

**Ysgol y Llan**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April –**  
**Dydd Mawrth, Ebrill 26ain 2024**

*Growing & Learning Together Through Faith, Friends and Fun*  
*Tyfu a Dysgu Gyda'n Gilydd trwy Ffydd, Ffrindiau a Hwyl*

## Newyddion Ysgol



### Summer is here!

Is summer finally here? We have seen glimpses of sunshine here and there, so let's cross our fingers and hope for more.

The children and staff have a busy term ahead of them. With assemblies, sports days, school trips and leavers services all to be planned, I'm not too sure they'll have much chance to see the sunshine.

Their overall topic this term is 'Body, Mind & Spirit'.

The topic titles include:

- Dosbarth 1 - Move it! / On the Beach!
- Dosbarth 2 - Staying Alive!
- Dosbarth 3 - The Power of Me!
- Dosbarth 4 - Human

For me, this is going to be a strange term as my last summer term in Ysgol y Llan. The process of finding my successor is all in hand, and your children will be involved in this process over the coming weeks. Once we have further news, it will of course be shared with you.

### Attendance

Our Educational Welfare Officer visited last term in order to monitor individual attendance. Letters were sent home to parents where their child's attendance fell below the expected attendance rate. The EWO will visit again during the summer term in order to track progress. It is vitally important that children miss as little as possible if we are going to help them reach their full potential.



Last month's whole school attendance	Current whole school attendance	Class 1 %	Class 2 %	Class 3 %	Class 4 %
93.8	94	94	93.3	95.6	92.9

### Look what's coming our way soon! 😊

After years of promising and fund raising, we are now finally in a position to extend our trim trail with a new and exciting activity area.

The children were all involved in the decision making, as were staff and governors. Although it was a difficult decision, the majority wanted the three-tower recycled plastic version below, along with interactive game panels.

This is being installed during the month of May which means that the children can make use of it during the summer months, and I am safe in the knowledge that I have kept my promise.



You can see the full design on the following page.



**PLAY QUEST**  
Est 1991

**YSGOL Y LLAN - WHITFORD**

**MODIFIED 3-TOWER ACTIVITY CENTRE & PLAYBOND SAFER SURFACING!**

Modified 3-Tower Activity Centre manufactured from Recycled Plastic including:

- 1 x Platform at 600mm height.
- 2 x Platforms at 900mm height.
- 1 x Step-Up (to 600mm high platform).
- 1 x Small Approach Net (to 600mm high platform).
- 1 x HDPE Slide & Entry Panel.
- 1 x Fireman's Pole.
- 1 x Inclined Clatterbridge.
- 1 x Net Bridge.
- 3 x Blank HDPE Panels.
- 3 x Interactive Game Panels.
- 6 x HDPE Roof Panels (can be various colours).

PlayBond Surfacing - Forest Floor Mix (Green & Redwood)

100% RECYCLED PLASTIC • 30 YEAR GUARANTEE

Modified 3-Tower Activity Centre & PlayBond Surfacing.

Modified 3-Tower Activity Centre & PlayBond Surfacing.

## Comic Relief



On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, we once again supported Comic Relief, raising £86 for this worthy cause.

Children came to school wearing red for donations towards Comic Relief.

## Girls Football

Our girls were brilliant representatives during a Girls Football tournament.



## Friends of the School - Tea and Cake afternoon



Thank you to everyone for supporting the Mother's Day 'tea and cake' afternoon on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. A huge thank you to the PTA for making the event happen.

It was a great turnout and was lovely to have so many of our parents and grandparents in the school hall socialising.

The event was very successful and the PTA/Friends raised lots of money for the school.

The PTA have recently donated £62 to our Early Years for some reading folders.

We hope all of our mums and grandmothers had a wonderful Mother's Day.

## School Budgets & Match FUNDING

We have previously sent out a letter about schools coming under increasing budget pressures. Therefore, it is important that schools make use of any available grant applications, our PTA and other sources of income.

Match funding is another great way of funding school projects. If you or a family member work for a company that will consider match funding, our school and PTA would love to hear from you.

Please complete this short survey to let us know if you may be able to assist us with future match funding projects. Many thanks in advance.

<https://forms.office.com/e/4QrWD5DTAs>



Even if your child is already having free school meals due to the roll-out of Welsh Government FSM, or if your child doesn't want FSM, **it is still important that you apply online if you are eligible.**

Our grant for the FSM element reduced by £10,000 for this next financial year. We therefore do need our parents to apply if they are eligible.

Our school will receive additional funding for every successful application and this will benefit the school as a whole. Thank you in advance.

## Nursery and Reception September 2024

Reception places were allocated on 14<sup>th</sup> April. If you have not received anything, please get in touch with the school office.

Nursery parents will be informed on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be an induction evening for new parents on 20<sup>th</sup> June. More information will follow in due course.

## Transition & Moving Up Day

We are planning on holding a 'moving up day' in school during the summer term.

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June the children will be moving up to their September classrooms.

Year 6 pupils' transition days will be shared separately via the High Schools and our school office, as these dates may be different.



### Reminder

FSM entitlement - if you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please ask in the office or enquire online

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Education-Benefits.aspx>

# What else has been going on?

## British Sign Language & Life Saving Skills

Upper Key Stage Two pupils were once again fortunate enough to benefit from some free introduction sessions on life saving skills and British Sign Language, thanks to New Directions supply agency.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and were even able to sign various songs by the end of the session.



## Visitors from South Wales

We held another Welsh open morning to support colleagues across Flintshire. On this occasion we had visitors from South Wales - a Headteacher going for the Aur Award in their school, along with Welsh advisors from the region.

All visitors were very impressed with our school and appreciated the opportunity to visit us and talk to the children and staff.

## First Experiences

Dosbarth 3 had the amazing opportunity to attend the 'First Experiences and BBC NOW Musical Extravaganza' at Williams Aston Hall in Wrexham.

During this performance the children were able to join in playing the violin with the on-stage orchestra. All of the children loved the experience!



## Easter Bingo

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting our Easter Bingo last term. It was a huge turnout and a wonderful atmosphere.

Whether you donated an Easter egg or you simply joined in during the evening, your support is very much appreciated.

In total, we raised an amazing **£252** for the school, so thank you! 😊 Everyone seemed to have lots of fun and lots of chocolate left the building.

A wonderful way to end the term.



## Cricket Taster Sessions

Alan from Carmel cricket club kindly came to our school once again to deliver cricket taster sessions for Classes 2, 3 & 4.

Hopefully you have all received the poster for cricket sessions via email.



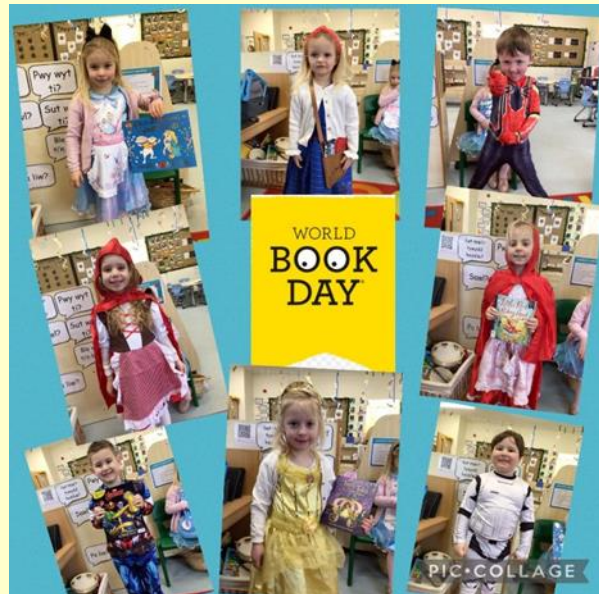
*Growing and Learning  
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## World Book Day

As always, the children loved dressing up as their favourite book characters to celebrate World Book Day and all that reading has to offer.



## Curious Travellers

Class 4 are working with the Curious Travellers project who have funded an artist to work with us.

The project is based around the work of Thomas Pennant with a specific focus on his work based around nature. Sean has been coming into class once a week to develop the children's art skills and knowledge of the work that Thomas Pennant did.

We have been studying animals, mainly birds, which are alive as well as those that have become extinct. There will be a showcase event in Whitford church at the end of the project.



# Stay in the loop, keep in touch!

## Seesaw



Please ask your class teacher for an invitation if you do not already have the app. Seesaw allows teachers to share messages more conveniently with parents. It is vital that everyone signs up as this will be the main form of class communication.

It's also a great way for parents of our Foundation learners to actually see what activities are going on in the classroom.

## Twitter



Although it is not a main source of communication, we quite often share school success and important messages on our Twitter account.

Please follow our Twitter feed @YsgolyLlan

## Facebook



Although not a main source of communication, we occasionally share school success and messages on Facebook.

Please follow us on Facebook [here](#).

## Instagram



We occasionally want to reach out and share our good news with the wider community via social media in order to promote our school.

We now do this on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

Follow us now on Instagram [@ysgol\\_y\\_llan](#)

## School Gateway APP

**PLEASE download the app for School Gateway.** This will save us money as you'll receive free messages via the app instead of text messages.

Booking after school club, paying for dinners, trips etc. are all simple with the app.

School Comms accepts payment via Debit and Credit cards.

[Download the app now!](#)



## Friends of the School



The Friends of the School are always seeking support and ideas. If you would like to know more about the 'Friends of the School' PTA or would like to be involved, please contact them via their [Facebook page](#) or email [ptaysgolyllan@hotmail.com](mailto:ptaysgolyllan@hotmail.com)

**Remember that there are some easy ways to support the school:**

By shopping via 'The Giving Machine'. Shop online with Amazon, Ebay and many more through these sites, and the school will benefit. No hassle, just more money for your school. Start today!

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/ysgol-y-llan-whitford/>

## Church News & Christian Values

### St Mary's and St Bueno's Church

◦ The Church service is every first Sunday of the month. Everyone is welcome!

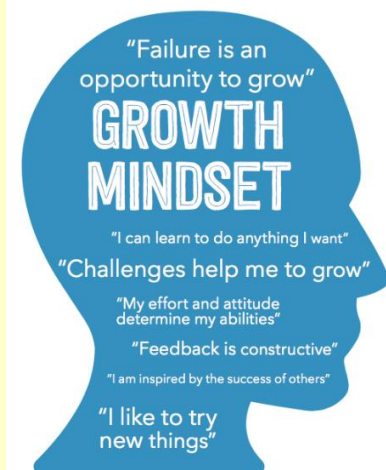
### School

◦ Our Christian Value this half term is 'Service'. Children will be exploring this value during class collective worship and daily school life.

### The Diocese of St. Asaph

◦ Please follow the link to Bishop Gregory's Pastoral letters.

<https://dioceseofstasaph.org.uk/bishopgregory/bishops-guidance-and-pastoral-support/>



## Contact or Follow us!

Headteacher - [Whhead@hwbcymru.net](mailto:Whhead@hwbcymru.net)

School Office - [Whmail@hwbcymru.net](mailto:Whmail@hwbcymru.net)

01745 560431

<http://www.ysgolyllan.co.uk>

<https://twitter.com/YsgolyLlan>

[https://www.instagram.com/ysgol\\_y\\_llan\\_whitford/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/ysgol_y_llan_whitford/?hl=en)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=60000017300332>

## Upcoming Events

### \*\* Changed dates \*\*

### Mental Health Awareness Week

Week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May

### Activity Towers installation

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May

### Schools Photographs – Classes/Groups

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

### INSET (Staff training) day

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### Sports Day (Nur – Yr 6, afternoon)

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 1.00pm onwards

### Healthy Schools Week

Week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June

### Assessment Week

Week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June

### EWO in to monitor attendance

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June

### Football tournament

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June

### St. Johns First Aid training (Yrs 3-6)

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June

### Refugee Week – Our Home

Week beginning Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June

### Jambori (Years 1 & 2)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

### Harp workshop

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

### Induction Evening (new Nur & Rec)

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June

### Transition Week (Ysgol Treffynnon)

Week beginning Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June

### School Trip (You've Got Dragons)

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

### Full Governing Body Meeting

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June

### Spelling Quiz (Yr 2 & 4)

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June

### Moving Up Day (Transition)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

### Year 6 Leavers Service

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July

### Last day of term

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

*Thank you for your continued support! Diolch yn fawr iawn!*  
*Mr. Griffiths*