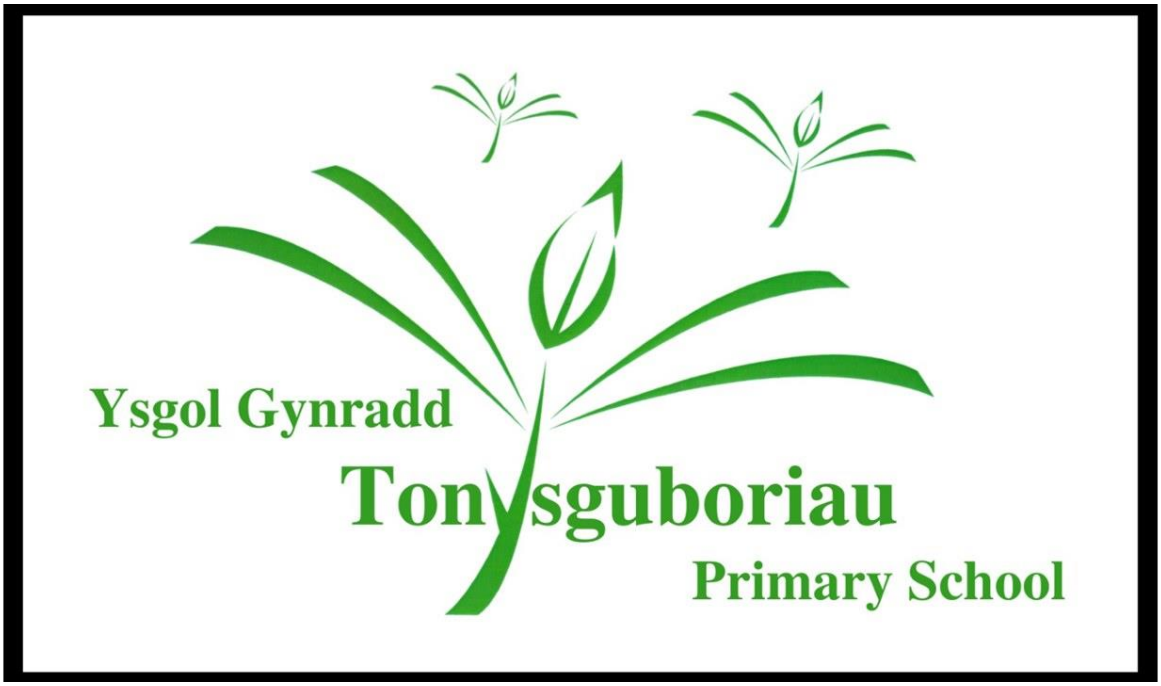
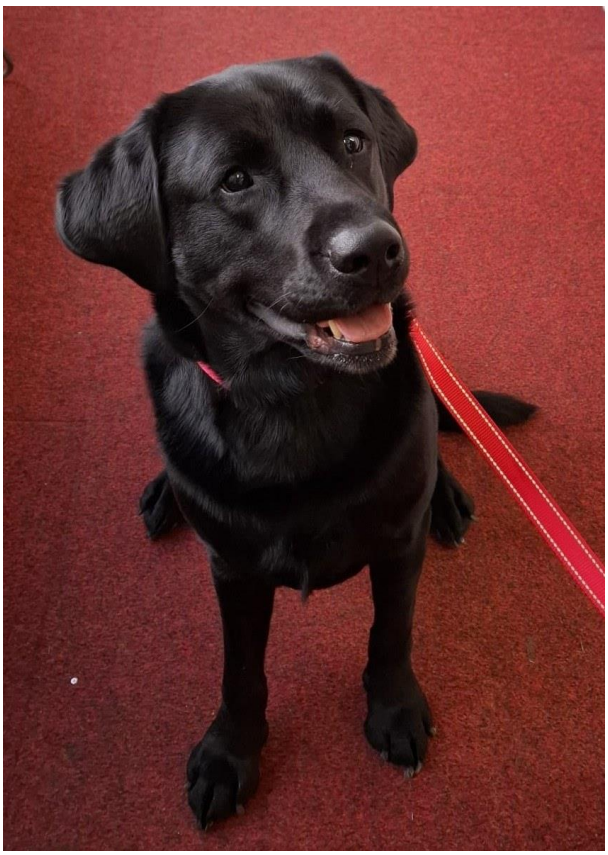


Tonysguboriau Newsletter 12th September

Message from the headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to the new school year at Tonysguboriau Primary School. It's wonderful to see our pupils back and full of enthusiasm, and we extend a special welcome to families joining us for the first time. Over the summer, we've made some exciting improvements to our school environment.

Our Key Stage 2 pupils are especially proud of their new lockers, which help them feel very grown up and responsible. We're also incredibly grateful to Mr Hussey for his hard work in enhancing the Key Stage 2 areas—his efforts have made a real difference to the learning spaces.

We're also thrilled to introduce a new member of the Tonysguboriau Team: Milo, our Wellbeing Dog. Milo is already making a positive impact, bringing comfort, joy, and a calming presence to our pupils throughout the day.

We look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and strong partnerships with our families.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Harries





Update from the Deputy

Good evening all,

I hope you've all enjoyed a fulfilling six-week holiday. It has been a pleasure speaking with many of your children about the fun experiences they've had, both at home and abroad.

I feel truly privileged to have worked at Tonysguboriau since joining a year ago. The dedication of our teaching staff shines through in everything they do, but it's our community that is the true star of the team. The commitment of our PTA and the contributions from across the area help us go from strength to strength. I'm looking forward to a fun-filled year with our whole school community involved.

This past week, our clubs have resumed, and it's been wonderful to see football, netball, and chess taking place. We'll continue to offer a wide range of activities after the Autumn break and well into the Summer term.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at blearsb2@hwbcymru.net

Stay safe and have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. Blears

Meet The Teacher

Good afternoon all, We hope you've had a wonderful six weeks and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. This year, we will be holding Meet the Teacher meetings on 15th September. 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. We encourage that children do not attend.

House Captains



Congratulations to our new House Captains for our 2025-26 year. The children had to give a speech in front of the class and It was voted for by their peers. They prepared excellently and spoke passionately about supporting younger pupils, encouraging others and leading by example.

Survey from the PTA

Tonysguboriau PTA, would like some feedback on their events from the past year. The survey ranges from rating their communication with our school community to your preferences on

the cost/how you pay for items at events. The PTA have put on some really fabulous events last year and they are looking at improving on this further with your support.

Follow this link to complete the survey: https://forms.gle/NfDZqfujmsKggCXk9

Macmillan Coffee Morning



On Fri 3rd October, we will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning hosted by the student council and PTA. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible for a coffee and cake.

More details will be announced closer to the time.

Download the new MCAS app today!



Hopefully, by now you have had a link to download the new My Child at School App. If you haven't or are unable to access it for any reason please contact the office on admin@tonysguboriauprimary.rctcbc.cymru or pop in to see Mrs Tanner

What Does This Mean for Parents?

The My Child At School (MCAS) app, is available on both the Play Store (for Android) and the App Store (for iPhone). We need all parents to download the app so that we can fully switch from all other forms of communication to the app. In September we will no longer be

sending texts/emails all communication will come through the app so please download it as soon as possible and spread the word to other parents too!

Until the switch, we will continue using the Teachers to Parents system. There is currently a small overlap period, but we will keep you informed about all changes.

Key Features of the MCAS App:

- Standard communication features
- Permissions management
- Attendance tracking
- Absence reporting
- School reports
- Parents evening bookings
- School trip payments
- Absence notification
- Behaviour reporting
- And more

This transition will be gradual, but it aims to streamline all communication for schools in RCT. Importantly, both primary and secondary schools will use the same system, making it easier for parents with children in different schools to manage everything through one app.

Thank you for your cooperation, support and patience during this exciting change.

