



Together we learn, together we grow.

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Annwyl Rhieni,

The children have been working very hard throughout this half term. Please see below what the children have been learning:

Nursery and Reception:

Nursery and Reception have been exploring all things Winter. We have looked at the changing seasons and have been looking for signs of Winter in the garden. Nursery children have had the opportunity to work with Gwent Music and have been learning about rhythm and beats through a variety of percussion instruments.

They have learnt how to use a knife safely while Reception have been learning how to use a vegetable peeler as well as we made a delicious carrot soup to keep ourselves warm in Winter. Reception have been using their sounds to write simple sentences linked to the story of Jack Frost. We have noticed lots of different birds in our garden and have taken part in the British Bird watch naming birds and sorting the birds in our garden. Reception have then used IT programs to record their data.

Year 1:

We have launched our topic 'Toys' where we have been exploring how toys move and learning what they are made out of. We have been weighing and measuring our toys. We have been exploring outdoors, observing the birds and learning about signs of Winter. In Literacy, we have been focusing on reading and recognising tricky words. We have been enjoying some extra reading activities to support our learning. In Maths, we have been learning doubles and halves, bonds to ten and weighing.

Year 2:

This term, our topic is 'Toys'. The children immersed themselves in 'Toy Day' where they measured, photographed and created observational drawings of their toys from home. We have started to explore materials that are used to create toys and have sorted toys using Venn diagrams. The children have been using their findings to write a fact sheet about a toy. In Numeracy, we have been exploring weighing in grams and measuring in centimetres. The children have also been exploring the season of Winter whilst creating Winter poetry.

Year 3:

In Literacy, we have been working hard on developing our creative writing techniques, delving into some brilliant story settings and pulling out our favourite words and phrases. We have then used this as inspiration to generate our exciting sentences to describe a setting of a Welsh landscape with mountains, castles and valleys. In Maths, we have been learning methods of multiplication so far, looking at the method of repeated addition, using arrays (building rows and columns that represent multiplication questions) plus developing our understanding of how multiples help us solve multiplication problems. We are moving

onto how we can use that to solve the opposite problems of division now. In Topic, we have discovered that light only travels in a straight line and explored what happens when the light path hits an object, experimenting whether an object is opaque, translucent or transparent.

Year 4:

We have been exploring Welsh myths and legends and, in particular, the legend of The Giant of Gilfach Fargoed. We have been using drama techniques such as freeze framing, hot seating and thought tracking to understand how different characters may have behaved or felt. We've focussed on clear sentence construction and really focussing on writing amazingly accurate sentences. In Maths, there's been a big focus on multiplication facts and we've used lots of apparatus and problem solving to help us with these. We're still going to keep on working hard on our times tables. We've launched our 'Making Waves' topic by going on a sound walk around the school, exploring how instruments make their sound and we've used hexagonal thinking to try to link key ideas together.

Year 5:

We have been preparing to write an Explanation text, which will help us to explain our experiments in our Science Topic. It is an important part of the Science curriculum that children can explain a step-by-step process using sequencing and cause and effect language. We are writing an explanation text about the rotation of the Earth and how Day and Night are formed. We have read and researched, planned our writing and now we will be focussing on drafting, editing and publishing.

Year 6:

In Literacy, we have created poems relating to Dragons using a rhythmic pattern and included features of poetry including repetition, rhyme, descriptive language and preposition phrases. Our genre now for Literacy is Narrative and our focus will be on extending descriptive language to describe a setting and character. This week we have enjoyed including a range of exciting adjectives and have dramatized our work using movement to bring the writing alive. In Maths, we are focusing on multiplication skills and have explored revising 'If I know' methods such as: 'If I know $5 \times 9 = 45$, then I know $50 \times 9 = 450$ and $500 \times 9 = 4500$.' In Topic we have been 'plugging in' to the invisible forces of electricity. They researched the journey from the Powerplant to your home including what happens at the Substation, the purpose of pylons, the function of transformers to the point of where the service is connected to your house.

My Book of Calm:

Please click here¹ to access the Toolkit on 'My Book of Calm'.

PTFA Valentine's Disco



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

DEWSTOW PTFA

*Valentine's
Disco*

Thursday 5th February

Infants - 3pm - 4pm

Juniors - 4.15pm - 5.30pm

**Novelties, tattoos and refreshments
available to purchase**

Infants are welcome to wear their party clothes to
school on the disco day.

The amazing
Jumpin James
will be in attendance

No mobile
phones allowed

**£2.50
cash entry**

MonLife Half Term Activities:

AROS A CHWARAE STAY & PLAY

Mae ein sesiynau Aros a Chwarae yn cynnig cyfle i blant a tholuoedd archwilio amrywiaeth o weithgareddau yn rhydd, gan gynnwys chwarae corfforol, celf a chrefft, adeiladu cuddfannau, neu unrhyw beth y mae eu dychymyg yn ei greu. Rydym hefyd yn cynnig sesiynau Aros a Chwarae Cynhwysol, sydd wedi'u cynllunio'n arbennig ar gyfer plant ag anghenion ychwanegol. Mae'r sesiynau chwarae meddal tawel hyn, sydd ar gau i'r cyhoedd, yn darparu gofod mwy hamddenol gyda nifer cyfyngedig o gyfranogwyr.

Our Stay & Play sessions give children and families the chance to freely explore a wide range of activities, including physical play, arts and crafts, den building, and anything else their imaginations inspire. We also offer Inclusive Stay & Play sessions, designed specifically for children with additional needs. These calm, closed-to-the-public soft play sessions provide a quieter, more comfortable environment with limited numbers.

Dyddiad	Lleoliad	Amser
Aros a Chwarae Cynhwysol		
Dydd Mercher 18 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Hamdden Trefynwy	4:00pm – 5:00pm
Dydd Iau 19 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Hamdden Cas-gwent	2:00pm – 3:30pm
Aros a Chwarae		
Dydd Mercher 18 ^{ed} Chwefror	Magor and Undy Hwb	10:00am – 11:30am
Date	Venue	Time
Inclusive Stay and Play		
Wednesday 18 th February	Monmouth Leisure Centre	4:00pm – 5:00pm
Thursday 19 th February	Chepstow Leisure Centre	2:00pm – 3:30pm
Stay and Play		
Wednesday 18 th February	Magor and Undy Hwb	10:00am – 11:30am

SESIYNAU CYNHWYSOL I'W LLYFR YMA
INCLUSIVE SESSIONS BOOKABLE HERE



**AM DDIM
FREE**






CHWARAE GWEITHREDOL ACTIVE PLAY

Mae Active Play yn sesiwn hwylllog o awr a 55 munud i blant 5 i 11 oed, yn llawn o weithgareddau egniol a chelf a chrefftau creadigol!

Active Play is a fun-filled 1 hour 55 minute session for 5 to 11-year-olds, packed with energetic activities and creative arts and crafts!

Dyddiad / Date	Lleoliad / Venue	Amser / Time
Dydd Mawrth 17 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Hamdden Trefynwy	10:00am – 11:55am
Tuesday 17 th February	Monmouth Leisure Centre	10:00am – 11:55am
Dydd Mawrth 17 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Hamdden Cas-gwent	9:30am – 11:25am
Tuesday 17 th February	Chepstow Leisure Centre	9:30am – 11:25am
Dydd Mawrth 17 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Awyr Agored Gilwern	1:00pm – 2:55pm
Tuesday 17 th February	Gilwern Outdoor Centre	1:00pm – 2:55pm
Dydd Mercher 18 ^{ed} Chwefror	Ysgol Gynradd Thornwell	1:00pm – 2:55pm
Wednesday 18 th February	Thornwell Primary School	1:00pm – 2:55pm
Dydd Iau 19 ^{ed} Chwefror	Canolfan Hamdden Cil-y-coed	10:00am – 11:55am
Thursday 19 th February	Coldicot Leisure Centre	10:00am – 11:55am

Nofio yn ddewisol mewn canolfannau hamdden!
Swimming optional at leisure centres!



**AM DDIM
FREE**






Awards:

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

Year Group	Seren yn wythnos	Behaviour of the Week Hot Chocolate Friday!	Attendance Cup
Nursery	Elanur		87.8%
Reception	Jayden	Risha	97.4%
Year 1	Elinor	Isabelle	91%
Year 2	Arthur	Alfie	93.5%
Year 3	Lewis and Louise	AJ	86.5%
Year 4	Hollie	Darcy	97.5% ★
Year 5	Sayan	Elsie-Rose	92.7%
Year 6	Sophia	Jasmine	95.5%

Dates for your diary:

Dates for your diary		
February		
03/02/2026	AM	Reception 'See How They Learn' course
03/02/2026	AM	Year 1 Pedestrian Crossing Workshop
04/02/2026	PM	Year 5 Library Visit
05/02/2026	PM	PTFA St Valentine's Disco
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
12/03/2026		PTFA Mothers Day Gift Sale
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		Last day of term

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to telephone school on 01291 636360, or email the school Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales²

Yours sincerely

Liz Bain

Headteacher / Pennaeth

²<mailto:Dew.Primary@monmouthshireschools.wales>