

# Blackwood Primary School

## Newsletter

### April 2025

"United we Empower, Nurture, Challenge"



#### General reminders....

Please make sure that if you change home address/phone number or email address, you update school as soon as possible.

If your child is going to be absent from school any day please contact the school either by telephone - 01495 224111 and leave a voicemail by 9:00 am on day of absence or use the absences section our Parentmail app and provide a reason.

Please park considerately around the neighbouring properties to the school. According to the highway code it is an offence to park across driveways, dropped kerbs or double yellow lines.

Please ensure that children arriving for breakfast club or the start of the school day are accompanied by a responsible adult, who will wait with them until a member of staff opens the gate.

Please be reminded that children should only be collected by someone over the age of 16.

Please leave the school site as soon as you have collected your child. Children should not be climbing trees, playing on the gym equipment or on the grass verge surrounding the staff car park.

#### PE DAYS:

Reception	Thursday
Year 1	Wednesday
Year 2	Monday
Year 3/4	Thursday/ Friday
Year 5	Monday/ Tuesday
Year 6	Monday/ Tuesday

#### SCHOOL TERM DATES

Term ends Friday 11th April 2025

#### SUMMER TERM 2025

- Term starts Monday 28 April 2025
- Half term starts Monday 26 May 2025
- Half term ends Friday 30 May 2025
- Back to school Monday 2nd June 2025

Last day of term 21st July 2025 (please note that the 21st July is an INSET day)

#### INSET DAYS

Friday 2nd May 2025

Friday 20th June 2025

Monday 23rd June 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

#### Attendance

**Our whole school attendance is currently 89.7%**

We need your support to meet our target of **95%**.

We can only do this with your support, so please make every effort to ensure that your children are in school every day.

Attendance awards have started again from September 2024, where all prizes must be collected within the academic year.

As usual pupils will be reminded during the final week of term to collect their chosen prize.

### **A message from Friends at Blackwood Primary...**

The Spring term has gone so quickly. Our main event this term, was the 'Inspirational Ladies in our Lives' on Friday 28th March 2025. All three sessions sold out and it was lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves. The children thoroughly enjoyed the craft tasks on offer. We managed to make over £500 at the event, which is wonderful!!

During this term we met with the Pupil leadership team to discuss what we could spend any funds raised on. They were given the task to speak to each of the groups within the school, such sports council, digi leaders, eco council etc. The leadership group came back to us with a long list and we have been making progress in buy the items requested.

**So far this term we have donated the following:**

- \* £100 contribution towards a bus to Rodney Parade for a rugby event**
- \* 150 towards Plants and gardening equipment**
- \* Over £1000 towards outdoor play equipment and a trolley for PE mats.**
- \* £90 for Ipad docking stations and litter pickers**



Blackwood Primary reposted



Year 1 @YearOneBPS · 1d

A big thank you to our F@B for our playground equipment! We had great fun testing it out 🌟



During the summer term we will have a number of events coming up, which we hope you and the children will support;

- **May Day Disco – Thursday 1st May**

**\* Inspirational Men's event – Friday 13th June – further details regarding ticket sales to follow.**

- **Summer Fete – June – date to be confirmed after Easter**

Friends@Blackwood Primary would like to say a big thank you for all your support this term.

We hope you all enjoy the Easter break, and the children enjoy the Easter eggs they have been given from the F@B group.





## NURSERY

## MEITHRIN

Spring is here! We started the term looking for signs of spring, our garden has begun to bloom with all the spring flowers and blossoms. We have enjoyed lots of celebrations this term. We started with World book day dressing up as our favourite characters and reading all of our favourite stories. Then St Davids day we explored our Welsh culture creating observational paintings of our national emblems, daffodils, leeks and dragons. We got to work in the nursery cooking area creating delicious Welsh cakes and we really enjoyed learning our Welsh song 'Heno Heno' . We sang it for year 6 who came to watch and were very impressed!

We have been very busy planting in the Nursery garden, carrots, peas and beans. Each child has planted their own bean ready to grow a beanstalk just like Jack. We have loved seeing all your photos on Seesaw keeping us updated with how tall they are getting. Mothers day preparations began in the nursery with lots of creativity celebrating the Inspirational ladies we love. We painted pots and chose lovely flowers to plant in each one. Baking heart shaped biscuits and decorating them was lots of fun and so tempting to eat but we packaged them up and gifted them to the special ladies in our life along with a card to show how much we love them.

