

## Ysgol Maes Y Felin 17.02.23

## 17th February

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## A Message from Mr Thomas, Acting Headteacher

Prynhawn da.... Good afternoon

Well, we've made it through to the end of another very busy half term.

I would like to start by confirming the message you received yesterday that the proposed strike action for Thursday March 2nd is going ahead and after reviewing our risk assessment we will be closed. If this changes at all we will let you as soon as we can.

The children have had a wonderful week completing lots of exciting activities as part of their Science week including Year 5/6 visiting the High School and I was lucky enough to visit Foxes where the children informed me about all the wonderful things they had done including making a volcano.

Wednesday saw us have our Valentines Disco and as you will see from the photos further on the children all had a fantastic time. The occasion also gave us the chance to raise £300 for the people affected by the Earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Thank you to everyone for your generosity and also a big thank you to Mrs Saunders and the School Council for organising the event.

When we come back after half term, we have lots of exciting things to look forward to, including Dydd Gwyl Dewi on Wednesday March 1st . This is always a highlight on the Maes Y Felin Calendar and we especially look forward to seeing the entries for the family competition. Please can we ask that if you wish to take part all entries must be in on February 28th . Also starting after half term, we are starting some attendance initiatives which you can read about further in the newsletter.

First week back looks like this at the moment:

Monday - February 27th - Staff Training Day - No pupils in

Tuesday - February 28th - School reopens - Closing date for Family competition

Wednesday March 1st - Dydd - Gwyl Dewi

Thursday March 2nd - Potential Strike Day - School closed

Friday March 3rd - Normal Day

I hope you all have a wonderful half term (Don't eat too many pancakes) and we will see you all on Tuesday February 28th.

Kind regards,

Mr. David Thomas, Acting Headteacher



## What have we been up to?

This week the teaching staff have enjoyed some training outdoors. In recent months, we have been investing in some lovely outdoor resources including planters, fire pits, poly tunnels, pond dippers and much more.

In line with the Curriculum for Wales, we are keen to use our outdoor area more regularly for authentic and purposeful learning experiences.

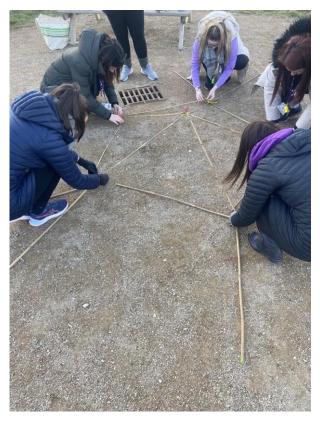
We enjoyed working with Polly from North Wales Outdoor Learning to do some training during our weekly staff meeting.

There were lots of lovely ideas for using simple resources for big impact. Keep an eye out for how staff will use these ideas with the children in the coming months.

If anyone has any wood offcuts, sticks or other natural materials going spare, we would really appreciate them. Please pass to class teachers.













Collen took part in a litter pick around Pen y Maes.





The children had a great time at the Valentines disco on Wednesday. A massive thank you to Mrs Saunders for organising the event, and to all of the children for their donations towards the victims in Turkey and Syria.





















# **Thank you Holly** for your £300.00 donation

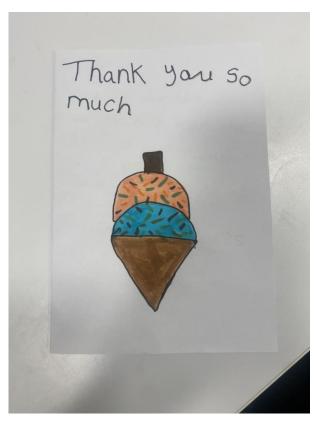
Your donation will help people affected by the earthquakes.

Support at this early stage of the crisis is kind, and will make a big

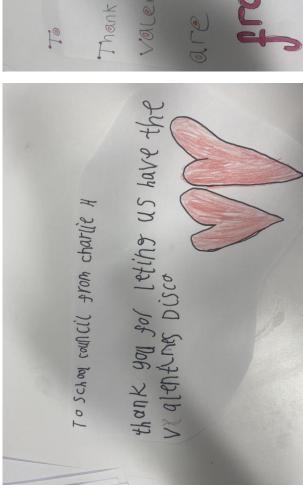
Thank you again.

Your donation reference no is: ICCB01655962

Also, a huge thank you to Jon from St Peter's Chuch for providing the lights and bubble machine for the disco. Below are some thank you messages from the children.



