



Blaendulais Primary School

Standard Terrace, Seven Sisters, Neath, SA10 9AA
(01639) 700261

Headteacher: Mrs. R. Dawson
Deputy Headteacher: Mr. C. Fulford-Astley
Email: office@blaendulaisprimary.npt.school

'Making a Difference' 'Gwneud y Gwahaniaeth'

September 2025 Newsletter/Llythyr Newyddio



Dear Parents / Carers,

To keep you informed of key dates, events and celebrations, you will receive a monthly school newsletter.

Staffing Update – Mrs Evans

We would like to share the exciting news that Mrs Evans, who is a very valued member of Blaendulais Primary, has been offered a secondment placement with the Well-Being Team in Neath Port Talbot.

While we will miss her greatly during this time, we are delighted she has been given this opportunity and we look forward to welcoming her back in the Spring Term. In the meantime, an additional member of staff will be supporting Mr Clark and the LSC until Mrs Evans returns.

Class Newsletters

Class newsletters will now be sent at the beginning of each half term from your child's class Teacher detailing classroom routines, reminders and key dates for your diary.

Fundraising for a Kids Cancer Charty

An amazing group of staff and Governors took part in the Swansea 10K on Sunday 14th September raising money for Kids Cancer Charity. Thank you so much to everyone who has taken the time donate. Currently over £1000 has been raised for this fantastic charity.



School Uniform

As a reminder, all pupils are expected to wear full school uniform. Please ensure all items are clearly named.

We know uniform can be expensive, so we encourage families to make use of our selection of pre-loved items, available for a small donation (£1) or swap. Please speak to a member of staff if you need support.

School Essentials Grant

The School Essentials Grant can help cover the costs of -

- ✓ Uniform, coats, and shoes
- ✓ Sports/music activities
- ✓ Classroom equipment
- ✓ Outdoor learning kit
- ✓ Scouts, Guides, cadets, dance, etc.



👉 Visit **npt.gov.uk** and search *School Essentials Grant* to check eligibility.

School Dinners

All children are now entitled to free school dinners each day which is fantastic however many parents/carers think they no longer need to apply – Please continue to apply as this as it makes an **enormous** difference to our school budget as we can then claim for extra funding to support your child's education and activities.



Please go to <https://www.npt.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/attendance-grants-and-support/school-meals/free-school-meals/>



Breakfast Club

Doors open at 8.10am. Children **must not** arrive any later than 8.25am. Please ensure your children are always supervised for their own safety when waiting for the doors to open.

Breakfast Club is run by the 'School Meals Service' and any issues should be reported to that Service at Neath Port Talbot CBC and not the school.

🚫 Polite reminder - As with school, poor behaviour and rudeness will not be tolerated in Breakfast Club and we ask that all parents and children are respectful to our dedicated Breakfast Club staff.

Music Lessons

- **Woodwind:** Thursdays (from 18th Sept)
- **Brass:** Mondays (from 22nd Sept)
- Year 4 & 5 have begun a **10-week brass workshop**.

Family Engagement Officer

We warmly welcome Ceri-Marie Jones, our new Family Engagement Officer. She will be with us every Monday and Wednesday, greeting families at the school gates and offering support, activities and experiences.

Attendance

Our target attendance is **95%**. Current attendance is **93%**.

- 95% = up to 10 days absent over a year (school target)
- Below 91% = more than 3 weeks' absence, which significantly impacts learning.

Lateness will also affect attendance. Being 30 minutes late daily = 2½ hours of lost learning each week.

Holidays are unauthorised under Neath Port Talbot Council policy – please complete a holiday form to keep your child's attendance record accurate.

Sickness If your child is unwell, please contact the school on the first day of absence.



⊖ Unexplained absences will be followed up for safeguarding reasons.

Holiday requests



PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SCHOOL STARTS AT 8.50am

The School Day

Doors open	8:40am
Doors close	8.50am
End of Nursery session	11:40am
End of school day for LSC pupils	3.00pm
End of the school day	3:15pm

Clubs



Over the next few weeks a number of After School Clubs will be organised for the children to enjoy after school. Clubs will be run by school staff after school hours (3.15pm – 4.30pm). Further details to follow.

Questionnaires

Thank you for your support in completing our school questionnaire. Your views and ideas are vital in developing the school further and addressing any concerns or worries. Further questionnaires will follow over the next few weeks.

Important dates for your diary

- **From Mon 15th Sept** – Brew and News Coffee Morning (Mondays with Ceri)
 - **From Wed 17th Sept** – “Creating Stories with Your Child” (Wednesdays 1–3pm with Ceri)
 - **Tue 30th Sept** – Y6 Transition Day @ Llangatwg & Open Evening (5–7pm)
 - **Mon 13th Oct** – Parents’ Evening (letter to follow)
 - **Wed 15th Oct** – Shwmae Day (wear red/Welsh kit – themed activities)
 - **Fri 17th Oct** – Show Racism the Red Card (wear something red)
 - **Mon 20th Oct** – INSET Day
 - **Tue 21st Oct** – Nasal Flu Spray (Reception–Y6, not Nursery)
 - **Fri 24th Oct** – Last day of half term
 - **Mon 3rd Nov** – First day back
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Best wishes,

Mrs. R. Dawson
Headteacher