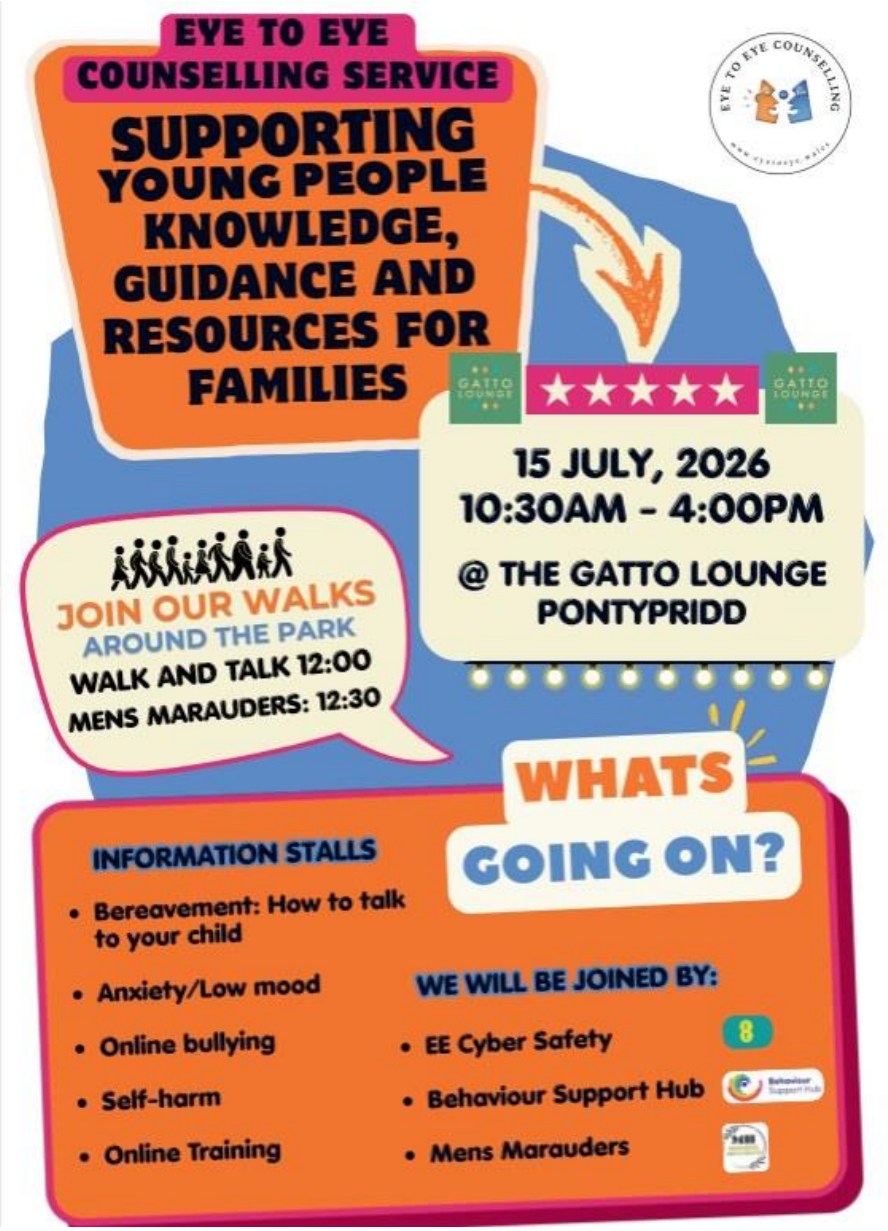
There are plenty of opportunities to pop in but please check the calendar at the bottom of the newsletter to find out some upcoming events.

Have a wonderful week and please continue to let us know about all your children's successes outside of school!

Meet the Teacher - Monday 14th September (KS2 - Year 3 to Year 6) and 16th September (Foundation Phase to Nursery - Year 2)

We hope all the children have had a good settling in period in their new classes and are now ready for challenges ahead. This year, we will be holding Meet the Teacher meetings on **Monday 14th September for KS2 (Year 3 to Year 6)** and **Wednesday 16th September for Foundation Phase (Nursery to Year 2).** You will have the opportunity to meet the teachers at 4:00pm, finishing at 4:30pm and the same session will be repeated at 4:30pm, ending at 5:00pm.These sessions will give you a chance to learn more about the year ahead, including topics, expectations, and other key information. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Eye to Eye Counselling



Love to read? Discover BorrowBox!

Here at Tonysguboriau, we are always looking for ways to encourage a love of reading and BorrowBox is a fantastic free resource that families can enjoy together.

BorrowBox gives children free access to a wide range of eBooks and audiobooks, including books in both English and Welsh. Whether your child enjoys exciting adventures, funny stories, favourite characters or discovering something new, there's something for every reader.

Sharing a story, listening to an audiobook on a journey, or spending just 10–15 minutes reading each day can help build confidence, develop vocabulary and inspire a lifelong love of books.

