



Together we learn, together we grow.

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Annwyl Rhieni,

It has been wonderful to see how quickly our children have settled back into school following the holidays. It has been lovely to welcome our new Nursery and Reception children, along with children who have joined us across different year groups. I would also like to thank our children, staff and parent/carers for helping to create such a welcoming and caring environment for everyone to feel included as 'together we learn, together we grow'.

I have really enjoyed visiting all the classes seeing the fantastic learning that is taking place and already the children are displaying their work on the walls and within the environments. The children are feeling proud of their achievements and are keen to share their learning. Please remind your children to be ready, respectful and safe everyday in line with our school Mission.

School Health Nurse:

There is a drop-in session for all parents/carers to meet with the school nurse on Wednesday 30th September between 8.30am and 9.30am. Please go to the main Reception entrance and the Nurse will be available to speak to you.

Pantomime – Reception to Year 6:

We have made the decision to move the Pantomime to CORE Caldicot to support our local community and to reduce the cost to our families. The Pantomime trip will take place on Thursday 3rd December during the school day.

CORE Caldicot will be transformed into the magical world of Cinderella, with a full stage show, dazzling lighting, stunning costumes and all the laughs, boos and cheers you'd expect from a classic pantomime. Performed by the incredible Wonder Pantomimes with Hot Rock Productions.

The total cost is £9.50 per child and will be set up on ParentPay shortly. Our wonderful PTFA will still provide drinks and snacks for all children and therefore resulting in a big saving to our families.



Gwent Music:

Once again, Gwent Music will be attending school to offer our children a great opportunity to learn a musical instrument. This term, Year 2 and Year 3 will be learning the Toots. In the Spring Term, Year 4 will learn the Pbuzz and Year 5 will learn the Ukulele. In the Summer term, Reception and Year 1 will learn a strings instrument. Parents/Carers will be able to come into school after 10 weeks where the children will deliver a performance to you. Further dates will be shared in due course.

Swimming provision:

As part of our ongoing review of provision across the school, from September, swimming lessons will be offered to pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5. Traditionally, Year 6 pupils have also attended swimming; however, after careful consideration we have decided that Year 6 will no longer take part in the swimming programme. This change reflects the exceptionally busy and exciting year that our oldest pupils experience, with a wide range of transition activities, secondary school visits, enrichment opportunities, celebrations and end-of-primary-school events taking place throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of the broad range of experiences provided for our Year 6 pupils as they prepare for the next stage of their educational journey, and this adjustment will allow them to fully engage in these valuable opportunities while ensuring younger pupils continue to benefit from high-quality swimming instruction. We thank parents and carers for their understanding and support as we continue to provide the very best experiences for all our learners.

Volunteer Readers Needed:

We are looking for parent/carers who would be willing to come into school on a regular weekly basis to listen to children read. Reading with an adult is invaluable in helping children develop confidence, fluency and a lifelong love of books. To provide consistency and build positive relationships with our pupils, we ask that volunteers are able to make a regular commitment each week.

To ensure a comfortable and supportive environment for all children, volunteers will listen to readers from a class other than their own child's. This helps maintain fairness and enables our volunteers to support a wider range of pupils across the school.

Please note that, for safeguarding reasons, all volunteers must hold a current DBS certificate (or be willing to undergo a DBS check through the school) before they can begin. If you are interested in supporting our children in this rewarding way, please contact the school office for more information. Thank you for helping us nurture confident and enthusiastic readers.

PTFA AGM:



Nursery Admissions September 2027:

If your child was born between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024 you can apply for a 2027 nursery school place between **3rd July 2026** and **11th September 2026**.

Please visit Applying for a school place - Monmouthshire¹ for an application form and further information.

Children born between **1st September 2023 and 31st December 2023** may be offered an early start from January 2027.

Children born between **1st January 2024 and 31st March 2024** may be offered an early start from April 2027.

Children born between **1st April 2024 and 31st August 2024** are not eligible for an early start.

Decision letters offering an early start, if places are available, will be issued:

- on 20th November 2026 for both September 2027 and for a January 2027 start

¹<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place/>

- On 5th March 2027 for an April 2027 start



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sir fynwy

Admission to Nursery
2 0 2 7

Derbyniadau Meithrin
2 0 2 7

Nursery Admissions
Application Available
3rd July 2026
Closing date for applications:
11th September 2026 at 5pm
Offer date: 20th Nov 2026
(Jan & Sept Intake 2027)
Offer date: 5th March 2027
(April 2027 Intake)

Derbyn Meithrin
Pecynnau ar gael:
3 Gorfennaf 2026
Dyddiad cau ceisiadau:
11 Medi 2026 am 5pm
Dyddiad Cynnig: 20 Tachwedd 2026
(Ionawr a Medi 2027)
Dyddiad Cynnig: 5 Mawrth 2027
(Ebrill 2027)

Please note: if you are a Monmouthshire resident, you must apply for your school place through Monmouthshire County Council (excluding applications to voluntary aided/independent schools) even if your preference is for your child to attend a school outside of Monmouthshire.
Nodwch: os ydych yn byw yn Sir Fynwy rhaid i chi wneud cais am le mewn ysgol trwy gyngor Sir Fynwy (ac eithrio ceisiadau i ysgolion Annibynnol/Ysgolion Gwirfoddol a gynorthwyir) hyd yn oed os yw'n well gennych i'ch plentyn fynychu ysgol y tu allan i Sir Fynwy.

Ewch i • Visit: monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

Primary & Secondary School Admissions 2027:



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Admission to Primary School 2027
Derbyniadau i Ysgolion Gynradd 2027

Primary School
Application Available
13th November 2026
Closing date for applications:
15th January 2027 at 4pm
Offer date:
16th April 2027

Ysgol Gynradd
Pecynnau ar gael:
13th Tachwedd 2026
Dyddiad cau
ceisiadau:
15th Ionawr 2027 am 4pm
Dyddiad cynnig:
16th April 2027

Please note: if you are a Monmouthshire resident, you must apply for your school place through Monmouthshire County Council (excluding applications to voluntary aided/independent schools) even if your preference is for your child to attend a school outside of Monmouthshire.
Nodyn: os ydych chi byw yn Sir Fynwy rhaid i chi wneud cais am le mewn ysgol trwy gyngor Sir Fynwy (ac eithrio ceisiadau i ysgolion Annibynnol/Ysgolion Gwladddol a gorchwylt) hyd yn oed os ydych chi well gennych i chi plantyn fyfychu ysgol y tu allan i Sir Fynwy.

Ewch i •Visit: monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place



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Admission to Secondary School 2027
Derbyniadau i Ysgolion Uwchradd 2027

Secondary School
Application Available
18th September 2026
Closing date for applications:
31st October 2026 at 4pm
Offer date:
1st March 2027



Ysgol Uwchradd
Pecynnau ar gael:
18th September 2026
Dyddiad cau
ceisiadau:
31st Hydref 2026 am 4pm
Dyddiad cynnig:
1af Mawrth 2027

Please note: if you are a Monmouthshire resident, you must apply for your school place through Monmouthshire County Council (excluding applications to voluntary aided/independent schools) even if your preference is for your child to attend a school outside of Monmouthshire.
Nodyn: os ydych chi byw yn Sir Fynwy rhaid i chi wneud cais am le mewn ysgol trwy gyngor Sir Fynwy (ac eithrio ceisiadau i ysgolion Annibynnol/Ysgolion Gwladddol a gorchwylt) hyd yn oed os ydych chi well gennych i chi plantyn fyfychu ysgol y tu allan i Sir Fynwy.

Ewch i •Visit: monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

Awards:

Well done to all the children who have received awards this week. Bendigedig pawb!

Year Group	Seren yr wythnos	Behaviour of the Week Hot Chocolate Friday!
Nursery	Buddy	
Reception	Ben	Ada
Year 1	Grace	Maisie
Year 2	Ebony	Archie
Year 3	Jaxon	Eva
Year 4	Alyssa	Leo
Year 5	Hollie	Solomon
Year 6	Lily	Lamia

Diary Dates:

Additions and/or changes are highlighted.

Dates for your diary		
September		
03/09/2026		Pupils return to school
07/09/2026	3.00 – 3.30pm	Meet the Teacher
08/09/2026	9.00am	Nursery and Reception Parent Meeting Hall
08/09/2026	2.30pm	Year 3 Parent Meeting Hall
09/09/2026	9.00am	Year 2 Parent Meeting Hall
09/09/2026	2.30pm	Year 4 Parent Meeting Hall
10/09/2026	9.00am	Year 1 Parent Meeting Hall
10/09/2026	2.30pm	Year 5/6 Parent Meeting Hall
16/09/2026	9.00am	Head Pupil Interviews
18/09/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
21/09/2026		Clubs Commence
23/09/2026	AM	Reception Parent/carer See How They Learn
25/09/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
30/09/2026	AM	Reception Parent/carer See How They Learn
30/09/2026	8.30am – 9.30am	Drop in all parents/carers School Health Nurse Gemma McDonald
October		
02/10/2026	9am	PTFA Annual General Meeting
02/10/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
07/10/2026	AM	Reception Parent/carer See How They Learn
09/10/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
13/10/2026	3.15pm	Gilwern Parent Meeting Year 5/Year 6
14/10/2026		Flu Immunisation Day
14/10/2026	AM	Reception Parent/Carers See How They Learn
15/10/2026	AM	Harvest Celebrations
15/10/2026		*NEW DATE* PTFA Halloween Disco
16/10/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
19/10/2026		Parent Consultations
20/10/2026		Parent Consultations
23/10/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
23/10/2026		Break up from school
November		
02/11/2026		Pupils return to school
03/11/2026		School Photographs
06/11/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
11/11/2026		Remembrance Day
13/11/2026	All day	INSET Training Day - School closed to all pupils
20/11/2026	PM	Year 5 Swimming
24/11/2026		PTFA Gift Sale
December		
01/12/2026		PTFA Christmas Fayre
03/12/2026		Pantomime Caldicot
07/12/2026		Year 2 Christmas Wrapped Up Bethany Baptist Church
09/12/2026		Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day
14/12/2026	2.00pm	Year 3/4 Christingle
15/12/2026	10.00am	Year 1/2 Christmas Concert
15/12/2026	2.00pm	PM Nursery/Reception Christmas Concert
16/12/2026	10.00am	AM Nursery/Reception Christmas Concert
16/12/2026	2.00pm	Year 5/6 Christmas Concert
18/12/2026		Break up from school

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to telephone school on 01291 636360, or email the school dewstowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk²

Yours sincerely

Liz Bain

Headteacher / Pennaeth

²<mailto:dewstowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk>