



Together we learn, together we grow.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Annwyl Rhieni,

Welcome back. Happy New Year to you all!

Croeso - Welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays. The children have settled quickly back into the routine of school life, and we are all looking forward to a busy and exciting Spring Term.

Rising 3s:

Welcome to all the children who have started Rising 3s in the Nursery. I would also like to welcome all the Parents/Carers of the Rising 3 children.



Contact Details:

Please can you ensure that if you have changed your address or contact details you inform the school. It is vitally important that we have the correct details should we need to contact you.

Safeguarding:

The Lead for Safeguarding is Liz Bain, Headteacher and in my absence is Mr Nicholas, Deputy Headteacher. The safeguarding policy has been further updated and is on our school website and can be accessed here¹. Should you require a paper copy, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Complaints:

Please click here ²to access our Complaints Policy, should parents/carers require this, this is on our school website.

Nuts:

We do have a number of pupils throughout our school with severe nut allergies. For these pupils even the smallest trace of nuts can be life threatening. **Please DO NOT** send any food containing traces of nuts into school. We are very grateful for your co-operation.

¹<https://www.dewstowprimary.org.uk/policies>

²<https://www.dewstowprimary.org.uk/policies>

Inclement Weather Procedures:

May I remind you that should the weather conditions deteriorate, please check the school website via this link⁴ for the Inclement Weather Procedures. A paper copy can be requested from the school office if preferred. I would like us all to be prepared, If we need to close the school.



Warm Clothes:

The temperature appears to have dropped throughout this week and it has become very cold. When it is not raining the children still go outside to play. They also go into Forest Schools on a weekly basis. Please can you ensure that your child has a warm coat and where possible a hat and gloves. Please write your child's name on these items.



School Uniform:

Just a reminder that there is free recycled school uniform in the entrance to the school, should you require any replacements. All uniform has been washed. Please can I ask that you leave the coat hangers so that we can reuse them. Please ensure that your child is in school uniform. Thank you for your support with this.

PE Kit:

Please can you ensure you send your child into school in the appropriate PE clothing on PE days. This is a white t-shirt and black joggers or shorts. Thank you.

⁴<https://www.dewstowprimary.org.uk/policies>

Gwent Music:

During the Spring term Nursery and Reception will be learning Samba and Year 1 children will continue to learn to play a stringed instrument. The projects run for 10 weeks, and you will be invited into school at the end of the term to share what your child has been learning.



Curriculum/Topic Overviews:

These are available from Friday 16th January and will be displayed in the classroom windows and will also be posted on our website⁵. These detail what your child will be learning this term. If you would like a copy of the overview, please request one from your child's class teacher.

Dressing Up:

We know that many children enjoy dressing up for special events, and these days can be lots of fun. However, we also understand that the cost of costumes can sometimes be a challenge for families. To help make school more affordable and inclusive for everyone, we will be reducing the number of dressing-up days this year. When we do have them, we'll keep them simple and focus on creativity rather than expense—so homemade outfits or themed colours will always be welcome. Thank you for your support in making our school a place where every child can join in happily.

⁵<https://www.dewstowprimary.org.uk/plaza-pages>

Finance:

If you receive income-based support—such as Income Support, income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Pension Credit, certain Asylum support, or Universal Credit with annual net household earnings below £7,400—your child may qualify for free school meals. Even if your child already receives a universal primary school meal (Reception to Year 6), it's important to complete the FSM application to access additional funding like the School Essentials Grant, music lessons, school trips, and more support for the school. Applying is simple—just visit the Welsh Government’s official page to check your eligibility and apply through your local authority:

Apply here: Free school meals: information for parents and carers⁶ [gov.wales]⁷

If you need any help with applying, please speak to a member of staff in the office who can help you.

Clubs:

All after school clubs and lunchtime clubs will commence next week. Week beginning 12th January 2026.

Selective Mutism:

Please follow this link⁸ to access some really useful and practical advice for parents/carers to support children with selective mutism.

Reception Parents - Workshops:

Please contact the school office to book a place on the 'See How They Learn' 4 week course for Reception parents starting on **13th January at 9am, there are still spaces available.**

⁶<https://www.gov.wales/free-school-meals-information-parents-and-carers>

⁷<https://www.gov.wales/free-school-meals-information-parents-and-carers>

⁸<https://padlet.com/annahill5/selective-mutism-resources-for-parents-and-education-staff-1ifrbthiz3a2w51y>

“See How They learn” In Reception Class

Come along to develop practical skills to help support literacy development, numeracy development and learning. Spend some time learning with your child in school.

“See How They Learn” is a 4-week course that will help parents/carers to support their child's learning at home.




Tuesday 13th January at 09:00am
Dewstow Primary School

Sessions include:

- Listening, mark making and early writing
- Phonics and early reading.
- Early numeracy skills and counting.
- Space, shape and measure.



