Tonysguboriau Newsletter 20th March

Message from Mrs Harries

Thank you to all our parents and carers who joined us for Parents' Evening. We hope you've had the chance to read your child's learning feedback for the term and to respond with your thoughts. This is an important part of our Assessment for Learning journey, helping us to understand how well pupils are progressing and how we can support them further. Your views matter to us, so please take a moment to complete the survey if you haven't already. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Harries

Parent/Carer Survey – Fill in form

Update from Mr Blears

Shwmae pawb,

Thank you to all the parents that I saw during parents evening. It was lovely to talk about your children and discuss their next steps and their successes. It was very lovely to be involved with the Ser Eisteddfod this morning to have a reminder of all the talent we have across the school.

Finally, a warm "Eid Mubarak" to all our families celebrating today. We have had a number of children fasting and it is very impressive to see their dedication to their faiths and the discipline they have.

Next week, there will be one more newsletter before Easter with all the dates for our final term of this academic year. I can't believe we are already 3 months into the new year!

Have a great weekend and stay safe!

Mr. Blears

🌼 Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge! 🌼

We're excited to launch our **10-day Spring Into Summer Attendance Challenge**, starting on **13th** and 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

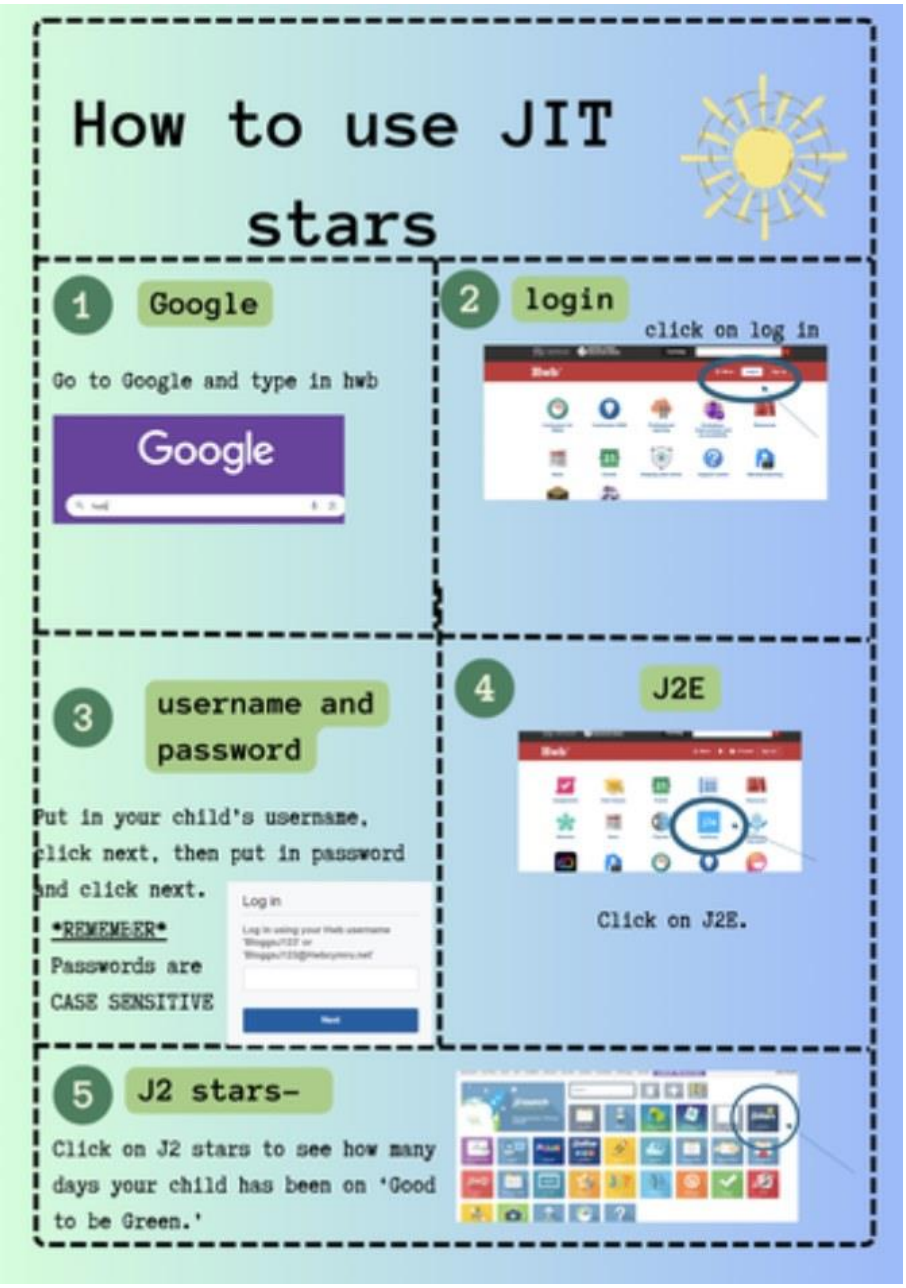


The new term has started and a new Good To Be Green challenge has satrted. Children will receive:

- A bronze certificate for 30 stars

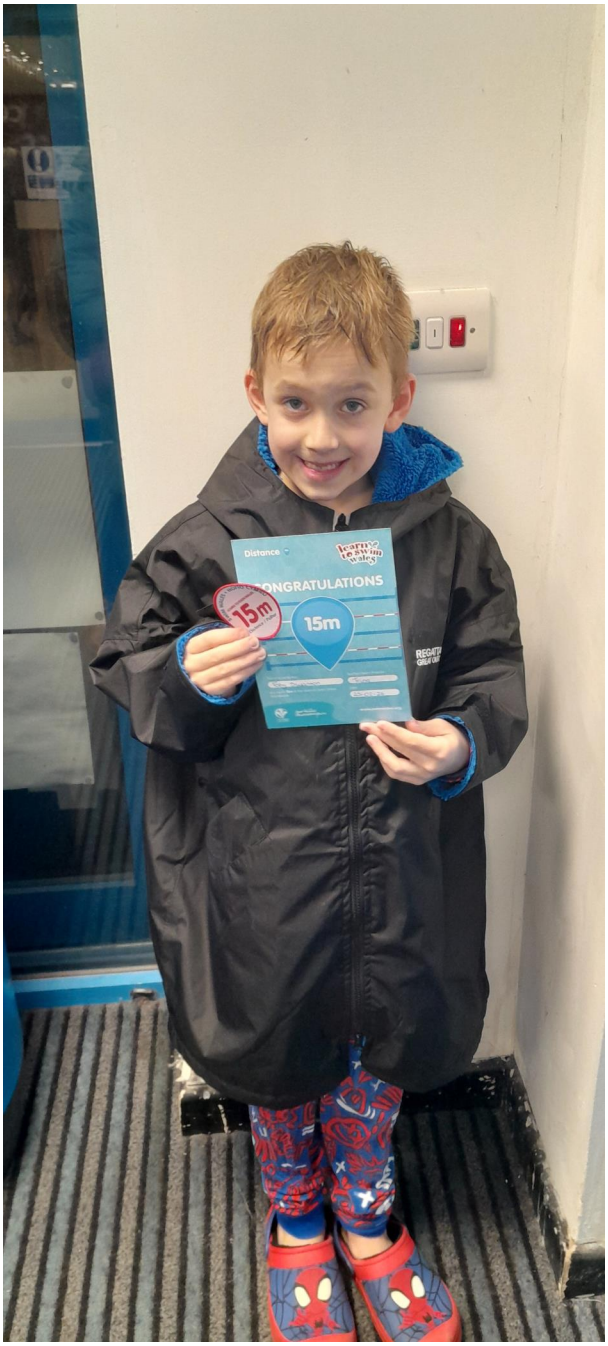
- A silver certificate for 40 stars
- A gold certificate and a special Easter treat for 45

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

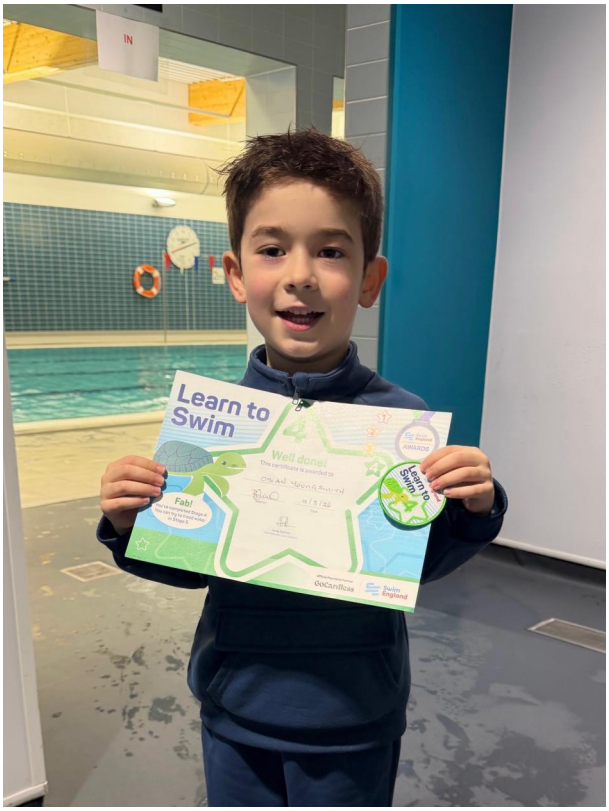


Tonysguboriau Stars





Toby has been working really hard learning to swim. He has recently passed wave 3 and achieved his 15m badge. We are all very proud of him. Da Iawn Toby!



Osian has managed to complete stage 4 swimming! He is now working towards his stage 5 and enjoying learning new swimming techniques each lesson. Gwaith da, Osian!

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

RHONDDA CYNON TAF

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) –

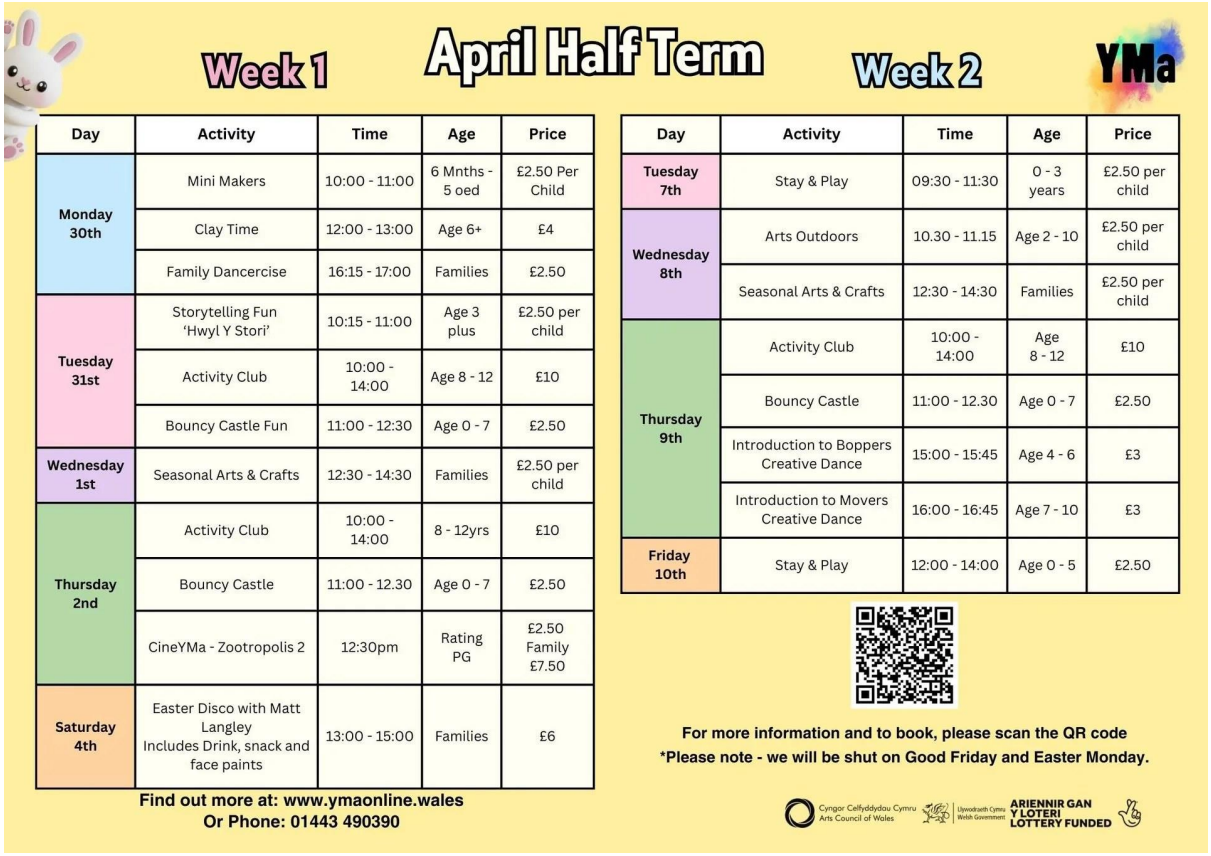
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=urld5xeqAE6lTjrUN9dAnmAQb17veZ5NkF8rZSF8fjdUMUhFSkcxUDVWWFFQQUhXVTE5ME1BN01TVC4u

Sport RCT Half Term Camps





Yma



Day	Activity	Time	Age	Price
Monday 30th	Mini Makers	10:00 - 11:00	6 Mnths - 5 oed	£2.50 Per Child
	Clay Time	12:00 - 13:00	Age 6+	£4
	Family Dancercise	16:15 - 17:00	Families	£2.50
Tuesday 31st	Storytelling Fun 'Hwyl Y Stori'	10:15 - 11:00	Age 3 plus	£2.50 per child
	Activity Club	10:00 - 14:00	Age 8 - 12	£10
	Bouncy Castle Fun	11:00 - 12:30	Age 0 - 7	£2.50
Wednesday 1st	Seasonal Arts & Crafts	12:30 - 14:30	Families	£2.50 per child
Thursday 2nd	Activity Club	10:00 - 14:00	8 - 12yrs	£10
	Bouncy Castle	11:00 - 12.30	Age 0 - 7	£2.50
	CineYMa - Zootropolis 2	12:30pm	Rating PG	£2.50 Family £7.50
Saturday 4th	Easter Disco with Matt Langley Includes Drink, snack and face paints	13:00 - 15:00	Families	£6

Day	Activity	Time	Age	Price
Tuesday 7th	Stay & Play	09:30 - 11:30	0 - 3 years	£2.50 per child
Wednesday 8th	Arts Outdoors	10.30 - 11.15	Age 2 - 10	£2.50 per child
	Seasonal Arts & Crafts	12:30 - 14:30	Families	£2.50 per child
Thursday 9th	Activity Club	10:00 - 14:00	Age 8 - 12	£10
	Bouncy Castle	11:00 - 12.30	Age 0 - 7	£2.50
	Introduction to Boppers Creative Dance	15:00 - 15:45	Age 4 - 6	£3
	Introduction to Movers Creative Dance	16:00 - 16:45	Age 7 - 10	£3
Friday 10th	Stay & Play	12:00 - 14:00	Age 0 - 5	£2.50

Find out more at: www.ymaonline.wales
Or Phone: 01443 490390

For more information and to book, please scan the QR code
*Please note - we will be shut on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru Arts Council of Wales
Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government
ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI LOTTERY FUNDED

Ser yr Eisteddfod - A Celebration of Talent and Cymreictod



Thank you to all the families who were able to attend our annual Ser yr Eisteddfod. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the incredible talent within our school community. The children were so proud to share their skills, performing everything from choir pieces and *cyd-adrodd* to country dancing and some truly spectacular musical performances.

The Welsh language is something we value deeply at our school. As we continue working towards the Cymraeg Campus Gold Award, we are proud of the progress we've made in developing the use of Welsh across the school. Learning a new language brings so many benefits for our pupils - from building confidence to strengthening thinking skills - but most importantly, it gives them a strong sense of belonging and a real enjoyment of using the language in their daily lives.

A big shout-out to our amazing Criw Cymraeg, whose hard work and enthusiasm helped the morning run so smoothly. Their leadership and passion for promoting the Welsh language shine through in everything they do. We would also like to thank our awesome PTA, who are always working tirelessly to raise funds so that our pupils continue to have access to the very best resources and opportunities. Their support makes such a difference to our school community, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

I really hope you enjoyed the morning. Until next year!

Diolch am eich cefnogaeth barhaus,

Mrs Gill 😊

Dosbarth Dwynwen



We've had a wonderful and busy week in class, full of exciting learning experiences!

This week, our topic has focused on life cycles and how animals grow and change. During our visit to the woodland pond, the children have been observing frogspawn and were fascinated to see how it has started to develop into tadpoles. It has been a fantastic hands on way to explore change over time and sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

To support our maths and numeracy learning, we have been singing *"5 Little Speckled Frogs"*. This has helped the children practise counting, as well as understanding the concepts of more and less in a fun and engaging way.

In literacy, the children have been sequencing the steps for planting their very own "magic bean." They have been using bossy verbs and time connectives to explain the process clearly.

We have also been welcoming the arrival of Spring by having a spring clean in our outdoor areas. The children worked brilliantly together to tidy and refresh our space, ready for new learning opportunities.

Looking ahead, we are very excited to begin transforming our farmers market role-play area into a garden centre / florist in preparation for the Summer term. To help bring this to life, we would be incredibly grateful for any donations you may be able to provide, such as:

- Seeds or bulbs
- Artificial flowers / plants
- Plant pots
- Soil or compost
- Gardening items or accessories

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It really does make such a difference to the children's learning experiences.

If you have any items to donate, please send them in with your child or speak to a member of staff.

Many thanks, Mrs Baylis

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

Dosbarth Llewellyn



The children have had another busy and exciting fortnight in Dosbarth Llewellyn.

Mathematics and Numeracy

Over the past fortnight, the children have been exploring measurement through hands-on activities. They have compared and ordered objects by weight and mass, using balance scales to investigate which items are heavier or lighter. They have also been working with capacity, developing their understanding of full, nearly full, half full and empty.

Language, Literacy and Communication

We have continued our information writing work, focusing on presenting facts clearly and organising writing into simple sections. The children have been learning how to label diagrams accurately and how to use noun phrases to describe the artefacts they observed at St Fagans. We're looking forward to seeing their finished reports next week.

Topic

Our class trip to St Fagans was a real highlight. The children took part in a workshop where they experienced what school life was like during Edwardian times. They asked thoughtful questions and were fascinated by the differences between classrooms of the past and their own experiences today. They also explored the terraced houses and enjoyed comparing how homes have changed over time.

Back in class, the children have continued to observe, discuss and research some of the artefacts they saw during the visit. Their curiosity about everyday objects from the past has

sparked rich conversations about how people lived and how life has changed through the decades.

We are very proud of how curious and enthusiastic the children have been, and we look forward to the final week of Spring Term next week.

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

Dosbarth Dewi Sant



It was lovely meeting with you all this week during Parents' Evening to discuss your child's wellbeing and progress, as well as to share what we'll be covering during the summer term. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding whilst I have been off school unwell.

Over the last couple of weeks, the children have been working hard to complete their poetry writing journey. They created beautiful senses poems all about a scented garden, using descriptive language to bring their ideas to life.

We have now begun our new writing journey: newspaper reports. The children were thrilled to become reporters after discovering the catastrophe the giant caused in our classroom on

Tuesday morning (see the picture below). Their enthusiasm and creativity have been wonderful to see.

In maths, the children have been learning about 2D shapes, exploring their properties and identifying them in different contexts. This week, they have moved on to 3D shapes, and we will continue developing this learning next week. They are becoming much more confident using mathematical vocabulary to describe what they see.

As our *Scented Garden* topic comes to an end, the children have been exploring a fascinating type of art called cyanotype, creating striking blue-toned prints using natural materials. We were also delighted to welcome Courtney from Hidden Blooms in Talbot Green, who helped the children design and plant a scented garden of their own. This will be a lovely space for them to enjoy and care for throughout the summer months.

In science, the children have been learning about life cycles, exploring how living things grow and change. Next week, they will be showcasing all of their learning in a special museum-style presentation for the Year 1 pupils. They are very excited to share their knowledge and hard work.

Last Monday, the children had a fantastic trip to Plantasia, where they learned about a wide range of plants and discovered more about minibeasts and their habitats. It was a trip they will remember for a long time, and I was disappointed not to be there with them.

Mrs Brugnoli shared that their behaviour was impeccable and that they represented our school beautifully. Their conduct truly deserves recognition.

Da iawn, Dosbarth Dewi Sant - we are very proud of you all.

If I don't see you before the Easter holidays, please enjoy and have lots of fun!

Diolch,

Mrs Gill and Miss Cross



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

Dosbarth Y Ddraig Goch



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to meet so many of you during Parents' Evening this week. I really enjoyed the opportunity to talk about the children's progress since September. I look forward to meeting the rest of you on Tuesday 24th.

Next week marks the end of our Year 3 swimming sessions. As a special treat, the children will enjoy some fun activities in the pool during their final lesson. Please ensure they bring their full swimming kit as usual so they can take part safely.

In Literacy, we have been learning how to write information leaflets. Our focus has been on the water cycle, understanding how this fascinating process works and exploring the key features of effective information writing. The children have enjoyed discovering new vocabulary such as evaporation, condensation, and precipitation, and they are beginning to apply these terms confidently in their work.

In Maths, the children have been developing their ability to tell the time using analogue clocks. We have focused on reading times to the nearest 5 minutes, as well as recognising quarter past, half past, and quarter to the hour. This is a tricky skill, but the class has shown excellent perseverance.

In Topic, we have continued our learning about Welsh coal mines, building on our fantastic trip to the Rhondda Heritage Park. The children have explored the history of coal mining in Wales and the UK, the important role coal played in everyday life, and the uses of coal and other fossil fuels. We also discussed how coal is formed over millions of years, an idea the children found especially fascinating!

Finally, we would like to wish a warm Eid Mubarak to all our pupils and their families who are celebrating.

Thank you for your continued support and have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

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

Over the past two weeks, Year 4 have enjoyed hands on learning linking to our topic.

In literacy, the children have begun exploring the features of instruction writing. They examined the unusual list of ingredients from the story of *George's Marvellous Medicine,* and predicted what the ingredients might do. The class enjoyed making predictions about the effects of George's bold medicines. This has given them a starting point for creating their own imaginative instructions later on.

In maths, the children have been developing their skills in data handling. They have plotted both bar charts and line graphs and they then used these to answer a range of questions. As part of this unit, the class took part in a practical investigation in which they measured the temperature changes of icy water as it melted. They then used their results to create their own line graphs, combining scientific enquiry with mathematical understanding. Alongside this work on data, we also introduced addition using partitioning methods, helping the children to break numbers into clear, manageable parts. They will soon apply the same structured approach to subtraction.

Our topic work has been equally hands-on and engaging. The children became curious scientists as they investigated states of matter, with a particular focus on how heat affects different materials. Working together, the class carried out a practical investigation using ice, chocolate, butter and a wax crayon. Before applying heat, they made predictions based on prior knowledge, and then carefully observed the changes that took place. At the same time, the children also carried out ICT-based research to explore how and why certain materials change state. They recorded their findings in a comparison table, identifying and discussing patterns in melting and boiling points.

To end the week, the scientific excitement continued with a new investigation. This time, the children planned their own experiment to find out how adding salt affects the temperature of icy water. They wrote a hypothesis, listed the equipment they would need, and set out their method step by step. Once the investigation was complete, they recorded their results in a table and then used their data to plot their findings on a line graph. It was wonderful to see how confidently they combined skills from both science and maths.

Miss Burke

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

During our literacy sessions these past weeks, we have been working on our poetry skills. The children have been developing their creative language. A lot of the children some times get wrapped up in the form and rhyme but it was nice to see everyone using free verse and lots of poetic devices in their writing. We have also started our new hook for the genre, non-chronological reports which has started with a cold write. We have been covering the intrinsic skills of labelling diagrams and creating non-chronological sub-headings.

In numeracy, we have been challenging ourselves with algebra. We have been learning about the nth term. The children have been using concrete methods to understand how the linear patters change and this is how we come up with the nth term.

We have been looking at Catherine Parr, in our topic sessions. As we are coming to the end of this topic, we have been bringing all our ideas together to help us write our hot write in our literacy books.

Have a great weekend and stay safe!

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

Dosbarth Gelert

We have had a very busy few weeks which included our fantastic residential to Storey Arms. The behaviour, attitude, perseverance and resilience of the pupils involved was fantastic. They took on their roles excellently at the centre, helping to prepare, clean up and support each other and threw themselves into all of the activities, (sometimes literally!!) Despite the weather we had a great three days full of team-building, gorge-walking, canoeing and caving with the pupils pushing themselves outside of their comfort zones. Photos are available on

our class website: https://www.tonysguboriauprimaryschool.com/spring-term-2025-2026-britain-at-war/

Literacy

This fortnight we have focused on writing a recount in the form of a diary, linking in with our topic work to use the book "Anne Frank's Diary" as out literacy example. We have looked at developing different key features of a recount such as: focusing on adjectives that create atmosphere, adding details after a noun using with to add a layer of extra information, adding adjective phrases starting with *of* after the noun, introducing adverbial phrase of manner, using a superlative to prove a point, writing sentences using the pronouns I, we, and you as appropriate and using the modal verb to direct the reader. So far we have looked at different good examples and created our own recounts about Evacuees moving to Wales. We also learnt a lot more about the life of Anne Frank and discussed the long term effects of the Holocaust and what we can learn to help us today.

Numeracy

We have focused on problem-solving using our Singapore maths approach to look at multiple ways to solve problems so that we have lots of 'tools' to approach new word problems. Our focus is now fractions, reinforcing our knowledge and attempting more difficult multiple step problems. To practice more of what we have been doing in class please visit:

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

Topic

We are nearing the end of our topic on Britain at War and have been looking at local links, in particular creating a digital memorial to some of the brave men and women whose names can be found on the war memorial in Pontyclun. We are now busy preparing for our class museum open afternoon where we can showcase some of the things we have learnt about this term.

If parents would like to come and take a look at some of the things we have been learning about as part of the topic we will be set up in the hall from 1:40-3:00 on Wednesday 25th March, feel free to come along anytime in the afternoon and your children can guide you around some of the things we have learnt about this term.

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



Tuesday 24th March - Y1 Audio Testing

Friday 27th March - End of Term

School starts back - Monday 13th April