

Newsletter

Llythyr newyddion

Rhagfyr

*'Empowering
all through Christ's
love | Telling a joyful story'*

Website: [Alderman Davies CinW Website](#)



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe how quickly this term has passed. With Christmas just days away, the concerts complete, and the children full of excitement for this magical time of year, we wanted to take a moment to reflect.

We have truly enjoyed a fantastic term with your children, filled with engaging learning experiences linked to our topic of 'Glass', local visits to Gnoll Park and Neath library, our choir participating in the recording of Neath's Christmas song for charity alongside local band 'Atsain', swimming galas, poetry, eye dissections... the list goes on. The term concluded perfectly with their enterprise projects showcased at our school fete.

The enthusiasm and joy the children demonstrated while working collaboratively, navigating challenges, developing advertising strategies, identifying target markets, creating logos and slogans, and managing overheads and accounts; has been incredible. Move over Alan Sugar; the children of ADS are certainly ready to give you a run for your money!

On that note, I would like to extend a heartfelt 'diolch yn fawr iawn' to our fantastic FADS committee. They have worked tirelessly throughout this term to raise essential funds for our school, ensuring that every child benefits from their efforts.

Thanks to their support, we have already been able to purchase resources for our pottery initiative, furniture for our new museum (to be launched next term), and sports equipment for playtimes for all pupils.

New Topic for the Spring Term

The topic for the whole school is 'Air/Flight' which will follow the methodology of 'The Leonardo Effect'. If you are interested in finding out more about how we plan and engage our children through this model for teaching and learning, we will be holding another curriculum session at 2:30pm on the 25th of February 2026.





Some Useful Dates for your Diary

Ionawr/January 2026

- 05.01.26 INSET day
- 06.01.26 Return to school
- 07.01.26 Year 4 music string tuition starting (1 month project)
- 15.01.26 Residential information meeting for year 6 parents at 3:30pm
- 16.01.26 Year 3/4 educational visit to the Wetlands, Llanelli.
- 21.01.26 Bishop Mary will be visiting us at ADS
- 23.01.26 Year 3/4, Mrs Smith's class worship at 9:15am at St. David's Church
- 30.01.26 Year 1/2, Miss Simon's class worship at 9:15am at St. David's Church



Chwefror/February

- 06.02.26 Reception/Year 1, Miss O'Reilly's class worship at 9:15am at St. David's Church
- 06.02.26 Number Day
- 09.02.26 Year 6 residential to Margam
- 13.02.26 Mrs. Madge's class worship at 9:15am at St. David's Church
- 13.02.26 End of term
- 23.02.26 INSET Day
- 24.02.26 Return to school
- 25.02.26 'Curriculum and coffee' chat at 2:30pm

Mawrth/March

- 05.03.26 World Book Day (more information to follow)
- 25.03.26 Easter bonnet parade (ECO friendly bonnets will be designed and made in school. All craft donations will be gratefully received, thank you. Please no shop bought bonnets this year as we are an ECO school. Diolch yn fawr)
- 30.03.26 Easter Holidays

Ebrill/April

- 13.04.26 INSET Day
- 14.04.26 Return to School

Mai/May

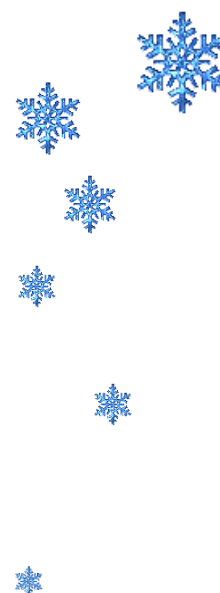
- 25.05.26 Half Term holidays

Mehefin/June

- 01.06.26 Return to school

Gorfennaf/July

- 08.07.26 Year 6 leaver's service at Llandaff cathedral
- 13.07.26 Year 6 Leaver's concert
- 17.07.26 End of Summer Term
- 20.07.26 INSET Day





