



Fortnightly Friday Flyer

Dear Parent,

Croeso. Welcome to the first Friday Flyer of the year. We are only a little way into the term but already all classes have settled brilliantly; the atmosphere around school is calm, purposeful and full of enthusiastic learners who are producing some amazing pieces of work. Thank you to all those who were able to make it to the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. Teachers shared information about routines and expectations for the year - you can find out more information on the school website where teachers are busily updating their areas. Topic webs were also shared with parents and these will also be available on the website. The teachers work together in planning teams to ensure we fulfil one of our core aims - **'Deliver a stimulating and innovative curriculum that challenges, excites and inspires pupils to achieve their best.'** They also provide many opportunities for the children to make decisions about what and how they learn. This happens in many different ways across the school, from Foundation Phase where the children are involved in planning activities for the week in the different areas of learning in and outside the classroom, to KS2 where children decide on the best level of challenge for their learning. It is fantastic to see the children involved in this way and to see them have such an ownership in their learning.

Attendance *'We have the right to learn & be the best we can be.'*

Thank you to all of you who have supported the school by making sure your children are in school every day

School Target 2016 – 96.5%

Current Whole School Attendance to date – 98.2% 'ardderchog'

Gwaith Cartref: *'We have the right to learn & be the best we can be.'*

A further example of the children being involved in making decisions about their learning is through their homework tasks. Each of the KS2 classes work with their teacher to come up with the ideas for their homework. Children have a wide choice of tasks to choose from which can be presented in whichever way the child would like. This might be in the form of a top 5 list or a mind map; a story or comic strip; a painting or an artefact; a report or flow diagram; a photo collage or film clip; the possibilities are endless. There is a wealth of activities and information available to the children through Hwb, Encyclopaedia Britannica for example, is a fabulous resource that can be used to research topics at the appropriate reading level, I'd recommend this as opposed to searching Google as it is safer and easier for the children to understand. Your child will be shown how to do this in school over the next few weeks. Alongside this we offer the opportunity for children to use J2e for some work, to practise maths skills covered in class through Abacus or worksheets. Spellings still come home on a regular basis, children can practice their words in super sentences as well as by using the look, cover, write check sheets. We've tried to make homework as varied and interesting as we can by offering a wide range of tasks that build on or consolidate the work the children are doing in school. As parents, try to support your child, if your child is finding the task too hard let them choose a different way to present, if they are taking too long, let them stop and perhaps come back to it if they wish another day. If they are reluctant to do any homework start slowly with 10 minutes a few times a week alongside their usual routine of reading. Homework should be the children's own work, and completed to their best effort. We realise some tasks might take a little longer, that's ok, make a start one week and finish the next. Most importantly the children should try to choose a task they enjoy and feel they can tackle independently. Have fun sharing an interest in learning!

'Diolch yn fawr iawn a llongyfarchiadau!': *'We have the right to be heard & have our say.'*

Last week our governing body held its AGM. Chair of Governors Dr. Ralph Cook and Vice Chair Lyn Williams both stood down from their posts, we wish to thank both Dr Cook and Mr Williams for the outstanding support they have offered the school in their time as Chair and Vice Chair. The Governors elected Mrs Eleanor Treen as new Chair of Governors and Mrs Heidi Lythgoe as new Vice Chair of Governors, congratulations to you both. Our Governors form a valuable part of our school leadership, all our governors are volunteers who give a huge amount of their time and expertise to support the school. We will keep you updated on the work our Governors do over the next year.



Right of the Month

'We have a right to know & have our rights'

Why not find out more

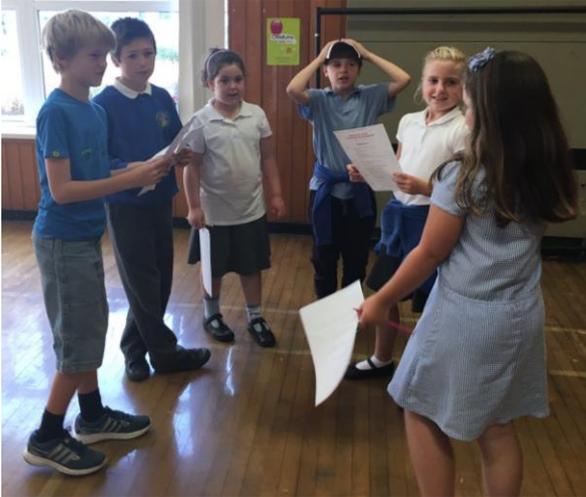
[UNICEF](http://www.unicef.org)



Lead Creative Schools.

