



Ysgol Maes Y Felin 13.01.22

13th January

In this edition;

- **A message from Mr Thomas**
- **What have we been up to?**
- **Welsh Corner - Cornel Cymraeg**
- **Special Mentions**
- **Curriculum for Wales**
- **Parent Readers**
- **Internet Safety**
- **Upcoming Events**
- **Financial Support**
- **Posters**
- **Important Notices**
- **Contact Us**

A Message from Mr Thomas, Acting Headteacher

Prynhawn da.... Good afternoon

Welcome back. Hope you all had a lovely break and enjoyed the time with your families. It has been lovely listening to the children and hearing all about what they have been up to.

It may have been a short week, but the children are already fully in the swing with their work. They all are starting their new exciting topics.

Foxes have shown a keen interest in pets and have created a pet shop and Squirrels have been hooked on dinosaurs. The theme for Year 1/2 is Seven Worlds, One Planet and in Year 3/4 they are exploring Space. Year 5/6 are already engrossed in their topic Climate Change and had a very interesting day today. Bedwen are looking at Danger and are planning a visit to Danger Point this term.

Attendance

There is a big focus by the Welsh Government on attendance this year as it is the first full year for over three years not affected by Covid. The target set for the school is 95% at the moment we stand at 87.31%. I appreciate that the last few weeks before Christmas included a lot of time missed by pupils due to illnesses so hopefully things will improve. We have been assigned an IWO (Inclusion Welfare Officer) Nina Porter, who will be working closely with us and our families to help support pupils to access school. The importance of attending school has a direct impact on the future earnings of each child and also the number of friends they have.

- 1 day off per school year means attendance will only ever reach 99.5%
- 10 days off per school year means attendance will only ever reach 94.7%
- 20 days off per school year means attendance will only ever reach 90%

Poor school attendance can result in academic underachievement, difficulty in making or keeping friendship groups and a loss of child's confidence and self-esteem. Research has proved that children who have poor school attendance when attending primary school are more likely to truant when in secondary schools.

Attendance Incentives

We are currently working on some ideas for this, keep your eye out for an email over the next couple of weeks to have your say.

Reporting an Absence

- 1) Phone the school and leave a voicemail message - 01352 711 366
- 2) Email the school office - mfmail@hwbcymru.net
- 3) Report an absence in person on the Gate at the School Office (by 9-15 on the day of the absence)

Dogs

At Maes y Felin, we have a 'no dogs on school grounds' policy meaning that dogs cannot go beyond the school gate and into the playground. Only assistance dogs and dogs being used for educational purposes are allowed onto school premises.

This policy is designed for the safety of children and to protect children with allergies. Also, there's nothing worse than dog poo in the playground and on children's shoes!

Pupils Safety

Yesterday saw a near miss between a car and a very young child. We have made every effort to minimise the number of vehicles down at the school gate and there has been a noticeable improvement. However, there are still a number of vehicles which need to access the road outside the gates. Could we please ask those who need to park in the disabled bays to arrive just before 3 o'clock so that they are parked up before the children leave and also as families are walking off the premises that all children (especially very young children) are suitably supervised. This will hopefully help prevent further incidents from occurring.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mr. David Thomas, Acting Headteacher



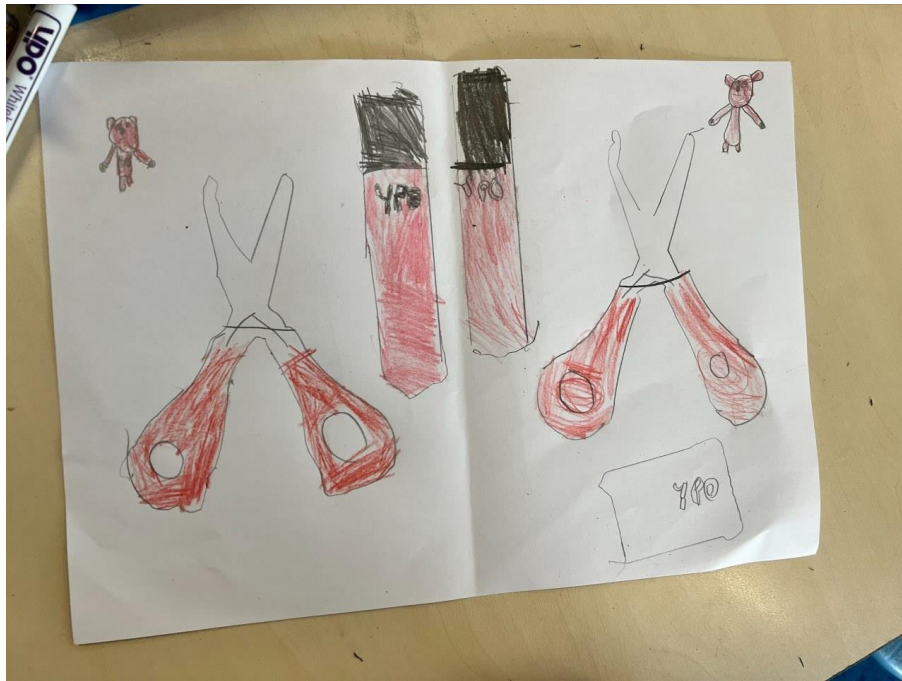
What have we been up to?

