Tonysguboriau Newsletter 17th April

Message from Mrs Harries

It has been a pleasure to welcome the pupils back to school and to see them settle so quickly into their learning.

We have so much to celebrate as a school community, particularly around attendance and punctuality. Over the past two terms, we have made incredible progress. There has been a dramatic drop in the number of pupils arriving after 9.10am, which has had a very positive impact on learning and wellbeing. Our current attendance stands at an impressive 95.5%, which reflects a shared commitment to giving every child the best possible start each day.

Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils attend school regularly and arrive on time. Good attendance is closely linked to progress, confidence and positive relationships, which are all central to the Curriculum for Wales and our focus on supporting the whole child.

I would also like to say how incredibly proud I am of the pupils' behaviour across the school. I led the first two whole-school assemblies this term and the pupils were exemplary throughout. We spent time revisiting our school rules and discussing what each one looks like in practice at Tonysguboriau, and the pupils engaged thoughtfully and respectfully. In addition, a selection of our school governors recently visited the school to review our maths provision, and they specifically commented on the high standard of pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning. This reflects the positive culture we are continuing to build together.

Finally, I would like to thank you, as parents and carers. You are doing a great job. The support, encouragement and routines you provide at home make a real difference and are clearly reflected in the pupils' behaviour, attitudes and pride in their school.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Harries

Update from Mr Blears

Shwmae pawb,

I hope you have all had a pleasant and restful Easter. Thank you to all the parents and children who have brought in their recycling from the Easter eggs. Even if we don't win the competition, it has been a great opportunity to help recycle.

We're going into our final term now, we are looking forward to many different events including our sports stay and end of year celebrations. Please see our dates at the bottom of the newsletter to keep yourself up-to-date with what is going on this school year.

Mr. Jones and I, had the delight of listening to learners this week where we found out about the mathematical fluency skills. We were very impressed with the way that the children could discuss their mathematics and in many cases be able to offer other calculation methods. Mathematics has been part of the school improvement plan this year and we're glad to see how many children are demonstrating a real fluency in mathematics.

Mr. Blears

Clubs for Summer Term

We will be starting our new clubs on the week beginning 27th April. Please fill the for out below to get your child into either or Foundation Phase Art Club lead by Mrs. Baylis or KS2 Cricket Club lead by Mr. Jones. It is one a first come first served basis.

Embed://<iframe width="640px" height="480px" src="https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/J8zaMHM717?embed=true" frameborder="0" marginwidth="0" marginheight="0" style="border: none; max-width:100%; max-height:100vh" allowfullscreen webkitallowfullscreen mozallowfullscreen msallowfullscreen> </iframe>

🌼 Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge! 🌼

Our **10-day Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge**, had started on **13th** and is running for 10 school days. This term's attendance band colour is **GREEN**, and we're encouraging every pupil to aim for green by attending school every day during the challenge.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to boost attendance heading into summer.

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

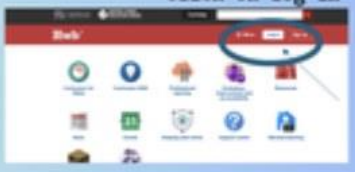
1 Google

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



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.

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 our current topic, we have been learning all about life cycles, and we are excited to share that our caterpillars have now entered the cocoon phase. The children have enjoyed sequencing different life cycles and listening to *The Hungry Caterpillar* story.

We have also been exploring food chains, learning about plants, prey, and predators. In PE, we brought this learning to life by moving like different animals, focusing on pace and movement. The children have been developing their understanding of herbivores and carnivores, identifying animal diets and recognising the importance of nutritious food for growth.

This learning has been linked to our wellbeing and Helpwr Heddiw sessions, where we have been discussing food, sharing our likes and dislikes, and sorting healthy and unhealthy foods. We have also been learning to distinguish between fruits and vegetables and are developing an awareness of how diet impacts our bodies.

Please contact the school office if you would like to join our Pipyn sessions on Tuesday afternoons. These sessions support our learning about balanced diets and wellbeing.

In maths and numeracy, we are continuing to explore concepts of more and less, as well as solving number sentences. In literacy, language, and communication, our focus is on rhyme. We have enjoyed reading the *Oi!* book series and have been experimenting with rhyme to create our own poems.