Our Lead Creative Schools Project kicks off with a stakeholder meeting on Friday 30th September at 9 am. If you would like to be involved in the project, even if it is to put your ideas forward please come along. The meeting is intended to involve the school community in developing the plan; our initial thoughts are that we would like to link our school development priority **'Through the Storybook'** with outdoor learning in some way. The Lead Creative Schools Project takes the school and its community through the whole planning and development process together so we would very much value your input. You might also be interested in working alongside the artists involved – come and join us!

In and around school: 'We have the right to learn & be the best we can be.'



Year 5 have a very exciting term ahead taking part in the Shakespeare for Schools project. They will be presenting 'Romeo & Juliet' at the Taliesin Theatre in November. Director, Miss Bygate, and the children have been busy exploring the story through lots of different activities including drama ready for their rehearsals. The children have all been very enthusiastic and are enjoying the project enormously.

At the end of last year we invested in a set of chrome books for the school and we love them! Already they have been used to



support our children's learning in lots of different ways, Y6 have been using J2e to present rules to make the Internet a safer place, Y5 have been practicing their typing skills using dance mat and completing maths challenges on Abacus while Y4 have been creating databases about the Tudors and completing fun quiz challenges. Our Reception children have enjoyed their Outdoor Learning this week – they've built a fantastic Minibeast Mansion! A big thanks to our PING helpers who help facilitate the learning so well.



Sports 'We have the right to be fit & healthy.'

We've made a healthy start to the year, Y4 have been learning to play tennis like King Henry VIII, while Y6 have been working on their fitness. Our Nursery children have had great fun moving like superheroes in dance this week too – they certainly did look 'super'!



We'd like to involve the KS2 children in raising money for the school community and our Golden Mile track this term. Last term a triathlon was suggested by one of our parents and we'd like to see if it would be possible to arrange this, but we'll need lots of help. Our initial thoughts are that we would run each class on a different morning or afternoon. If you think you could support your child's class, please speak to the class teacher. Alternatively, if you have another idea to involve our children in something sporty to raise funds please let us know.



Miss Bygate's App of the Week – using IT to develop skills.

Fy hoff app ydy...

Foundation Phase: *LightbotJr – Coding puzzles Age4+ £2.29*

KS2: *Lightbot – brilliant coding & programming puzzle games £3.99 (bundle)*

Staff Training: 'We have the right to learn & be the best we can be.'

As a part of our ongoing improvement work here at Pennard I feel it is vitally important for staff to be engaged in high quality training that in turn improves outcomes for children. This year Miss Bygate is enrolled onto Leadership Training leading to qualifications in Middle leadership, this involves her attending a number of face to face days throughout the year. Mr. Price is involved in a scheme with Ospreys Community Learning Project, this will involve him being out of school for the next few Friday afternoons, and the children also have some exciting activities to look forward to as part of the project. Our Foundation Phase teachers will be taking part in training to develop the teaching of phonics, reading and writing later this term, this will take them out of class for 2 days. Mrs. Thomas, as maths lead, is taking part in training to support problem solving in maths across the school which also involves a few days out of the classroom this year. Our Creative Schools Project is being led by Mrs. Dardecker and Miss Bygate, they are attending a 2 day course next week as part of the project. This week Mrs. Dardecker joined me in some training which has already seen us changing the way we set challenges to the children in class. Staff taking part in improvement projects and sharing good practice within school, inspires and motivates them and really makes a difference to the outcomes for all learners.

Healthy Eating 'We have the right to be fit & healthy.'

In the last flyer, I asked parents and children to make sure they were having a healthy snack at break time and it has been great to see the children enjoying healthier choices. Although chocolate and crisps are not allowed as a break time snack, they can of course be included as an occasional treat in their lunch box.

PTA

Our PTA raised an amazing £3010.35 profit last year. They work incredibly hard to support the school and would welcome any newcomers who would like to join. You don't have to be able to help out at every event; even helping at one event would support those who help us on a regular basis. The first meeting for this year is on Wednesday 28th September at 7pm in the Southgate Club, the PTA are very keen to welcome new parents so please join them.

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk



Have you tried out the [The Giving Machine](#), every time you shop online with a favourite retailer you'll generate a donation for the school at no extra cost to you – it's a great way the support the school. See the link on our website too. Try to remember to use it while you are doing your Christmas shopping this year!

Finally

Do you have any dressing up clothes your child no longer uses? We'd really appreciate any donations you can make to our role play areas in the Foundation Phase. We are also looking for small world toys, things like farm animals, dolls houses, castles or pirate ships!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mwynheuwch y penwythnos!

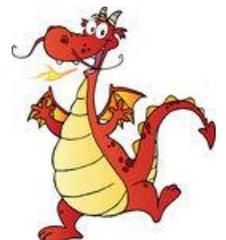
Kerina Hanson

Pennaeth (Headteacher)

Patrwm yr wythnos : Get involved in learning welsh together

'We have the right to our own culture & way of life.'

**Sut wyt ti? Dw i'n (I am...)...*hapus* - happy *fendigedig* – fantastic *iawn* -ok
drist – sad, *wedi blino*- tired, *ofnadwy* – terrible**



We are looking for an additional lunchtime supervisor to help us cover the Autumn term, the contract would be temporary for a full hour each day. If you are interested or know anyone who would be interested, please contact Mrs Francis in the school office.

01792 233343

Dates at a Glance		
Event	Details	Dates
Community Events	Lead Creative Schools stakeholder meeting Y6 Class assembly – ‘Right to know your rights’ Harvest Assembly Y4 Class assembly – ‘Right to be Fit & Healthy’ Y3 Class assembly – ‘Right to be safe & protected from harm’ Foundation Phase Christmas concert Foundation Phase Christmas concert Key Stage 2 Christmas concert Key Stage 2 Christmas concert	30.9.16 at 9.00am 30.9.16 at 2.30pm 7.10.16 at 2.30pm 18.11.16 at 2.30pm 6.12.16 at 2.00pm 7.12.16 at 6.00pm 7.12.16 at 2.00pm 8.12.16 at 6.00pm
School Trips/Visits/Events	Year 6 Heritage Centre with Mr O’Kane Year 4 - LOCWS Art Exhibition Launch Pizza Baking Day with Mr O’Kane Year 4- Ospreys Stadium Visit Key Stage 2- Llancaiach Fawr Parents evening week (Including Book Fair Week) Shakespeare for Schools project Y5– ‘Romeo & Juliet’ Early Years - Dan yr Ogof Christmas visit Y1 & Y2 - Jack & The Beanstalk Panto	28.9.16 5.10.16 6.10.16 10.10.16 10.11.16 17 – 20.10.16 17.11.16 Time TBC 9.12.16 13.12.16
Term Dates	Thursday 1st September 2016 – Friday 21st October 2016 Tuesday 1st November 2016 – Friday 16th December 2016 Wednesday 4th January 2017 – Friday 17th February 2017 Monday 27th February 2017 – Thursday 6th April 2017 Monday 24th April 2017 – Friday 26th May Tuesday 6th June – Friday 21st July 2017 NATIONAL TESTS 3RD TO 10TH MAY 2017	
INSET days 2016-2017	Day 1 – Autumn term: Monday 3rd October 2016 Day 2 – Autumn term: Monday 31st October 2016 Day 3 – Spring term: Tuesday 3rd January 2017 Day 4 – Spring term: Friday 7th April 2017 Day 5 – Summer term: Monday 5th June 2017	