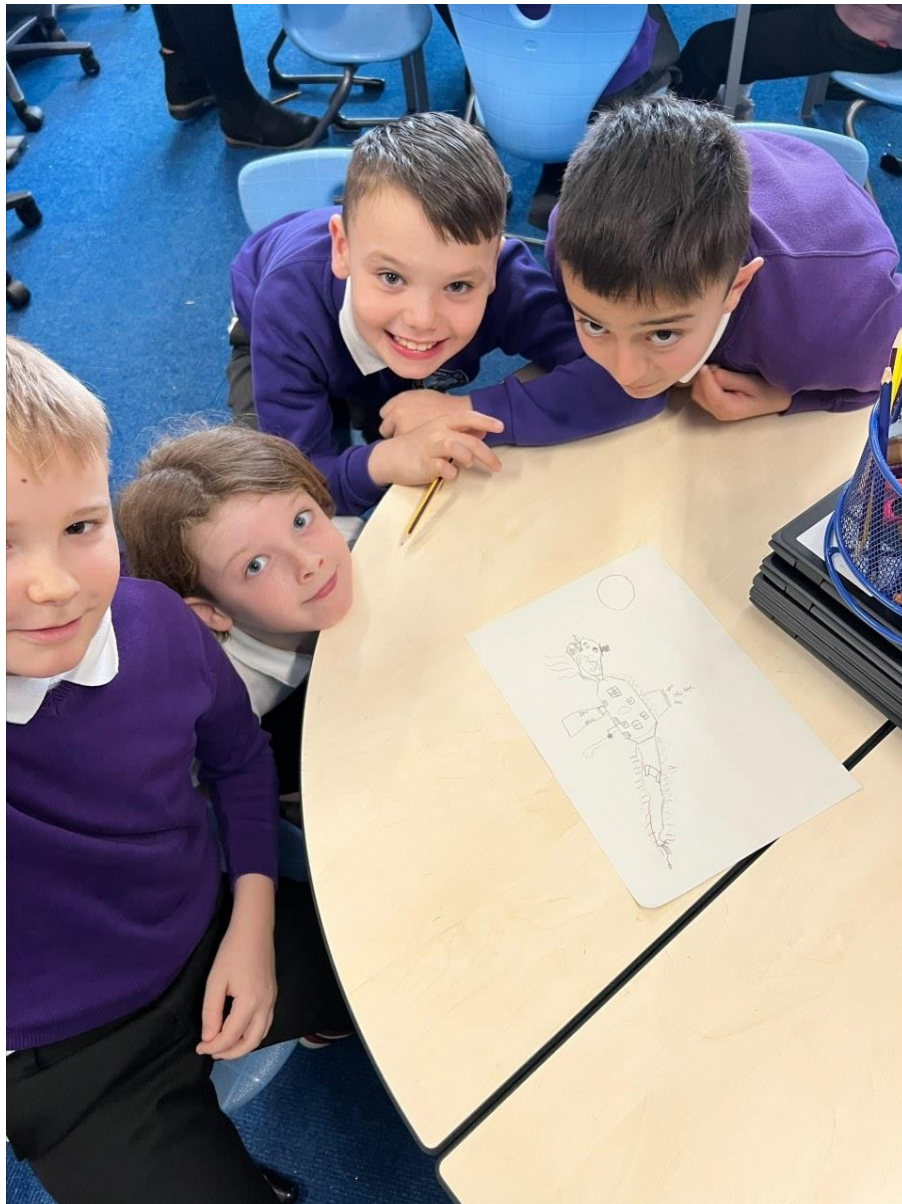
Derwen have been playing a few circle games titled "This is not a" - This is not a pencil this is a rocket, this is not a pencil this is a satellite. So each child in the circle had to change the object into something else they hadn't been said. Then Ben played same game again but this time they had a different object and this time had to use an adjective e.g This is not a table pot it is a shiny silver space shuttle etc.

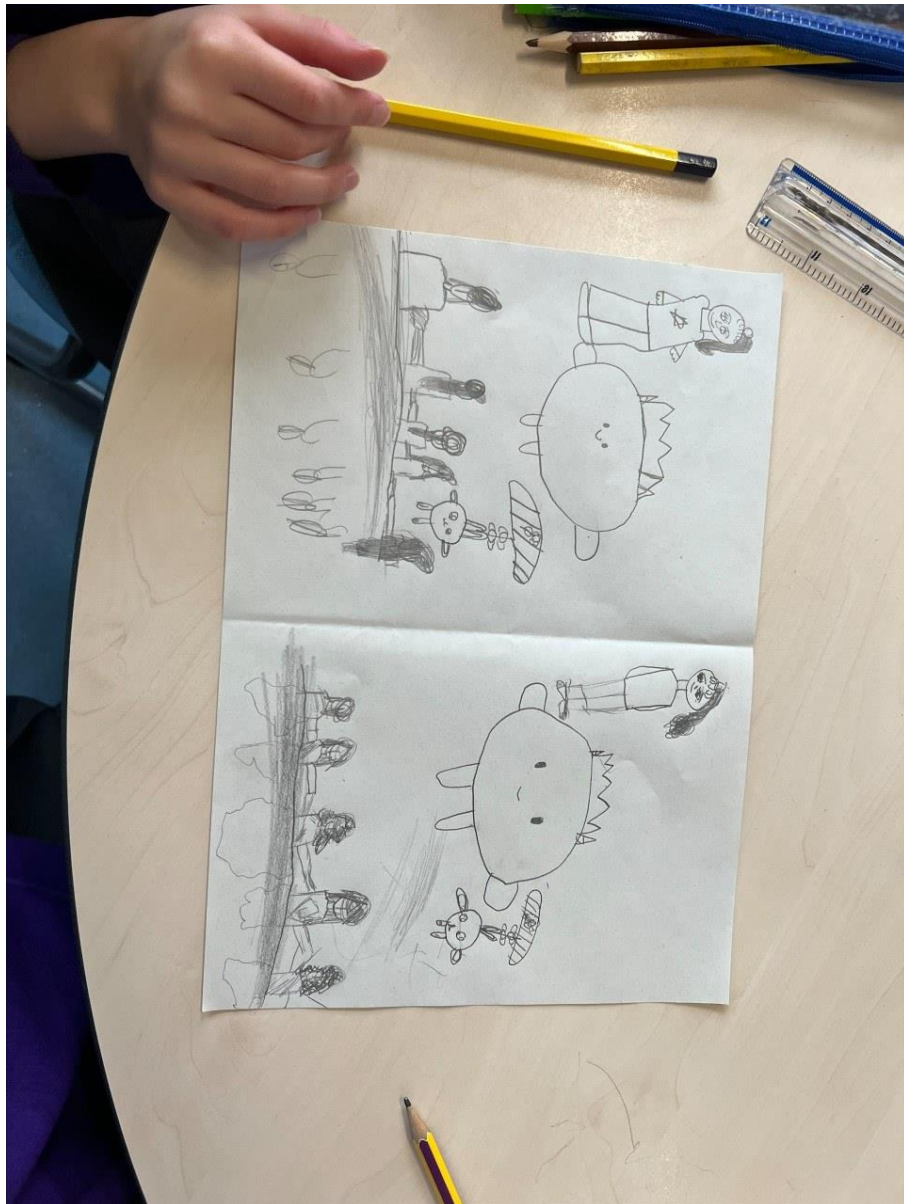
Children also took part in drawing team games as they divided a piece of paper in two and they had to work in pairs to copy each others drawing by working together to decide what to draw. Then they worked in fours to create a picture between them by adding one thing each in turn

After break the classroom was turned into space and the children made a shelter for them in space using bamboo, tape and newspaper.









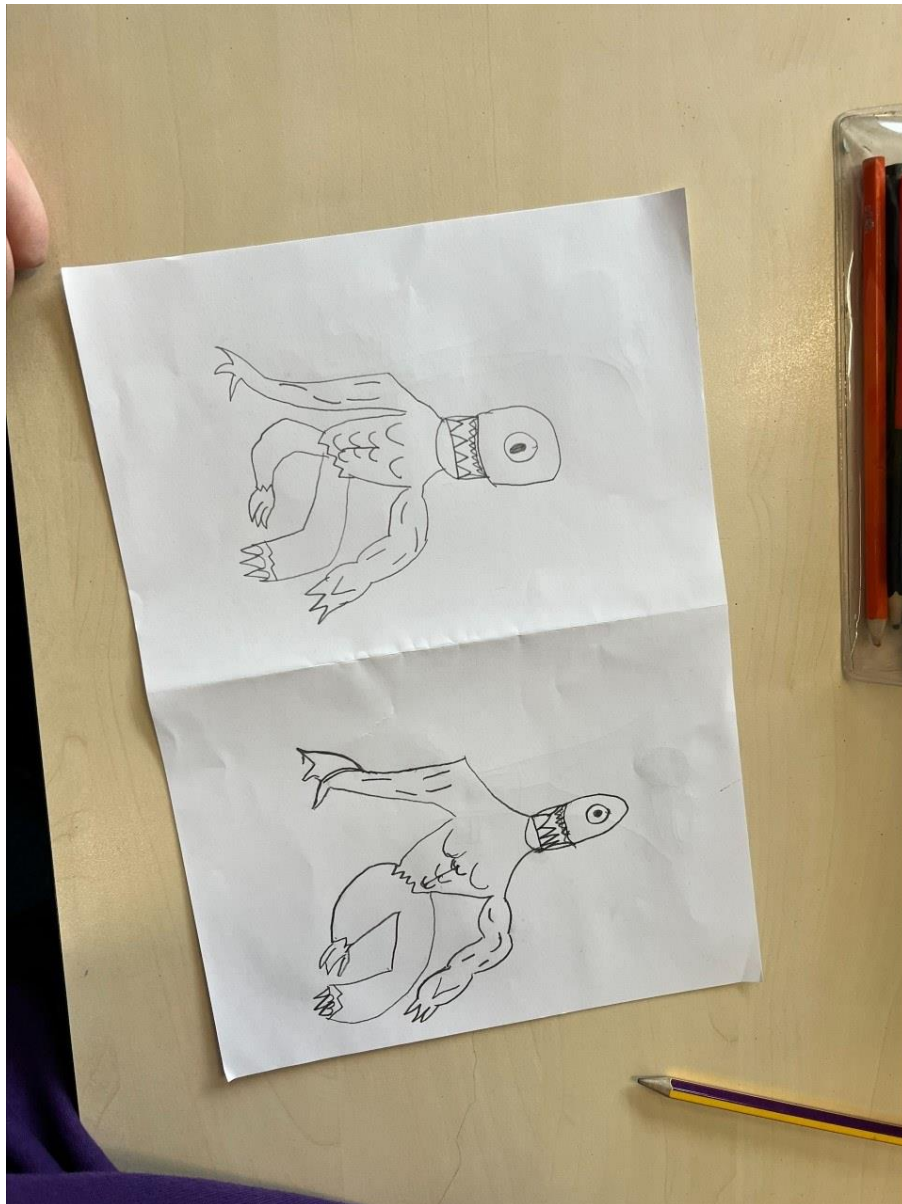




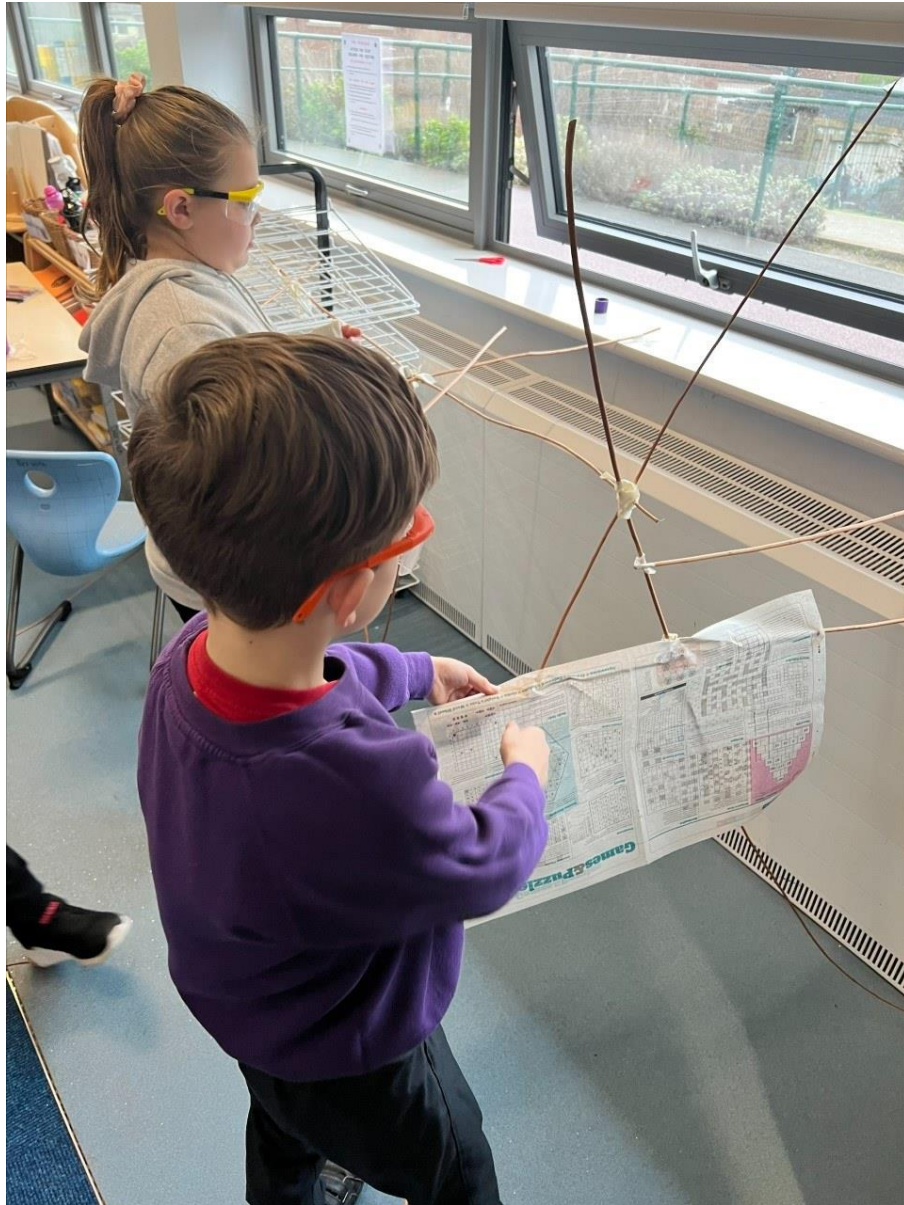








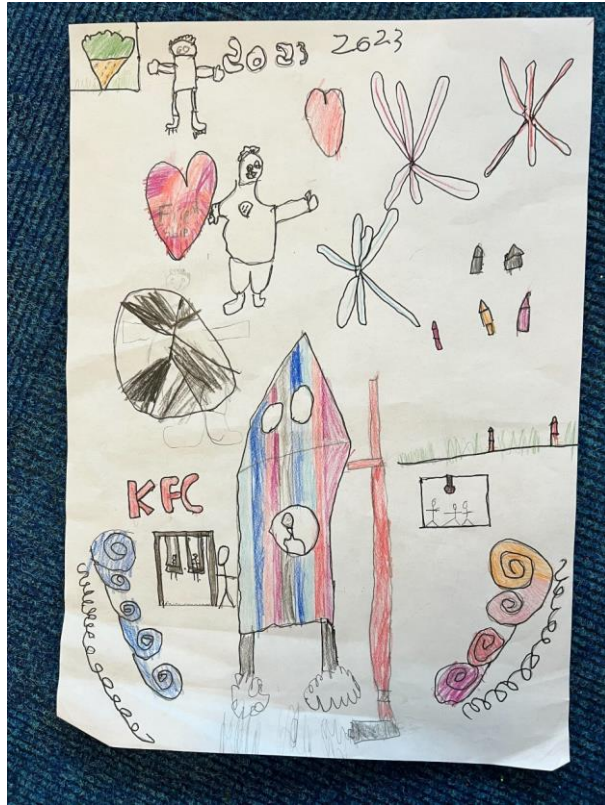






Year 3/4 have been busy doing their New Year's resolutions in a picture.







Year 5/6 have been busy being 'Climate Activists' today. We have been learning about extreme weather and will be working together to raise awareness of the impact of Climate Change on the environment and our lives.















Welsh Corner - Cornel Cymraeg



Special Mentions

Unfortunately, there are no special mentions this week but we will be back next week with our Special Mentions Service

Curriculum for Wales

The Curriculum for Wales has a clear focus on authentic and purposeful learning, it asks schools to develop their links with the local community and as a result, at Maes y Felin, we have enjoyed exploring our area and supporting local businesses and facilities during the Autumn Term.