Diary Dates:

Dates for your diary:

Dates for your diary		
January		
06/01/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
07/01/2026	PM	Year 3 Library Visit
09/01/2026	PM	Year 6 Swimming
13/01/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
13/01/2026	AM	Reception 'See how they learn' course
16/01/2026	AM	Year 2 and Year 5 Fire Safety Talk
16/01/2026	PM	Year 6 Swimming
20/01/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
20/01/2026	AM	Reception 'See how they learn' course
21/01/2026	PM	Year 4 Library Visit
23/01/2026	PM	Year 6 Swimming
27/01/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
27/01/2026	AM	Reception 'See how they learn' course
30/01/2026	PM	Year 6 Swimming
February		
03/02/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
03/02/2026	AM	Reception 'See how they learn' course
04/02/2026	PM	Year 5 Library Visit
05/02/2026	PM	St Valentine's Disco PTFA
06/02/2026	PM	Year 6 Swimming
10/02/2026		Safer Internet Day
10/02/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
12/02/2026		Caldicot Round Robins Football and Netball
12/02/2026		Pupils Break up from school
13/02/2026		School Closed INSET Training Day
23/02/2026		Pupils return to school
27/02/2026		Eisteddfod
27/02/2026	PM	Year 4 Swimming
March		
04/03/2026	PM	Year 6 Library Visit
05/03/2026		World Book Day
06/03/2026	PM	Year 4 Swimming
13/03/2026	PM	Year 4 Swimming
16/03/2026		School Closed INSET Training Day
17/03/2026	PM	Parent Consultations
18/03/2026	PM	Parent Consultations
20/03/2026	PM	Year 4 Swimming
23/03/2026	All day	Year 3 to Year 6 Anti-Racism Workshops
27/03/2026	PM	Year 4 Swimming
27/03/2026		Last day of term

Workshops:

Some of our families may find the attached workshops useful. They are online workshops and you do not have to have your camera on. Full details are on the posters, simply scan the QR code to book a place.

HELPING HANDS OUTREACH VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS: DEC 25-MAR 26

We run monthly workshops on a range of topics including: Exploring Behaviours That Can Challenge, Introduction to Sleep, Supporting Anxiety in Children, Supporting with Transitions.

These group workshops are open to any parents/carers of children with additional needs, including families and professionals linked with Serennu, Nevill Hall and Caerphilly Children's Centre. For more information, please speak to the Family Liaison Officer at your local Children's Centre.



The workshops will take place online via a video-call.

**MONDAY 19TH
JANUARY
10AM - 12NOON**

EXPLORING BEHAVIOURS THAT CAN CHALLENGE

We will be sharing ideas behind behaviour support and help you to understand and respond to behaviours that can often challenge.

Book by Midday on Wednesday 14th January

**MONDAY 2ND
FEBRUARY
10AM-12NOON**

SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN

We will share ideas about how to support children and young people with anxiety and worry.

Book by Midday on Wednesday 28th January

**MONDAY 2ND
MARCH
10AM-12NOON**

INTRODUCTION TO SLEEP

We will share ideas about how to manage common sleep difficulties in children and young people.

Book by Midday on Wednesday 25th February



BOOK A SPACE OR SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST

To book a space on one of these workshops, or subscribe to our workshop mailing list for updates on all our future workshops, you can:

- Scan the QR code • Click on the QR code
- Follow this link <https://forms.office.com/e/DfgfWSd0kk>

We also run additional workshops that are jointly designed and delivered with our health colleagues in the Children's Centres.

These workshops need to be booked using separate QR codes.

**MONDAY 1ST
JUNE
10AM-12 NOON**

PREPARING FOR AND SUPPORTING THROUGH PUBERTY

We are really excited to bring to you a brand new workshop. We have been working on this for some time to following some direct requests from families. It is our pleasure to introduce our

'Preparing For & Supporting Through Puberty'

During this workshop we will share ideas and resources related to the following topics:

- Puberty in the context of children with additional developmental needs
- Body Parts & Preparing for Body Changes
- Privacy & Consent
- Puberty
- Masturbation
- What this means for you as Parents/Carers

To book onto this workshop, please scan or click on the QR code or follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/kzDF8c9jbb>



**WEDNESDAY 25TH
FEBRUARY
10AM-12NOON**

SUPPORTING COMMUNICATION

A workshop delivered jointly with a Speech and Language Therapist.

The workshop aims to help you to:

- Understand how communication develops in children and means of communication
- Explore why some children develop communication difficulties
- Explore the related challenges that can develop alongside communication difficulties
- Think about different means to support your children to communicate

To book on this workshop, please scan or click on the QR code or follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/qpyjE-JLPTN>



Active Dads Gymnastics:

Flying Start Dads Advisors Presents

ACTIVE DADS GYMNASTICS

Experience fun-filled sessions for children under 7 and fathers together
Free for fathers/male carers

Our Next Session
January 24 2026
1:30 – 2:30
Text Gez to book your space
07816 182432

Wye Gymnastics & Galaxy Cheerleading Caldicot
NP26 5PW

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	Jonah		98.75%
Reception	Grace	Rory	91.8%
Year 1	Eli	Rosie	94.3%
Year 2	Jaxon	Jacob	97.4% ★
Year 3	Alice	Jaxon P	90.4%
Year 4	Lily	Maria	87.9%
Year 5	Cohen	Braedon	91.4%
Year 6	Theo	Charlie P	84.2%

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to telephone school on 01291 636360, or email the school Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales⁹

Yours sincerely

Liz Bain

Headteacher / Pennaeth

⁹<mailto:Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales>