Tonysguboriau Newsletter 1st May

Message from Mrs Harries



We are delighted to introduce Maggie, our newest addition to the team for the summer term. She has made a very positive start and has quickly become a firm favourite with our

pupils, who have really enjoyed working alongside her. As many of you will know, dogs can have a wonderfully calming and supportive effect on pupils, helping to promote wellbeing and engagement across the school day.

Next week, you may notice that I am not on the gate as usual, as I will be visiting another school as part of my work with Estyn. I leave Tonysguboriau Primary in the very capable hands of Mr Blears and the wider team, and I know the school will continue to run smoothly in my absence.

We hope you all have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend.

Best Wishes

Mrs Harries

Update from Mr Blears

Shwmae pawb,

Mrs. Harries and I could not believe how quickly time is passing. We are already in May and end of year is in sight. There is a lot of excitement with our final residential of the year coming up and more Eisteddfod fun at Y Pant this week with our choir.

We have had some lovely days of sunshine and a special thank you to Mr. Hussey for sorting the KS2 playgrounds equipment. We now have zoned areas with equipment. We now have equipment for reffing matches both in basketball and football.

Have a great weekend and stay safe.

Mr. Blears

Dafydd Hargreaves



We were deeply saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Dafydd Hargreaves, a former pupil of Tonysguboriau Primary School, at just 19 years of age. Dafydd attended our school alongside his two siblings and is remembered fondly by staff, who have been sharing their memories and stories of his time with us. His passing has been felt across our community and also at our neighbouring school, Penygawsi, where his mother works. We know this is an incredibly difficult time for his family, and our thoughts and heartfelt condolences are with them.

Preparing for Warmer Summer Weather



As we move into the summer term, we are beginning to experience warmer and sunnier weather. To help keep children comfortable and safe during the school day, we kindly ask for your support with the following:

- **Sun protection:** Please ensure your child has sun cream applied **before coming to school**, especially on sunny days. Staff are unable to apply sun cream unless specific arrangements have been made. A named sun hat is also recommended for outdoor activities.
- **Clothing:** Children are welcome to wear **shorts in warm weather**. If wearing shorts or lycra-style legging shorts, these should be an appropriate length and **cover most of the thigh**, in line with our school uniform expectations.
- **Hydration:** Please send your child to school with a named water bottle each day so they can stay hydrated.

Please see the school's uniform policy for further information:

https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/tonysguboriau-primary-school/UploadedDocument/ce69211d-87ea-4105-bdbd-f48d15276256/school-uniform-policy.pdf

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe, comfortable, and ready to enjoy the summer term.

Smart Watches in School



As part of our **safeguarding procedures**, we would like to remind parents that **smart watches are not permitted in school**.

Watches that only record steps or tell the time are allowed, however, **any watch with additional functions** — such as **communication (calls or messages), cameras, audio recording, or internet access** — is **not allowed**.

If a watch with these functions is brought into school, it will be **kept securely in the school office during the day** and **returned to your child at the end of the school day**.

https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/tonysguboriau-primary-school/UploadedDocument/14894230-ff14-463b-9863-8a5c3d5cbaa2/mobile-phone-policy.pdf

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all children safe.

🌼 Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge! 🌼

Last week, we completed our Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge. It was another great success and we were able to award so many wrist bands!

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to boost attendance heading into summer and we will announcing one more challenge in the coming term.

Criw Cymraeg News



Last week, we welcomed the Criw Cymraeg from Penygawsi to our school as part of our journey towards achieving the Gold Award. It was a brilliant morning full of teamwork, collaboration and shared ideas. We were proud to show them some of the fantastic things we've accomplished since earning our Silver Award in 2024, and they gave us plenty of inspiration to keep moving forward.

One of our main focuses at the moment is bringing the Welsh language out of the classroom and onto the yard. The Criw Cymraeg from Penygawsi taught us some of the playground games they use, and we've been working with our play leaders to introduce these to our own pupils. So far, the children have loved getting involved.

In a couple of weeks, we'll be turning our attention to Diwrnod Seren a Sbarc, which takes place on Friday 15th May. Lots of exciting things ahead.

Good To Be Green



The new term has started and a new Good To Be Green challenge has started. Children will receive:

- A bronze certificate for 40 stars
- A silver certificate for 50 stars
- A gold certificate and a special Easter treat for 58

We have changed that children no longer lose a star when they are on holiday.

