



Pontyclun News

Newyddion Pontyclun

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe after what seems an age, but, the time has come to leave our old school and move to our new, purpose built, 21st century school. The last few weeks have certainly been very busy trying to pack away a school whilst at the same time trying to keep a sense of normality in teaching your children. While we are very excited to be moving to the new school, it is still a time tinged with sadness as we leave behind so many wonderful memories, experiences and moments of joy and laughter.

Moving into the new school will not be without its challenges as the grounds will be developed over the summer months, and outdoor space will be of a premium. However, as the last couple of years have shown, we will adapt and make the best of what we have.

Videos of where and how parents/carers will drop off in the morning, and collect in the evening will be sent before the children return to school, and staff will be present to guide everyone until we all get used to the new arrangements. Hopefully all will go smoothly.

Despite all the changes this term, we have still had a lot to celebrate;





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- Skiing- Year 6 has a very successful ski trip to Austria and were an absolute pleasure to take.
- Classes have enjoyed working on their 'All change' topics, with classes focussing on Wales and how it has changed over time, looking at past events in either Pontyclun or Wales and linking the changes to the impact that coal mining has had on our communities and Wales
- Pupils have enjoyed celebrating
 - Welsh music day - Dydd Miwsig Cymru
 - Safer internet day
 - The Bumbles of Hollywood
 - Miss Harwoods retirement
 - Special visitors for talks around coal mining.

We have also welcomed Mrs Ware back from maternity leave and look forward to working with her again as we move forward.

Mr Roberts





Key Dates for Spring 2 Half Term



Date	Event
Friday 21st February	School Closure Day
Monday 24th February - Friday 28th February	Half Term
Monday 3rd March, Tuesday 4th March, Wednesday 5th March	School Closure Day
Thursday 6th March, Friday 7th March	New School Opens no breakfast club available these days
Friday 14th March	World Book Day - come dressed as favourite book character
Friday 21st March	Red Nose Day - please wear something red to school
Monday 24th March	World Maths Day activities in class
Monday 31st March, Tuesday 1st April	Parents evenings
Thursday 10th April	School Eisteddfod - please wear Welsh costume or Red/green/white clothing
Friday 11th April	Egg Rolling and Easter bonnet (more details to follow)
Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April	Easter holidays



Attendance



Pre Nursery	95.4%
Nursery	92.2%
Reception	93.9%
Year 1	93.7%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	95.6%
Year 4	96.6%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	94.7%

This chart shows our
year group
attendance for
Spring Term 1.

Green - above our
94% target
Amber - between
90-93.9%
Red - Below 90%



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Skiing in Zell Am Zee - 11th January - 16th January

We were fortunate enough to take away 38 Year 6 children to ski in Zell am Zee, Austria at the beginning of January. During the trip it was fantastic to see the children grown in confidence during their ski lessons and challenge themselves. They were a credit to the school on the trip and all had a brilliant time



The Bumbles of Hollywood visit

Our Year 2 children took part in their second session with 2B enterprising. The workshop showed the children how the skills they learn here at Pontyclun Primary will equip them for the future. It also focussed on the importance of positive relationships in the workplace. A special thanks to Mrs Hardiwick who provided friendship bracelets for all pupils in years 1,2,3





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Safer Internet Day



As a school we celebrated Safer Internet Day on the 11th February. Our digital ambassadors introduced us to this years theme of 'Scams online' during their assembly. In classes the children had the opportunity to learn about how they could stay safe online. Year 6 were also involved in a BBC Safer Internet day online lesson.

Dydd Miwsig Cymru



On Friday 7th February we celebrated Dydd Miwsig Cymru as a school. It gave us the opportunity to listen to a variety of Welsh music including hip hop, country, pop and rock. The children were able to discuss their favourite styles using both English and Welsh



Agencies that offer help should you need it



Childline - 0800 1111

Citizens Advice Bureau - 01656 762800

Samaritans - 116123

Shelter Cymru (financial and home advice) - 0800 495495

Resilient families - 01443 425006

RCT families website - www.rctfamilies.co.uk