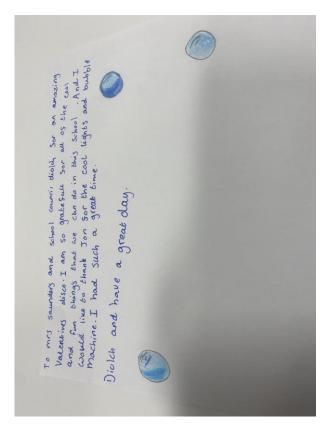




Thank you for making the we are you for making the are valentines disco and we are very grafful







Year 1 and 2 have really enjoyed Science and Technology week. They used their coding skills to direct the m-tiny around the map and solved any problems that arose. They also enjoyed developing their coding skills by exploring the Scratch Jr app. The children had a great time experimenting with ice. They put toy figures in a pot of water and placed them in the freezer. They predicted the quickest method to remove the figure from the ice and then timed each method. All children thoroughly enjoyed the experiment, well done all.













 $Year\ 5\ \&\ 6\ took\ part\ in\ DT\ and\ Science\ sessions\ in\ Ysgol\ Treffynnon\ as\ part\ of\ Science\ Week.$ 

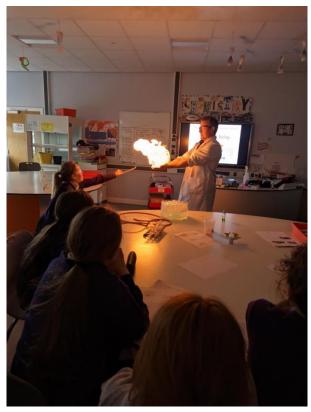


























Please find below a link to a video containing more activities which Year 5 and 6 have been up to during their Science week

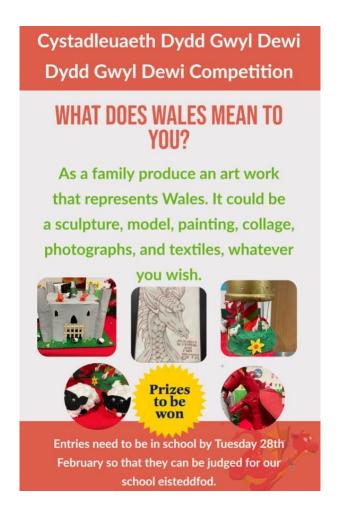
Science Week Year 5&6

## Welsh Corner - Cornel Cymraeg



We are looking forward to celebrating Dydd Gwyl Dewi (St David's Day) on the 1st of March. We will be holding a celebration day in school where children will have the chance to perform a song and show off their Welsh dancing skills. Children are welcome to wear traditional Welsh clothing on this day or red/green/white.

Diolch yn fawr to those who have already submitted their Welsh family artwork, they look brilliant! There is still time to enter, the deadline submission date is 28th February. There are great prizes to be won. Please see poster below for more information.



## **Special Mentions**

All of our children here at Ysgol Maes y Felin achieve many amazing things every day, but here are some of our children who have gone that extra mile over the last week.

VIPs - 17/02/2023

Lola-Faith, Foxes

Ella-Rose, Squirrels

William, Owls

Luka, Badgers

Holly, Ceiriosen

Angelica, Celyn

Joshua, Derwen

Jake, Llwyfen

Oliver, Masarnen

Finley, Collen

Thom, Bedwen



Lilly-Rose, Masarnen, took part in the North Wales regionals last weekend. She achieved 2 personal bests, 4.85 seconds improvement for breaststroke, and 0.97 seconds improvement for her fly.



## Attendance

First of all a huge thank you for taking the time to complete the form about attendance initiatives. As you know, good attendance is really important to ensure success at school and future careers, alongside this it ensures your children develop friendships, social skills and a positive attitude to learning. We are really keen to improve attendance throughout school to ensure every child meets their potential and exceeds expectations. We have collated the views of children, staff, governor and families and have come up with several new initiatives to excite children and encourage good attendance, these are outlined below.

• Each week there will be a raffle and one child will be awarded a £10 amazon gift card.

Children will be entered into the raffle if they have 100% attendance that week – individual circumstances will be taken into account

• Each half term, there will be a raffle and one child will be awarded a £25 amazon gift card.

