

YSGOL PENYFFORDD

A love of learning.

February 2024



MESSAGE FROM MRS MULVEY

Dear Parents

The children have all settled back in to school life really quickly after the Christmas Holidays. Thank you to everyone who sent us well wishes and your generosity with gifts for members of staff. Thank you also for attending and supporting the concerts last term, we hope you enjoyed them; the children certainly did!

We begin the new term afresh with exciting topics for the children to engage with. I am looking forward to seeing their work which we will share with you on Seesaw and watching them develop.

At this time of year we are mindful of potential inclement weather and will only make a decision to close school as a last resort. If this is the case, we will advise you at the earliest convenience in the usual manner. Please ensure we have the correct contact details and advise the Office if you are not receiving any text or email messages from school.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Mulvey



Every student. Every day.

Attendance & Lateness

Reminder: Please call school and leave a message before 8.55am to advise the reason for your child's absence.

The gates are closed at 8.55am, any child arriving after this time needs to sign in via the Office



Breakfast Club

Please note, we are unable to make amendments or provide any refunds for non-attendance. All sessions must be booked & paid for in advance.. Bookings can be made up to 7.30am on the morning required, if there's availability in Club.



- **Please make sure your child's name is on items of clothing. If items are missing, check lost property.**
- **We had a significant amount of school logo sweatshirts/cardigans left last term which have been donated to FOPS**

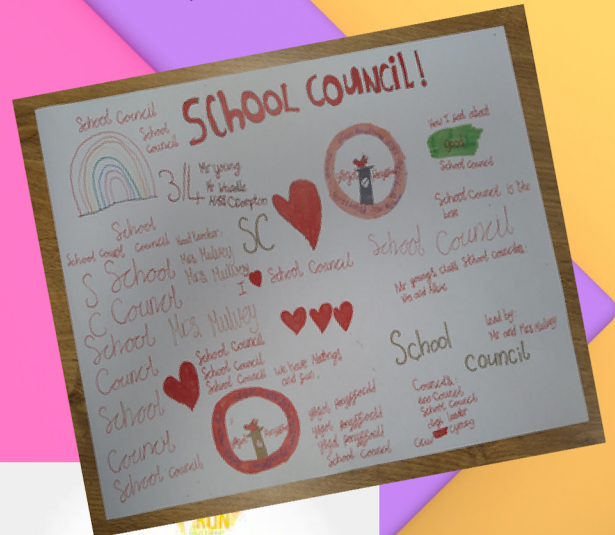
School's Council



We've had another busy time as a school council!

We're still looking at our reward system for lunchtimes, and we've thought of some lovely rewards to offer our winners. These include calling the class register one morning, giving out certificates with Mrs Mulvey, having a hot chocolate with a teacher and choosing which playground to go on for one breaktime. The last one was very popular with the footballers! We held our first Smart School Council meetings - these are where every person in the school gets to vote on an issue. It was decided from these that we would set up a house point system (a bit like Hogwarts!), so that's what we will be working on next.

Two of our School Council members went on a visit to Castell Alun High School to meet up with council members from other schools - we can't wait to hear what they did at our next meeting.

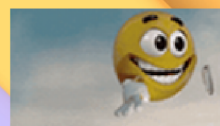


Criw Cymraeg



The Criw Cymraeg have been working hard listening out for Cymraeg and awarding the Ditectiff Cudd sticker and have been promoting the new phrases which they decide on. They recently came up with some fantastic activities for our Christmas Fair stall which helped raise lots of money to help towards buying Welsh resources. We meet every other Wednesday to decide on a new phrase and to look at what we are working on. In our last meeting, we came up with some ideas to celebrate Dydd Miwsig Cymru. Look out for what activities the children get up to!

Diolch, Miss Shaw a Mrs Davies





Eco Council

Our Eco Council members have been very excited this term to set up a wildlife camera in the school grounds and monitor any wildlife we manage to capture footage of. So far we have been excited to see photos of many different birds and also a fox! We have been in contact with the RSPB to help us identify some bird song on some of our video footage and are looking forward to the RSPB Big Bird Watch.



We are also continuing to encourage pupils to walk to school to help keep everyone more safe around our school area as well as be more environmentally friendly and children are enjoying earning the WOW Walk to School Badges!