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

How to use JIT stars

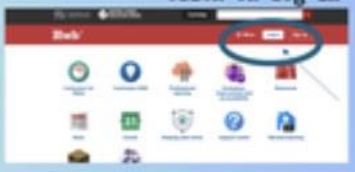
1 Google

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





Flo has been working hard and passed her Ju Jitsu grading over half term. She achieved her red belt! Gwaith da!



Emyr competed in the Swansea Harriers U12 Boys long jump competition on Sunday 12th April and came 2nd out of 9 competitors, his best jump being 3.79m.

He also competed in the South & East Wales Junior Development Event for Athletics in Aberdare this Saturday 18th April and came:

1st out of 29 U12 Boys in the 100m, doing it in 14.8 seconds.

2nd out of 30 U12 Boys in the 200m, doing it in 31.1 seconds.

4th out of 34 U12 boys in the long jump, his best jump being 3.62m (his best jump was actually 3.8m but disallowed on a dodgy technicality apparently)



Alwyn has had player of the week at football twice in the last 3 weeks and scored 4 goals this week.

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.

VE Day school menu is Friday 8th May!

RHONDDA CYNON TAF

PICNIC DIWRNOD VE

DIWRNOD VE - CYNRADD - DYDD GWENER 8FED MAI 2026

Dewis o Frechdanau Llenwi 50% Grawn Cyflawn (Glwten, Soia)
*(*Bara Di-glwten ar gael)* (wyau)
gyda Ham,
Caws, (Llaeth)
**Caws fegan*
neu Tiwna Mayo (Pysgod, Wyau)
wedi'i weini gyda salad

Sbwng Fictoria, (Glwten, Wyau, Llaeth, Soia)
neu
**Cacen Di-Glwten Just Love* (wyau)
neu
Mango Sorbet
neu
Darn o Ffrwyth



V Llysieuol
VE Fegan

**Mae'r cynnyrch hwn ar gyfer disgyblion sydd gyda deiet arbennig*

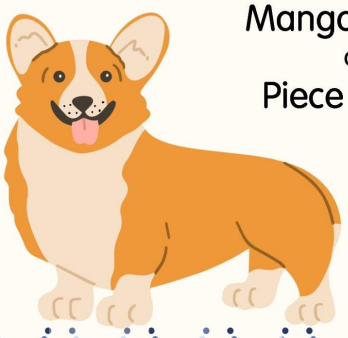
RHONDDA CYNON TAF

VE DAY PICNIC

PRIMARY - VE DAY - FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2026

A Choice of 50% Wholegrain Filled Sandwich (Gluten, Soya) VE
*(*Gluten-free Bread available)* (Egg) V
with Ham,
Cheese, (milk) V
**Vegan Cheese* VE
or Tuna Mayo (Fish, Egg)
Served with a side salad VE

Victoria Sponge, (Gluten, Egg, Milk, Soya) V
or
**Just Love Gluten-free Fairy Cake* (Egg) V
or
Mango Sorbet VE
or
Piece of Fruit VE





V Vegetarian

VE Vegan

**This product is for pupils requiring a special diet.*

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

Dosbarth Dwynwen



In Language, we have been exploring our new genre, narrative, focusing on the story of *The Magic Paintbrush*. The children have been identifying and describing characters, including

their appearance, qualities, and emotions. They have also been contributing enthusiastically to shared writing activities.

In Maths, we have been learning about “more” and “less,” as well as collecting and sorting data. The children have been discussing their findings using appropriate mathematical vocabulary.

In Topic, we have been exploring compass directions and using prepositional language through outdoor learning in the woodlands. The children have created their own maps and taken turns leading activities, giving instructions in “follow the leader” games. We also made our own compasses to support this learning.

Also, we have been learning about healthy lifestyles, including balanced diets. We had a visit from a dental hygienist, who applied fluoride and reinforced the importance of brushing our teeth regularly. The children have also been learning about food origins and developing their understanding of the differences between plants and animals.

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

Dosbarth Llewellyn



We have had a busy and productive fortnight in class, with the children showing so much enthusiasm for their learning.

LLC

In literacy, the children have been working on retelling stories. We have focused on understanding that stories have a clear beginning, middle and end, and using storytelling language to make their writing more engaging. The children have also been practising extending their sentences using *and* and *because* to add detail and explain their ideas more clearly.

The children have already planned their retell of *The Magic Paintbrush*, which they will be writing next week. We are very much looking forward to reading their finished pieces and seeing how they bring their plans to life.

M&N

In maths, last week the children learned about direction and movement. They practised describing turns using the language of clockwise and anticlockwise, as well as quarter turns, half turns, and three-quarter turns.

This week, we have moved on to mental addition strategies. The children have been using counting on and spotting patterns such as number bonds and doubles to help them add three single-digit numbers together. They have worked hard to choose efficient strategies and explain their thinking.

Topic Work

As part of our topic work on animals, the children have created animal collages, carefully considering textures and the different parts of animals. They also sorted animals by their bodies and characteristics, for example, animals that lay eggs and those that do not, and animals with fur and those without. In music, the children learned about pitch and dynamics. They explored loud and soft sounds, as well as high and low pitch, and enjoyed sorting animals by the sounds they make. This helped them make links between music and their topic learning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. The children have worked very hard and continue to show curiosity and enjoyment in their learning.

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

Dosbarth Dewi Sant



In Year 2, we've had another couple of busy and exciting weeks. We have finished our news reports, and I have to say they were amazing. The children really enjoyed reporting on the well-known story of Little Red Riding Hood and showed great creativity and enthusiasm in their writing.

We have now started a new writing journey using The Magic Paintbrush as our focus text. Over the next few weeks, the children will be writing their own stories, concentrating on descriptive language and including a clear beginning, middle and ending, with a build-up to the main event.

In maths, we have been enjoying learning how to multiply. The children have explored lots of different ways to help them check their answers, including using blocks, Magnatiles, fingers and drawing groups on whiteboards. We have also been learning that multiplication is commutative, so if 2 x 3 = 6, then 3 x 2 = 6 too.

In topic, we have been learning about buoyancy and why certain materials sink or float. We discovered that foil was the best material for building class boats, so next week we will be making our own. We have really been enjoying our Land Ahoy topic so far. The children have also been sketching shells and other beach items. If you are visiting the beach over the bank holiday weekend, we would be very grateful for any interesting items you could collect for

our sensory tray. Also, if you have any bubble wrap or plastic bags please bring them in as we will be making Jelly Fish to show the damage of plastic to our environment.

In Welsh, we have been talking about books we like and dislike, with the children giving reasons for their opinions. They continue to thoroughly enjoy our Helpwr Heddiw sessions.

In ICT, we have been learning about how technology can make us feel. Please continue to talk with your children about staying safe online and remind them that if they ever see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable, they should tell a trusted adult, including myself or Miss Cross.

There are lots of exciting things to look forward to. We have provisionally booked our trip to Barry Beach and I am just waiting for final confirmation before sending further details by email. We will also be starting our Sports Day practice very soon.

If you have any questions, please get in touch.

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



It has been a busy and exciting two weeks in Year 3!

Last week, the children enjoyed bringing together everything they learned in our previous topic, Rocks, Relics and Rumbles. The week was packed with creative activities as the children worked hard to present their learning in fun and engaging ways. I was especially proud of their efforts during our museum showcase, where they confidently shared their work and talked to the visitors. For any families who were unable to attend, a short walk-around video has been shared to our schools YouTube channel so you can still enjoy their fantastic creations. https://www.youtube.com/shorts/t4JurTDMEak

In Maths, we have continued learning how to multiply 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers and have begun solving reasoning and word problems. The children are developing confidence in applying their maths skills to real-life situations and explaining their thinking clearly. E.g. *there are 52 cards in each pack of playing cards. How many cards are there in 6 packs of playing cards?*

In Literacy, we started a new writing journey based on traditional stories with a moral, focusing on *The Magic Paintbrush*. This week, the children took part in hot-seating activities to develop their speaking and listening skills and deepen their understanding of the

characters. They have been practising writing in the past tense and using adjectives to add more detail to their writing.

We have also launched our brand-new topic, Scrumdiddlyumptious, which explores food, health, nutrition, where food comes from, and how it helps our bodies grow and stay healthy. The children began by sharing what they already know and what they would like to learn. We then learned about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores, explored the Eatwell Guide, and sorted different foods into the correct groups while discussing the importance of a balanced diet.

A great start to our new topic, enjoy your bank holiday weekend and we're looking forward to another exciting week ahead!

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

Dosbarth Caradog

In literacy, we have been exploring narratives linked to the text '*The Magic Paintbrush'.* Pupils took part in a hot seating oracy activity where they asked a range of questions to the main character, helping them to explore feelings and different viewpoints. We also revisited our skills of describing the five senses, using objects found in the woodland area.

In maths, we have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties. Pupils identified faces, edges and vertices and compared different shapes using 3D models. They then accurately drew and constructed nets, which they used to create their own 3D shapes. This practical work helped pupils to deepen their understanding of shape and structure.

As part of our topic work, we explored different types of teeth and their functions, discussing why each type is important. We also looked at the effects sugar can have on teeth. Pupils took part in an investigation where eggshells were placed into four different liquids. They made predictions about what would happen based on the amount of sugar in each liquid, developing their scientific enquiry skills.

The class also enjoyed visiting Year 3's topic showcase. Pupils behaved responsibly and enthusiastically, taking part in a range of hands-on activities.

Diolch,

Miss Larkins

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

Another busy week in Branwen. We have been discussing our school rules and talking about what is appropriate and any areas that we are not considering. It is always impressive how the children approach these matters with such a mature manner.

We have started into our topic fully this week, Scream Machines, by discussing what a pulley is. We got to do some hands on learning on Friday and experience. We were using hockey sticks and ropes to find out how we can increase the force of pulling on our pulleys by doubling the ropes. We were able to create clear diagrams that demonstrated how they can be used to lift heavier objects. Check out some of our photos on our website page!

There is a lot of excitement over our residential next week. We are certainly looking forward to it as it gives us an opportunity to see the students in a different way with the way they respond to new challenges and experiences. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to ask.

Have a great weekend!

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

Dosbarth Gelert

Literacy

This fortnight we completed our work on narratives, creating our own version of the Inuit story 'The woman and the Bear'. Now we have begun looking at persuasive writing linked to the book 'The Great Kapok Tree'. We will be learning how to use different features such as emotive language, triplets, definitions, persuasive language, imperatives, complex sentences and alliteration. So far the children have investigated a WAGOLL identifying key features and have created their own cold-write persuasive writing about topics that have interested them such as: 'Why pets make life better' and 'Why children should have longer break times'

Numeracy

We have continued to focus on problem-solving, consolidating and applying our knowledge of maths in preparation for our national tests. Over the past two weeks we have focused on ratio and fractions, with the pupils showing an excellent knowledge of how to add, subtract, multiply and divide and to simplify and find equivalent fractions.

To practice some more of what we have been doing in class please visit:

Ratio: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7jg7v4

Fractions: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdkydnb

Topic

We have made a great start to our topic building up our knowledge about Arctic regions before we can begin the skills, debating and investigation part of our topic. We have looked at why seasons and day/night are so different in the polar areas, also looking at the natural resources, indigenous people, different landscapes and how the oceans and different to other parts of the world. This has led onto us discussing traditional cultures and governance, linking this back to events in the news such as Greenland and climate change. As ever the children have approached these topics with a mature knowledge and understanding appreciating that other people will have different views to their own.

Work on the end of year 6 'Yearbook' is underway. When this is completed I will move on to starting to finalise ideas and arrangements for Prom and will get in contact with parents about support that may be needed, dates and time etc.

(Year 6 Prom is the 9th July)

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

Holidays

Dear Parents,

To determine if your child can have an authorised holiday, we review the past year to check for any previously taken holidays. For example, if your child is planning a holiday starting on July 1st, 2026, we will look back to July 1st, 2025. Each student is allowed up to 10 days of authorised holiday per year if they have maintained a minimum attendance rate of 94%. Please note that absences due to illness will also affect the attendance rate. Please also note that you can complete a holiday form whenever you wish but it will not be processed until two weeks before the holiday as it is determined by attendance rates.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you ever have any queries regarding this please let me know.

Mrs Tanner

Dates for the diary Spring 2026



- Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday
- Friday 8th May - VE Day Menu
- Friday 8th May- Sunday 10th May - Year 5 Residential Trip
- Friday 22nd May - INSET DAY
- Wednesday 20th May - Film and Quiz Night
- Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May - Whitsun Half Term
- Monday 8th June - Reception Child Measurement Programme
- Thursday 18th June - Sports Day
- Friday 19th June - Year 6 Transition
- Tuesday 23rd June - Back Up Sports Day
- Saturday 27th June - Summer Fair
- Saturday 4th June - Summer Fair

- Tuesday 7th July - Y5 Transition Day
- Thursday 9th July - Leavers Assembly and Prom (Details to communicated closer to the date)