



Blaendulais Primary School

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

Headteacher: Mrs. R. Dawson
Deputy Headteacher: Mr. C. Fulford-Astley
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'Making a Difference' 'Gwneud y Gwahaniaeth'

November 2025 Newsletter/Llythyr Newyddio Tachwedd 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our November newsletter celebrates our achievements and reminds about key dates, upcoming events and general school information.

Children in Need – Friday 14th November

A huge thank you to all for helping us raise money for Children in Need - £103.33. Thank you to our PTFA for buying every child t-shirt to decorate with spots.



Pupil Voice Groups

Over the past few weeks, staff and pupils have been working together to elect and nominate representatives for our various Pupil Voice Groups. These groups will collaborate with staff and fellow pupils to bring about positive changes across the school. They'll also be involved in a range of exciting projects inspired by the ideas and suggestions shared by our school community.

Our Pupil Groups

- School Senedd with Mr Astley
- Criw Cymraeg with Mr Curtis
- Eco Committee with Mrs Totterdale
- Digital Champions with Mr Clark
- Sports Ambassadors with Mrs Jones
- Healthy Schools with Mrs Jones and Mrs Rudge



Our Year 6 Head Boy and Head Girl

We are pleased to let you know that pupils our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils have recently nominated candidates for the roles of Head Boy and Head Girl. Congratulations to **Rio** and **Jessica** on being selected! They will be excellent role models for our school community, representing pupils' voices and supporting school life in a number of ways. Their responsibilities will include helping at school events, working alongside the leadership team and acting as a bridge between pupils and staff by sharing ideas and feedback from their peers.

PTFA Festive Fun Night – Wednesday 26th November 2025

Our PTCA will be organising a fantastic Fun Night of gifts, crafts, food for all to enjoy after school.



Christmas Fayre - Thursday 3rd December

Our Christmas Fayre is on Thursday 3rd December– Further details to follow.

Our Christmas Concert Dates – All concerts will be in the school hall to allow plenty of room

- Nursery, Reception and Year 1 (Marchywel) – Tuesday 9th December at 9.15am
- Year 2, 3 and LSC1 (Cribarth) – Thursday 11th December at 2.00pm
- Year 4,5,6 and LSC2 (Hirfynydd) – Wednesday 10th December at 2.00pm



Tickets will be on sale on Wednesday 3rd December from the School Office at the price of £2.00 per ticket.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns, please contact the school.

Throughout the school, we have a number of safeguarding posters so our children know who can help.

Safeguarding Lead - Mrs. R Dawson
Safeguarding Governor – Ms. T. James (Chair of Governors)

Deputy Safeguarding Leads – Mr. C. Fulford Astley Deputy (Headteacher)
Mrs. A. Totterdale (ALNCo and LSC1)
Mrs. H. Jones (Year 2/3)

Single Point of Contact Team (SPOC) – Initial contact for **anyone** who requires information, advice or assistance regarding children, families and adults. Please phone
01639 686802

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

As Headteacher, my responsibility is to ensure the safety of pupils, staff, and visitors at all times. During my first few weeks at the school, I identified that our current procedures and site security required significant improvements. Please be assured that my intention is not to cause concern, but rather to guarantee that our site remains secure at all times.

Stay and Play

Our Family Engagement Officer, Ceri-Marie Jones will be starting our first session of Stay and Play on Monday 24th November. Please come and join us from 2.00pm-3.00pm in our Family Room in the main school building. All are welcome.



Breakfast Club

To ensure that our school site is secure at all times, our main gates will be closed. Please use the buzzer from 8.10am and a member of staff will let you in and out.

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.

Attendance

Our School has an Attendance Officer who visits the school regularly to monitor registers and who regularly checks in with families where attendance is becoming a concern to offer advice and support.

Our target attendance is **95%**. Our current attendance is **91.3%**.

Lateness – Please sign your child in at the Main Office if you arrive after 8.50am.



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



⊖ All unexplained absences will be followed up for safeguarding reasons as we need to know all is ok.

Appointments - whenever possible, please try to arrange these outside of school hours. If your child does need to attend an appointment during the school day, just share a letter or text confirming the appointment so we can authorise the absence.

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

Please speak to us if you are finding it difficult to get your child to school – we are always here to help.

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

Thank you to all of the staff for organising after school clubs.



Staff member	Club	Day
Mrs Jones	Multi skills club	Wednesday until 4pm
Mr Clark	Minecraft	Tuesday until 4pm
Mrs Totterdale	Choir	Thursday until 4pm
Mr Curtis	Ukulele	Wednesday until 4pm

Our School Development Priorities

The Senior Leadership Team have identified the following key priorities to support the continued development of our school over the coming year. These targets have been shaped through thorough ongoing monitoring, including book reviews, pupil voice activities, learning walks and assessment analysis. We are also grateful for the valuable input and perspectives shared by our staff, pupils, parents/carers and Governors which have helped inform these priorities.

Priority 1	To improve pupils' literacy skills, in particular writing
Priority 2	To improve pupil attendance
Priority 3	To develop effective teaching and learning that supports independence, active learning, engagement and progress
Priority 4	To develop positive relationships and behaviour

Important dates for your diary

- **Monday 24th November** - Stay and Play with Ceri Marie our Family Engagement Officer
2-3pm in our Family/Community Room in the main school building
- **Wednesday 26th November** – Festive Fun Night with the PTFA
- **Thursday 27th November** – Behaviour Assembly for Year 3-6 with PC. Kent
- **Wednesday 3rd December** – Christmas Fayre - Details to follow
- **Tuesday 9th December** - Nursery, Reception and Year 1 (Marchywel) at 9.15am
- **Wednesday 10th December** - Year 4,5,6 and LSC2 (Hirfynydd) at 2.00pm
- **Thursday 11th December** - Year 2, 3 and LSC1 (Cribarth) at 2.00pm
- **Thursday 11th December** – Christmas Dinner
- **Thursday 11th December** – Christmas Jumper Day
- **Wednesday 17th December** – Lunch with Santa organised by Family Engagement Officer
- **Friday 19th December** – Last day of half term
- **Monday 5th January** – First day back
- **Thursday 8th January** – Pantomime at Gwyn Hall Neath

Best wishes,

Mrs. R. Dawson
Headteacher