

Llanfair Primary School

December 2024 Newsletter



Dates for the Diary

W/C 2nd Dec	End of extra curricular clubs
Tuesday 3rd Dec	Year 4 trip to Barry War museum
Wednesday 4th Dec	Café Cymraeg @ 2.15pm
Thursday 5th Dec	Parent forum at 4.30pm
Friday 6th Dec	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day (pupils can wear Christmas jumpers to school for the remainder of the term) £1 donation for Save The Children charity
W/C 9th Dec	Christmas concerts
Tues 10th Dec	Human Rights day
Thurs 12th Dec	Y5 visiting The Senedd
Friday 13th Dec	Whole school Christmas trip to cinema
Monday 16th December	Year 6 visiting Cowbridge Comprehensive school
Tuesday 17th December	Year 6 visiting The Senedd
Wednesday 18th Dec	Christmas choir concert @ 4pm
Thurs 19th Dec	Christmas parties
Fri 20th Dec	End of Autumn term
Monday 6th January	Inset Day for all pupils
Tuesday 7th January	Nursery closure morning

* anything amended/ extra that has been added to the original dates for the diary which was sent at the

As we find ourselves on the cusp of the most magical time of the year, there's a buzz of excitement in the air at Llanfair Primary School. The anticipation of Father Christmas's imminent arrival is growing by the day, but before we reach the 25th of December, we have a wonderfully busy term ahead of us.

Our calendar is brimming with exciting trips, celebrations and concerts that are sure to make this festive season truly memorable for our school community. It's a time when the spirit of togetherness shines brightest and I'm thrilled to share with you the events that await us.

Speaking of community spirit, I'd like to extend our thanks to the wonderful volunteers who lent their time and energy during the half-term break to help with our outdoor garden clearance. Thanks to their efforts, we're now ready to begin developing this space for the benefit of our pupils. We're excited about the possibilities this presents and look forward to sharing updates with you as our plans unfold. It's endeavours like these that truly showcase the strength of our school family.

As we navigate this busy but exciting time, I'm reminded of how fortunate we are to be part of such a vibrant and supportive school community. The dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils and the unwavering support of our parents never fail to inspire me.

So, as we count down the days to Christmas, let's embrace the magic of this season together. Here's to creating wonderful memories, celebrating achievements and spreading joy throughout our Llanfair Primary School family.

Wishing you all a fantastic festive season ahead!



Christmas information

Christmas Jumpers

We ask for a donation of £1 to support the charity 'Save the Children'. The official Christmas jumper date is 12th December but as children can wear their Christmas jumpers/ clothing from **Friday 6th December**, we thought that we would raise the money on this date. Pupils can wear Christmas jumpers/ dresses etc for the remainder of the term. We ask that pupils do not come into school in fancy dress outfits. A link to pay to support 'Save the Children' has been set up on ParentPay.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be served on **Friday 6th December**. There is a vegetarian alternative which is a Quorn fillet. We encourage all children to have a dinner on this day.

Christmas school trip

On **Friday 13th December** all pupils in Reception to Year 6 will be visiting the Odeon in MacArthur Glen to watch Moana 2. Pupils can bring a small bag of sweets and a drink to consume during the film. Please do not send your child with glass bottles, energy drinks or any products containing nuts/ seeds.

Christmas week

The week commencing the 16th December will be dedicated to Christmas activities in every class. During this week children will view a Christmas movie with their class, have a Christmas party with their phase and carry out a range of Christmas themed activities.

Charity support

This term we have supported the Royal British Legion with the sale of merchandise. We are still awaiting a final figure of how much we have raised.



We have also supported Children in Need raising £315 to support the fantastic work that they do across to support children less fortunate.



Dosbarth Pen Y Fan sold toast to the whole school to raise money for the delivering Joy appeal hosted by Dunelm to support local care homes and children in the community at Christmas. In addition to the money raised by the children, the staff have also contributed and have raised a total of £115.



Reading platform—Oxford Reading Buddies

The school has decided not to renew the annual subscription for the Oxford Reading Buddies platform due to low engagement and technical difficulties with the platform itself. Instead, for Years 3 to 6, we have invested in Bug Club, which focuses on enhancing pupils' comprehension skills during daily guided reading sessions. Additionally, we are investing in the Oxford Reading Tree scheme to support younger pupils in the lower year groups.

Breakfast Provision Spring term 2025

The google form to book your children's places for breakfast provision for the Spring term is now live.

The link will close on Monday 16th December 2024 at 3.30pm

The link for the Google form is: <https://forms.gle/Ry1ds5yxCUWVRHCz8>

Breakfast club will open at **8.00am and the gates for entry to breakfast provision will close promptly at **8.20am**

Caffi Cymraeg

Wednesday 4th December at 2.15pm.

Venue—Spare Classroom

What to expect when you come

We will tell you about Welsh in our school and teach you some useful Welsh phrases that you can use in everyday life. We will play games ending with a quiz to see what you have learned.

Come to an hour of Welsh fun hosted by Crïw Cymraeg

We will provide a treat with tea and coffee



Cymru

Extra curricular clubs for Spring term

Extra curricular clubs will start the week beginning Monday 20th January and will finish the week commencing Monday 24th March. All of the clubs are on a first come first served basis and there is a maximum and minimum capacity for each club to run. Please see further information on the Google Form which will be sent out on Friday 6th December to reserve spaces. If there are any issues with the booking system please contact the school.

First half term Spring 1 until Feb half term

Monday Drama/animation (Rec/ Y1/ Y2) Mrs Gaisford/Mrs Norris (max 30 pupils) 3.15pm—4.15pm
Tuesday Football (Year 5/6) Mr Jones 3.30pm—4.15pm

Second half term Spring 2 until Easter

Monday Drama/animation (Y3/ Y4/ Y5/Y6) Mrs Gaisford/Mrs Norris (max 30 pupils) 3.30pm—4.15pm
Tuesday Football (Year 3/4) Mr Jones 3.30pm—4.15pm

Whole term

Monday	Languages	(Years 3-6)	Ms L Downie (max 15 pupils) 3.20pm—4.15pm
Monday	Digital Club	(Years 3-6)	Mr Lewis (Max 20 pupils) 3.30pm—4.15pm
Tuesday	Games	(Rec/ Y1/ Y2)	Mrs H Mayes (max 20 pupils) 3.15—4.15pm
Wednesday	Choir	(Years 3-6)	Mrs A Crossman (max 30 pupils) 3.30pm—4.15pm

External clubs

Thursday	Art Academy	3.30pm—4.30pm
Friday	Karate	3.30pm—4.30pm

Christmas Carols Extravaganza

On Wednesday 18th December we will be holding a Christmas carols extravaganza for parents and the community where the choir and musical soloists will perform a selection of festive tunes. The event will take place at 4.00pm and should last about 30-45 minutes. Pupils can stay in school until the concert starts.



If your child is involved in the event please could they wear something 'Christmassy' for the show. This could be an outfit, dress, jumper or accessories. Please could these be brought into school on the day. The pupils will have time to change into these at the end of the school day.

Attendance

As you may be aware, we have an attendance target set by the local education authority of **96%**. Currently, our attendance is below this target and it is essential that we work together to improve this figure. We understand that during the winter months, illnesses and bugs can be prevalent. Our policies, such as the **48-hour absence** rule for sickness and diarrhoea, are in place to protect our school community. However, I urge you to send your child to school even if they have a slight sniffle. If your child's condition worsens during the school day, we will promptly inform you.

I would also like to thank parents who have requested term-time absences using the form available on our website. We hope that this new system provides clarity on why a pupil's attendance may be marked as unauthorised and offers an understanding of your child's average attendance over the past two years.

To illustrate the impact of absence on learning, please find the table below:

Attendance Percentage	School days missed per year	Hours of lost learning per year
100%	0 Days	0 Hours
95%	10 days	65 Hours
90%	19 Days	123 Hours
85%	29 Days	188 Hours
80%	38 Days	247 Hours
75%	47 Days	305 Hours

As you can see, even a small percentage drop in attendance can lead to significant hours of lost learning.

Towards the end of this term, your child will be bringing home a letter detailing their individual attendance percentage for the term. Please note that if your child's attendance is below **90%**, this is now classified as a persistent absentee. However, if we have been informed of any medical reasons for your child's absences, there is no need for concern.

As always, if have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact the school. I hope that you all have a lovely Christmas break and look forward to welcoming you back in school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**

Mr R Jones and Mrs J Shewell