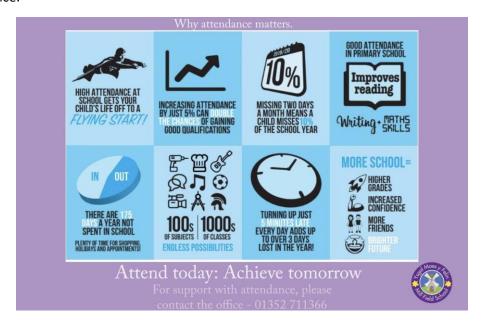
Children will be entered into the raffle if they have 100% attendance that week – individual circumstances will be taken into account

Each week, there will be a raffle and 10 children will be invited to tea with Mr T

Children will be entered into the raffle if they have 100% attendance that week – individual circumstances will be taken into account

- Each week there will be a trophy awarded to the class with the best attendance
- individual circumstances will be taken into account
  - Each half term the class with the best attendance will be rewarded with a trip.
  - Each term, children with 100% attendance will receive a certificate.

These initiatives will be regularly reviewed, if you have any other ideas, please let us know via the school office.





Percentage	Lost by Year 11
90%	1½ terms
80%	1 YEAR
70%	1 ½ YEARS
60%	2 YEARS
50%	2 ½ YEARS

### Curriculum for Wales

Please find below some informative links in regard to the Curriculum for Wales:

Education in Wales is Changing (English/Saesneg) - Youtube

A guide to the new Curriculum for Wales

The Curriculum for Wales is the national curriculum that sets out what children and young people should be taught in schools in Wales. It was introduced in September 2021 and replaces the previous curriculum that was in place.

The Curriculum for Wales is designed to be broad and balanced, providing learners with the knowledge, skills, and experiences they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. It is based on six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs):

- 1. Expressive Arts
- 2. Health and Well-being

- 3. Humanities
- 4. Languages, Literacy and Communication
- 5. Mathematics and Numeracy
- 6. Science and Technology

The curriculum also includes a set of four Purposes, which outline the aims and values of education in Wales. These Purposes are:

- 1. To develop confident individuals who are able to think critically and creatively, and who have a strong sense of Welsh and global citizenship.
- 2. To develop successful learners who are able to work independently and in collaboration with others, and who have a love of learning that will stay with them throughout their lives.
- 3. To develop responsible citizens who are able to make informed decisions and contribute to the well-being of their communities, both locally and globally.
- 4. To develop effective contributors who are able to use their skills and knowledge in the workplace, and who have the ability to adapt to change and new challenges.

The Curriculum for Wales emphasizes experiential learning, critical thinking, and digital literacy, and encourages learners to apply their learning in real-world contexts.

### 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 game, Pokemon Go . Please click the link below to view more information.

Pokemon Go - Hwb

## **Upcoming Events**

- Training Day 27th February
- 'Dydd Gwyl Dewi' Day (More information under 'Welsh Corner' section) 1st March
- 'St David's Day' Kitchen Theme Day (Please see menu below) 1st March

- World Book Day Children can dress up as their favourite book characters and bring their favourite book to school - 3rd March
- Owls Class Service, Parent Lesson and Lunch 10th March at 10:00 until 12:00
- Fairtrade Coffee Morning (More details to follow) 15th March at 9:00
- Parent Drop-In Session for Year 5 & 6 (More information to follow) Afternoons of 10th, 17th, and 24th March
- 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



### **Future Plans**

### **Community Engagement**

Isa Lamb, a lady who is very keen to develop community engagement has been working hard to get funding for a project based in Holywell. This will be a project linking Holywell Hospital and Ysgol Maes y Felin with a view to developing the outdoor space as community gardens. As part of the bid for funding, Isa has been asked to get the views of the local community. We would really appreciate it if you could fill out the form below in order to help her rasie funds for this project.

Diolch

### **Community Gardens Project**

#### **Fundraisers**

We would really appreciate your help with different fundraising ideas. In order to do this, please could we ask you to fill out the form below. We are looking to fundraise some money for some new and more relevant books for the library.

### **Fundraising Ideas**

### **Sponsorships**

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our sports department is thriving under the leadership of Mrs Saunders and we are involved in an increasing amount of tournaments and competitions. In order to represent Ysgol Maes y Felin effectively, we are asking for a local business to sponsor our football, netball and athletics teams. If you can help please contact the office.

## 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 <u>new national digital service</u>. 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



Help with the cost of the school day. Did you know? The latest Microsoft Office tools including Word, Excel and PowerPoint are available for FREE to learners and teachers in Wales:

### Microsoft - Hwb

If you are aged 8-18 years and attend a school in Flintshire, please visit <a href="https://heygirls.co.uk/flintshirehomepacks/...">https://heygirls.co.uk/flintshirehomepacks/...</a> to apply for free period products.



