

'Live Well, Laugh Together, Learn Forever'



Baglan Primary School is a 'Rights respecting school.' The article of the months for October is: Article 1 Everyone under the age of 18 has these rights.

20.11.2023 - Universal Children's Day

Armed Forces Friendly School ~ On Friday the 10th of November we held a school 'Remembrance Day Service'. It was a fantastic morning where we were able to honour and remember the Armed Forces who have fought and protected us for many years. It was also an opportunity to thank the service families in our school.

At the start of the morning, each class had an opportunity to lay the poppies they have made at home or in school. We created a beautiful garden of poppies.

We had some special guests that attended the service which included The Mayor of Neath Port Talbot, Deputy Lieutenant Captain Huw Williams, David Rees, Father Michael and many more from within the Armed Forces, Education and Emergency services as well as our very



important service families.

The children sat lovely during the service and sang our Remembrance songs beautifully. As always, they were a credit to the school. We hope that the children will remember this morning in years to come.

After the service, everyone gathered in the school hall where the school was awarded our Bronze award at being an

Armed Forces Friendly school. We are now working towards our silver award. The SSCE recently run 'The Art of a Military Child' competition and the work of two of the service children in the school was displayed in Aberafan Shopping Centre. We are very proud of them!



Year 3 News ~ Year 3 have returned back to school after a lovely half term break. We are very excited about this half term as we have been talking about all the different activities planned for us leading up to Christmas. In class, we have been learning how to subtract numbers mentally and through written sums in our books. We have been practising how to count on and back using larger numbers. We have also been looking at data and graphs and extracting information.



In English, we have started our new story called *Alfie's Star*. It is a lovely story where the star falls out of the sky and is picked up and used by a number of woodland animals who are hibernating because of the change in weather and seasons. We have plotted out a story map and have learned about compound words. Also we have carried out an oracy task asking and answering questions about a variety of stars. Also in class we

have been finishing off our Van Gogh paintings of the *Starry Night*. This week we have also taken part in "Odd Sock Day" for anti-bullying and Children in Need Day. We would also like to congratulate two of our pupils in class who have achieved a silver medal for gymnastics. *Bendigedig pawb!*



Year 2 & 3 News ~ In maths, this week, we have been looking at non-standard and standard units of measure. We have enjoyed estimating the length of items in our classroom, then measuring the items using cubes, paperclips, counters and dominoes. Some of our estimations were correct as we discussed and looked at the size of the item and compared it to the size of the non-standard unit being used to measure. From this we moved on to looking at a ruler and how to use it correctly, discussing the importance of where the numbers are placed and what each line represents. We used a ruler to measure items in cms, in whole numbers

and 0.5 of a number.

In English, we have been researching and understanding the festival of Diwali. We know that it is the Hindu festival of light. We learnt all about the preparation and welcoming the Goddess of wealth, into their homes. We read the story of Rama and Sita, then sequenced and re-told the story.

Working in our cooperative groups, we have been researching the work of the artist Henri Matisse. His work uses vibrant colours and shapes. We have enjoyed researching his life using our IT skills. For Diwali we created a Rangoli pattern, making sure we used bright, vibrant colours. From our designs we then recreated our patterns using coloured rice. They are very colourful and pretty.

Year 2 enjoyed their trip to the Immersive Room experience, they were amazed at the different habitats that they experienced, from the hot desert to the Amazon rainforest and to the depths of the Antarctica. This enabled them to visualise and feel like they were in the actual habitat. Using this experience they created a descriptive piece of writing.



Year 5 News ~ In Year 5, we have been learning lots of new Welsh vocabulary. We have learnt how to ask and answer questions in first person and we have written paragraphs about ourselves, including things such as our age, where we live and our likes and dislikes. We have now moved onto 3rd person and we are practicing how to ask and answer questions about another person. We have finished reading our class book '*Anrheg i Aled*' and we are now rehearsing a Christmas Welsh poem called '*Nadolig*'. We are doing lots of activities around this poem and we will be using it to help us write our own.

We have our last session with Jack and Cian from Premier League Primary Stars this week. We have loved working with them every Friday and we have all learnt lots of new skills. Thank you to both of them for your hard work with our class!



We have been building up to writing a persuasive letter in English. We have been practicing using the rule of three for added effect and we understand what a rhetorical question is. Next week, we will be analysing good examples of persuasive letters to help us know how to set one out and what to include.

In maths, we have been working on addition and subtraction, using all the hard work we did on place value at the beginning of the year to help us put all our digits in the right columns. We have found adding and subtracting decimals tricky but we have all worked hard to learn this new skill.

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Nursery News ~ On Friday the 10th of November we had our School Remembrance Service, all the children sat lovely and sang their Poppy song beautifully. It was a very special day which we hope the children will recall and talk about when they are older.

In the Nursery, we have been learning about fireworks. We enjoyed creating a firework picture by putting different coloured paint and glitter into a salad spinner. We spun the handle around and around and were then able to see our fantastic

firework designs.

During carpet time we learnt all about firework safety. We were able to recall this information in our co-operative groups and created a poster to help other children remember how to stay safe around fireworks.

For PE this week, we discussed the different movements and noises fireworks make and then came up with ideas how we could represent this using our bodies. We bend down to the floor, counted down from 5 and jumped up to a big bang in the sky. It was so much fun!



This week we have also made some yummy chocolate sparklers. We used chocolate fingers, dipped them in the water and rolled them around in the sprinkles. We couldn't wait to eat them when we got home.

We have also been very busy practicing our name writing with Miss Wilson. She is very proud of how hard we are all trying to overwrite our name and having a go at independent writing.

On Monday the 13th, we took part in 'Odd Sock Day' for anti-bullying week. We talked about the similarities and differences we all have in nursery and that we should always remember to be kind to each other.

Reception News ~ This week we have been focusing on helping others and developing our friendships linked to anti-bullying week. We all looked great with our odd socks. Muddy Monday was fun as we had to take part in an obstacle course in our outdoor area. It was very muddy and a little slippery, we then worked as a team to help each other complete the course. We have also been thinking about words to describe being a good friend e.g. help, kind, share, play etc. We then used paint to make handprints and added the words to make a kind hands & kind hearts collage. It was lovely to see everyone supporting Children in Need on Friday, we all looked great in our themed clothes. We were busy using money to help Pudsey buy some cakes.



Year 1 & 2 News ~ What an exciting two weeks of learning we have had in Year 1 and 2.



We have learnt about 'Remembrance Sunday' and the reason we wear poppies today. Year 1's took part in the school remembrance service and Year 2 had a virtual remembrance minute reflection in a virtual poppy field. The Year 2's visited Swansea University's Virtual Classroom where they took part in an immersive experience. This is a classroom with computer screen walls and surround sound. We were taken on a journey to different habitats around the world and it really feels like you are there in the moment. We visited Antarctica, The Rain Forest, a Hot and Cold Desert and went Under the Sea. It was

an incredible experience and the aim is now for us to write a post card using our senses and improve our descriptive writing. Because we were able to go to these places virtually we certainly have collected a bank of experiences, knowledge, feelings and we have shared vocabulary to support our creative writing. In maths we have been learning addition and subtraction using a number line, value of coins and money and measure. On Sunday, it was Diwali and we have learnt about this special celebration for the Hindu faith. We researched facts and created mehndi patterns on our handprints. On Monday, it was Odd Sock Day and we had a circle time about 'How We Are Different', designed our odd socks and watched a live lesson on an anti-bullying message. In Design and Technology, we have begun designing a Christmas Magnet activity. We will be creating a magic Christmas tree where the decorations move. Lastly, on Friday we took part in 'Children in Need' by wearing spots.



Attendance Week Ending: 17.11.2023

This year, one of our school development priorities is to improve the attendance of all our pupils. This is also a key priority for Neath Port Talbot education department.

Class	Attendance
Nursery ~ Morning	85.7%
Nursery ~ Afternoon	100%
Reception	89%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 1 & 2	97.5%
Year 2 & 3	98%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	89.6%
Year 5	94.2%
Year 6	92.7%

A huge congratulations to Nursery- Afternoon this week with a fantastic 100% attendance, closely followed by Year 3 & Year 2/3. Keep up the brilliant work!