- We have a well established link with St Peters Church, children attend their shared meal and pantry club fortnightly and enjoy serving the community and building relationships. In the new year, we are looking forward to building on these links and are excited to invite church leaders in to school on a more regular basis to deliver assemblies and work alongside the children.
- We also visit Llys Gwenffrwd Assisted Living Facility on a regular basis, children enjoy chatting to the residents and completing activities as part of our inter-generational project.
- We have recently completed a project with Greenfield Valley, a group of learners went to the site and helped to develop an educational resource, we are hoping to return in the new year to trial the resource and improve it further. Year 3 and 4 also enjoyed visiting St Winefride's Well this term and completed lots of super work based on this back at school.
- PC Mark Sawyer is also starting to develop links with the school, he has come in to work with classes in school on a variety of focused areas including keeping safe.
- We also visit the library and the leisure centre on a regular basis and enjoy accessing the resources and have worked with Holywell Town Council to attend meetings and sing at local events. This term we will be taking part in a community litter pick and we always enjoy

competing in Wales in Bloom in the Spring. If you have any ideas for further community engagement or links with a local business or venture, we would love to hear from you, please contact the office on mfmail@hwbcymru.net

Parent Readers

We welcome parents and grandparents into our school to help as a one off or more regularly. If this is something you would like more information on, please speak to individual class teachers or the office. Please note that an enhanced DBS will be required for all volunteers but this will be organised by school.

Internet Safety

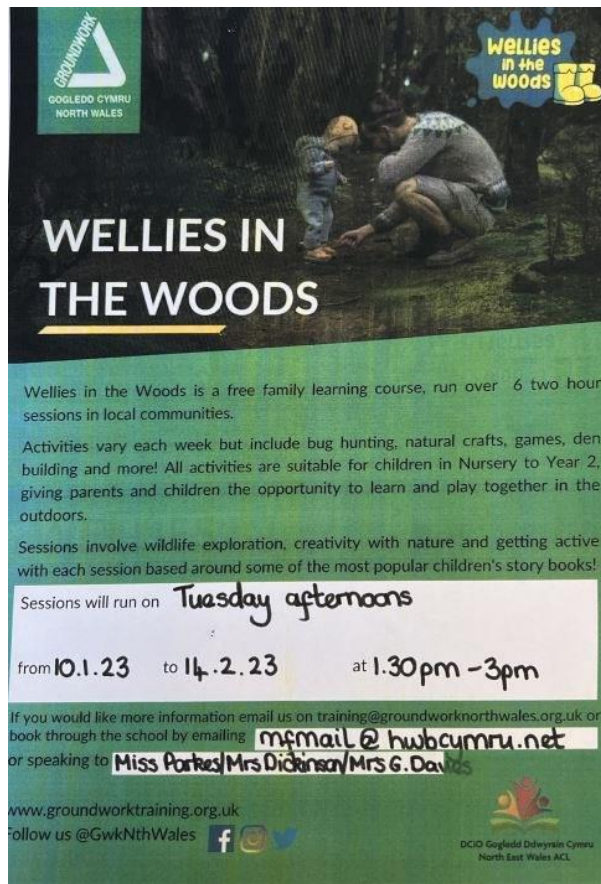
Following recent reports of unsafe behaviour online, we will be sharing internet safety advice and new information about specific apps each week.

This week the focus is on the popular app, Instagram . Please click the link below to view more information.

[Instagram - Hwb](#)

Upcoming Events

- Wellies in the Woods (Foundation Phase) - Every Tuesday from 10th January until 14th February, at 1:30p.m. until 3:00p.m. (See poster for more details)
- Derwen Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 27th January at 10:00 until 12:00
- Ceiriosen Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 3rd February at 10:00 until 12:00
- Owls Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 10th March at 10:00 until 12:00
- Bedwen Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 24th March at 10:00 until 12:00
- Badgers Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 21st April at 10:00 until 12:00
- Foxes Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 11th May at 10:00 until 12:00
- Squirrels Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch - 26th May at 10:00 until 12:00



GROUNDWORK
GOGLEDDO CYMRU
NORTH WALES

wellies in the woods

WELLIES IN THE WOODS

Wellies in the Woods is a free family learning course, run over 6 two hour sessions in local communities.

Activities vary each week but include bug hunting, natural crafts, games, den building and more! All activities are suitable for children in Nursery to Year 2, giving parents and children the opportunity to learn and play together in the outdoors.

Sessions involve wildlife exploration, creativity with nature and getting active with each session based around some of the most popular children's story books!