The arrival of an incubator with 10 eggs created a lot of excitement. We eagerly watched every day for signs of hatching. We talked about how the mother hen how she sits on the eggs to keep them warm just like the incubator. We have been very lucky taking care of 10 little chicks, 4 girls and 6 boys. We have enjoyed watching them grow. We finished our term celebrating all things Easter, it was so lovely to share our easter bonnet parade with parents and carers, thank you to all who came to watch. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. Pasg Hapus from the Nursery team!

**Follow us on X : @NurseryBPS**



# RECEPTION

## DERBYN

What a fabulous Spring term! We began with the story 'Sneezy the Snowman' and explored freezing and melting. We did an experiment to discover the best material to stop Sneezy from melting- cotton wool won! Then we spotted signs of Spring and used our findings to create and perform descriptive group poems about Springtime. We took part in 'Bird Watch' and have become expert bird spotters. We can name, identify and create so many birds-we also love to create 'crazy creatures' too!

We have enjoyed learning about our special Saint, Saint David. We shared our knowledge with the whole school during our Eisteddfod celebrations- Mrs Davies was so impressed! We are Saint David experts and enjoy singing his song ... it helps us to remember so many facts about him! We have explored 'things that are special in Wales'; in our block play, construction, loose parts, science and technology areas we have been busy creating dragons, daffodils and castles. We have created codes for 'Sphero Indi' to reach important symbols of Wales. We have created beautiful love spoons for 'special people' at our woodwork area. Our cooking station smelled wonderful when we cooked Welsh cakes for ourselves and our visitors. We have practiced our money skills through buying the ingredients and toppings for our favourite Welsh cakes.

Follow us on X—@Receptionbps





## YEAR 1 BLYDDWYN UN

What a busy half term it has been! We are delighted to share the success of our Year One Enterprise project, "Plant with Me and Have a Cup of Tea", in support of developing our outdoor learning areas.

Through this creative and fun initiative, our Year One students have worked incredibly hard to plant beautiful flowers and herbs whilst sharing a warm cup of tea with family, friends, and visitors. Thanks to your generous contributions and support, we have raised an amazing £79!

The success of this fundraising event highlights the kindness and generosity of our school community, and we are incredibly proud of all our Year One students for their enthusiasm and hard work!

Our Eisteddfod celebration was another highlight of the term. Students from all year groups showcased their talents in singing, poetry, and art, in a joyful celebration of Welsh tradition. The Eisteddfod was filled with energy, creativity, and pride, and it was fantastic to see so many students stepping up to share their passions with the whole school.

These events, along with your incredible support, have made this term one to remember. We are so grateful to all of our students, staff, and families for their enthusiasm, generosity, and hard work.

Stay safe and have a great Easter break!

**Follow us on X : @YearOneBPS**



## YEAR 2

### BLYDDWYN DAU

So, another term comes to an end! This half term has flown again with lots of fun and laughs along the way. This half term started with a very busy first week back doing all things Welsh! We wrote poems, sketched daffodils, baked Welsh cakes, written reports about St David and performed in our Eisteddfod! We even managed to squeeze in World Book Day that week too! Da iawn everyone!

The term continued to be busy and eventful. We planted potatoes in our garden and built our new greenhouse. In Forest school we've been searching for signs of Spring and managed to make some discoveries. In PE we've been developing our coordination and collaboration skills playing ball games including tag rugby. We've been researching the origins of Welsh love spoons and have written leaflets based on the facts we found out. We designed and sculpted love spoons out of clay and held an exhibition for the rest of the school to see. We showed off our musical talents by creating our own dances following the rhythm and beat of a well-known tune 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.'

In Literacy, we've retold a story based on 'The Tunnel' and crafted our own endings. We've researched facts and written non-chronological reports about our local town Blackwood. We wrote onomatopoeic poetry which tested our creative and imaginative skills. In Maths, we have been learning about seasonal time and calendars – days, months, seasons as well as analogue and digital time. We have been developing our mathematical language and reasoning skills to solve problems.

Kerbcraft sessions have started this half term and the children are thoroughly enjoying learning about road safety. Thank you for supporting such an important initiative.

Our Beat ball sessions have been lots of fun with an incredible amount of money raised. Thank you! Another worthy cause we raised money for was Red Nose Day – again thank you for your kind donations! We loved designing and creating the Mother's Day gifts and cards for the special ladies in our lives. Our Easter cards and treats were fun to make too. We hope you liked them!