Why not explore BorrowBox together and see what you can discover? We hope it helps every child find books they love and encourages them to enjoy reading both at school and at home.

If you are not already a member of the library, you can join at Llantrisant Leisure Centre Library, where they will be happy to help you get started with BorrowBox and answer any questions.

Diolch,

Mrs Gill & Mrs English

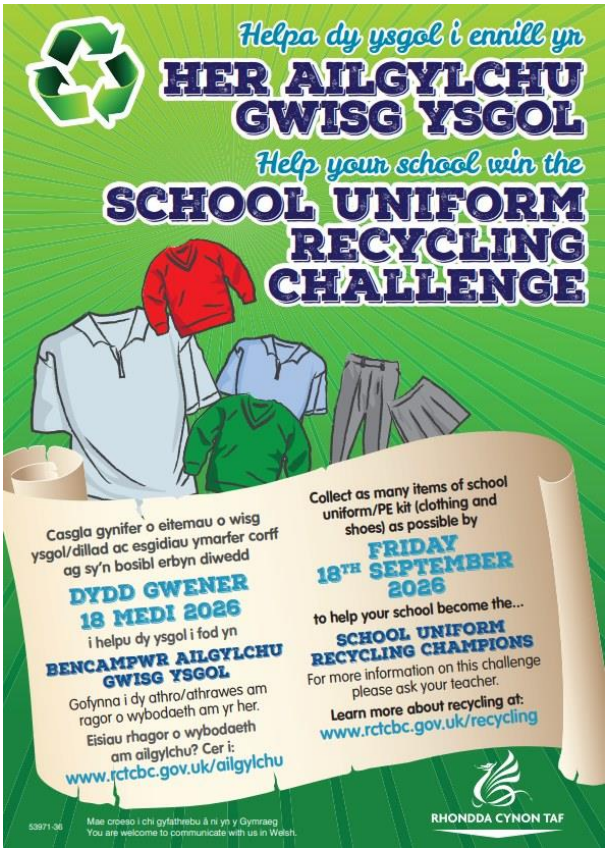
Active Travel Network Map

Rhondda Cynon Taf Council is undertaking a public consultation exercise on its Active Travel Network Map (ATNM).

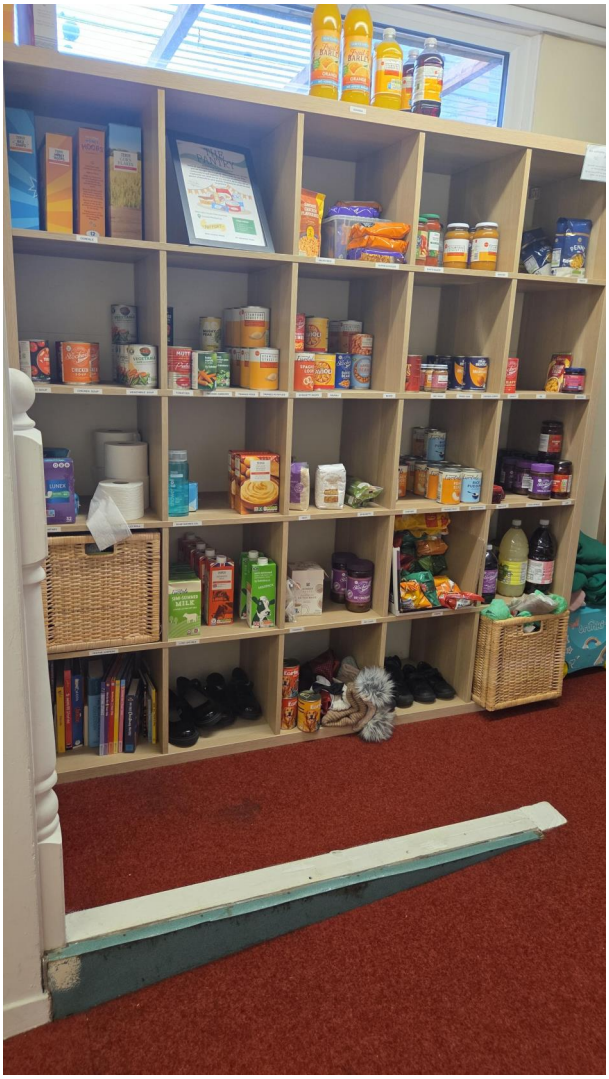
The Council would like to expand and improve the quality and provision of active travel routes throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf and we would welcome the views of pupils, staff and parents across schools and colleges.

Please fill out the following questionnaire: https://lets-talk.rctcbc.gov.uk/let-s-talk-active-travel

School Uniform Recycling Challenge



School Pantry



Don't forget we have a fantastic food pantry for you to access. We are looking for more families that may need to use this, please call in to the office no judgement at all, you can fill a bag to help you out. We understand the cost of living is difficult and we want to support where we can.

Just call in to the office and you are welcome to help yourselves, no judgment at all. We also have a uniform swap shop too!

Out and about with Tonysguboriau

This is a new section of our newsletter. We know that our children and parents get up to some very interesting things so we will try and showcase some of these experiences:

If you have any special events that you want to tell us about, please email Mr. Blears blearsb2@hwbcymru.net and we will put it in the next newsletter,

Tonysguboriau Stars



Thank you again for another wonderful year sharing your children's achievements. We take great delight in seeing everything that goes on.

A lot happens over the summer and we welcome more emails about all their achievements that go on during this time. Email blearsb2@hwbcymru.net with details and photos.

Any emails sent will be included in the next sway.

Wellbeing and Behaviour Strategy

We are committed to putting wellbeing at the centre of school life across Rhondda Cynon Taf. Our Strategic Plan for Wellbeing 2022–2025 focuses on supporting the mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing of all learners, staff and school communities.

To help us understand what is working well and what could be improved, we are asking parents and carers to complete this short consultation questionnaire. Your views will help shape the next stage of our wellbeing strategy and ensure future support meets the needs of local schools and families.

Your feedback will directly inform our planning and help us develop fair, effective and evidence-based approaches to wellbeing across the local authority.

Thank you for taking part—your voice is an important part of improving wellbeing for all.

The questionnaire takes around 10 minutes. There are no right or wrong answers—please share your honest views.

Parent/Carer Consultation (Wellbeing and Behaviour Strategy) –

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=urld5xeqAE6lTjrUN9dAnmAQb17veZ5NkF8rZSF8fjdUMUhFSkcxUDVWWFFQQUhXVTE5ME1BN01TVC4u

KS2 Choir Performance - SAVE THE DATE!



We are incredibly excited to share that on 13th November 2026, our school choir will be performing at Llantrisant Leisure Centre alongside Pendyrus Male Choir and Llantrisant Male Voice Choir. This is a fantastic opportunity for Tonysguboriau Primary School and promises to be a very special evening. If your child is currently in Year 2, they will have the opportunity to join the school choir when we return in September and, as a member of the choir, will be able to take part in this exciting event. I look forward to sharing more details with you in the new academic year. Diolch, Mrs Gill

Dosbarth Enfys

We have had a fantastic start to the school year in Nursery, and we are incredibly proud of how well all the children have settled into school life. Over the past two weeks, the children have adapted wonderfully to attending part-time and have been busy learning how to navigate the classroom, follow our daily timetable, and are becoming familiar with our routines and expectations. They have enjoyed exploring a variety of activities including water play, mark making, construction, and counting activities as part of our Journeys and Dreams topic. One area that has been particularly popular is our reading corner, where the children have shown a real love of books and stories. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm for story time, and they have all thoroughly enjoyed ending each day together with a story and milk time. As we continue through the term, we look forward to building on these positive beginnings and helping the children grow in confidence and independence.

As we move into Week 3, all children will be attending school from 8:50am until 1:00pm, unless alternative arrangements have been discussed and agreed with staff.

During this time, the children will enjoy having lunch at school. You may choose for your child to have a school-provided lunch, or you are welcome to send a healthy packed lunch from home.

Drop-off and collection will continue to take place at the Nursery/Reception door that we have been using since the start of term.

A few reminders for parents: PE takes place every Monday, and children should arrive at school already dressed in their PE kit. For health and safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn during PE, and we would like to remind parents that hooped earrings are not permitted in school at any time. Please also ensure that all clothing, shoes, water bottles, lunch boxes, and other personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name to help us return any misplaced items quickly.

We would also like to remind parents to ensure that snack payments are kept up to date. If you would like to send an additional snack into school, please refer to the termly newsletter sent last week, which contains a list of permitted snacks. Thank you for helping us to promote healthy choices and keep all children safe.

Thank you for your continued support as we begin what promises to be a wonderful year in Nursery.

Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/enfys

Dosbarth Gelert

Welcome back! The children are settling into Reception wonderfully and are enjoying getting to know the new staff, routines and experiences that come with starting their Reception year.

As you know, our learning this term is based around our topic, **Journeys and Dreams**. The children have already shown great enthusiasm for the activities and experiences linked to this theme.

In **Languages, Literacy and Communication**, we have begun our first writing journey based on the story *Mixed*. The children have really enjoyed listening to and retelling the story, sequencing pictures from the text and talking about themselves and their own unique qualities.

In **Mathematics and Numeracy**, we have been practising our counting skills and learning number songs, including *1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive* and *10 Fat Sausages Sizzling in a Pan*.

In **Topic**, we have been discussing daily routines, particularly bedtime routines, and learning about our school environment. We have enjoyed exploring the different rooms around the school and finding out about the people who help us. The children have also been very excited to explore our new role-play areas, including a cosy nighttime bedroom and an explorer's camping tent.

A few reminders for parents:

PE takes place every Tuesday. **Please ensure your child arrives at school wearing their PE kit.** For safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn on PE days, and we would also like to remind families that **hoop earrings are not permitted in school.**

Please make sure that all clothing, footwear, water bottles, lunch boxes and other belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps us to return misplaced items quickly and ensures children can easily identify their own belongings.