We have lots more planned too and are looking forward to organizing a litter pick to keep our area clean and tidy as well as safe for wildlife.



Family Engagement Sessions

We hope you or a family member are able to join your child in a lesson based around the topic they are doing this term. Dates have been sent out but reminders will be sent nearer to the time.



Art Club

Mrs Foley has started an after-school Art Club this term for Year 2 children. We hope to share their creations with you in the next newsletter.

School Dinners

The new school dinner system via Cypad is working well. We hope you are finding it useful being able to order your child's lunch in advance.



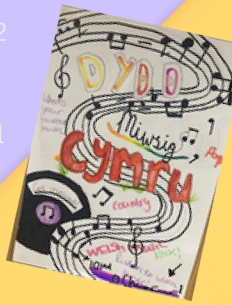
Please may we remind you to cancel the lunch if your child is off school due to illness. Amendments can be made up to 8.00am. Thank you.

Eisteddfodau

We will be holding our annual Eisteddfodau on:
Thursday 29 February for Nursery - Year 2
Friday 1st March for Years 3-6



We hope you are able to join us in the hall after school to see the children's competition entries.



Year 5 & 6 Rugby

Pupils from Years 5 & 6 had the opportunity last week to play Tag rugby with Pip Lantos from Castell Alun.

The children had an amazing time and really enjoyed the experience.



Staff News!

Miss Mills and Miss Coleclough will be attending a first aid course later this term.

YEAR 3 & 4 - DIWALI CELEBRATION



YEAR 5 & 6

NANT BH & PENTRELLYN RESIDENTIAL TRIPS



NEURODIVERSITY , MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

A guide to **Additional Learning Needs**

http://www.ysgolpenyffordd.org/uploads/6/1/2/1/61217277/additional_learning_need_guide_v5_final_english.pdf



http://www.ysgolpenyffordd.org/uploads/6/1/2/1/61217277/additional_learning_need_guide_v5_final_welsh.pdf



Parent run support group for parents of children with: Speech, Language and Communication Needs, Additional Needs and Disabilities in North Wales

<https://www.standnw.org/>

Wellbeing and mental health

Free online courses for parents:

- Find out more about your child's **feelings**: learn about the foundations of **wellbeing and mental health**, as well as how different **behaviours** may indicate different feelings and ways to read that behaviour.

<https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning/course/40>

In our place: code to access for free: NWSOL



Armed Forces Families

As part of learning about our children and understanding their support needs, school are looking to update records on parents:

- *in HM Regular Armed Forces*
- *in full commitment as part of the full-time Reserve service*
- *a veteran who has been in Service within the last two years*

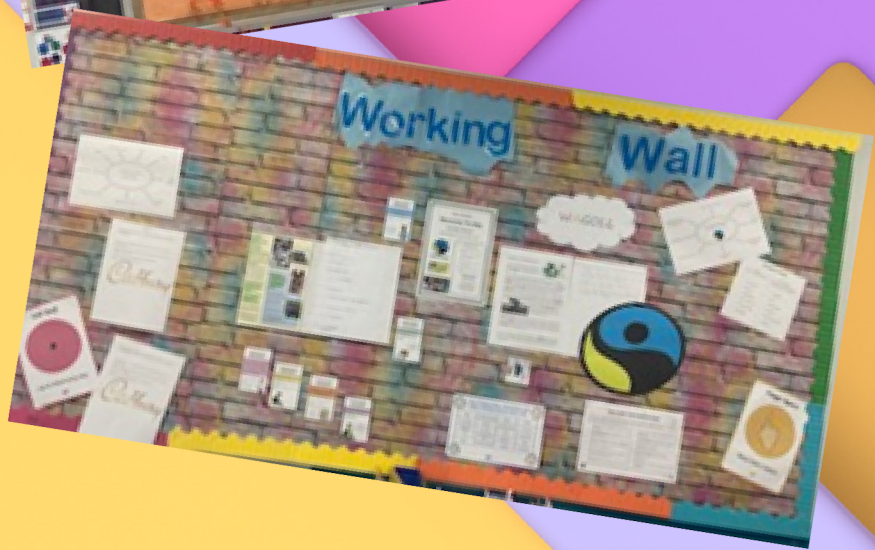


Or a child :

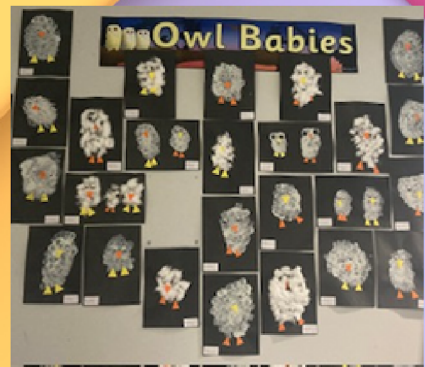
- *Where one of their parents died whilst serving in the Armed Forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.*
- *whose parent, or carer, serves in the regular armed forces, or as a reservist, or has done at any point during their life*

Please inform the school office if any of these apply to your family.

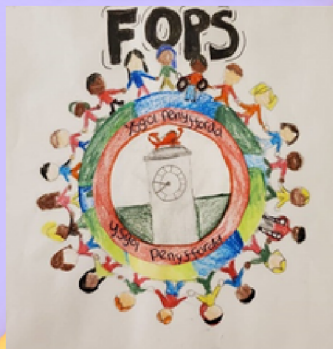
DISPLAYS FROM AROUND OUR SCHOOL



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A MESSAGE FROM FRIENDS OF PENYFFORDD SCHOOL (FOPS)



Dear Parents

Friends of Penyffordd School (FOPS) is a registered charity run by a group of friendly volunteers who support the school by raising money to benefit the children's learning. We also put on experiences and events for the children to enjoy.

GOOD NEWS

We are pleased to have been able to fund the new forest school shelter which is currently being built. We hope the children enjoy using it.

Co-op Local Community Fund

FOPS is part of the Co-op Local Community Fund raising funds towards the creation of a well-being garden at school. If you are a member, please nominate us as your cause as this will help increase the amount of funding we receive.

Christmas Fundraising

The 2023 Christmas Fair took place at the end of November and raised £2,649.24! Thank you to everyone who came and all the volunteers who helped to make the event a success. We also ran a Christmas Art Project through Cauliflower Cards which raised £237.50.

Uniform Donations

The pre-loved clothes rail is located by the school main entrance. Everything is free, please help yourself. There is a donation box available if you would like to contribute anything to our charity. Please send any donations of clean school uniform, outdoor wear, school shoes, wellies in a good usable condition in to school.

Future Events for your Diary

Mother's Day Gift Table: Thursday 7th March
Infant Film Night: Wednesday 22nd May
Junior Film Night Thursday 23rd May
Father's Day Gift Table Thursday 13th June
Summer Fair Thursday 11th July
Infant Disco Monday 15th July
Junior Disco Tuesday 16th July

**COMING
SOON**

We also plan to run Easter craft and grow the tallest sunflower competitions.
Leavers Hoodies

We will once again be organising orders of leavers hoodies for year six and we will be getting in touch with more information for families soon.

FOPS communicates via email, school text and on our private Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1103593539748129>

We can be contacted on fopscommittee@gmail.com

Warm Wishes, The FOPS Team,

Kayleen, Sarah, Becky, Gill, Tasha, Clair, Bec, Miranda & Jenn



A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNORS

News from the Governing Body

A belated Happy New Year to you all.

At our meeting in November the governors split into the three working groups, Leadership and Management, Teaching and Learning and Wellbeing to discuss work for the coming year. We also discussed various other topics, including the Headteacher's report, Health and Safety audit, an update from FOPS and the Governors in School Day which took place on 16th November.

At the end of November governors took part in a training session on monitoring the children's work through a book scrutiny. Books from last year and this year were looked at and a monitoring checklist was produced to help governors in this task. We were also supported by a County advisor.

At our first meeting this term we received feedback from the Finance and Safeguarding Committee meetings. However the main focus was on reviewing the work of the Governing Body. We reviewed the way the Governing Body works, identifying strengths and areas for improvement.

Governors continue to visit the school regularly and it is always a pleasure to talk to the staff and children about their work.

Glenys Nethercott

Vice Chair of Governors

