



"United we, Empower, Nurture and Challenge."

"Wrth uno mae'n ein arfogi i feithrin a herio."

**Welcome to Blackwood Primary School's
September Newsletter!**

**Croeso i Gylchlythyr Medi Ysgol Gynradd
Coed Duon!**



INSET DAYS

Friday 2nd December 2022

Friday June 16th 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Children in Need: Friday 18th October 2022 (Please keep an eye out for Information from pupil leadership team in regards to plans)

Anti-bullying week: week commencing 14th November 2022

Children are invited to wear odd socks on Monday 14th November 2022

Elf Day (come to school dressed as an elf): Thursday 1st December 2022



School Term dates for 2022/2023

Autumn Term 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*

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 and leave a voicemail by 9:00am on day of absence
- Email - 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 8:55am.

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: 90.01%

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.

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.

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.

Twitter



Don't forget to follow the school on Twitter, each class has their own Twitter page!

We have recently launched a new Family Liaison Twitter page (@flobps)

which is designed to keep families informed of services/support and events that are available within the local community.

A message from the Headteacher....

Dear Parents / Carers,

A warm welcome back to all members of our Blackwood Primary school community. It has been wonderful to see the excitement on all the children's faces as they see old friends and learn new things. I am really looking forward to the year ahead being filled with achievement and success, as I know from walking around the school and visiting each classroom that our children have returned ready to learn, with positive attitudes and a behaviour to succeed.

I am so happy that we are now able to give our children some normality, we have already started up our popular After School Clubs, which the children are loving! I was so excited that this term we have been able to reintroduce some wonderful open events such as 'Meet The Team'. It filled me with joy to welcome so many of our families new and old into our school. I look forward to including more community events such as the 'Family Information Hubs' and I am eagerly anticipating the joy that welcoming our community members back on site will bring to pupils, families, staff and governors alike.

As our Autumn Term develops, I will be letting you know more about these exciting events in the build up to my favourite time in the school calendar..... our Christmas activities!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and involvement.

Kind regards,
Mrs Davies
Headteacher
Blackwood Primary School



Nursery / Meithrin



We have had a fantastic start to the Autumn term in Nursery. Our first few weeks have been focused on transitioning into the Nursery and getting to know our new routines. We have introduced the children to their family group and begun to share some seasonal activities, which include Autumn walks looking for nature's treasures, creative activities with leaves and sunflowers, and preparing the garden ready for planting. We have drawn self portraits and talked about things we like to do.

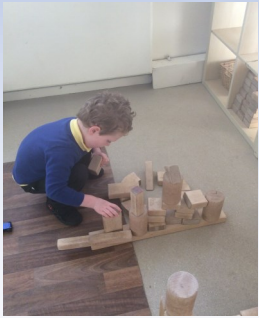
Helpful Information

- We hold Yoga/music and movement sessions on a Friday.
- We like to seize the season and enjoy the wonderful things that nature has to offer so we will be spending a lot of time outdoors. Please ensure your child has a pair of wellies in school and brings suitable clothing dependent on the weather.



- Follow us on Twitter: @NurseryBPS

- 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.
- Please could you ensure your child has spare clothes in Nursery and that all items are labelled with your child's name.



All the Nursery staff would like to take this opportunity to say what a pleasure it has been welcoming the children and are looking forward to a fun first term. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Reception / Derbyn

Croseo! We have settled in well really to our new reception class and routines. We are starting to use the new areas of learning and developing lots of new skills. We love riding the bikes outside and digging in the dirt. We have already made plum jam and tasted it, which we have really enjoyed! We have been drawing and painting our self portraits as well as learning how to write our names on both paper and using IT.

Helpful information

- Receptions PE day is Thursday, please could pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit.
- Every other Thursday is forest school so please dress appropriately and also bring wellies.
- 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.

- Follow us on Twitter; @ReceptionBPS

Thank you to all our parents/carers for your continued support!



Year 1 / Blwydden 1

Croeso Blwyddyn Un! We have started to settle into our new learning environments and are becoming familiar with our daily routines. We have started our new learning journey of 'Cynefin' and have been talking about our families and looking at familiar places.

We have been reading "Here comes Cadi", learning about all the different types of houses that we live in. In our creative areas we have created lots of amazing pieces of art, whilst exploring the season of Autumn, which have been displayed in our classroom and throughout the school. In Year One, we strive to be independent learners and have enjoyed accessing the independent areas throughout our classroom.

We are looking forward to the rest of our first term in Year One, exploring more of the outdoors and developing lots of new skills.

Helpful information

- Year One's PE and Forest School day is a **Tuesday**. 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.
- Follow us on Twitter; @YearOneBPS

Year 2 / Blwydden 2

Croeso Blwyddyn Dau! We have settled into our new learning environment, we are familiar with the year 2 routines and have gained confidence when taking part in a range of learning experiences.

We have all grown in confidence and are eager to learn new skills! We started our Year 2 journey Cynefin. We've looked at who's within our circle of trust, researched people who help us, written detailed descriptions of ourselves and sketched our portraits using different creative materials. We all enjoyed creating 3D models of ourselves, we had to add lots of detail to our models.

Our Helpwr Heddiw system is up and running, we're encouraging everyone to siarad Cymraeg.

We've learnt the song Pa liw ydy dy lygaid di? It was fun adding actions and performing our song to friends.

We've been exploring the Year 2 outdoor area, designing and building using building blocks and Lego. Our craft area is full of different resources, we enjoyed creating sketches of Sunflowers using pencil, pastels and paint.

Our wellbeing area is a calm and quiet place to visit, we even have our very own Worry Monsters!

We've already learnt so many new skills, we cannot wait to continue our learning journey.

Helpful information

- Year 2's PE day is **Tuesday**, please could pupils come to school dressed in their PE kit.
- Reading books are given out every **Friday**, reading books can be returned **Monday/Tuesday** of every week.
- Healthy snack money should be paid on a **Monday** (£1 for the week)
- Follow us on Twitter; @YearTwoBPS



Year 3 / Blwydden 3

Wow Blwyddyn Tri! We have settled so well into our new learning environments and routines. We have spent time becoming familiar with using all of the different areas independently and have been working hard to create our class video.

We have been exploring growth mindset and the Power of Yet.

We have created fabulous work linked to the learning pit and our Blackwood Primary school vision to help us throughout year three. In our creative area, we've used different mediums to create self portraits and these are displayed proudly in our gallery!

In literacy, we have been writing descriptive sentences and retelling the story of Stellanuna. In maths, we have started with number sequencing and we're getting ready to continue learning all about place value and how we can apply this to real life situations like money and measuring!

Each week we continue to be like *Healthy Hywel in PE*,
Commando Joe's and by completing the *Daily Mile*.
We are looking forward to carrying on with our Cynefin learning journey.
There are exciting things to come!

Helpful Information

- Reading books will be given out on Tuesdays, please could they come back in on Mondays ready to be changed.
- Our PE day is a Monday. All pupils must come to school dressed in full, appropriate PE kit.
- Healthy snack can be brought into school to be eaten at morning break time or purchased in school for 20p each day.
- Please follow us on Twitter; @YearThreeBPS



Year 4 / Blwydden 4

What a busy first few weeks we've had in Year 4 already!

Our writing journey has been based on the story of Gelert and we will be writing the story from an alternative perspective.

We have been using lots of practical games and resources to reinforce our number skills which will be extended further using different written methods.

Our term started with the introduction to our adopted Giant Panda!

We love having him as part of our Year 4 family and it was a great start to our theme 'Cynffin'. We have also been focussing on our learning environment. We've been getting to know the areas in our classes, what we can do in them and the rules we need to follow to keep ourselves safe and ready to learn. We looked at ourselves and how unique we all are!

We sketched self portraits using a range of mediums, including colouring pencils and charcoal to create different effects.

We have been planning our 3D models of ourselves which we will begin to sculpt next week.

We are looking forward to extending our Cynffin journey to include the different families and communities we belong to, within our localities, Wales and the wider world.

We have been independently cooking beans on toast for ourselves in the kitchen. Watch out Jamie Oliver! We've even learned how to wash, wipe and put away the dishes and make sure the kitchen is clean and tidy for the next group of children to use. Our teachers love a clean kitchen!



Thank you to all our parents and carers for their continued support.

We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Helpful information

- PE day is every Thursday. Please can pupils come into school dressed in appropriate PE kit (tracksuit / t-shirt / shorts / joggers / leggings / daps or trainers)
- Healthy snack can be purchased at 20p a day from school or brought into school to be eaten at morning break time
- Reading books will be sent home every week. Pupils have access to the reading books and are responsible for changing books themselves. There are no restrictions on how many times pupils can change books, they can be changed as often as they need.
- Follow us on Twitter; @YearfourBPS

Year 5 / Blwydden 5

What a fantastic start Blwyddyn pump! We are proud of the way that you have taken on the challenge of Year 5 from learning new routines to taking on new and different responsibilities. Da iawn!

We have been working super hard planning our Lights, Camera, Action journey. Our collaborative work has included writing scripts, learning lines, Vlogging, using greenscreens creatively, all to share our INSPIRE Curriculum with you all. To say we are excited is an understatement! Our plan is all based around creating Digital content to share with a wider audience.

Our English journey is based around a mystery story! We have been looking at what a great mystery story needs from a problem, clues to engaging characters. In Math we have explored number of the day, reading and writing numbers and place value. We have a host of exciting challenges across our areas of learning which we are excited to share with you when you Meet the Year 5 team.

A huge thankyou to all parents and carers for your continued support, we are looking forward to sharing our learning environment with you soon!

Helpful Information

- Healthy snack can be brought into school to be eaten at morning break time or purchased from school for 20p a day.
- 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)
- Reading books have been provided to pupils this week. Pupils have access to the reading books and are responsible for changing books themselves once they have completed a test using Accelerated Reader.
- Follow us on Twitter; @YearFiveBPS

