



**"United we, Empower, Nurture and Challenge."
"Wrth uno mae'n ein arfogi i feithrin a herio."**

**Welcome to Blackwood Primary School's
End of term Newsletter!**

***Croeso i Newyddlen Ysgol Gynradd
Coed Duon!***



INSET DAYS

Friday 16th June 2023

Monday 19th June 2023

School Term dates for 2022/2023

Summer Term 2023

- *Half term starts Monday 29th May 2023*
- **Back to school Monday 5th June 2023**

Term ends Friday 21st July 2023

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school any day please contact the school on either of these two methods.

- Telephone - 01495 224111 and leave a voicemail by 9:00 am on day of absence.
- Use the absences section on our Parentmail app to provide a reason.

Failure to do so will result in an un-authorized mark and could initiate a referral to the Education Welfare Officer.

Please be mindful that a generic message is being sent out **EVERY MONDAY** morning to remind parents of this.

Attendance

Please be reminded that the school gates open at 8:45am for the start of school and close at 8:55 am.

All children need to be collected at 3:00pm

Nursery times are: AM session: 8:55am - 11:15am

PM sessions: 12:40am - 3:00pm

Last week's whole school attendance was: 87.7%

As a school we are striving to increase our overall attendance moving forward and cannot do this without your support. Our school attendance target this term is 95%

Lateness

We have a significant number of children who are continually late attending school and when being collected from school.

Please try to ensure that your child arrives at school so that they are present for registration; this is marked at 8:55am each day.

The school day finishes at 3:00pm and children need to be collected from school on time by an appropriate adult.

Important interventions are carried out first thing every day and if your child is late it means they are missing an important part of their learning. Lateness causes problems over lunch money/numbers, register marking and missed instructions.

F@B Group information

Friends at Blackwood Primary (F@B) group would like to thank you for all your support, during this academic year so far. Since the children returned in September, we have held various events. We have held discos during the school day, which the children thoroughly enjoy.

There are some very good dancers at Blackwood Primary.

Thanks again for all your support and we look forward to raising more funds to benefit the children.

We are always on the look out for new members – if you are interested in helping at any events, please contact the office.

Future Events:

Inspirational Men's event – Thursday 15th June.

Celebration Week—Monday 17th –Friday 21st July –Summer Fete date to be confirmed.



Community News / Events



MAY HALF TERM SWIMMING

Monday 29th May –
Friday 2nd June 2023

CAERPHELLY

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Tue 1pm-4pm
Wed 2:15pm-4pm
Thur 9am-10am
Thur 1pm-3pm
Fri 3pm-6pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session**
Tue 6:15-9:45am
Thur 12pm-1pm

RISCA

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
11am-12:30pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session
(Lane Swim)**
Tue-Fri
9am-11am

NEWBRIDGE

**Free Mermaid
Classes***
Tue 10am-11am
Wed 10am-11am
Wed 11am-12pm
Fri 10am-11am

**Free Personal
Survival***
Thu 10am-11am

Free Water Polo*
Fri 11am-12pm

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Fri 2pm-8pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
12pm-1:30pm

*Booking required

BEDWAS

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
11am-12pm
Fri 5pm-6:30pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
9am-11am
Fri 3pm-4pm

HEOLDDU

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Tue & Thur
12pm-1:40pm
Wed & Fri
12pm-1:55pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
11am-11:55am

CEFN FFOREST

**Free Under 16
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
11am-12:30pm

**Free Over 60s
Swim Session**
Tue-Fri
2pm-3pm

*Please note Newbridge
Leisure Centre will be open
10am-4pm on Spring Bank
Holiday. All other Leisure
Centres will be closed.

Gweithgareddau Hanner Tymor!

Half Term Activities!

YMUWCH Â NI YN LLYFRGELL COED DUON AM
STRAEON A CHREFFTAU!

JOIN US IN BLACKWOOD LIBRARY FOR STORIES
AND CRAFTS!

Dydd Mercer, Mai 31ain,
11:00-12:00



Wednesday, May 31st,
11:00-12:00



Sporting news

Congratulations to Year 3 boys, year 4 boys and girls, year 5 boys and year 6 boys and girls for winning their tennis competitions today!

Da iawn to all sporting competitors for their amazing effort throughout the day.



