



"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 Summer 2022!**

**Croeso i Newyddlen diwedd  
tymor Ysgol Gynradd y Coed  
Duon Haf 2022!**



## INSET DAYS

Friday 2nd September 2022

Thursday 8th and Friday 9th September 2022

Friday 2nd December 2022

Friday 16th June 2023



## School Term dates for 2022/2023

### Autumn Term 2022

- Term starts Friday 2nd September 2022
- Half term starts Monday 31st October 2022
- Back to school Monday 7th November 2022
- Term ends Friday 23rd December 2022

### Spring Term 2023

- Term starts Monday 9th January 2023
- Half term starts Monday 20th February 2023
- Back to school Monday 27th February 2023
- Term ends Friday 31st March 2023

### Summer Term 2023

- Term starts Monday 17th April 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 three methods.

- [Telephone - 01495 224111](tel:01495224111) and leave a voicemail by 9:00 am on day of absence.
- [Email - mainoffice@blackwoodprimary.org](mailto:mainoffice@blackwoodprimary.org)
- [Use the absences section on our parentmail app to provide a reason.](#)

Failure to do so will result in an un-authorised 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 9:00 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: **87.06%**.

As a school we are striving to increase our overall attendance moving forward and cannot do this without your support.

## Lateness

We have a significant number of children who are continually late attending school.

Please try to ensure that your child arrives at school so that they are present for registration;

this is marked at 9.00am each day.

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.

Where a genuine reason for lateness exists this will be an authorised absence but where explanations are inadequate or the lateness is after 9.10am.

## A message from the headteacher....

Dear Parents / Carers,

We end our Summer Term with wonderfully warm weather and the days longer and brighter, hopefully a taste of the days of summer to come and the positive future ahead. I would like to start by saying how incredibly proud I am of our whole Blackwood Primary School community for their ongoing support and the way in which our children have continued to demonstrate such resilience, creativity, and flexibility throughout the year. We have been through such an unprecedented and challenging time together and our children have been nothing short of incredible throughout, I think we can all agree they have coped admirably.

As we start to open the school back up it has been a pleasure to welcome parents back on site and witness how your children have shone brightly with enjoyment as a result. This term saw the children take part in fantastic Sports Day events on the field in glorious weather, delightfully watched on by parents and supported by our wonderful PTA, thank you. This week it has been lovely to hear joy and laughter echo around the school as end of term events and class parties are in full swing. Each year we feel very emotional about our Year 6 children leaving us as they take their next big steps in education. We want them to know how proud we are of each and every one of them, how they have coped with everything that has been asked of them, we wish them every success in their future adventures. Pob Lwc Year 6!

Emotions are also running high, as we wish happy retirement to Mrs Evans, and a fond farewell to Mrs Postians, who between them have been at the school for 39 years! We will miss you both very much and are so grateful for all you have done for the school, our children and families over the years.

I hope that you all have a relaxed and restful break over the summer holidays, and we look forward to welcoming your children back on Monday 5th September.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer!

Kind regards,

Mrs Davies  
Headteacher  
Blackwood Primary School



## Nursery / Meithrin

What a fantastic term Nursery has had. We have certainly been busy engaging with nature. From planting the seeds in our vegetable patch having taken care of our growing plants we were able to harvest the wonderful vegetables we have grown. Peas, Broad Beans, and Carrots were prepared and cooked for a lovely family meal. We have also been able to enjoy the Rhubarb in a delicious crumble with yummy custard. One of our Nursery friends brought in their Silky Chicken which we were able to feed and learn about. It was lovely to make home connections and explore pets and we eagerly await a visit from a Tortoise on this final week. Fun in the sun has been had by all. We have been learning how to keep safe in the sun while enjoying our outdoor activities. Bubble and Ice painting have been great ways to explore colour mixing and transforming schemas. Den building to make shady shelters has given us the opportunity to learn new skills and work together as a team.

The Nursery staff would like to thank all our Parents and Carers for their continued support this year. We have had a wonderful year getting to know your children and will miss those moving up to Reception. We wish you all a fantastic Summer break stay safe and see you in September!



## Reception / Derbyn

We have had such a fantastic term - we have been so busy!

We have worked very hard in our garden and it has been lovely to see everything we have planted growing. We have had lots of wild flowers and sweet peas and all our vegetables are almost ready to harvest! We have already had potatoes, beans, beetroot and broccoli! We have enjoyed chopping, cooking and most of all tasting them!

We love being outdoors and finding all the minibeasts, especially worms! We made a wormery so that we could watch them closely as they wriggle through the soil. We had a fabulous beach party to celebrate our year together. It was such fun doing fairground activities, throwing frisbees and beach balls, building sandcastles and dipping our toes in the paddling pool!

We really enjoyed visiting Year One and we're looking forward to being with our new teachers next year. It has been fantastic to see all your children grow and develop - they have worked so hard and really deserve their summer holiday. We are very proud of all of them as they have made such progress this year.

Thank you to all our families for all your support over the year - have a great summer and we'll see you all back in September.



## Year 1 / Blwydden 1

Wow! What a fantastic and busy term we have had! We have been learning all about the Rainforest where we have researched, sorted and classified animals according to their characteristics.



We have developed our outdoor planters and have planted potatoes, sunflowers and a variety of wild flowers. Our sunflowers are huge and we have been observing them carefully, making note of any changes that we see. Our potatoes are almost ready and we are so excited to see how big they have grown. We have been developing our cooking skills by chopping, weighing, whisking and spreading. We are all fantastic at doing this and love investigating different foods. We were all excited when we visited Year Two for our transition days; we got to meet our new teachers and looked around our new learning environment.

A huge thank you to all of the families who came for our 'Proud to Present' afternoon. The children were thrilled to show you their work and learning environment; things that they have worked extremely hard on all year. We loved hearing how proud you are of your children, they have worked their socks off! We have loved teaching you this year and you have made us all so proud every single day! Your new teachers are very lucky to have you.

We would like to thank all of our Year One families for all of your support this year and wish you all a lovely summer holiday.

## Year 2 / Blwydden 2

We've had another busy term; the Year 2 Team are very proud of everything the children have achieved throughout the term and academic year!

We've enjoyed working independently, exploring new skills and presenting/sharing our work with others. We have learnt how to self and peer mark, this is great fun getting to mark our own and others work. We've had lots of visitors to our learning environment, recently Mr Grandin organised for Blackwood Rotary Club to visit our garden as part of the 'Let the Kids Grow' competition. We harvested the fruit and vegetables we planted, we all enjoyed making fruit-kebabs using fruit from our garden. We also made repeating patterns using the fruits we picked, the best part has to be eating our fruit-kebabs!

We all enjoyed a visit from the Fire Service, we were allowed to look inside the Fire truck and listened to lots of helpful information and ways of staying safe. With literacy we've continued to develop our skills, we all enjoyed creating imaginary play scripts based on a visit to the seaside. Visiting Year Three allowed us all time to explore our new learning environment, we all can't wait to start our new learning journey in September. It's been wonderful to welcome our families into school to have a look at our learning environment, we were so proud sharing our work with you!

The Year Two team would like to say a very big thank you to our wonderful Year Two family, parents and carers. It's been an amazing year and we are all very proud of everything you've achieved. Wishing you all a safe summer holiday!



# Year 3 / Blwydden 3

Year Three had another wonderful term together and we're sad it is our last! We've had the most amazing year learning and growing together.

This term we have continued with our learning journey of the 'Rainforest'. We have continued to explore the impact palm oil is having on our world and also how animals can be affected. We collected data from products we use that contain palm oil, created graphs and have written pledges for the future. The children have enjoyed reading, 'The Great Kapok Tree' and 'The Last Tiger' that all highlight the importance of saving our rainforests to protect the animals that live there. The children have written letters, poetry and retold stories all linked to the rainforest.

In numeracy, we have been collecting data to make pictograms, explored the relationship between times tables, 3D shapes and column addition. In our outdoor area, the children have loved growing sunflowers this term and caring for them each day. In our cooking area, we have been developing our skills by making banana pancakes and homemade lemonade.

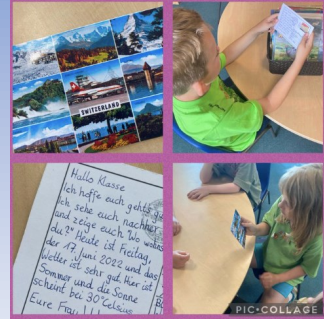
The children have continued to develop their STEM skills through using JIT5 (on Hwb) to program rainforest creatures to move in a given direction and also by designing a paper rocket and recording how far it can travel by making simple changes. The children have also loved continuing to develop their international language skills (German and French) and sent postcards to our International Student in Switzerland.

The children have been using Cerdd Iaith to also support their language development by learning songs and listening to native speakers. We have been blown away by all their enthusiasm and interest in learning a new language, and hope it continues as they move through the school. It has been wonderful to welcome our parents and guardians back into school for our annual Sports Day and our 'Proud to Present' event. Thank you for all your support. They were both a great success! All of our Year Three learners have made us so proud this year and we will miss them dearly. Keep smiling and have a peaceful summer!

# Year 4 / Blwydden 4

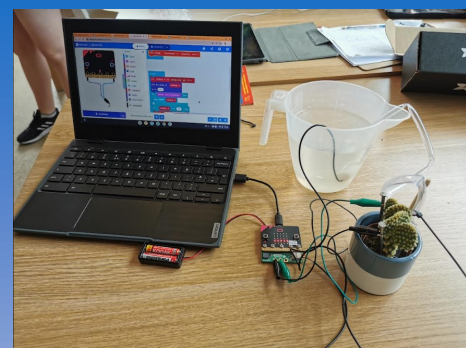
Another term finished and what a wonderful year we have had in Year 4! We have continued working hard on our learning journey this term, finding out all about adaptations of animals to their habitats. We have explored the features of coasts and written a sea-side themed story to finish our writing journey based on the book 'Flotsam'. We have also written a detailed explanation text all about the life cycle of a Frog. Well done! In maths we have used money, solved problems and used our practical skills to hunt for right angles, parallel and perpendicular lines. We have also found out about shapes and learnt to read timetables. We finished off our learning journey by using our knowledge to create clay models of sea creatures! The work we have produced is simply fantastic and shows off our excellent creative skills.

We have also been busy getting ready for our transition to Year 5 and we have shown excellent positivity and enthusiasm whilst doing so. We are so ready! The Year 4 staff are so pleased with the hard work our pupils have put in this year and how far they have come! Thank you for a lovely year with you all in Year 4.



## Year 5 / Blwydden 5

What a fantastic year we have had, to say we are going to miss everyone is an understatement. We have come a long way on our year 5 journey and as staff we are so proud of each and every pupil.



This second half term we have been fortunate enough to have 3 weeks of swimming lessons at Cefn Fforest Pool. It has been amazing to see a huge improvement in Year 5 water confidence and to see those who already have a love for water showcase their talents.

Our deforestation Journey has continued to extend as we write a persuasive letter voicing our opinions on the rate of loss of rainforests around the globe. In construction we designed a rainforest to scale, looking at the different layers. We took this a step further and created our own Minecraft World to illustrate deforestation. We included a working saw mill using Redstone to show how companies can exploit rainforest for their timber. We illustrated how the loss of trees affects the whole habitat.

In STEM we have used Micro Bits to code a circuit that automatically senses when a plant needs water. It uses a small water pump to switch to ensure the plant gets water. Hopefully after the summer holidays all our plants will still be alive!

Thankyou to all the year 5 parents, it was fantastic to welcome you all in our learning environment and for your children to showcase their amazing efforts this year. All the Year 5 staff would like to thank everyone for all your hard work, we have had an amazing year with your children and they are leaving us with many special memories and we will cherish. Diolch!

## Year 6 / Blwydden 6

Well, what an end to an amazing year! Year 6 have been outstanding during their time in Blackwood Primary School and each and every one of them will be missed.

This term they began a jam project which involved them researching, costing, making and selling delicious jam - thank you to all parents who bought the jam!

Year 6 also experienced a wide range of sporting activities including swimming, rugby, cricket, football and athletics with many pupils representing the school at tournaments with excellent results!

The children made life long memories during their residential trip to PGL!

The pupils really enjoyed practising and performing their acts for their 'Blackwood's Got Talent' end of year concert.

When Year 6 attended transition days at a number of Comprehensive Schools, their respect and politeness was highly commended and we wish them all the best for the future!

