



22nd February 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you again for your patience, understanding and cooperation as we continue to deal with the aftermath of the flood. We have all been so impressed and proud of the children, as they have shown great resilience with the changes. We have had a very busy half term and have lots to celebrate.

It has been a very exciting few months for the Y Bont Faen Netball team, as they have been extremely successful and came first place at the Vale Primary Schools Tournament, winning the whole tournament – this is a fantastic achievement and the team will be competing at the Regional Final Tournament in March. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Janczewski for the time and the hard work she puts into coaching the Netball team. Thank you too, to Mr Winwood, Mrs Evans and Mrs McDonald for their support with the netball team.

The Urdd Club has been busy with sporting events and have taken part in a Girls' Football and mixed Football tournament – the children showed great sportsmanship and worked successful as a team. At the Urdd netball tournament, our school team were awarded with an impressive Silver medal.

On Thursday the school celebrated the musical talents of the children who are learning to play the piano, guitar and ukulele. The children enjoyed performing solos, duets and trios and we were amazed at the talents of the children. Some children have only been learning for a few months and they all performed with such confidence – well done to everyone.

Young Reporters Club have been busy reporting on the news events that have happened at school. You may have noticed that some of their articles have been published in The Gem. The editor of The Gem has commented on how well written the articles have been – well done!

A few weeks ago, we had our first taste of snow for the year! The children had great fun making snowmen and playing with their friends in the snow. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Thomas and Mr Morgan for their hard work in ensuring the school opened – as many of you know, they were at the school at 5am, shovelling the snow off the paths and carpark so that we could open as normal.

All classes have been very busy and have been involved in different events and activities, since the last newsletter:

Morning Nursery: The children are being immersed in a language/numeracy rich environment in order to foster good speech, language and number skills, and have started their exciting reading journey.

Afternoon Nursery have settled very well into the Nursery routine and are enjoying the exciting challenges.

Reception: The children went into Cowbridge to meet a local artist J.P. Jones at his exhibition and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Year 1: The children have designed and made junk model animals – a good way of recycling!

Year 2: Professor Buswell visited the class and talked about St. Quentin's Castle. They also went to the castle and enjoyed looking at the different features.



Year 3: Ysgol Iolo Morganwg visited our school to learn about Coding.

Year 4: The children joined up with the Year 4 class from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg to take part in Welsh dancing lessons.

Year 5: The children joined up with the Year 5 class from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg to learn how to do sports skills through the medium of Welsh.

Year 6: The children have been busy immersing themselves in science investigations. They also joined up with the Year 6 class from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg to improve their Welsh oracy skills and have taken part in an English Union Speaking Workshop at St. Bride's Major.

There are lots of exciting events coming up after half term and the first week back is very busy! As St David's Day falls in the half-term holiday, we will hold our Eisteddfod on **Wednesday 6th March**. We look forward to see the children performing the Welsh songs and poems that they have been busy rehearsing. Children are encouraged to come into school wearing Welsh costumes or kit. World Book Day will be celebrated on **Friday 8th March** and children are encouraged to come to school dressed as a character from a book.

We look forward to welcoming you into school to celebrate your child's learning. Sharing Day will be held on Friday 8th March for Foundation Phase children and Friday 15th March for Key Stage 2 children.

Please note that we have an Inset Day on **Monday 1st July** - school will be closed to all children on that day.

Entry to the school is still by the staffroom door next to the Year 1 and 2 classrooms. After the children have arrived at school the gate is locked for security reasons. There is a notice attached to the railings asking you to phone school should you need to collect or deliver your child to school during the day. Mrs Cross will then collect your child and bring him/her to the gate for you.

Just a reminder to please ensure you always keep your ParentPay accounts in credit. Mrs Cross is still having to send out reminders to parents who fail to do so, resulting in a debt on their accounts. As we have stated before, any shortfall in the amount of income results in school having to pay out of the school budget, a cost we can ill-afford.

I wish to remind you that only staff vehicles are allowed into the school car park. It would be greatly appreciated if you could continue to be considerate when parking in the Close.

I wish to end this letter with some more good news! We are delighted to announce the birth of Alys to Miss Williams and her fiancé on Tuesday 12th February.

We wish you all a restful half-term holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 4th March.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Adams
Head Teacher