Dates for the Diary	
20.11.2023	Premier Stars football tournament
24.11.2023	PTA Elf Hunt ~ thank you to our supportive PTA
06.12.2023	PTA Christmas Fayre ~ thank you to our supportive PTA
07.12.2023	Café Cynefin ~ 9am at our Junior Hall
07.12.2023	School Christmas Dinner Day (Please note the change of date)
11.12.2023	Year 1 - Year 6 Christmas Concert (afternoon)
12.12.2023	Nursery & Reception Christmas Concert (morning)
12.12.2023	Year 1 - Year 6 Christmas Concert (evening) Please can we politely request that all pupils return for the evening performance.
13.12.2023	Nursery & Reception Christmas Concert (morning)
13.12.2023	Year 1 - Year 6 Christmas Concert (afternoon)
14.12.2023	Dan Yr Ogof Show Caves trip ~ Reception & Year 1 pupils; everyone may wear Christmas jumpers/clothing.
15.12.2023	Dan Yr Ogof Show Caves trip ~ Year 1/2 & Year 2 pupils; everyone may wear Christmas jumpers/clothing.
18.12.2023	'Party on a plate day', Nursery-Year 6 ~ everyone may wear Christmas jumpers/clothing. (please note we don't have any refrigeration facilities for any cold foods)
19.12.2023	Reel Cinema trip to see 'Wonka' ~ Year 3-Year 6 pupils; everyone may wear Christmas jumpers/clothing.
20.12.2023	Foundation Phase 'Nursery-Year 2 pupils' Winter Wonderland Day ~ everyone may wear Christmas jumpers/clothing. The cost of this activity will be £2.00 cash. Many thanks for your support.
22.12.2023	Break up for the Christmas holidays
08.01.2024	All pupils return to school



Shining Stars ~ Ser Disglair



Miss Wilson ~ Nursery	Mia L ~ for being able to recall and talk about why we honour Remembrance day. Arrderchog Mia. River C ~ for the super improvement when over writing his name. Da iawn River.
Mrs Challenger ~ Reception	DJ M ~ for taking part in our Remembrance Service. We are very proud. Esme NW ~ for her super number bond skills to 10. Da iawn Esme.
Mr Atkins ~ Reception	Sebastian MW ~ For trying hard to sound out CVC words in his reading book. Joe M ~ For trying really hard with his descriptive writing.
Mrs Giles ~ Dosbarth 1 & 2	Benjamin VN ~ for his super subtraction in maths, bendigedig! Aurora O ~ for working so hard on her Read Write Inc. sounds. Gwych!
Miss Randall ~ Dosbarth 2 & 3	Saxon W ~ for writing a great piece of descriptive writing about our trip. Da iawn. Aurora T ~ for being kind and helpful to others. Well done Aurora.
Mrs Roosmalen ~ Dosbarth 3	Brooke D ~ for her excellent work reading and recognising key words and tricky spellings. Bendigedig Brooke. Archie S ~ for remembering his Testy Tuesday book and working hard to learn his spellings. Dal ati Archie.
Mrs Selley ~ Dosbarth 4	Carter P ~ for keeping a steady beat when playing instruments during our music sessions with Mrs James. Ardderchog! Phoebe K ~ for her excellent reading aloud skills during our Giglet sessions. Bendigedig Phoebe.
Miss Noon/ Mrs Myatt ~ Dosbarth 5	Melia L ~ for trying hard with her addition and subtraction. Lili-Mai R ~ for fantastic Welsh writing.
Mrs Smart ~ Dosbarth 6	Sophie May L ~ for working really hard in mathematics. Da iawn. Oscar H ~ for always trying his best, what a great attitude. Sehaj K ~ for his super work when reading aloud in Welsh, ardderchog.
Mrs White ~ all classes	Lowri P and Gethyn S ~ for their great work making an instruction card on 'How to make recycled paper,' Da iawn both.