MY CHILD AT SCHOOL

BENEFITS OF THE APP FOR PARENTS



- Check attendance
- View behaviour
- Monitor homework
- Receive messages

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Healthy Snacks



1 - Please see the simplified groups of snacks that will be allowed from Monday 15th.

Smoking/vaping on school grounds

We would like to kindly remind all families that **smoking and vaping are strictly prohibited on school property**, including the playground, car park, and all surrounding areas.

This policy is in place to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all children, staff, and visitors. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a smoke-free and vape-free school.

After School Clubs



Pipyn



PIPYN aims to support children (aged 3-7 years) and their families make healthy choices in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda and Taff Ely.

They hope to help as many young children and families in RCT areas to access free support around building healthy family habits. PIPYN includes topics such as eating healthier on a

budget, meal planning, affordable food, good shopping habits, healthy recipes, screen time, active play, family play and much more!

PIPYN families will be offered a package of interactive, fun family sessions tailored to your needs.

If you have children age 3-7 years please use the QR code above to sign up as classes start at the school in September

Good To Be Green



Children will receive a bronze certificate for 50 stars, a silver certificate for 60 and for achieving 65 stars, they will receive a gold certificate and a special Christmas treat.

See the below image to learn how to see your child's stars using J2E on the HWB.

How to use JIT stars

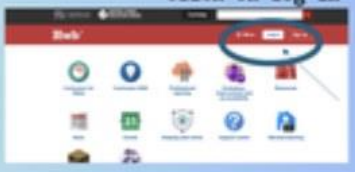
1 Google

Go to Google and type in hwb



2 login

click on log in



3 username and password

Put in your child's username, click next, then put in password and click next.

REMEMBER

Passwords are CASE SENSITIVE



4 J2E



Click on J2E.

5 J2 stars-

Click on J2 stars to see how many days your child has been on 'Good to be Green.'



Tonysguboriau Stars





Marlowe, has now moved into stage 2 class of swimming! She enjoys swimming under water the most and is doing so well that she was awarded a certificate for her great swimming!

At Tonysguboriau, we love to celebrate all children's achievements. There are some achievements that we don't get to see that happen outside of school. Please send in photos and details of any achievements that your children have outside of school so that we can post them here and celebrate them with our community. Email blearsb2@hwbcymru.net with details and photos.

Any emails sent will be included in the next sway.

Dosbarth Dwynwen



Croeso nol! Welcome back!

It's been a joy to welcome the children into our class. They've settled in well and are already becoming familiar with our daily routines. As part of building our classroom community, the children have worked together to create their own expectations for behaviour, which we've proudly displayed in our Class Charter. We've also been discussing the idea of *belonging*—what it means to be part of a family, a class, our school and community, helping the children to understand the importance of kindness and respect.

A key focus this term is to develop the children's independence, encouraging them to take responsibility for their belongings and make choices in their learning. Alongside this, we've been enjoying time in our woodlands, exploring nature and collecting *Autumn treasures* such as colourful leaves, conkers, and acorns.

It's been such a super start, and we're looking forward to all the learning and adventures still to come.

We have our 'Meet the teacher' sessions on Monday if you have any queries. Also, please do not hesitate to get in touch directly with Mrs Baylis.

BaylisE13@hwbcymru.net

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

Dosbarth Llewellyn



Croeso nôl! Welcome back!

The children have settled beautifully into their Year 1/2 class and have had a fantastic start to the term. Over the past fortnight, we've been busy creating our new class charter and agreeing on rules that help everyone learn happily and safely. In **Languages, Literacy and Communication**, we've begun our first writing journey—learning to write factfiles about ourselves and people we know well, inspired by the story *The Smeds and the Smoos*. In **Mathematics and Numeracy**, we've been practising accurate counting and making sets of given numbers through drawing and hands-on activities. Our new topic, **Our Wonderful World**, has sparked lots of excitement! We've started exploring maps, directions, and compass points, and the children are loving it.