Nursery / Meithrin

A super half term has been had by all in Nursery. Our Jubilee celebrations were a success and lots of fun had by all. Creating a 3D cake for the King using a 2 colour repeating pattern, building a castle with the blocks, matching numbers of the guards lots of maths skills have been used.

A very special delivery arrived which had everyone excited. 10 tiny caterpillars !

We have watched them grow and grow and then spin a cocoon. All 10 are now sleeping and getting ready to change into a butterfly. This has got us very interested in the lifecycle of a butterfly and have been investigating the process. We have continued to strengthen the muscles in our hands with clay and play dough rolling, squeezing, pushing and pulling to

create our own butterfly life cycles. In the Creative area we have been observing and drawing the caterpillars and cocoons beginning to describe how they look. Lots of colourful creations have been painted whilst learning about the symmetry and pattern of a butterfly.

Our story this term has been The very hungry caterpillar we have followed the days of the week and tasted all of the lovely fruits the hungry caterpillar ate.

All Nursery children have been sent home with a bean that they have planted in a pot we can't wait to follow their progress on Seesaw. Please update how your beanstalks are getting along.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and wish you lovely half term
The Nursery Team

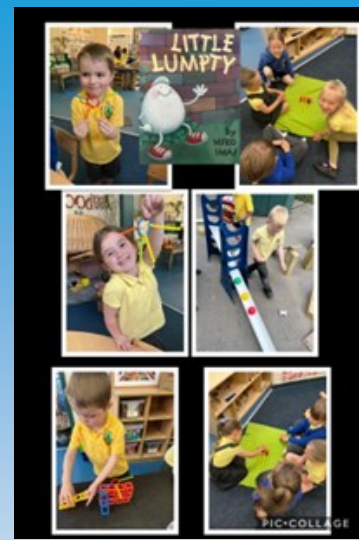


Helpful Information

- Healthy snack can be brought in each day for your child or alternatively snack money can be paid on a Monday at £1 per week.
- Please can all items of clothing be labelled with your child's name and spare clothes left in school.
- As the weather turns colder with the season change we ask that you ensure your child is wearing appropriate weather wear and has a pair of labelled wellies to be left in school.
- Follow us on Twitter: @NurseryBPS



Reception / Derbyn



We have had another fabulous half term! We thoroughly enjoyed our Coronation day, especially our party in the big hall. Thank you FAB! We have learned how to make our own sandwiches and we're planning a picnic in the park before we, hopefully, go on a trip to Raglan Farm Park. We are experts at trifle making and singing 'Young and old throughout the nation...', our Coronation Day song. We have made celebration cakes, crowns and 'special gifts for King Charles III'. We are confident when using tally charts to record our favourite things.

Our new story is 'Little Lumpty'. He lives in Dumpty! We had fun creating names that rhyme with Humpty and Lumpty-these people can live in Dumpty. We learned a song to help us to remember the story sequence: Little Lumpty, Little Lumpty... climbed up the wall... danced on the wall ...cried on the wall...jumped off the wall! We are getting ready to illustrate and retell the story using our neatest handwriting.

We've had a delivery of tiny caterpillars and we have watched them grow. They are in their cocoons now and we hope that they turn into butterflies soon. We can sequence this life cycle, our own life cycle and we plan choose a new lifecycle to explore based on our own interests. Mrs Davies bought us new instruments-we've practised musical patterns too! In the loose parts area we've created Springtime pictures based upon our experiences and investigations.

Our Welsh artist is Gayle Rogers. She paints Welsh buildings and landmarks. We have enjoyed exploring and drawing/ painting in the same style.

Helpful information

- Reception PE and Forest School day is Thursday, please could pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit.
- Reading books will be sent home on a Thursday, please could these be read and returned on a Monday morning. Please help your child practise the sounds in their green sound books every day-keep these at home.
- Healthy snack money should be paid on a Monday, £1 for the week which covers the cost of fruit and cooking ingredients for our kitchen.

- School gates are open at 8:45am and are closed at 8:55am.

- Please follow us on Twitter @ReceptionBPS



Year 1 / Blwyddyn 1

Wow! What a busy half term we have had. We have been so busy practising for sports day, celebrating the King's Coronation and watching caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies. We have been using lots of maths across the curriculum and measuring and weighing in our cooking area.

We cooked delicious rock buns with a range of ingredients including marshmallows, chocolate chips and raisins. We voted where we would like to go on our school trip; please keep an eye out for more information on Parentmail!

A huge thank you to Friends @ Blackwood who served us all delicious treats for the King's Coronation and held an end of term disco! We loved dancing and showing our moves.

We hope you all have a safe and sunny half term and we will see you soon.

Helpful information

- Year One's PE and Forest School day is Thursday, please could pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit.
- Reading books will be sent home on a Thursday, please could these be read and returned on a Monday morning.
- Healthy snack money should be paid on a Monday, £1 for the week which covers the cost of fruit and cooking material for our kitchen.
 - School gates are open at 8:45am and are closed at 8:55am.
 - Please ensure that all items, including hats and gloves are clearly labelled with names.
 - Follow us on Twitter; @YearOneBPS



Year 2 / Blwyddyn 2

Can you believe we are halfway through the summer term! We are continuing to work hard and expand the skills we have been taught.

In our outdoor area, our seeds have finally started to grow. We now have our own herb garden. Our sunflowers are enjoying the lovely warm weather. Hopefully the weather will stay nice and we can put our tomato plants outside. We are looking forward to seeing how many potatoes we have managed to grow! We would like to thank Aldi in Blackwood and Asda in Caerphilly for their kind donations of plants!

Our topic is called Our Wonderful World.

We all enjoyed reading 'The River an Epic Journey to the Sea'... did you know there is a river in Blackwood?

We learnt all about pollution and how we can reduce our carbon footprints.

In Maths we have been learning how to tell the time with a digital and analogue clock.

Thank you to Mrs Davies for our new outdoor reading sheds, they are amazing! Using our new reading sheds is so much fun, we love reading books in the Year 2 outdoor area.

We are busy practising for sports day which will be held on the 8th June, hopefully the weather will be nice!

We are looking forward to our school trip to Dunraven Bay on the 30th June.

We can't wait to see the sea, explore the Castle and look for fossils.

The F@B organised a special Coronation Day celebration for us, it was amazing! We felt like royalty! THANK YOU F@B!



Helpful information

- Year 2's PE day is moving from Tuesday to Wednesday, please could pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit. Forest school will also be changing from a Thursday to a Wednesday, please ensure pupils have wellies in school.
- Reading books are given out every Friday, reading books can be returned Monday/Tuesday of every week.
 - Please can you ensure that your child brings a coat to school every day.
- Healthy snack money should be paid on a Monday, £1 for the week which covers the cost of fruit.
 - Please follow us on Twitter @YearTwoBPS

Year 3 / Blwyddyn 3

It has been another busy and exciting half term in Blwyddyn 3. In literacy, we have been developing our reading, speaking and writing skills through our narrative journey about 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf' and have written excellent stories with a moral. Our maths skills have been growing as we've measured capacity, mass and have been balancing number sentences.

We've explored the habitats around our school grounds in Science and Technology; using this data to create bar charts on Google sheets. In the independent areas we have cooked delicious Italian pasta, constructed special places from our wonderful World and are writing reports all about rubbish and recycling. We have also taken part in a fantastic online workshop with the illustrator Vicky Woodgate, to read her book 'I can see Nature's Rainbow' and join in with a draw-along. She saw our Tweet and loved our drawings! In the creative area we've been focusing on learning to draw different textures to make our work so realistic.

In PE, it has been so much fun to get ready for sports day! We've been just like Healthy Hywel completing our daily mile and Commando Joes sessions.

We're very much looking forward to our last term in Blwyddyn 3. There is lots more fun to be had before the summer holidays. Watch this space!



Helpful Information

- Our PE day is a Tuesday. All pupils must come to school dressed in full, appropriate PE kit
- Reading books will be given out on Tuesdays, please could they come back in on Mondays ready to be changed.
 - snack can be brought into school to be eaten at morning break time.
 - Please follow us on Twitter @YearThreeBPSHealthy

Year 4 / Blwyddyn 4

It's been a busy few weeks and we are at the end of another half term! We have been celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III by writing reports, creating portraits using a range of techniques, lines, shapes and textures, constructing timelines of Monarchs from the past up to the present day and have plotted Royal households onto a map of Great Britain. We finished off enjoying the scones we had made along with a wonderful 'street' party organised by our wonderful PTA - Diolch!