We would also like to remind parents to ensure that snack payments are kept up to date. If you would like to send an additional snack into school, please refer to the termly newsletter sent last week, which contains a list of permitted snacks. Thank you for helping us to promote healthy choices and keep all children safe.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs English

Dosbarth Dwynwen



Our topic this term is “Superheroes”. In literacy, we have started learning how to write a fact file. The children have also been developing their oracy skills by making predictions and sharing their opinions about our class book. In mathematics, we have been developing our understanding of place value by drawing and colouring given amounts and taking part in games to reinforce learning. During Shine Time, the children have been busy building their independence and are starting to understand how spots are completed throughout the day. We have begun selecting our classroom monitor roles, giving the children opportunities to take responsibility for helping to look after our classroom while developing a sense of belonging, responsibility and inclusion. To support our learning about the local community, we are planning a short community walk on Friday 25th September at 1:30pm. We would welcome any parent or carer volunteers who are available to accompany us. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs Boat. We would greatly appreciate your support. We have had a busy and positive start to the term and are looking forward to continuing our learning journey together.

Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/dwynwen/

Dosbarth Llewellyn



Our Learning This Term

Our topic this term is “Why is our community special and how has it changed?” We are hoping to take the children on a walk around our local community on Friday 18th September at 1:00pm to support their learning.

We are looking for parent/carer volunteers to join us, so please get in touch with Mrs Baylis if you are able to help. Your support would be very much appreciated.

Health and Well-being

We have selected our classroom monitor roles, helping us to share responsibility for looking after our classroom and promoting a sense of belonging, responsibility and inclusion. We have also been busy developing our independence during shine time, working hard to earn our shine spots.

Mathematics and Numeracy

We have been developing our understanding of place value. We have been representing and partitioning two-digit numbers into tens and ones using a range of practical resources, as well as developing our ability to count in 10s.

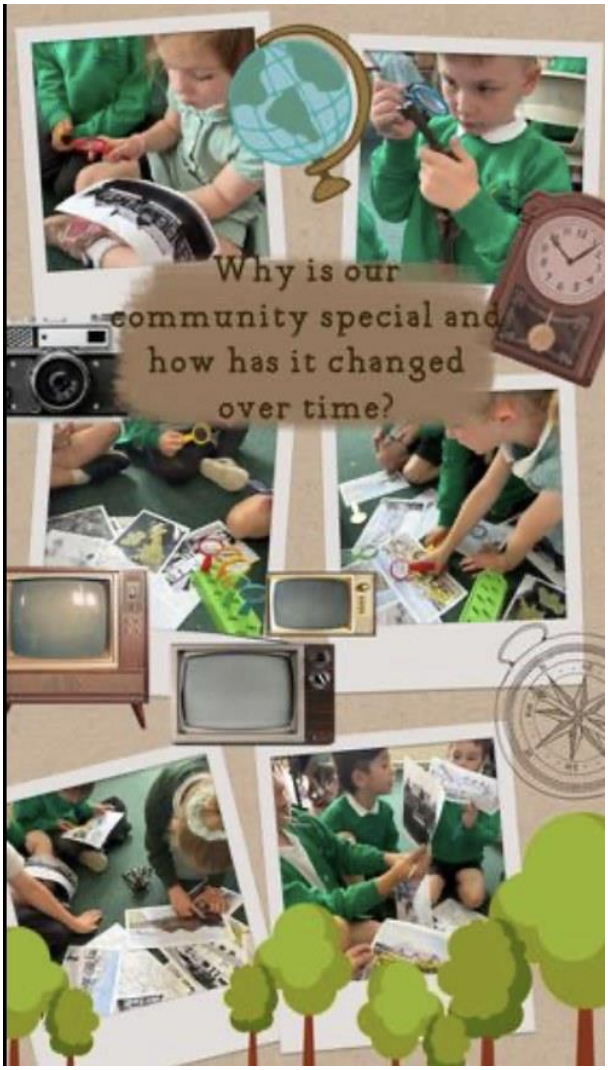
Languages, Literacy and Communication

We have started learning how to write a biography. The children have been developing their questioning skills by asking and answering questions to gather facts and information about another person.