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

Dosbarth Llewellyn



Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Easter break.

The children have had another busy and positive couple of weeks, with lots of opportunities to apply their learning and explore new ideas.

Mathematics and Numeracy

In the week before half-term, the children focused on problem-solving activities linked to measurement. They applied their understanding of length and width, mass and weight, and capacity to solve practical challenges, choosing suitable equipment and explaining their thinking as they worked.

This week, the children have been learning to use positional language to describe where objects are, such as next to, behind, between and underneath. They have also practised giving and following simple directions, developing both their mathematical vocabulary and their listening skills.

Language, Literacy and Communication

Before half-term, the children completed their information texts linked to our *Back in Time* topic. They revisited their writing to edit and improve it, checking labels, facts and sentence structure to make their work even better. The children showed pride in their finished pieces and were keen to share what they had learned.

This week, the children have started a new writing journey based on storytelling. They retold the story of *Little Red Riding Hood* and made an excellent start already. Their retellings were a pleasure to read, showing growing confidence. The children have also been introduced to *The Magic Paintbrush*, which will be our new focus text and the next story they will retell as the journey continues.

Topic

To celebrate the end of our *Back in Time* topic, Dosbarth Llewellyn shared their learning with Year 2, while Year 2 shared their work on the Sensory Garden with us. The children listened carefully, asked questions and really enjoyed learning from one another.

This week, we have started our exciting new topic, *Amazing Animals*, which the children are already thoroughly enjoying. They have been thinking about what makes an animal and have begun exploring the body parts of humans and different animals, identifying similarities and differences through discussion and observation.

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break, and we are really looking forward to working with your children for their final term in Year 1/2.

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

Dosbarth Dewi Sant



Welcome back after the Easter holidays. The children have returned refreshed and ready for their final term in Year 2. Miss Cross and I have already noticed a real shift in their independence and attitude towards learning, which has been lovely to see.

We have just begun our new topic, “Land Ahoy”. The children have enjoyed sharing what they already know, as well as what they would like to find out. There’s lots of excitement around creating a pirate ship role play area, and they are very keen for us to organise a trip to Barry Island and the RNLI, with a date to follow. This week, we have been exploring coastal features in Wales that are familiar to us, including cliffs, beaches, bays, sand dunes and harbours.

In literacy, we have been finishing our news report writing journey. The children have loved writing about traditional tales such as Jack and the Beanstalk, The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and Little Red Riding Hood. Do take a look at the website to see photos of the children interviewing the characters. They had great fun completing their final pieces, which were full of creativity and impressive vocabulary.

In maths, we have been measuring to the nearest centimetre, and many of the children have gone a step further by accurately measuring using decimals. I was very impressed with their progress. Next week, we will begin a new writing journey focusing on story writing. In maths,

we will start learning the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables, beginning with counting on. We will also continue our work on The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch and carry out an investigation into sinking and floating objects. Some children currently think that heavy objects always sink, so we are looking forward to testing this idea.

As the weather becomes warmer, please ensure that sunscreen is applied before school on sunny days. Children should also bring a sun hat and if they wish, sunglasses. The children have free access to the outdoor classroom throughout the day, so it is important they can independently access what they need to stay protected from the sun. We do have shaded areas available, but being prepared will help them stay safe and comfortable.

A few reminders: book bags should be brought into school on Mondays and will be sent home on Wednesdays. Please continue to read regularly with your children, as this supports their fluency and confidence in preparation for KS2. PE will now take place on Tuesday afternoons and Friday afternoons.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

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



Firstly, welcome back! We hope everyone had a fun, restful, and enjoyable half-term break. It has been wonderful to see the children return so positively, settling quickly back into good routines and showing they are ready to work hard. We've made a great start to the summer term already!

For the first two weeks of this term, we will be continuing with our **spring topic**. To celebrate the children's learning, we will be hosting a **Topic-Themed Museum** in the school hall on **Friday 24th**.

We would be delighted if you could join us to view the children's fantastic work.

🕑 **Museum opening time:** 1:45pm – 2:30pm

📍 **Location:** School Hall

Please note that even if you attend the museum, children will still need to be collected at the usual home time of **3:30pm**. Unfortunately, children will not be able to leave early at 2:30pm.