We have been developing our literacy skills by writing diary entries. Our multiplication, division and data handling skills have been developed in maths. We have been practising field events and preparing for our Sports Day which will be Friday, 9th June. We look forward to seeing you cheering us all on in our events!

Dwr Cymru paid us a visit and delivered a whole school assembly about keeping our pipes clean and safe. Year 4 were treated to a workshop where we collaborated in teams to program beebots to follow instructions and safely reach their destinations.

We started a new module in our Jigsaw sessions called 'Healthy Me' and explored the positives and negatives of music and whether it changes our mood. We took the learning outside and created our own music using natural materials. Next half term, we will continue with the theme 'Our Wonderful World' and will be including an exciting visit (more news on this to follow.)

Once again, the Year 4 team would like to thank all of our families for your continued support.



Helpful information

- PE day is every Wednesday. Please can pupils come into school dressed in appropriate PE kit (tracksuit / t-shirt / shorts / joggers / leggings / daps or trainers).
- We access the outdoors every day, therefore please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies (or other suitable footwear), that can be left in school and used for these occasions.
 - Please can you ensure that your child brings a coat to school every day.
 - Healthy snacks can be brought into school to be eaten at morning break time.
- Follow us on Twitter @YearFourBPS

Year 5 / Blwyddyn 5

Wow! What a busy half-term it's been. We have worked our socks off and we are super proud of the progress and achievements of our children. Da iawn everyone!

The King's Coronation was celebrated throughout the school! We covered a range of activities including portraits, using Google Earth to calculate and compare the distances between the 1953 and 2023, created reports, plotted coordinates of famous landmarks along the Coronation route and learned a huge amount through our research.

In English we have been writing discussion texts about whether physical education is an important part of the curriculum. In Numeracy we cover 3D shape, symmetry, coordinates across 4 quadrants, converting units of measure, subtracting numbers using column method and collecting data to answer possessed questions.

Our allotment is really taking shape! We have been lucky to receive a donation of plants from a Year 5 parent which gives us a flying start! We prepped the soil first, used our knowledge of coordinates to create a grid and then planned where to plant our seeds and plants. We are looking after them daily by watering and removing any weeds, we look forward to keeping you posted on the progress.

Were delighted to welcome Paralympic swimmer Rhiannon Henry to school, as part of 'Sports for Schools'. We were well and truly put through our paces and as you can from the pictures on twitter we had a great time!

Talk about being put through our paces!



Helpful Information

- Healthy snack can be brought into school to be eaten at morning break time or purchased from school for 20p a day.
 - Follow us on Twitter @YearFiveBPS
- PE day is every Friday. Please can pupils come into school dressed in appropriate PE kit (tracksuit / t-shirt / shorts / joggers / leggings / daps or trainers)
- Reading books have been provided to pupils this week. Pupils have access to the reading books and are responsible for changing books

Year 6 / Blwyddyn 6

We have had a busy few weeks and can't believe that our last half term has arrived! We celebrated the coronation of King Charles III by learning some songs and had a lovely tea in the hall thanks to our amazing PTA. We drew portraits, wrote reports, created timelines and carried out lots of research about King Charles.

In English we have been inspired by the short film 'Ruin' from The Literacy Shed. We wrote setting and character descriptions zooming in on small details, a detailed action sequence and finally a complete story. The results are amazing and we are so proud of the effort put into the stories by all pupils.

In maths we have worked on fractions, ratio and proportion tackling some really challenging tasks. As the finale to our Jigsaw theme 'Hopes and dreams' we held a charity car wash and bake sale to raise money for the 'Make a Wish' charity. We were busy all day and the teachers' cars have never been so clean!

We also raised money for 'Sports for Schools' and were delighted to welcome paralympic swimmer Rhiannon Henry to school. We enjoyed doing circuits and were exhausted by the end!

We are really looking forward to our final half term at Blackwood Primary School but a little bit sad too. Already we are planning our Leavers' concert and can't wait to welcome Year 6 parents and carers to school to watch the performance on Monday July 17th. We have exciting trips to Oxford University and LLangranog to look forward to as well!

Once again we would like to thank you for your continued support!