Expressive Arts

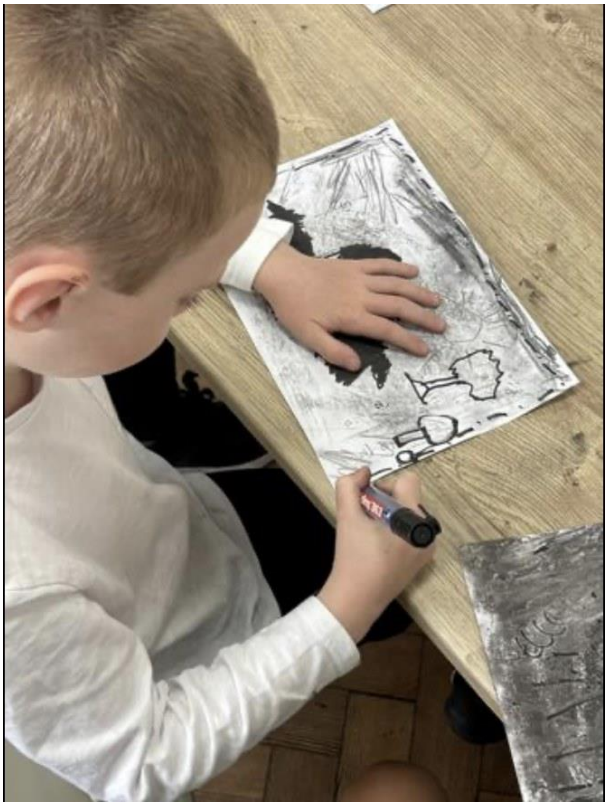
We have been learning about Nicola Large, a Welsh artist, and using her work to inspire our own artwork. The children have been creating artwork based on buildings and landmarks within our local community.

We have had a busy and positive start to the term and are looking forward to continuing our learning together!

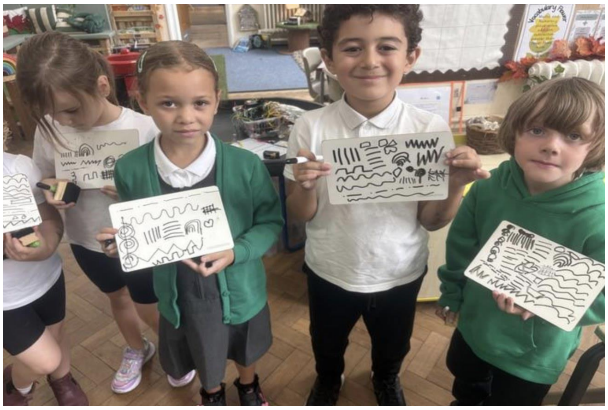

Why is our community special and how has it changed over time?

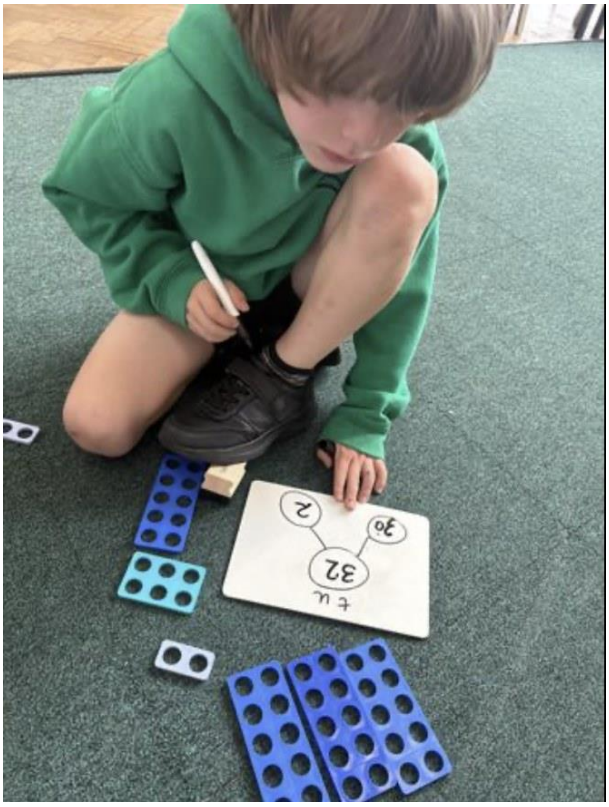











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30
2









Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/llewellyn/

Dosbarth Dewi Sant



It has been lovely welcoming the children back to school. They have settled into Year 3 beautifully and have adapted really well to the increased pace and expectations of their new year group. We are very proud of how positive and hardworking they have been during their first few weeks.

In Literacy, we have started our writing journey by exploring biographies. We have already learnt about the lives of David Attenborough and Charles Darwin, which links closely to our new topic, One Planet, Our World. Over the coming weeks, the children will be using their learning to write biographies of their own.

As part of our topic work, the children have been thinking about what makes Wales, Wales, helping them to remember and build on what they learnt last year. They also had a go at drawing what they thought a map of the world looked like before we began learning about the seven continents and five oceans. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and curiosity as they learn more about our world.

In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting multiples of 10 to and from 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. The children have worked hard and are growing in confidence with these skills.

You should already have received information about our exciting school trip to the National Botanic Garden of Wales. If you have not yet returned the permission slip, please do so as soon as possible.

Please remember to send in your child's book bag if you have not already done so. From next week, reading books will be sent home on Wednesdays and should be returned to school every Monday. Please listen to your child read at home as often as possible, as regular reading practice makes a huge difference to their confidence, fluency and understanding.

PE takes place every Thursday morning, so please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on this day.

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been focusing on settling into our new routines and creating a set of class rules together. The children have had some thoughtful discussions about how we can make our classroom a safe, happy and respectful place for everyone.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch (GillS279@hwbcymru.net).

Diolch,

Mrs Gill

Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/dewi-sant/

Dosbarth Y Ddraig Goch

Our Learning This Term

Our topic this term is called Castles and Kingdoms. In this history-based topic, children travel back to medieval Britain to discover what life was like during the age of castles, kings and kingdoms. They will learn about the Norman conquest, the development of castles and the role they played in protecting people and controlling land. The children will explore: Why castles were built and how they changed over time, The features of different types of castles, The lives of kings, queens, knights and ordinary people. Significant events from medieval history. How historians use evidence to learn about the past. We have already begun by looking at the story of the Bayeux Tapestry and researching by using different sources of information before we move on to look at how these times affected Wales and the world we live in today.

Health and Well-being

We have had great discussions in class about the best ways in which we can show our school values of empathy, respect, equality, responsibility, honesty, kindness and self-belief. We

have designed our own class charter (a set of class rules) with ways we can best display these behaviours and what we expect from our classmates. We have also been looking at the UN Rights of the child and how the children and adults in the school can support each other to achieve these aims.

Mathematics and Numeracy

We have been developing our understanding of place value by representing and partitioning four digit numbers in different ways using number discs, equations and number bond models to better understand the value of different digits. To practice some of what we have been learning about in class visit: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zh4skhv

Literacy, Languages and Communication

We have started learning how to write a biography using the story 'Mixed' by Aree Chung as our stimulus. We have looked at WAGOLL texts and identified the main features. We have hot-seated as characters learning how to use our imagination and developed our use of time-connectives and descriptive vocabulary in our writing.

We have had a very busy and very positive start to the term with excellent behaviour and some fantastic examples of learning in their books already.

Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/y-ddraig-goch/

Dosbarth Caradog

What a fantastic first week back! I have been incredibly impressed with how well the children have settled into Year 5. They have adapted brilliantly to new routines, shown positive attitudes towards their learning, and demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the week. It has been wonderful to see so many smiling faces, enthusiasm for learning, and children supporting one another as we begin our exciting year together.

Mathematics

In Maths, we have been focusing on place value with 5-digit numbers. The children have been exploring how numbers can be represented in different ways, including numerals, words, pictorial representations, and using manipulatives. They have worked hard to understand numbers such as **67,823**, learning how to read, write, represent (written, pictorally and using physical maths objects), and compare large numbers confidently.

Literacy

In Literacy, we have begun our new writing journey, which focuses on **biographies**. Throughout this unit, the children will learn about the key features of biography writing and develop their skills as non-fiction writers. At the end of the journey, they will write a biography about **Mae Jemison**, an inspirational astronaut, engineer, and the first African American woman to travel into space.

Topic

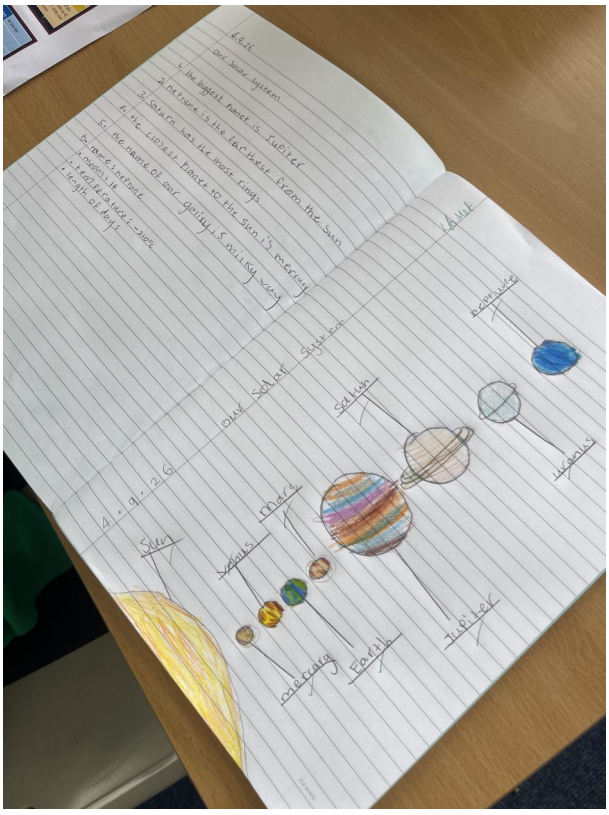
Our new topic, **Stargazers**, is already capturing the children's imaginations! This week, we have been learning about our solar system and exploring the relationship between the **Sun, Earth, and Moon**. Today, we finished the week by investigating why we experience day and night. Next week, we will continue our space exploration by learning about the **seasons** and the **phases of the Moon**.

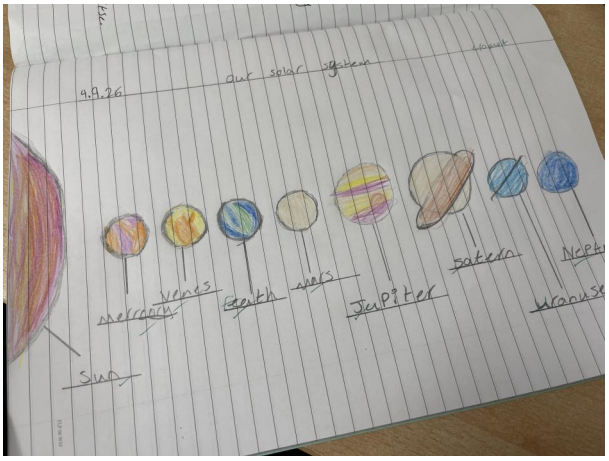
Reminders

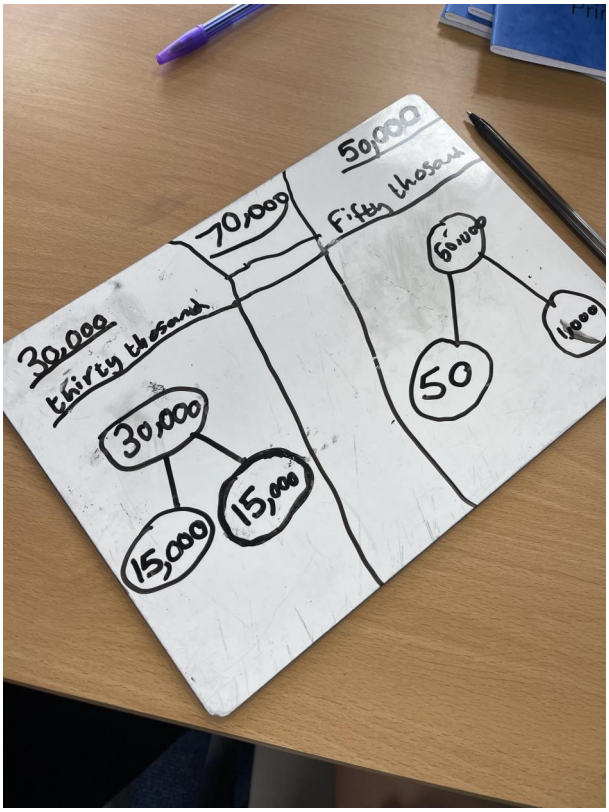
If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by email: aled.jones@tonysguboriauprimary.rctcbc.cymru

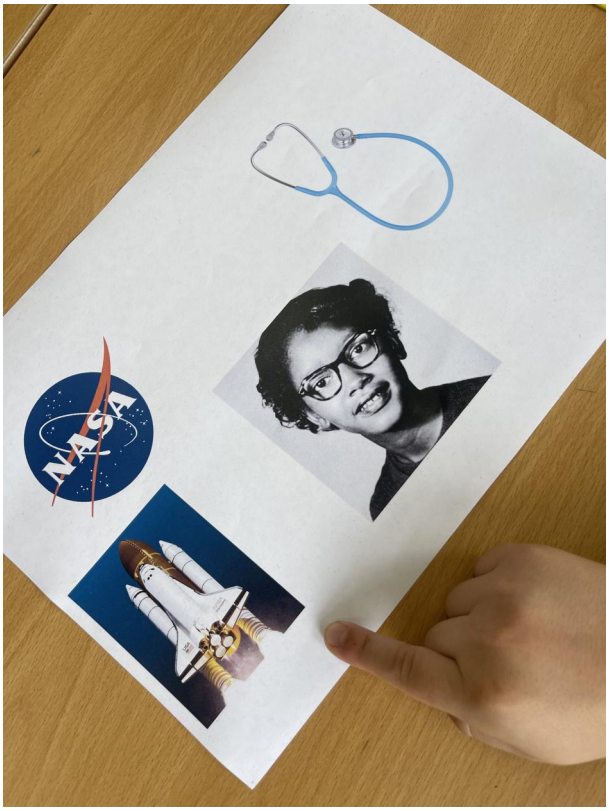
Swimming lessons begin next Thursday. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit and towel to school on the day.

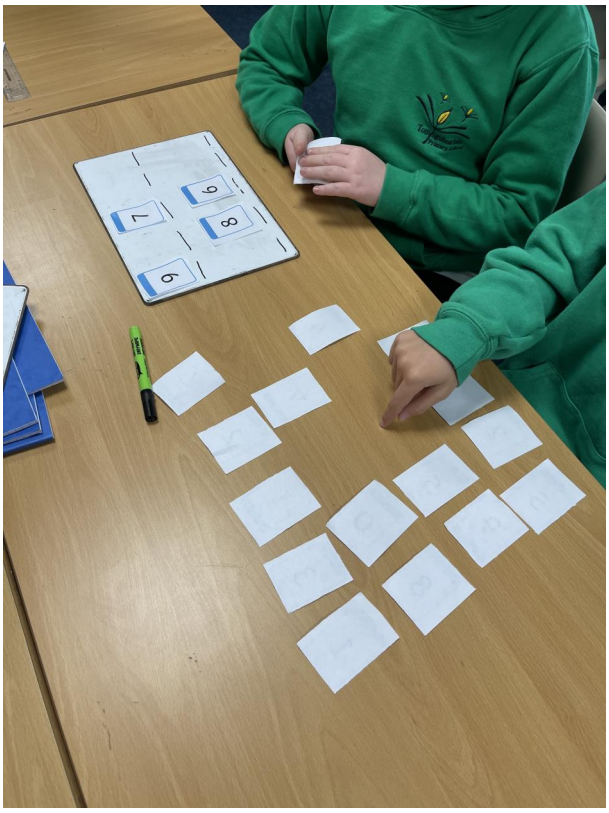
Thank you for your support, I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend!



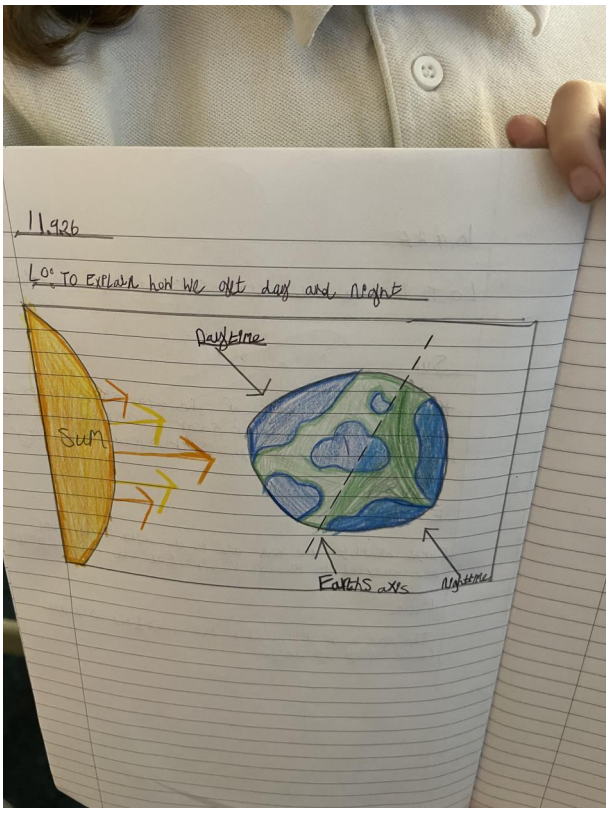

4.9.26
our solar system
Sun
Mercury
Venus
Earth
Mars
Jupiter
Saturn
Uranus


30,000
thirty thousand
70,000
50,000
Fifty thousand
30,000
15,000
15,000
50
6000
1000


NASA






11.9.26
LO: To Explain how we get day and night
Daytime
Sun
Earth's axis
Nighttime



Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/caradog/

My school email is larkinse8@hwbcymru.net.

Dosbarth Branwen

We have had a busy two weeks in Dosbarth Branwen, it has been lovely getting to know the class.

Literacy

In Literacy, we have been exploring autobiographies and identifying their key features. We have discussed how autobiographies are written, and how authors share important events from their lives.

We have also been reading and discussing our key text, 'Mixed', focusing on important themes such as diversity, equality and inclusion. As part of our learning, we have explored the lives and achievements of influential Black figures, including Nicola Adams and Nelson Mandela, and discussed how they have inspired positive change in the world.

Mathematics

In Maths, we have been working with numbers up to 1 million. We have been representing and partitioning large numbers and exploring different methods to help us understand place

value. The children have been developing their confidence in explaining their mathematical thinking and using a range of strategies to represent calculations.

Topic

In Topic, we have begun our new focus on Africa. The children have researched a variety of African countries, learning about their geography, culture and key facts. Using their research, each group created a fact file which they will be presenting to the rest of the class.

Health and Wellbeing

We have also explored how our school values can support us as we prepare for the transition to comprehensive school. The children reflected on how values such as respect, kindness, resilience and responsibility can help them build positive relationships, overcome challenges and approach new experiences with confidence.

Swimming lessons begin next Thursday. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit and towel to school on the day.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Larkins

Keep up to date with what's going on by visiting our class page - https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/branwen/

Dates for the diary



2nd September 2026 - School Starts

14th September - Year 3 - 6 meet the teacher

16th September - Reception to Year 2 meet the teacher

6th October - Fluoride varnishing for Nursery to Year 2

7th October - Year 5 and 6 Residential Information Session

15th October - Shwmae Day (Wear red, white or green)

19th October - 24th October - Scholastic Book Fair

19th October - Open Evening (3:30pm - 6:00pm)

20th October - Flu Immunisation

26th October - Half-term

13th November - Children in Need Day

16th November - INSET day

16th November - Anti-Bullying Week

27th November - Panto - Year 1 - 6 (in school)

7th December - Christmas Performance Week

10th December - Christmas Jumper Day

18th December - Break up for Christmas