



*Together we learn, together we grow.*

Friday 21st November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Annwyl Rhieni,

Ground Force Day Volunteers:

A huge thanks to all the volunteers who have come into school to help and support with gardening. I know it was a very cold morning, but I hope you all enjoyed your hot chocolate!





## Children in Need:

Thank you to all the children and families who have supported Children in Need. The children raised £55.97.



## Packed Lunch Guide:



**Packed Lunch Guide**

**What should a packed lunch not include?**  
To keep pupils lunches as healthy as possible, we would like the following items not to be included in packed lunches:

- Crisps or flavoured crisp-type products e.g. snack-a-jacks
- Sweets
- Chocolate or chocolate items such as biscuits, yoghurts, cakes or desserts

**What drinks should be included?**  
Dewstow Primary & Nursery School is a water only school, with the exception of free school milk for Nursery to Year 2 pupils.  
All pupils should bring a drink bottle to school each day. Fresh water is available from our chilled water dispensing unit throughout the day.



**Why eat a healthy packed lunch?**  
New School Food Standards were introduced in January 2015 to ensure that all pupils are getting balanced and healthy food at school.  
We have used these standards to create our packed lunch guide and help families with ideas. A healthy packed lunch can help children to:

- Have enough energy to concentrate and learn in the afternoon
- Keep calm and be prepared to do their best
- Get important nutrients to keep their bodies healthy

**What should a packed lunch include?**  
Use the following ideas to help plan a healthy lunch for your child.

**1. Include a variety from each of the below**

Chicken & vegetable sandwich	Turkey & cheese sandwich	Chicken & vegetable sandwich	Chicken and potato salad	Chicken and potato salad
Chicken and vegetable sandwich				
Chicken and vegetable sandwich				

**2. Include a variety from each of the below**

Fruit (apple)	Banana	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt
Fruit (apple)	Banana	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt
Fruit (apple)	Banana	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt

**3. Include a variety from each of the below**

Salmon	Chicken	Beef	Chicken	Chicken
Salmon	Chicken	Beef	Chicken	Chicken
Salmon	Chicken	Beef	Chicken	Chicken

**4. Include a variety from each of the below**

Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt
Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt
Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt	Yoghurt

## Gwent Police - Neighbourhood Matters:



We spoke to you today about Neighbourhood Matters, our new two-way community messaging and engagement service that gives you instant access to policing updates on:

- local incidents
- crime prevention advice
- upcoming events
- local policing priorities and more.



So, if you'd like to hear more about incidents and appeals in your area, join us at community events, or give feedback on community issues, join the conversation at [www.GwentNeighbourhoodMatters.co.uk](http://www.GwentNeighbourhoodMatters.co.uk)

Visit the website or scan here to sign up.



## Admission Dates:

The application process for children eligible to start Reception in September 2026 is now open. Children eligible to start Reception in September 2026 will have a date of birth range between **1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022**.

The key dates concerning this process are listed below:

**Date applications available to Parents:** 13th November 2025

**Closing date for applications:** 15th January 2026 (at 4pm)

**Date parents informed of a decision:** 16th April 2026

To increase the chances of parents obtaining places for their child(ren) at their preferred school(s), it is vital that application forms are completed within the periods identified above. Application forms completed after the closing date of 15th January 2026 will be considered as late, and will significantly reduce the chances of obtaining places at preferred schools. Application forms can be completed by visiting Starting primary school - Monmouthshire<sup>1</sup>

You can also email [accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk)<sup>2</sup> should you have any queries during the process.

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<sup>1</sup><https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https:%2F%2Fwww.monmouthshire.gov.uk%2Fstarting-primary-school%2F&data=05|02|WatkinsK155%40monmouthshireschools.wales|9e6b3a701fa44445efc708de2208c191|4f3f0e52b734416494091b601d147993|0|0|638985618637296223|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIlIdUljoyfQ%3D%3D|0||&sdata=rtUyJwnciTkU9RoegDzqKSA87TDgB9Klti4fj11Ver4%3D&reserved=0>

<sup>2</sup><mailto:accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk>



**Admission to Primary School 2026**  
**Derbyniadau i Ysgolion Gynradd 2026**

 monmouthshire  
sir fynwy

Primary School	Ysgol Gynradd
<u>Application Available</u> 13th November 2025	<u>Pecynnau ar gael:</u> 13th Tachwedd 2025
Closing date for applications: 15th January 2026 at 4pm	Dyddiad cau ceisiadau: 15th Ionawr 2026 am 4pm
Offer date: 16th April 2026	Dyddiad cynnig: 16th April 2026

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 chi byw yn Sir Fynwy rhaid i chi wneud cais am le mewn ystod trwy gyngor Sir Fynwy (ac eithio ceisiadau i ysgolion Annibynnol/Ysgolion Gwirikodol a gynorthwyer) hyd yn oed os yw'n well gennych chi plantyn fyfychu ysgol y tu allan i Sir Fynwy.

Ewch i -Visit: [monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place](https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place)

## Christmas Dinner:

Bookings are now active for this year's Christmas Dinner which will take place on Thursday 11th December, please take a moment to book on ParentPay. These are the only options available on this day or children can bring in their own packed lunches.



**Christmas School Dinner**

- Roast Turkey or Vegetarian Roast
- Roast & Boiled Potatoes
- Seasonal Vegetables
- Chipolata Sausage
- Stuffing
- Gravy
- &
- Christmas Biscuits & Ice-cream
- A Glass of Fruit Squash

## 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!	Attendance Cup
Nursery	Reka		98.15%
Reception	Kiara & Jenson	Grace	95%
Year 1	Charlie	Eli	96.7%
Year 2	Bronwyn	Elliot	96.1%
Year 3	George	Mireya	85.4%
Year 4	Maria	Darcy R	90.4%
Year 5	Elliot	Zade	99.1% ★
Year 6	Jacob	Emmanuel	94.8%

## Dates for your diary:

Dates for your diary		
<b>November</b>		
26/11/2025	PM	Year 3 Library Visit
28/11/2025	PM	Year 6 Swimming
<b>December</b>		
04/12/2025	10.00am	Pantomime Riverfront Theatre (Rec-Y6)
08/12/2025	AM	Year 2 to Bethany Baptist Church "Christmas Wrapped Up"
08/12/2025	6.00pm	Year 6 to Caldicot School Concert
11/12/2025		Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day
11/12/2025		PTFA Christmas Gift Sale
12/12/2025	PM	Year 6 Swimming
15/12/2025	2.00pm	Year 3/4 Christingle
16/12/2025	10.00am	Year 1/2 Christmas Concert
17/12/2025	10.00am	Nursery (AM & PM)/Reception Christmas Concert
17/12/2025	2.00pm	Year 5/6 Christmas Concert
18/12/2025		PTFA Christmas Fayre
19/12/2025	PM	Year 6 Swimming
19/12/2025		Break up from school

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to telephone school on 01291 636360, or email the school [Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales](mailto:Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales)<sup>3</sup>

Yours sincerely

Liz Bain

Headteacher / Pennaeth

<sup>3</sup><mailto:Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales>