



Abbey Primary School Newsletter

December 2023

Right of the Month

Article 29: The right to become the best you can be.

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write my final newsletter of the year, I would like to thank all pupils, parents, staff and governors for their invaluable support over the term...a term which has been hugely successful and very fulfilling for me as the new Headteacher at Abbey Primary School.

We are fortunate to have incredibly talented pupils and staff members, and this talent has been showcased over the past two weeks, where the Christmas shows have been brilliant to watch and so enjoyable for everyone involved. Thank you for your endeavours during this busy time!

Raffle winners

Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket during the Christmas concerts. The winners were as follows:

Nursery / Reception Hamper = Lola Jones (Nursery)
Year 1 / Year 2 Hamper = Jack David (Y2)
Year 3 / Year 4 Hamper = Alfie Davies (Y3)
Year 5 / Year 6 Hamper = Olivia Bills (Y6)
Bottle of Bell's whiskey = Erin O'Sullivan (Y5)

Thank you to all those parents who purchased refreshments on the evening performances too. We hope you all enjoyed the concerts.

Car Park and Parking

We have been chasing the local authority for answers regarding the car park and I am pleased to announce it has been granted planning permission. Please see the latest statement below from the Council:

Tenders for the **Abbey Primary School Car Park** within the limits of **Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council** will be issued on Jaegger eTenderwales in the next few weeks.

The scheme is being tendered under **Lot 2c and 3** of the **SWWRCECF** and is estimated to be worth circa [REDACTED] which is close to the lot thresholds. The programme will commence in **March 2024** and be fully complete by **August 2024**.

Provisionally, submission will be on **9th February 2024** at midday;

So, pleasing news that the project will be started in March 2024. It should be completed by the end of the summer 2024. Let's hope it is sooner!

That being said, it still does not eradicate the issues we have currently with parking. So, please can I remind you all to:

- **Park in designated parking bays. Please do not park on grass verges, or pavements.**
- **DO NOT block/park in front of barriers.**

- Ensure you walk around the school site using the footpaths and not through the traffic.
- Drive extremely slowly in and around the school.

Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who has completed the online parental questionnaire. So far, we have received **97 responses**, however, when we have **440 pupils** I was hoping for a better return, if possible. Please can those of you who have not completed the questionnaire do so using the below link. Diolch yn fawr.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ctf0XhBCX4>

Director of Education Visit

On Monday 11th December, we had a visit from two important people in Welsh Education. Andrew Thomas (Director of Education, NPT) and Owain Lloyd (Director of Education, Welsh Gov.) came to see the new school, speak to senior leaders and staff members, as well as visit classrooms and discuss the learning opportunities available with pupils.

They both went away from the visit highly impressed by our new school, our pupils and their wonderful behaviour and ability, as well as extremely positive words regarding our staff members. I quote from an email sent to me:

“It was a pleasure to visit your school. I know Owain was really impressed and in fact I overheard him telling the Minister in a meeting within an hour of leaving the school just how impressed he was. We both commented on how wonderful your staff and pupils are, you should be very proud!”

A fantastic note to end on and we should be very proud of our school.

Confirmed dates for your diary

Date	Activity/Event
Thursday 21 st December	Last day for pupils – Have a wonderful Christmas and festive period
Friday 22 nd December	INSET DAY
Monday 24th December to Sunday 7th January 2024 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
Monday 8 th January 2024	INSET DAY
Tuesday 9 th January	Pupils return after the Christmas holidays
Wednesday 10 th January	Local Authority Safeguarding Audit
W/B 22 nd Jan – Friday 2 nd Feb	Year 4 SWIMMING (TWO week block)
Wed 7 th Feb – Fri 9 th Feb	Margam Residential (Year 5)
Monday 12th Feb – Friday 16th Feb HALF TERM	
Monday 19 th February	Pupils and Staff return from half term break
Friday 1 st March	ST. DAVID’S DAY (Pupils to wear Welsh costume or red/green/white

I would like to wish Mrs. Thomas the very best as she leaves us to start her maternity leave on the 8th January.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Enjoy the time with your lovely families and I look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. K. M. Hodder
(Headteacher)