Just a quick reminder to please label all belongings so we can return anything that gets misplaced. **P.E. is on Mondays**, and **Forest School** sessions (on a rota basis) take place on **Fridays**. I'm really looking forward to seeing many of you at **Meet the Teacher** on Monday, where I'll share more about what's ahead this year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to me at the door, email me or use the 'Contact Mrs English form' on our class page of the school website (see link below).

Many thanks,

Mrs English

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

Dosbarth Dewi Sant



Croeso nol! Welcome back!

I hope your children have enjoyed their first couple of weeks in Year 2. We have been busy creating our class charter and devising rules on how to ensure our class feel safe and happy in school. In literacy, we have been learning how to write an autobiography using the story *The Smeds and the Smoos*. In maths, we have been exploring numbers up to 100. We have also started our new topic, Explorers, looking at London and comparing it with Talbot Green. P.E. is on Wednesday and Friday afternoons, so please make sure your child has their kit, and with the rainy weather, don't forget to send coats in. I look forward to seeing you on Monday for the Meet the Teacher session, where I can share more information about the year ahead.

If you need anything, you can email me at 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

We've had a fantastic start to the new school year, and all the children have settled brilliantly into the routines of Year 3 and life in the junior part of the school.

In English, we've begun our first writing journey focused on biographies. The children have been exploring what makes a great biography and have even taken part in some fun hot-seating activities—interviewing each other as famous people like David Attenborough and Marcus Rashford to practise asking and answering questions.

In maths, we've been working on place value and learning how to order numbers up to 1000.

Our new topic, *Gods and Mortals*, has also begun! The children are diving into the fascinating world of Ancient Greece, discovering what life was like and learning about myths, gods, and heroes.

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

Dosbarth Caradog

Welcome to Year 4!

We've had a fantastic start to the new school year, and the children have already been busy exploring our exciting topic based on Mountains and Rivers. They have enjoyed creating informative posters about a Welsh mountain, plotting famous mountains on world maps, and even making beautiful pastel mountain artwork while listening to music for inspiration.

In Maths, we've been practising place value using Dienes blocks, and had a little fun (and trouble!) writing some answers straight on the tables! In English, we've been learning about biographies, focusing on inspiring figures such as Tori James and Sir Edmund Hillary.

PE has been all about developing ball skills and completing fun hoop challenges to improve coordination and teamwork.

It's been a brilliant start, and I can't wait to share more of our learning with you as the term continues!

My contact details have changed, please feel free to contact me using larkinse8@hwbcymru.net.

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

Dosbarth Branwen

Croeso nôl! Welcome back to what promises to be a lively and enriching term in Year 5. The first two weeks have flown by, and it's been a real pleasure getting to know your children, their interests, their curiosity, and what excites them about learning.

As part of our new topic, the children have generated a fantastic list of inquiry questions to guide our exploration. I've also been in touch about two potential trips this term: one to Bryn Pica, where we'll learn about food waste and how it's repurposed We're also looking forward to a visit from Welsh Water, who will help us understand the impact of climate change and how everyday actions, like what we pour down the sink, can have far-reaching effects.

In maths, we've been working on place value with five-digit numbers, practising ordering and problem-solving. In literacy, our focus is biographical writing, with pupils developing key skills such as using relative clauses, discourse markers, and converting verbs to the past tense.

Our topic work has centred around plant propagation and composting. Pupils have applied their learning by creating informative PowerPoint presentations and engaging in hands-on activities.

All Pupil Voice groups have now met and launched their new action plans. As Health and Wellbeing Lead, I was especially impressed by the thoughtful applications and interviews. Our new Wellbeing Warriors have made a brilliant start, as have the other groups—they're already making a positive impact across school life.

Just a quick reminder: P.E. is on Tuesdays, and school swimming lessons begin next Thursday. Please ensure children bring their swimming costume, towel, and goggles.

Finally, we're holding our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on Monday. If you have any questions about the year ahead, I'd love to chat with you then.