Safeguarding

At Alderman Davies CIW Primary School, we have rigorous child protection procedures based on a clear policy, designed to make sure children and young people are safe and feel safe. All staff are inducted into our safeguarding procedures and receive child protection awareness training according to Local Authority guidelines. We are aware that safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. It includes pupil's health and safety, all aspects of behaviour such as bullying, racist and homophobic abuse, harassment and discrimination, both in school and travelling to and from school. Use of physical intervention, meeting the needs of pupils with medical conditions, providing first aid, drugs and substance misuse, educational visits, attendance, internet safety, site security and professional allegations.

Designated Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Sarah Williams- Headteacher

Deputy Safeguarding Officer: Mr Adam Morgan- Deputy Headteacher

Governor Safeguarding Lead: Mr. Simon Burnam- Rees – Chair of Governors

LA Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer: Anneliese Donovan

A Reminder of our New Staffing Structure

YEAR GROUP	TEACHER
Early Years Unit	Mrs. Natalie Brown Miss. Caitlin O'Reilly
Year 1/2	Miss Rebecca Simons
Year 3/4	Mrs. Sally Madge
Year 3/4	Mrs. Emma Smith
Year 5	Mrs. Andrea Partington
Year 5/6	Miss. Yvonne Yorkshades
Year 6	Mr. Adam Morgan (3 days) Mrs. Lucy Green (2 days)
PPA	Rachel Skinner

Mr. Morgan will be taking on the role of our Additional Learning needs Coordinator (ALNCO) for this academic year.



Celebrations

We were delighted to take part in the Neath Town Mayor's Christmas card competition this year and thrilled to learn that children from Alderman Davies secured the top three places, and one child received a highly commended award. What an achievement against all Neath Port Talbot schools.

Children from reception to year 6 also participated in the wonderful Neath Art and Literature festival this year. The artwork submitted was outstanding and the pride and joy shared by both staff and pupils was incredible. The artwork ranged from mixed media, pen, ink, pastel and collage and it was a joy to hear the positive comments from the community. All the work was inspired by Dylan Thomas' 'Under Milk Wood'.

We also worked collaboratively with Ysgol GG Castell Nedd and Neath folk band 'Atsain' to perform in a special concert in St. David's Church.

The collaboration was a huge success, and we have worked together once again to film a video of a new Christmas Song 'A Castell Nedd Country Christmas' during 'Neath's Christmas Kick Off'. All proceeds from the song will go to a Neath Town Mayoress' Appeal to make sure disadvantaged children have a nice Christmas too. We are looking forward to sharing this with you.

After School Clubs

The pupils from Years 1 - 6 will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of 'after school' clubs again after Christmas, beginning on Monday 19th of January at 3: 20p.m to 4:20p.m.

These clubs will run until the end of the term, and we will inform you of any changes for the summer term. We will send out a list of any new clubs or available spaces for current clubs in the new year.

If your child would like to take part, please ensure you book a place via the request form as spaces are limited. If a club is very popular, membership will be on a 'first come' basis.

Please be mindful that staff volunteer to run these clubs and I would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment.

A register will be taken each week. If your child cannot attend for any reason, please inform teacher.

Communications

Our School Website

Updated images and information explaining what the children have been learning in school are available via our website.



Website: [Alderman Davies CinW Website](#)

We celebrate our pupils' achievements and activities through various platforms such as J2Journal and X (formally known as Twitter). We have heard from many parents and carers that they don't currently have access to X and would prefer us to use Instagram instead. In response to this feedback, we have launched our official Instagram account this term. It will be an open account, designed to welcome visitors and showcase the amazing work happening across our school. We ensure we comply with privacy and data protection regulations.