If you are unable to attend, we will be creating a **video walkthrough** of the museum and sharing it on our class website so everyone can enjoy it.

In maths, we have started a new topic focusing on **problem-solving with multiplication**. This week, the children are learning how to multiply a **1-digit number by a 2-digit number**.

Here is a helpful example of the method we are using in class (the video is halfway down the page):

https://www.math-salamanders.com/multiplication-worksheets-for-3rd-grade.html

In English, we have begun an exciting new writing journey focusing on **narrative writing** based on **folk tales with a moral**. We are currently reading *The Magic Paintbrush* along with other similar stories and exploring how these tales teach important lessons.

PE lessons will continue to take place on **Wednesday afternoons**. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing appropriate PE kit on this day.

Our new topic, **Scrumdiddlyumptious**, will begin in two weeks' time. This exciting theme will explore:

- Food and where it comes from
- Healthy living and wellbeing
- Product design
- Movement
- Animals and humans

More information about this topic will be shared with you soon, we can't wait to get started!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Jones



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

Dosbarth Caradog

Welcome back, I hope you all had a lovely Easter. The children have settled very well into their learning this week and have made a positive start to the summer term.

In mathematics, we have continued our work on addition and subtraction with exchanges. Pupils have been applying these skills to word problems, focusing on identifying which operation is needed and explaining their thinking. Below is a link for addition and subtraction techniques. Adding and subtracting - KS2 Maths - BBC Bitesize

In literacy, we have been writing instruction texts based on our potions work. Pupils planned and wrote clear, step-by-step instructions explaining how to make their potions, paying close attention to order, technical vocabulary and precise quantities. We will be moving on to our new literacy genre next week, which will be linked to a magical class text.

In topic, pupils have been planning their own magical or medicinal potions, thinking carefully about accurate quantities and measurements. This has linked closely with our maths learning and encouraged pupils to be precise, creative and thoughtful in their designs. We have also had our hook lesson for our new topic 'Burps, Bottoms and Bile' where the pupils shared ideas, knowledge and questions based on the topic to inform our learning.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to an exciting and creative half term ahead.

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

Llangrannog is fast approaching and preparations are well under way. The pupils are becoming increasingly excited as plans come together. Mr Hussey, Mrs Harries and Mrs Harry will be accompanying the pupils on the visit. Letters with further information and a consent form will be sent home next week.

In maths, we've been working on our fraction skills. It has been an opportunity to refresh these skills and one of our main things in our curriculum is about revisiting areas and developing on misconceptions that we have.

Our topic this term, is Scream Machines where we will be exploring ideas of forces and materials. We have completed a KWL grid for the children to lead this area and answer their questions. There has been a lot of curiosity about forces and how in some cases some rides don't require being fully strapped in. We will continue to explore this area and develop scientific skills surrounding this topic.

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

Welcome back to a very busy last term for Year 6.

Over the coming weeks I will send home information regarding final transition arrangements for Y Pant, end of year celebrations and Prom, however we have a lot to cover in class before any of that...

Literacy

This week we have been focusing on 'The Magic Paintbrush' as our story to support our narrative writing. We have looked at good examples, worked on character description and practiced our debating skills so far as part of this writing journey.

Numeracy

This week we have continued to explore angles in shapes as part of our reasoning and problem-solving work. We have explored angles on a line, around a point and within different 2D shapes, learning how to calculate missing angles and use these to create our own shapes. We have used facts such as 180 degrees in a triangle to work out the total angles withing different 2D shapes. To practise some of what we have been doing in class please visit:

Angles (Year 6): https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zw9f8p3

Topic

This week we have started our new topic of Frozen Kingdoms. This is a topic where we will explore more about the Arctic and Antarctic. This week we have started by looking at what we already know about frozen kingdoms, how they are affected by the amount of daylight they receive due to the Earth's tilt and how this affects the landscape and features that are there.

A huge well done to the pupils from Year 6 who represented the school this week in a football tournament. As always it was incredibly hard to pick 7 pupils to represent the school, however the boys chosen did a great job of representing the school showing great teamwork, resilience and fair play competing in cold and wet conditions in Pentre. Well done boys!









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



- Tues 28th April - PACT Meeting 6pm
- Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday
- 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)