

# JANUARY

Dear All,

Wishing you all a Happy New Year - Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! It's been wonderful to welcome back all our learners after the Christmas break. All classes have settled back to work and are enjoying their new topics. It was lovely to have some many parents and carers attend parents evening last week and discuss their child's progress with their class teacher. We hope that you found these sessions very beneficial.

## What's been happening in our classes - [Beth sy'n digwydd yn ein dosbarthiadau](#)

### Nursery



We have been exploring repeats using varied mediums, ranging from making line patterns with objects, creating line patterns with paints, fruit and blocks. Eventually a line pattern with sequence.

We continued our explorations in a sensory experience using rhythm sticks and made simple beats whilst singing simultaneously.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their experiences of pattern.

## Reception/Year 1



We have made a fantastic start to the year in Reception/Year 1 and have truly hit the ground running. The children have shown great resilience and enthusiasm in all the activities they have taken part in so far.

Our concept this term is *Change*, and we have enjoyed looking back at baby photos during discussion time to see just how much we have grown and changed. The children have also loved using the Djembe drums during sessions with Mr Thomas, where they have explored music from different cultures.

One of the highlights of the month has been setting up our *Fruit and Veg* shop in the classroom. The children thoughtfully considered everything the shop would need, including money, receipts and shopping baskets. They created signs and price tags and gathered resources to fully immerse themselves in their role play.

It was a pleasure to celebrate so many successes during parents' evening, and I would like to thank all families for taking the time to attend.

## Year 1/Year 2



We have been exploring lots of practical maths this half term. Looking more closely at numbers to 20, adding, doubling and subtracting. We have worked hard to recognise number words for 'teen' numbers too! Mrs James has set up weekly challenges in class, we love working hard to achieve more rewards at the end of the week!

In our concept work, Year 2 have enjoyed creating images of each season, before describing their different features. During music lessons Mr Thomas has introduced children to African drums, they have had a wonderful time playing new and exciting instruments while creating music and learning an appreciation of other cultures too!

## Year 2

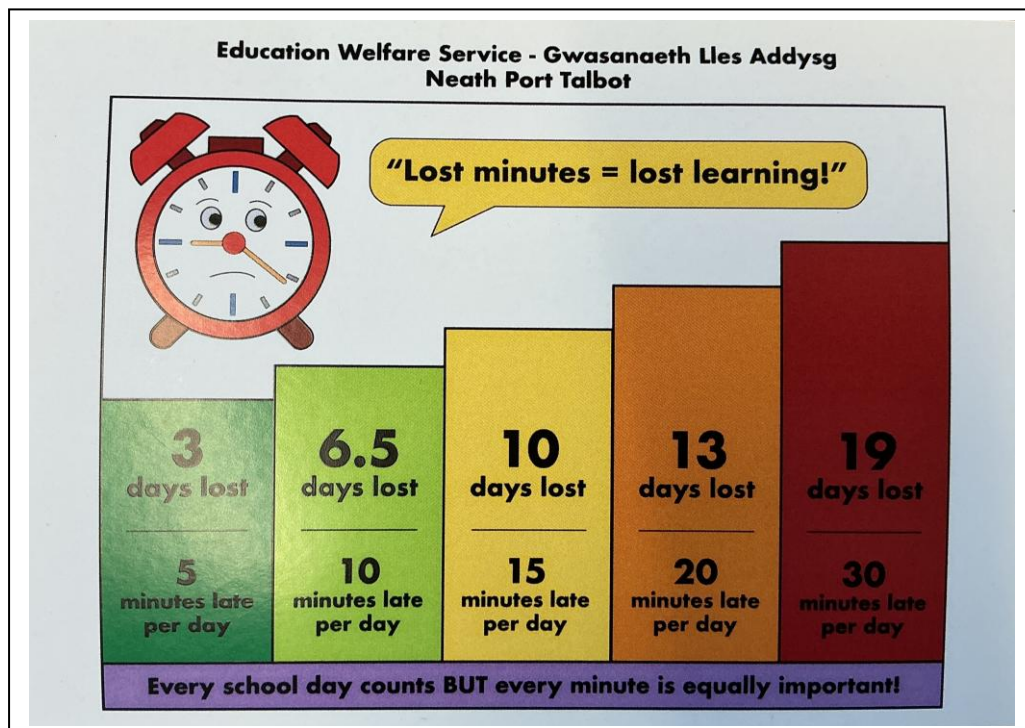


Year 2 have been working on a new concept of Change. They have begun looking at Climate Change and changing habitats. In maths they are working on multiplication using numicon to make groups and arrays. In R.E., they have retold the Calming of the Storm and made boats from paper, dough and loose parts. We had a life-sized boat built outdoors! Mr Thomas, our music teacher has been teaching us how to play the African drums.

