



Abbey Primary School Newsletter

March 2025 Mawrth

Right of the Month
Article 16: The right to have privacy

Friday 28th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to my March newsletter. With two weeks left of term, we are deep into our curriculum concept of 'Community' within the classrooms and the pupils are producing some high standards of work.

We have celebrated some lovely events recently, with St. David's Day, World Book Day and Odd Sock Day for World Down Syndrome Day. On 2nd April, it is World Autism Awareness Day which we will be celebrating in school with awareness raising and activities.

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who created lovely Mother's Day Hampers, one for each class. Thank you to everyone who donated gifts for the hampers and who have bought raffle tickets. It is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Davies

On a heartfelt note, we will be bidding farewell to a much-loved teacher and colleague on Friday, 11th April.

Mr. Davies will be leaving us to take up the role of Deputy Head Teacher at Alltwen Primary School. While we are incredibly proud of him and this well-earned promotion, his departure is certainly a great loss for us at Abbey. His professionalism, warmth, expertise, and dedication - both as a classroom teacher and ALNCo - have made a lasting impact, and he will be truly missed.

We have no doubt he will excel in his new role and be an outstanding Deputy Head at Alltwen. Though his move opens doors for others to step up and embrace new opportunities, his absence will certainly be felt by staff, pupils, parents and governors!!

Good luck, Mr. Davies and don't be a stranger.

Parent/Carer Survey

As part of our continuing reflection and improvement journey, we would like you to complete a parent/carers survey about the school. This survey is the same as the Estyn Parent/Carer pre-inspection questionnaire.

Please click the following link or feedback picture to provide your thoughts, celebrating the successes and helping us to continually improve. Diolch.



[PARENT/CARER SURVEY](#)

Thank you so much for the improved attendance we are seeing. It is so important you continue to send children to school every day to get the full value of school life in terms of academic progress and social skill development. We want our attendance to get as close to pre-pandemic levels as possible, and we are certainly improving year-on-year.

Our whole school target for the year is 93.5% and for January and February we achieved over 94%.

Year	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Total
2018/19	96.19%	95.06%	93.81%	91.63%	93.60%	93.59%	95.26%	93.50%	94.78%	93.23%	93.26%	94.08%
2020/21	89.72%	90.77%	94.60%	70.56%	100.00%	96.65%	94.40%	94.75%	93.50%	92.25%	92.15%	91.68%
2021/22	92.61%	92.12%	91.25%	87.76%	85.84%	91.96%	91.91%	91.63%	89.68%	90.30%	86.91%	90.23%
2022/23	93.87%	90.94%	91.63%	83.68%	91.44%	89.99%	91.44%	94.10%	90.99%	91.24%	90.94%	90.87%
2023/24	92.72%	92.85%	93.07%	91.69%	93.61%	93.07%	92.29%	93.12%	91.00%	90.09%	90.75%	92.22%
2024/25	94.81%	93.28%	92.34%	89.75%	94.34%	94.14%						93.20%

We need to continue with the positive attendance and try to hit our target of 93.5%, which we are just shy of at the moment with whole school attendance for the year being 93.2%.

Historically, the months of May, June and July affect primary schools' attendance greatly, so hopefully we can keep improving month-on-month and avoid the end of year dip.

Premises

There are a few concerns/complaints I have received regarding the school grounds.

- Please may I politely remind parents/carers and friends of Abbey that dogs are **NOT** allowed on the school grounds, even if they are being held.
- **Scooters** and **bicycles/bikes** are also not allowed to be ridden on school grounds.
- There is **no smoking/vaping** policy on school premises, and it is **illegal** to do so.
- Please **DO NOT** drop litter.
- Please ensure you park your car carefully and **DO NOT** mount kerbs or pavements.

INSET Day

A polite reminder there is an INSET Day after the Easter holidays on **Monday 28th April**. Pupils will be back in school on **Tuesday 29th April**.

Sports Week

Our Sports Week will be taking place week beginning 16th June and confirmed Sports Day dates will be sent out next month.

Parent/Carer Workshop – 19th & 20th May

Like last year's numeracy sessions for parents/carers, we will be holding another Parent/Carer session in school. It will be an opportunity for you to visit your child's class and take part in the learning with them.

The focus this year will be on our 'cooperative learning approach', which is a way of teaching and learning that the school has adopted to improve pedagogy across the school.

Cooperative learning is an instructional strategy where pupils work together in small groups to achieve shared learning goals, fostering both academic and social development through collaboration and mutual accountability.

It will be great for you all to come and see our approach to the new curriculum for Wales, in a safe, fun and friendly environment. I hope you can make it, as last year was a resounding success and the children loved having their loved ones in!

If you would like to attend this wonderful opportunity, please complete this [form](#) which will allow us to plan effectively for the sessions.

Confirmed dates for your diary

Date	Activity/Event
Wed 2 nd Apr to Fri 4 th Apr	Year 6 Residential to PGL Liddington
Monday 7 th April	Year 4 trip to the Gwyn Hall
Tue 8 th and Wed 9 th April	Football First Fundraiser in school
Wed 9 th & Thurs 10 th April	Year 6 Cycle Craft Training in school
Thursday 10 th April	Neath Afan Schools Gymnastics Competition
Thursday 10 th April	Barclays Bank in for financial literacy (Y5)
Friday 11 th April	END OF SPRING TERM
Monday 14 th April – Friday 25 th April EASTER HOLIDAY	
Monday 28 th April	INSET DAY
Tuesday 29 th April	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 29 th April	Reception pupils (height, weight and vision assessments)
Tues 29 th & Wed 30 th April	Scooter and Bike Safety sessions (Y3 to Y6)
Monday 5 th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Wednesday 7 th May	Dŵr Cymru Assembly & workshops (Y5)
Thursday 8 th May	Nutrition workshops with School Nurse for Year 3 & Year 6
Friday 9 th May	Lifesaving skills and British Sign Language workshops (Y6)
Mon 19 th & Tues 20 th May	Parent/Carer workshops in classrooms (see info above)
Friday 23 rd May	End of half term
Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May HALF TERM	

Yours faithfully,



Mr. K. M. Hodder
(Headteacher)