Purpose of Use:

- Showcase classroom activities, school events, and pupil achievements
- Promote the school's ethos and community engagement
- Share updates with parents and the wider community

The graphic features a dark blue background with yellow stars. At the top, it says 'ADS School Instagram Account' in yellow. To the right is the ADS School crest. Below this is a screenshot of the Instagram profile for 'aldermandaviesciw'. The profile shows 0 posts, 0 followers, and 0 following. There are 'Follow' and 'Message' buttons. Below the screenshot, there is a paragraph of text: 'We care and listen to our lovely families, and would like to share our wonderful school with you on Instagram. Our X page is still live, however we understand that most of our families have moved away from X and would rather Instagram. Please join our school instagram account by searching @aldermandaviesciw, don't forget to click follow!'. At the bottom, there is a photo of two children in school uniforms and a yellow speech bubble that says 'Follow our instagram account to see what we get up to in our spectacular school!'.

Our school's official Instagram account is [@aldermandaviesciw](#)

Uniform

We would like to remind you about the importance of wearing the appropriate school uniform and we discourage children from wearing any makeup to school. They should only wear a watch or stud earrings as per uniform policy. Please no other jewellery.

School uniform can:

- provide a sense of identity, community and cohesion within the school
- support positive behaviour and school discipline
- ensure pupils dress appropriately for learning activity
- remove peer pressure to dress in particular fashions
- enable pupils of all backgrounds to share a common identity which embraces their particular requirements
- help reduce inequalities between pupils and help reduce some triggers for bullying
- benefit safeguarding and attendance policies through helping to identify truants
- assist identification of strangers on school premises
- support and promote the ethos of the school



Our School Uniform

- A navy jumper, hoodie or cardigan with or without a school badge
- A white, navy, pale blue or yellow polo shirt with or without a badge
- Black, grey or navy trousers, skirt, dress or shorts
- Blue and white summer dress

Our School PE Uniform

- A plain white, navy or yellow t-shirt (no football shirts are allowed)
- Their normal school jumper
- Dark shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers

Medical information

If there are any changes to your child's medical needs, please inform your child's class teacher as soon as you as possible. Also, if your child has a Health Care plan in place and changes are required before the annual review, please inform your child's class teacher so this can be recorded.

If your child requires medication to be administered during the school day, a signed form will need to be completed in the office for staff to be able to administer this.

*Please ensure that any medication is handed directly to a member of staff at school and not sent into school with your child.

Any asthma inhalers that are to be kept at school must be handed to a member of staff with the original box with your child's prescription, label attached. Your child will also require a Health Care plan to be completed.

Data

If there are any changes to personal information such as address or contact details, please update these with our administrative officer at reception as soon as possible.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

At Alderman Davies Church in Wales Primary School, we have very high expectations with behaviour in school. Our children are always encouraged to reflect on how their behaviour and actions affect those around them. This allows us to build and maintain a positive and safe learning environment for all, both in the classroom and within the school grounds. We also use a 'Restorative Practice' approach to help deal with any issues that arise within the school. We would really appreciate it you reinforced these expectations at home, particularly with swearing and the use of social media. If you require any support or advice or if you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Attendance

We continue to work with all pupils to maximise their attendance at school and this is one of our school targets for the year.

We appreciate that children are unwell at times and that they may have medical appointments; however, we aim for all pupils to have their best attendance possible. We are striving to give them the best opportunities in school and their attendance at the school maximises their progress and achievement.

*Our attendance leaflet is now available to view via the school website or there are hard copies in the office if you wish to receive one.

Please also ensure you complete a 'Holiday Request' form if you intend on taking a holiday during term time. These can be found on the school website, or you can request one from the school office.

Neath Port Talbot council have launched a campaign to raise the awareness of how important school attendance is. Please click on the link for further information.

Please click on the link for further information - ['Miss School, Miss Out' Campaign](#)

I would just like to thank you all once again for your continued support. Please feel free to speak to me regarding any questions or concerns you may have.

On behalf of all the staff and governors we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. Nadolig Llawen a blwyddyn newydd dda i chi i gyd.

Best wishes,
Mrs Sarah Williams
Headteacher