### Attendance - Presenoldeb

As a school, we are keen to work with families to promote good attendance. Regular attendance is vital for your child's learning, progress and wellbeing. Children who attend school consistently achieve better academic results, develop stronger friendships, and build the skills they need for future success. Even a few days of missed learning can make it harder for your child to keep up and feel confident.

Punctuality is also vital; when learners arrive late at school can be very disruptive for the child, the teacher, and the other children in the class. Please remember the start of the school day is 8.50am.



Attendance for the month of January:

Nursery	89.56%
Reception/Year 1	94.45%
Year 1/ Year 2	91.94%
Year 2	91.98%
<b>Whole School attendance to date</b>	<b>92.53%</b>

Nursery Places for September 2026

St Joseph's Catholic Infant School Governing Body are currently accepting applications for our Nursery for September 2026. If you have a child or know a child who will be three before September 2026 contact the school for an application.

Also, if you are aware of family or friends who may be interested in giving their child an education rich in catholic ethos, please encourage them to contact the school on Tel: 01639 882579

## Diary Dates - Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur

Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Great Athletes - Sponsor Event to raise money for PE equipment in the school.
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Family Mass 10am St Joseph's Church. Please can the children wear <b>YELLOW</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	February Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	INSET Day - school closed to pupils.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Wear Red for Velindre - The children are invited to wear red to school to support this worthwhile cause. Donations to be made via Parent Pay.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	St David's Day Celebrations - Children are invited to wear their Welsh costumes.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Engagement Session - Mrs Turner's class. 9.15am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Engagement Session - Mrs Owen's class. 9.15am
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Engagement Session - Mrs James' class. 9.15am
Thursday March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Feast of St Joseph. The children can wear red on this day. We will be attending Mass and having a small party to celebrate our feast day.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Service at St Joseph's Church in the afternoon. Details to follow.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Bonnet parade in the afternoon. Details to follow.

## Celebrating 25 Years!

We started the term by having a special mass to celebrate Mrs Turner and Mrs Jones working at St Joseph's infants for 25 years. We were joined by pupils from St Joseph's juniors, as we prayed and gave thanks for 25 years of service given to the school. On behalf of staff, governors and families I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Mrs Jones and Mrs Turner for their commitment and all that they do for the school!



## E-safety Zone January 2026



Website of the Month - UK safer Internet Centre

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

**Tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online**

As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online.

You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. Our advice and resources are here to support you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibility and positively.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



EVERY WEDNESDAY  
DURING TERM TIME  
1:30PM

# St. Joseph's Infants Stay & Play



0-3s



ALL WELCOME!  
BASED IN OUR DINNER HALL  
WATER ST. PORT TALBOT







## Siarad Cymraeg

Here are some great phrases you can use to practise Welsh at home. Can you greet someone in Welsh or say thank you to them?

<b>Welsh</b> <i>With phonetic pronunciation</i>	<b>English</b>
<b>Shwmae</b> <i>Shoo my</i>	<b>Hello</b>
<b>Bore Da</b> <i>Bor-air dah</i>	<b>Good Morning</b>
<b>Prynhawn Da</b> <i>Prin-hound dah</i>	<b>Good afternoon</b>
<b>Noswaith dda.</b> <i>Noss-why-th thah</i>	<b>Good evening</b>
<b>Nos Da</b> <i>Noss dah</i>	<b>Good night</b>
<b>Os gwelwch yn dda</b> <i>os gwel-ookh uhn thah</i>	<b>Please</b>
<b>Diolch</b> <i>Dee-olch</i>	<b>Thanks</b>
<b>Hwyl Fawr</b> <i>Hoo-yl vah-ur</i>	<b>Goodbye</b>
<b>Welai di 'fory</b> <i>Well-aye dee vorry</i>	<b>See you tomorrow</b>

## Parent Communication.

Remember that SeeSaw is a great way to be kept informed about your child and to see what they are learning. The school website also has lots of information on it including key documents and dates. Please see links to our social media below.

	<b>School Website</b>		
Please contact your child's class teacher for details of how to join.	<a href="#">St. Joseph's Catholic Infant School</a>	<a href="#">St Joseph's Infants (@stjosephsinfants) • Instagram photos and videos</a>	<a href="#">St. Joseph's Infant School Port Talbot   Port Talbot   Facebook</a>
 <b>Teachers2Parents</b>	Please ensure we have your most up to date number so we can message you via this service.		

## Headteacher Awards - *Gwobr y Pennaeth*

Throughout the month we have had a number of children receive our Headteacher Award for great learning and fantastic behaviour. *Llongyfarchiadau* to each of you!



Nursery	Martina, Hallie, Iris, Oluwatise, Rivere, Effie, Bobby.
Reception/Year 1	Gabe, Nayla, Lennie, Elora, Tomas, Annie, Evie, Mohammad
Year 1/ Year 2	Elis, Romy, Frankie, Ray, Betsie and Ellis, Lloyd and Layla
Year 2	Ann, Carter P, Creeah, Hardik, Success and Theodore.

# PARENT/CARER DROP IN

As part of Neath Port Talbot's Educational Psychology Service, The Tonnau Team are pleased to offer Parent/Carer Drop-In sessions.

This is a 45-minute appointment that provides parents and carers with an opportunity to discuss their child's needs and receive advice and support from an senior educational psychologist.

## **WE COULD DISCUSS**

- Improving school attendance
- Understanding Emotions and Feelings
- Social Skills
- Learning Strategies

## **WE CANNOT DISCUSS**

- Disability Living Allowance
- Neurodevelopmental Pathway referrals
- Family court cases.
- School placements
- CAMHS referrals

## **WHO ATTENDS?**

- You
- The Tonnau Team
- A person of support if you feel you need it

Scan the following QR code or click the button to view upcoming parent drop in dates



**CLICK HERE**

## **AFTER THE SESSION**

We will email you with information about what we discussed. This may include signposting you to other support services, training and strategies to try at home.



Scan the following QR code or click the button to request an appointment

**CLICK HERE**



# Teulu CNPT NPT Family

Your one stop shop to find a range of FREE information, help & advice for families and their children living in Neath Port Talbot.

Are you looking for...



Childcare



Financial Support



Education and Learning



Fun things to do



Help for families



[nptfamily.com](https://nptfamily.com)



@nptfamily

Contact us on 01639 873018  
Email [nptfamily@npt.gov.uk](mailto:nptfamily@npt.gov.uk)  
Text number 07860041153

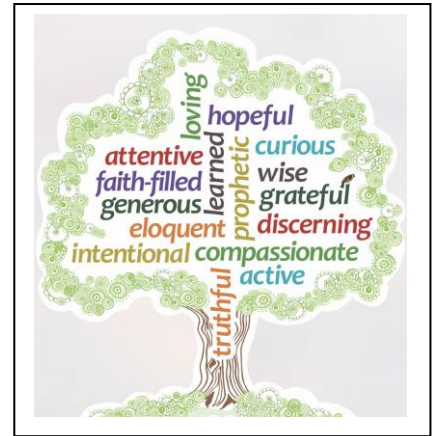


## Catholic Pupil Profile

This half term we will be focusing on the virtues of **CURIOUS** and **ACTIVE**.

Pupils in St. Joseph's Infant School are growing to be . . .

**Curious about everything and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.**



At St. Joseph's Infant School, we help our pupils to grow by leading pupils to be curious

about the universe and all human activity and take increasing responsibility for their own learning, by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of this school, the Church and the wider community.

### What does this mean to us?

#### Curious:

Exploring God's creation and asking questions to find out more. God created everything around us. Being curious about these things - from tiny insects to enormous planets, from the languages of the Earth to the patterns made by numbers - brings us closer to God.

#### Active:

Working to make things better where we can. As we use our curiosity to explore, we find things that could be better: a friend is unhappy; a neighbour is lonely; there is litter in the playground; the whiteboard needs wiping. Some of these problems we can fix. By being active, we take responsibility for these tasks and look after God's creation

### Say this prayer together:

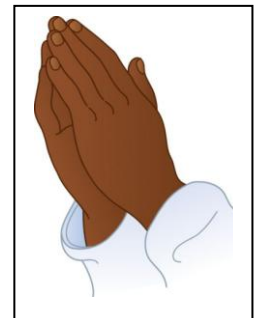
Lord Jesus,

Thank you for the virtues of being **CURIOUS** and **ACTIVE**.

Help me to take responsibility for my learning, to listen well and to ask questions.

Help me also to become more active in making this world a better place to live in.

Amen.



### At home:

Decide on one thing you will do this half term to help you be more **CURIOUS**. Will you listen more carefully? Will you work more independently? Will you cooperate better with others?

Decide how you will become more **ACTIVE**. Will you be more helpful? Will you show you can be trusted? Will you notice if others are in need?