So as we approach our final term of the year, we'd like to thank you once again for your continued support. Wishing you all fun-packed Easter break!



## YEAR 3/4

### BLYDDWYN TRI/PEDWAR

As we come to the end of another busy and exciting term, we wanted to take the opportunity to share just how proud we are of everything Year 3/4 have achieved. We've had a fantastic time exploring our Big Question: "Which British Beast is Best?" and the children have shown so much enthusiasm, curiosity and care throughout our learning journey.

In our theme lessons, the children have explored a wide range of skills. We've investigated animal adaptations and the variety of habitats British animals live in. The children have enjoyed researching and writing detailed non-chronological reports about their chosen 'British Beasts' to create our class book. We've looked closely at the life cycle of a bee, and explored which flowers and plants are most beneficial to pollinators in our area. The children have taken real ownership of this learning, and we've now planted a range of seeds ready to support bees and butterflies this spring/summer!

Across our authentic learning areas, the children have continued to engage in meaningful, hands-on activities. In the creative area, they've designed and made badges to promote wildlife conservation (inspired by the Gwent Wildlife Trust), using persuasive messages to encourage others to care for nature. In the malleable area, they crafted their own models of British animals, using observation skills to capture detail and texture. To finish the term, the pupils have created bee magnets, raising awareness about the importance of protecting endangered bees in the UK- namely, the Shrill Carder Bee! We have even made honey and oat flapjacks, inspired by our learning of bees and how to be a 'healthy me'!

In our investigation area, pupils have been working hard on their data handling skills, interpreting charts and creating graphs to show patterns and trends in animal size and population. In the cooking area, we combined cultural celebration with learning by making Welsh cakes for St David's Day. More recently, inspired by the honeybee, we prepared snacks using honey, exploring how this incredible British Beast contributes to our food systems!

As always, our learning has been underpinned by our school values. This term, we have reflected deeply on the value of kindness and honesty. The children have shown great maturity in their discussions. To celebrate their understanding, they created thoughtful and often very funny rhyming poems exploring why honesty matters in our relationships and our learning.

In LLC, we've been busy exploring the wonderful world of writing! Inspired by our fascination with animals, we recently worked on creating chronological reports all about reptiles. The children were engaged by their research and produced some fantastic factual writing. To celebrate St. David's Day, we also wrote beautiful Welsh poems about daffodils for the Eisteddfod, showcasing both creativity and cultural pride. More recently, we've been diving into the imaginative world of poetry, writing dream-inspired poems in the style of Gareth Lancaster. The children impressed us with their use of poetic features such as similes, alliteration, and adjectives to bring their creative visions to life. We have also been working towards creating an informative video to share with our French link school, all about Dewi Sant (St. David). The children have enjoyed researching and presenting facts about the patron saint of Wales, helping to strengthen our international connection while celebrating Welsh culture.

In Maths, we've been developing our understanding of fractions, including identifying equivalent fractions and learning how to order them. We've also been working on telling the time using both analogue and digital clocks, a valuable life skill! More recently, we've moved on to exploring area and perimeter, using practical activities to help us understand how to measure and compare space and distance. We are currently learning about positive and negative numbers, exploring the differences between them and how we can add/subtract using these numbers.

We were lucky enough to take part in the Beatball sessions, where we had the opportunity to measure the speed of our shots! We even got the chance to compete against our teachers to see who could kick the ball the fastest.

Thank you for your continued support, and we wish you a safe and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the children back for another term!

**Follow us on X :  
@YearFourBPS**



## Photos from Year 3/4





## YEAR 5

### BLYDDWYN PUMP

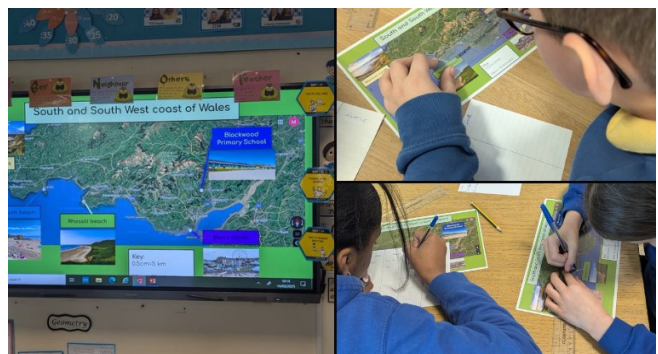
What a fantastic half term it has been in year 5! We have continued our learning linked to our whole school theme 'newidiadau' (changes) by learning more about the benefits of local produce on our community and planet as a whole.

