

Ysgol Gynradd Cilffriw



Cilffriw Primary School



Amser Stori Story Time

The children had a wonderful day on Thursday celebrating a love of stories with a visit from Paul Doyle.

Paul works for the Neath Port Talbot library services and kindly came to visit the school to work with every child in the school. Paul's story telling skills were inspiring and helped the children to develop a true love of stories and literature. In Nursery and Reception, his stories helped the children to imagine their own and as a result, they have made up their very own story that Paul will send back to us for them to remember. Every class benefitted from his expertise and dates are already booked in for him to return!

Red Nose Day

The children came to school Friday dressed in red to celebrate and learn about red nose day. This year the charity saw more than £38 million raised and the children in our school donated towards this total. We will put the total amount raised on Facebook on Monday once every pot has been counted. A big thank you to all of you for supporting us. It is an excellent charity that raises life changing funds to help end the cycle of poverty and ensure that children are safe, healthy, educated and empowered. We are really proud with the children using their voices to affect change.



>95%
ATTENDANCE
IS REGARDED AS THE
MINIMUM
ACCEPTABLE LEVEL

Weekly Attendance:

Nursery/Reception-
89.3%

Ash (Y1)- 93.8%

Beech (Y 2/3)- 90.0%

Cherry (Y 3/4)- 88.1%

Elm (Y5)- 79.3%

Maple. (Y6)- 81.4%

Oak (C7)- 93.4%

Pine (C8)- 96.7%

Little better!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT- WORKING TOGETHER TO SECURE IMPROVEMENTS

1

SAFEGUARDING

To strengthen safeguarding arrangements and address health and safety issues

2

LEADERSHIP

Improve strategic leadership at all levels

3

PROGRESSION & TEACHING

Improve teachers' use of on-going assessment to inform appropriate next steps in pupils' learning and challenge pupils

4

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Improve the provision for the teaching of and the progressive development of pupils' skills (Welsh, Digital, Writing, Numeracy)

Suggestion Box

We have installed a new suggestion box in the main foyer for parents and community members and also one for the children.

This week saw a suggestion box being introduced for the children. The box was put up and 2 days later was bursting. I have come home at the end of the week with bags full of suggestions from the children which was really lovely to see. The suggestions were very similar and have already been acted upon to allow the children to see that we do listen. It seemed that older children had been told in the dinner hall that packed lunches and dinners were on separate tables. They were upset as some were unable to sit with their friends. This was put right immediately and children and all staff are aware that children can choose to sit where they are most comfortable. It also seems that the reduction in playtime from 20 minutes to 15 minutes is also causing some concern. I have told the children that this will be reviewed. Feel free as a parent to post a suggestion to us, we are here to work together and listen.

School Vision and Values

As a school we have been reviewing our school values and our vision with the children. After an assembly on vision and values, the children have been busy in classes coming up with their values for the school. This has also been done with staff members and I would love you as parents and community members to contribute too. I will be sending out a form for you to complete and then will collate the responses and let you know. It is an



excellent opportunity to set what the community of the school want moving forward. After half term, I will also be holding a 'Have your Say' coffee morning for parents and community members so that we can look at improvements together. This date is in the calendar of events, it would be lovely to see many of you there.

Breakfast Club Appeal

We have set up a range of activities for the children that attend breakfast club but are looking for more resources. If you have any table top games that you no longer use we would be grateful if you would donate them. We are looking for things like puzzles and games, Connect 4,



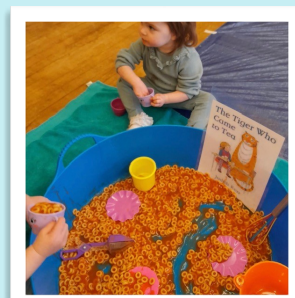
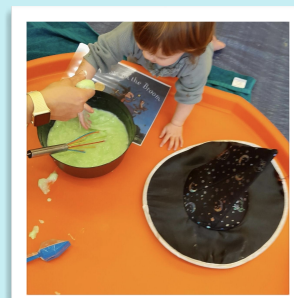
Jenga, Frustration etc!

COMMUNITY UPDATE

This week has been busy and saw an excellent turn out for our 'Messy Play' playgroup. These sessions have been really hands on and our under 3's have been having so much fun.

We also held our fortnightly coffee morning on Thursday. This is a lovely opportunity to meet other parents and speak to our family engagement worker Ashley Chips. She has some excellent advice and contacts and is very much helping families in the local community.

CAMHS outreach also held a coffee afternoon for parents this week. These group sessions are excellent and offer families advice and support. They have excellent advice on well-being and mental health and work can also signpost adults. Look out for the next session.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE:	WHAT'S GOING ON:	WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:
21st March	Boys Rugby Tournament	More details to follow.
21st and 22nd March	Easter Celebrations	Easter bonnet parade, Easter egg hunt for the children and activities and fingers crossed the bunny comes.
25th March- 8th April	Easter Holidays	Family time, enjoy the break!
9th April	Year 6 Transition Meeting	Ashley our family engagement officer will meet Year 6 parents to answer questions about transition.
10th April	MMR Vaccinations	Community members can receive MMR vaccinations in our main school hall, more information to follow.
11th April	Harp Workshop	Some classes will have a harp workshop with the music service.
24th April	Llangatwg Staff Coffee Afternoon with Year 6 Parents	Parents are invited in to our school where staff from Llangatwg will be onsite to answer questions.
25th April	Height, weight and Vision Check for Reception Pupils	The school nursing service will be attending school for this session.
3rd May	Have Your Say Parents and Community Members Coffee Morning	Come and join me at 9.00 am for a coffee for us to chat about improvements together.
6th May	Bank Holiday Monday	School closed for pupils.
9th May	Year 6 Transition Day to Llangatwg	Transition day re-arranged due to cancelled day.
24th May	Last Day for pupils	Half term week.
3rd June	Back to School	Pupils back to school.

UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

REPORTING ABSENCE

Please make sure that all absences are reported to the main office and not to staff or through class dojo pages.

This ensures that they receive the correct marks which will affect their overall attendance results.

PARENTS EVENINGS

Parents evenings will take place in your child's classroom on Monday and Tuesday. You will need to enter school through the main school door to sign in on our electronic system as we need to account for all of you in the event of a fire. I am available for any queries.

BREAKFAST CLUB

From Monday, breakfast club will now open to pupils from 8.10 am. Children will be signed in through the Nursery/Reception entrance. Please can you ensure that children are not on school premises before this time. I hope this helps you as parents.

SICKNESS

We have had reports of a number of pupils with sickness across the school this week. Reminder that a child will have to stay home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness.