

Llanfair Primary School

April 2024 Newsletter



Dates for the Diary

Monday 8th April	Pupils return to school
Friday 19th April	GINGO PTA event (Parents)
Friday 26th April	Wear purple for month of the military child
Thursday 2nd May	Year 6 visiting Crucial Crew
Tuesday 7th May	Inset Day
Monday 27th May	HALF TERM
W/C 10th June	Tray and Display children work event
Wednesday 19th June	SPORTS DAY
Thursday 20th June	Sports Day reserve
Wednesday 26th June	Night At The Proms (Choir event)
Thursday 27th June	Year 6 transition at Cowbridge Comprehensive School
Friday 28th June	PTA Splash Out event
Tuesday 9th July	Year 3 and 4 day activities at Atlantic College
Wednesday 10th July	Y6 leavers party
Wednesday 17th July	Y6 Leavers assembly
Thursday 18th July	Summer Party (PTA event)

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

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of the Spring term. It certainly has been a very busy one!

I would like to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of our pupils and their families for a peaceful Easter break. May this time be filled with joy, relaxation, and quality time spent with loved ones. And here's to hoping that the sun finally decides to grace us with its presence!

I would also like to remind you that school will resume on Monday, 8th April. I'm sure our children will be eager to reunite with their friends and teachers, ready to dive back into their learning adventures. We have some fantastic activities planned for the upcoming term, and I can't wait to see the enthusiasm and curiosity that our students bring to the classroom.

Please remember that my door is always open, should you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Class structures and teachers for the next academic year.

I have received a number of queries regarding class structures for the next academic year. This will be prioritised in the summer term and you will receive information regarding this as soon as the decisions have been made. I endeavour to sort out the classes/ teaching staff by May half term.

Inset days

The remaining inset days for the academic year will be taken on:

- Tuesday 7th May
- Monday 22nd July.

Sports Day

Sports day this year will be held on Wednesday 19th June with a back up date pencilled in for Thursday 22nd June. The foundation phase sports day will start at 9.30am with nursery pupils participating first.

The afternoon session will see the Key stage 2 pupils compete (Years 3 to 6). Pupils will take part in a range of races throughout the afternoon. The event will start at 1.30pm.



Month of the Military Child

April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, which highlights the important role Service children play in the Armed Forces community. It is a time to applaud Armed Forces families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome.

To celebrate and acknowledge the month we would like all pupils to wear something purple on **Friday 26th April**.

Why purple?

Purple was chosen because it symbolizes all branches of the military, a combination of Army Green, Air Force Blue, Coast Guard Blue, Marine Red and Navy Blue.

SSCE Cymru would like to encourage education settings to carry out activities during this month to celebrate and raise awareness of the unique experiences this group of children and young people have and become a more

DANDELION POEM

Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere,
They are hardy and upright,
A survivor in a broad range of climates.

Military children bloom everywhere the winds carry them,
They are well-rounded, culturally aware, tolerant and
extremely resilient.

Dandelions and Military Children are ready to fly in the
breezes that take them... to new adventures, new lands and
new friends.

They learn that to survive means to adapt,
That when one door closes another door opens.

Their roots are strong, cultivated deep in the Armed Forces,
planted swiftly and surely.

Military children know that home is where their hearts are,
That a good friend can be found in every corner of the world.

Month of the
Military Child
Mis y Plentyn
Milwrol



April/Ebrill | #MotMCCymru

Did you know the official
flower of the military
child is the dandelion?

Its seeds are blown far and
wide by the wind, but it will
always plant roots and
blossom wherever it lands.



SSCE SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION WALES
CYMRU CYNORTHWYO PLANT MILWYR
YN YSGOLION CYMRU

St David's Day

The school celebrated St David's Day by holding our annual Eisteddfod on Friday 1st March. Thank you to all of the parents and children who supported our St David's Day competitions. They were all absolutely fantastic!

Part of the Eisteddfod tradition is the chairing of the Bard which is a poetry competition.

This year Elsa Meredith won the competition for her excellent piece of poetry which can be read below. Da iawn
Elsa!

Land of Dream

We are at war, I wonder why.

Bang! Crash! Thud! Just few survive.

*We leave and sail across the sea,
To skies of blue and fields of green.*

*Where stories whisper in the walls,
About climbing and waterfalls.*

*Where tales are told of love and peace,
Yet it's something that I cant stand in the least.*

*And then at last the war is won,
But I'm used to it now, I don't want to be gone.
Because when I'm here, I love what I see,
For Wales is my land of dream.*

*So here we stay, though we tried different places,
I had to be sure and very persuasive.
We live in a village by the sea called Nefyn,
We have neighbours called Joan and Isla and Kevin.*

*We don't need a milkman, there's Bluebell the cow.
She belongs to old Liz, me pop round then and now.
On warm, bright spring days, the sun smiles down,
And cotton wool clouds soar above town.*

*On wet, winter nights, rain knocks on the door,
Still, its ever so cosy and I fear no more.
Because when I'm here, I love what I see,
For Wales is my land of dream.*

Term Time absences



As you are aware, missing school can have a negative impact on a child's social, emotional, and academic progress. Over the past few months, we have noticed an increase in the number of requests for term time absence, which has resulted in a decrease in our attendance figures. Our school's target for attendance is 96% across the academic year and we strive to ensure that every student achieves this goal.

After careful consideration and consultation with the Governing Body and the Parent Forum, we have decided to review and revise our procedures and policies regarding term time absence. Currently, we authorise up to 10 days of absence per academic year. However, due to the impact on attendance, we have made the decision to reduce this to 5 days per academic year. Additionally, we will only authorise holiday absence if the student's attendance to date is above 96%, in line with our school target. This will commence after the Easter break for any new holidays booked. If you have already prebooked the holiday we will require evidence in order to authorise the absence under the current arrangements.

To keep you informed and involved in the process, once we receive a term time absence request, we will make a phone call to inform you if the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. In addition, these records will be maintained and communicated to you in the end of year reports. If you do not hear from the school the absence will be authorised.

I would like to stress that we understand there are unavoidable circumstances, such as illness or medical needs, that may require a student to be absent from school. In such cases, we will handle them on a case-by-case basis. However, what we have noticed is that a combination of illness and holidays is significantly impacting attendance.

We acknowledge the importance of spending quality time with family during holidays. However, we have observed that this is negatively affecting students' progress. As a school, we have a duty of care to ensure that pupils attend school regularly if they are fit and well. By implementing a balance of 5 days of authorised absence and maintaining an attendance rate of 96% and above, we aim to improve overall attendance and ensure that students attend school consistently.

We understand that this change is different from our current policy, but please know that it is driven by our commitment to the well-being and academic success of our pupils.

We genuinely appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.



Breakfast Club—mandatory payments.

Unfortunately, not all parents are currently making contributions or payments for the breakfast provision, which is leaving the school in a difficult position. As you may be aware, the cost of running the provision has been steadily increasing due to inflation and other associated expenses such as staffing and utilities. The school is financially responsible for breakfast provision. We cannot run the provision at a loss as this is then taken directly from the school budget which will impact all children.

Therefore, I must inform you that after Easter, we will be making the payment for the breakfast provision mandatory.

I understand that this may pose financial challenges for some families. If you find yourself in a position where affording this payment would be difficult, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school. We are here to support you. I would also like to assure you that pupils who are eligible for free school meals will still be able to attend the breakfast club free of charge.

In terms of payment, starting from the first week of each term, we will require the full payment for the entire half term if your child is a regular user of the provision. For example, after Easter, a payment of £7 would be required for pupils who use the provision every day. If your child only uses the provision three days a week, the required payment would be £4.20.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding these changes, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We are here to address any questions you may have and provide any necessary assistance.

Rest assured, we will still strive to maintain flexibility and ensure that pupils can use the provision on an ad hoc basis if needed.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Together, we can ensure the well-being and success of our students.

Car park etiquette

Please could you make sure that during the morning drop off system you drive to the **furthest point** in the drop off zone when space is available.

Pupils should then walk up the pedestrianised path and enter school through the gates.

If you are using the drop off system, when exiting please pull out to the right to exit the car park rather than waiting for the line of queuing cars to move forwards. This will hopefully alleviate the congestion and grid lock situations in the car park.

Also please be reminded that no cars should be left in the drop off zone unattended at any time.

Your help in this matter is very much appreciated.



Welsh National Tests

The pupils in Y2—Y6 will sit three personalised assessments in June (Reading, numerical reasoning and a maths procedural) There is no set date by which these have to be completed but they have to be sat before the end of the academic year. More information on the tests will be provided in a couple of weeks. You will receive your child's results with their end of year report. These are personalised assessments so no preparation is required.

Comic Relief

Thank you to everyone who supported Comic Relief this year. The school raised **£265** in total which is fantastic!



Thank you once again for your continued support this term.

Have a wonderful Easter everyone!

Mr R Jones and Mrs J Shewell



Llantwit Major *Chamber Music Festival*

Festival Director - Ben Tarlton

Concerts:
March 2024

Venue:

St Illtud's Church,
CF61 1SG

22nd - 7:30pm

Tickets:

23rd - 11:00am & 7:30pm

Adults - £13

24th - 2:00pm & 5:30pm

Under 25s - £7

Under 18s - free

Follow the QR code to book
through our website
or call 01446796733