We have learnt so much during this term about what plants need to grow, while also caring for our own crops in class. Now that the weather is finally warming up, we are nearly ready to start bedding our plants and vegetables into the larger allotment planters in school.

We have also taken part in Happiness Day, creating our own happiness handbooks, investigated micro plastics and pollution in our environment and even took part in a fantastic workshop on where produce comes from globally, while promoting more local food sources by creating our own art print designs. We have also been very busy in the kitchen, focussing on sustainability recipes, reducing food waste or using what we grow - our favourites have been the banana bread and apple loaf!

Our lost and found Blackwood Water bottle took us on a learning journey across South and South West Wales as we explored the effects humans have on the environment. We carried out a Google forms survey looking at why people visit certain beaches compared to others. We started to make the link between the number of visitors and the types of Microplastics that might be found there. We researched the types of Microplastics and showed that there are three main types: Microbeads, fibres and fragments. Looking at sand samples from Barry Island, Tenby South Beach, Marloes sands and Rhossili we designed an experiment to try to separate the Microplastics from the sand. We discovered that the more visitors there are to a beach the more microplastics there were.

Our Spring term is coming to an exciting end, as we travel to Hilston Park for 4 days as part of our Y5 residential visit, while also summarising all of our learning by creating leaflets on how to grow your own vegetables at home for younger children!



## YEAR 6

### BLWYDDYN CHWECH

What an awesome term we have had! We have continued to develop our skills in the authentic areas and transferred knowledge learnt about electricity, shapes, decimals, explanation/diary writing across the curriculum. As well as this we have developed our creative skills making heart cushions in the sewing, clay models of birds in the malleable and images showing effects of plastic pollution in the creative area. In the cooking area we continued to develop our Welsh theme following St David's Day celebrations and produced a variety of authentic Welsh recipes -our favourite was the Welsh Cake!

We were fortunate to have an insight into the world of working as an engineer! Two engineers came in to deliver a workshop about the island of Flat Holm. Within this session we discovered so much about this small island just off the coast of Cardiff and carried out a variety of thinking skills activities! We now understand that engineers have to consider a variety of facts before even considering building on land or existing structures! We were intrigued to hear some of the weird methods used to stop the Lesser Black-backed Gull nesting in a particular area that needed to be repaired! It has definitely ignited interest in some of us to become engineers!

Lots of pupils in Year 6 love expressive arts and participated in an extra curricular drama club. We decided to link the performance to the different historical periods learnt about this term. We were able to choose what historical character we wanted to be and helped to write the play script. After lots of practise learning scripts, songs and dances, we were proud to present the final version of the play to their peers, families, teachers and governors! It was absolutely amazing and all involved were extremely proud of their contribution! Parents should also be proud of themselves for listening carefully and answering the questions!

Following our visit to the Comprehensive School to watch the PE display, we are very excited for the fast approaching Summer Term and the opportunities to participate in more transition events!

We cannot believe we only have 1 term left in Blackwood Primary School!



Follow us on X; @YearSix\_BPS



All the staff at Blackwood Primary School would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful F@B team for all of their hard work and dedication this term! Also a big thank you for providing every child and staff member with an Easter Egg!

We hope that all of our families have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to school on Monday 28th April.





# PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)



## **BURGER KING**

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

## **BILLS**

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

## **FARMHOUSE INNS**

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

## **TGI FRIDAYS**

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

## **ZIZZI**

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

## **CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE**

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

## **YO! SUSHI**

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

## **SIZZLING PUBS**

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

## **ASDA**

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

## **TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

## **GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS**

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

## **WHITBREAD INNS**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

## **BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE**

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

## **IKEA**

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

## **PREZZO**

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

## **COCONUT TREE**

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

## **PIZZA HUT**

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

## **PRETO**

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

## **SAINSBURYS CAFES**

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

## **BELLA ITALIA**

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

## **MORRISONS**

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

## **LAS IGUANAS**

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

## **TABLE TABLE**

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

## **PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM**

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

## **HUNGRY HORSE**

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

## **THE REAL GREEK**

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

## **SA BRAINS PUBS**

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

## **FUTURE INNS**

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.