Sessions will run on **Tuesday afternoons**

from **10.1.23** to **14.2.23** at **1.30 pm - 3pm**

If you would like more information email us on training@groundworknorthwales.org.uk or book through the school by emailing msmail@hwb.cymru.net or speaking to **Miss Parkes/Mrs Dickinson/Mrs G. Davies**

www.groundworktraining.org.uk
follow us @GwkNthWales

DCIO Gogleddol Ddeyrnys Cymru
North East Wales ACL

Financial Support

Childcare Offer

Do you or someone you know need help with childcare costs? Under the Childcare Offer for Wales, you could claim up to 30 hours of early education and childcare a week, for up to 48 weeks of the year. This government-funded childcare scheme aims to lessen the burden of childcare costs so that you can spend the money you've saved on the things that matter most to your family.

The Offer has already helped parents from all over Wales to return to work, increase their hours or work more flexibly. If you're looking for a job, or thinking about going back into education or training, but are worried about childcare costs, this support could make all the difference.

Whatever the Offer means for you and your family, don't miss out on your share of this childcare funding.



All parents wishing to receive Childcare Offer for Wales funded childcare from January 2023 will need to apply through the [new national digital service](#). The online service is bilingual and can be accessed via a laptop, mobile phone or tablet.

When applying, you will need:

- Your child's birth certificate
- Proof of address
- Proof of household income or enrolment on a higher or further education course

Free School Meals (eFSM)

Some families who meet certain criteria, for example those on lower incomes or in receipt of certain benefits, are entitled to receive a free school meal (eFSM).

On a successful application for eFSM families are then eligible for other benefits to cover the cost of school essentials such as school uniform grants (PDG).

Even though the roll out of UPFSM will begin in September 2022, and eligible year groups will begin to receive free school meals, families who are eligible for eFSM should continue to use the eFSM application process to ensure they don't lose out on other benefits.

For more information on eFSM and uniform grants go to:

<https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-Tax-and-Benefits-and-Grants/Free-School-Meals-and-Uniform-Grants.aspx>

The Table @ St Peter's, Holywell is here to support everyone in our community. There are no barriers to coming along.



For two years, the £2 Food Club in St Peter's has provided much needed practical, spiritual and emotional support to our community and now we are re-launching as 'The Table', which hopes to make this project sustainable for the long-term.

What is the table?

The Table is run by St Peter's Church in Holywell to support all in our community. There are no barriers to attending and we are open to all. There are a number of aspects to the Table and you can read about them [here](#).

Eating Together

At the heart of the Table is the chance to enjoy a free lunch together, to meet with friends old and new and support each other. You can drop in anytime between 12 and 1.30 for lunch and a chance to chat.

The Pantry

The Table will always have a supply of food and other essentials for all those who come. There will be no barriers to using the Pantry.

While we're open for lunch (12 - 1.30), you'll be able to go into the Pantry and get a selection of things to stock up your cupboards. The exact amount will depend on what we have received.

We suggest a £2 donation, if you are able, so that this part of the Table can continue.



Sign-Posting and Support

At the Table, we'll always have someone to lend a listening ear and provide pastoral care and support - which is open to people of all faiths and none. As well as a listening ear, we can signpost you to a range of other sources of help. We work in close partnership with:

- Kidsbank Chester
- KIM Inspire
- Communities for Work
- Flintshire Foodbank
- Fare Share

and other organisations...!

Bread of Life

The Table always begins with a gathering at the Lord's Table to share worship in a reflective service, to which all are welcome. Whether you've been to church all your life or you're not sure about any of it, you're welcome to come and enjoy the service.

The service starts at 11.30am and lasts for 30 mins.

The Table is based in St Peter's Church, Rose Hill, Holywell (the church behind Lidl) each Monday

Posters



Important Notices

Parking

Thank you for you co-operation with this. The area outside the green gate is much less congested and safer for all. Diolch

Nuts

We are a nut free school, please ensure there are no nut based foods brought on to the premises.

Collection

Please let us know if someone different is collecting your children, if you would like a password system set up, please speak to class teachers or the office.

- Flintshire Schools Admissions - <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx>
- For any enquiries in regard to School Transport, Streetscene & Transportation;
 - Tel: 01352 701234
 - Email: school.transport@flintshire.gov.uk



IMPORTANT PARENT/CARER/PUPIL INFORMATION



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Parents/carers and pupils who are able to access the internet from home.

Flintshire County Council reviewed the procedure for notifying parents/carers and pupils when schools need to close at short notice due to adverse weather conditions or other emergencies. This procedure enables head teachers or nominated back up staff to enter emergency/unplanned school closure details directly onto the Flintshire Website at their earliest convenience via internet access. This ensures speed and accuracy of information, by having all emergency school closure notices in the one place. Parents etc. can then check the one source for all schools closed, especially where siblings are attending different schools. **(Please note schools may still use their own method also for supplying closure information i.e. School Website, Schools Call Voice mail service etc.)**

In order to find the Flintshire County Council webpage in times of severe weather emergencies etc. that could affect schools opening, please visit the website Home page www.flintshire.gov.uk. A link will direct you straight to the webpage with the full information details entered by the head teacher or the nominated back up staff.

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures

NB This will also automatically update the Council's Twitter to help provide another channel for notification of school closures.

www.twitter.com/flintshirecc

Please Note: At 5.00PM each day the information on the school closure website page will be deleted automatically. Head teachers from 5.30PM onwards, can then enter the next day's information regarding closure, if known in advance. Otherwise any new closure information will be entered early the following morning.

Parents/carers and pupils who are unable to access the internet at home.

- Local radio stations are advised to check the Flintshire web site for the latest information and they can then broadcast it accordingly. So those without internet access should listen to Radio Wales or Heart FM to find out the latest information.
- Or alternatively refer to schools own procedures for notifying parents without internet access.

Email notification to parents/carers/pupils

Flintshire County Council has set up additional assistance to parents/carers/pupils who may wish to be notified by email of any school closures as soon as they are logged by the school on the Flintshire County Council website. To receive school closure email notification you will need to register your details and which schools you wish to be notified of on:-

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolclosuresregistration

At the end of each school year an email containing a link will be sent to all parents/carers etc who have registered to ask if wish to remain registered to receive emails for the following school year for the same schools. All parents/carers who do not respond via the link (by the confirmed date) will have their details automatically removed.

School Transport – Bad Weather

If your child/children are entitled to Free School Transport please refer to the School Transport webpage for information regarding bad weather conditions. Please visit www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooltransport or phone Flintshire's School Transport Team on 01352 702511/704543.

Please note

Due to both Ysgol Maes y Felin and Ysgol Treffynnon being on the same site, if for any reason either school is closed, both schools will close.

Target School Attendance per week: 93%

Whole School Attendance as of 13/01/2023: 87.52%

Please can I remind parents / carers how important it is, that if your child is not going to be in school, please can you contact the office on 01352 711366 as soon as possible, otherwise this will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Attendance - what are we doing to improve this?

-
- *Increased parental engagement through stay and play sessions for each year group.*
 - *Increased family engagement through inviting all classes to a child led assembly, to stay for lunch and attend a school session alongside their child.*
 - *Free school meal roll out*
 - *A new childcare provision to ensure wrap around care as part of the childcare offer.*
 - *Identifying children at risk of persistent absenteeism and supporting them in school*
 - *A school-based family liaison officer and additional need co-ordinator*
 - *Inclusion welfare team based in school*
-

If you have any other ideas, please let us know via Mrs Dickinson in the office.



Ysgol Maes y Felin School Holidays & Training Dates 2022 / 23 as at 07.11.2022

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
							31													
December 2022							January 2023							February 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28					
							30	31												
March 2023							April 2023							May 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4					1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
June 2023							July 2023							August 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4					1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
							30													

	Staff Training Day	Holidays (closed to pupils)	Bank Holidays (school closed)
--	--------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------

Percentage	Lost by Year 11
90%	1 ½ terms
80%	1 YEAR
70%	1 ½ YEARS
60%	2 YEARS
50%	2 ½ YEARS

Contact Us

Embed: </iframe>

src="https://www.google.com/maps/embed?pb=!1m18!1m12!1m3!1d9543.235315023385!2d-3.219839015485289!3d53.275044878471284!2m3!1f0!2f0!3f0!3m2!1i1024!2i768!4f13.1!3m3!1m2!1s0x487ad46c8940929b%3A0xa9ebb8ef9a1ab678!2sYsgol%20Maes%20Y%20Felin!5e0!3m2!1sen!2suk!4v1671748325177!5m2!1sen!2suk" width="600" height="450" style="border:0;" allowfullscreen="" loading="lazy" referrerpolicy="no-referrer-when-downgrade"></iframe>

Ysgol Maes y Felin

Pen y Maes Road

Holywell

CH8 7EN

01352 711366

mfmail@hwbcymru.net

[Ysgol Maes y Felin Website](#)