## **Posters**



For admission enquires and to arrange a visit to the school, please contact the main office - 01352 711366, mfmail@hwbcymru.net



We are looking for volunteers to goin our Events Working Group and to support with the running of events in the Holywell and Greenfield Communities.



- We also welcome any students currently working towards their Duke of Edinburgh
- Awards. If you have a few bours to spare or know of anyone who could help us, please contact: support.officer@bolywell.wales
  - Thank you!



A brand new church holiday club for 5-12 year olds

## FOOD-GAMES-STORY-CRAFT

St Peters Church Wednesday 22nd Feb 9.30-12 Holy Trinity Church Thursday 23nd Feb 9.30-12

LIMITED spaces - FREE event but booking is **ESSENTIAL** - book with jonathanandrews@cinw.org.uk



## YMA I HELPU **GYDA CHOSTAU BYW**

Hawliwch eich arian yma:

llyw.cymru/ymaihelpu

0808 250 5700



Claim what's yours here:

gov.wales/heretohelp

0808 250 5700











## Being a Parent Group

Do you have at least one child between the ages of 2-7 years and live in Flintshire?

Would you like ideas on how to support your children?

Would you like help understanding your childs behaviour?



#### We may have the group for you....

Join our free groups run by fully trained local parents

An opportunity to meet other parents going through similar experiences

Practical support for the day to day challenges of being a parent

Share ideas with other parents

## Some of the topics we cover over

- Play
   8 sessions
- Feelings
- Being a parent
- · Understanding children's behaviour

HOLYWELL FLYING START CENTRE STARTING ON 26TH JANUARY 12:30 TILL 2:30PM 8 WEEKS CRECHE AVAILABLE

CONTACT EMMA FOR MORE INFORMATION 07584 533111 FLINTSHIRE.EPEC@FLINTSHIRE.GOV.UK













## Support for families

With half term approaching, we know some families may be worried how they will afford daily essentials, as well as providing meals for their children who are off school.

### Did you know?

Families who receive the pupil development grant and are in receipt of a means tested or disability benefit may also be entitled to help towards their water bills.



0800 052 0145







### Pryd/When?

Dydd Mawrth / Tuesday 9:45-11:00yb/am Sesiwn Clwb Cwtsh session 9:45-10:45

> 28/02/23 07/03/23 14/03/23 21/03/23 28/03/23

### Pwy/Who?

l deuluoedd â phlant rhwng 0-4 oed children aged 0-4



l archebu lle cysylltwch â Elaine / To book a place please contact Elaine



elaine.griffiths@meithrin.cymru











## **Important Notices**

### **Library Books**

We have had a sort out in our school library, and as a result, we have surplus of some books. If your children would like one to take home, could they please bring in 20p next week and this will be organised with the school librarians.

### Class PE Lessons

On the day where your child has a PE lesson, we would like them to come into school wearing their PE Kit. The kit should consist of black joggers or leggings, plain white t-shirt (school t-shirt is fine), school jumper and trainers.

Please find below list of which days each class have PE. Please note, there have been some changes which will be implemented after half term, please find these changes below.

- Monday:
  - Celyn, Collen, Derwen, Foxes, Squirrels
- Tuesday:
  - Badgers, Ceiriosen, Celyn, Llwyfen
- Wednesday:
  - Ceiriosen, Collen, Derwen, Owls, Squirrels
- Thursday:
  - Bedwen, Foxes, Llwyfen, Masarnen, Owls
- Friday:
  - Badgers, Bedwen, Masarnen

### **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 - <a href="https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx">https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx</a>

- 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 <a href="www.flintshire.gov.uk">www.flintshire.gov.uk</a>. 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.

- a) 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.
- b) 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/schoolclosureregistration

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 <a href="www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooltransport">www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooltransport</a> or phone Flintshire's School Transport Team on 01352 702511/704543.

### Please note

Due to both Ysgol Maes y Felin and Ysgol Trefynnon 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 17/02/2023: 87.27%

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.

4		Field	150	100				Ysgol Maes y Felin School Holidays & Training Dates 2022 / 2 as at 07.11.2022															
September 2022									October 2022								November 2022						
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Staff Training Day								Holidays (closed to pupils)								Bank Holidays (school closed)							

### Contact Us

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### Ysgol Maes y Felin

Pen y Maes Road

Holywell

CH8 7EN

01352 711366

mfmail@hwbcymru.net

Ysgol Maes y Felin Website