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

Dosbarth Gelert

Welcome back to a busy Autumn Term in Year 6. It has been a great first two weeks of learning across the curriculum in Dosbarth Gelert looking at place value of seven digit numbers, biographies using complex sentences and learning more about our world including mapping and time zones. A well done to all our Year 6 pupil voice leaders on being elected to their new positions and to our newly elected House Captains who spoke so excellently during their presentations about supporting younger pupils, encouraging others and leading

by example. A reminder that our P.E. day is Monday, and school swimming lessons will start next week on Thursday. Don't forget swimming costumes, towel and goggles.

We have our 'Meet the teacher' sessions on Monday if you have any questions about the year.

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

A message from the office



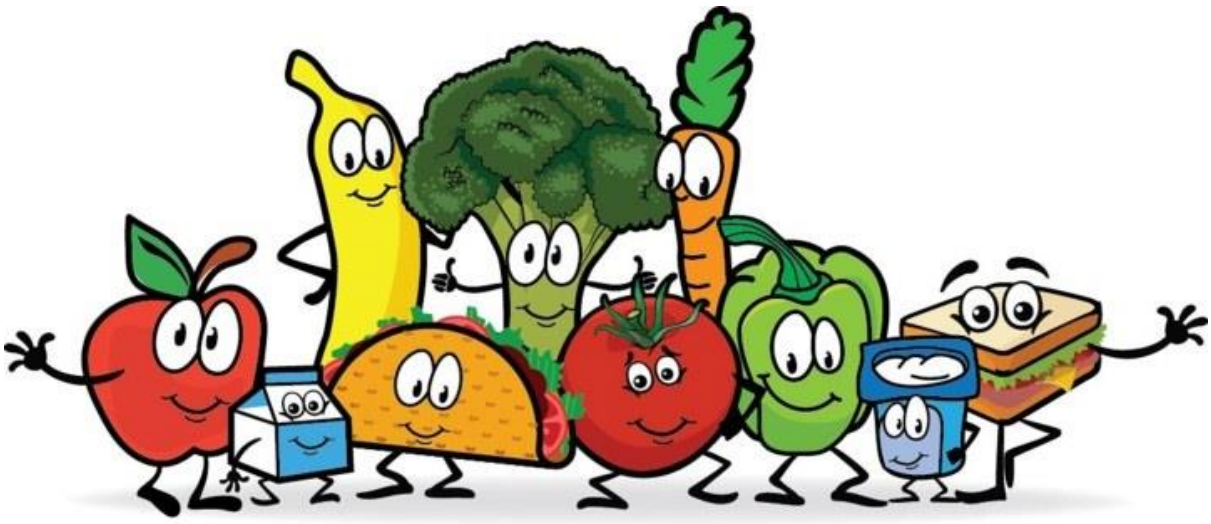
Please go on to the MCAS app and check all of your details are correct and up to date. Please add in any missing fields. If there has been a change of address change please let Mrs Tanner know in the school office.

We have been updating our website with all the calendar dates - don't forget to subscribe to this calendar so that it merges with your most commonly used calendar on your phones.

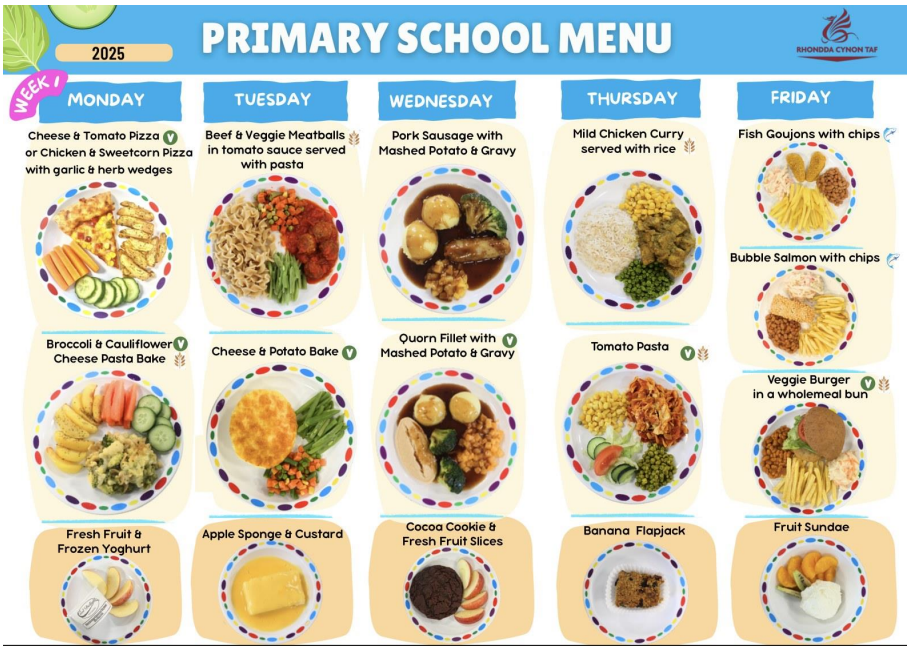
Also, please check our afterschool clubs page for information on these as it will be changing termly this year. If children are interested they can pop along and try it out.

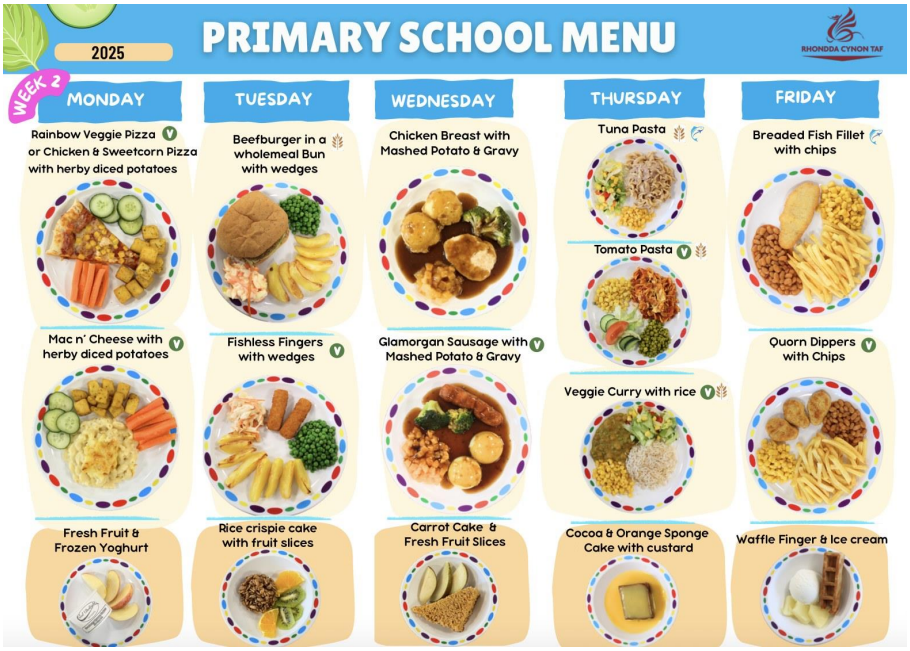
You can also now notify us of your child's absence via the MCAS app if you would prefer.

PRIMARY MENU-ENGLISH AND WELSH 2025



We now have an amazing photograph menu produced by catering services. This is great to share with your little ones to help them decide on their meal choice.





Dates



Important Dates

Tues 9th September PIPYN Courses start - please sign up

Mon 15th September - Meet the teacher

Tues 16th September - Urdd After School Clubs start for Y2/3/4

Thurs 25th September - Y6 Y Pant Open Evening

Fri 26th September - European Day of Languages

Mon 29th September - School Photos

Wed 1st October - Flu Vaccine N-Y6

Fri 3rd October - Macmillan Coffee Morning

Wed 15th October - Shwmae Day

Fri 17th October - Wear Red for Racism

Thurs 23rd October - Spooky Disco

Fri 24th October - Last day of term

INSET DAYS for 2025/2026

Monday 1st September

Friday 14th November / Monday 17th November (long weekend)

Friday 22nd May

Monday 20th July 2026

There may be one additional day but we will let you know once this is arranged