Sketty Primary Newsletter

Summer Half Term 2023

Article 28 - Children have the right to a good quality education.

Keep up to date at:
www.skettyprimary.co.uk

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Reminder of 2022 / 2023 INSET Days:

- Monday 5th June
- Monday 24th July

You can subscribe to our school calendar online at www.skettyprimary.co.uk

Article 29 Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a wonderful half term that has been full of fabulous activities and projects that have been enjoyed by all involved. Thank you so much for your support, and whether you have attended workshops, assemblies', cake sales or just greeted us in the morning with a happy Bore Da we are thankful for your support for our lovely school and fabulous children.

A big thank you to all PTA members and parents/carers who attend our Coronation Ball/Disco. Everyone had the most wonderful time. The candyfloss sold out in record time and the DJ was phenomenal! I believe there is a date in the diary already booked for the Autumn Term!

I am a very proud head teacher as I write this short piece for our half-termly newsletter as, hot off the press, we have been awarded the Bronze Award for the Siarter Iath. The Siarter is a Welsh Government initiative to encourage schools to improve their standard of Welsh across the school. Mrs Williams, Mr Lloyd Jones and Mr Knight have played key roles in us achieving this award and all teachers and TA'S have worked so hard with the children in preparing for the assessment day. We must congratulate our wonderful Criw Cymraeg made up of children from across the school who were fantastic at showing the assessors around our lovely school.

Da iawn pawb. Bendigedig!!!!

Please have a great half term holiday. I believe the weather is going to be fabulous! Enjoy yourselves and get some rest as the second half of the term looks to be even busier than the first half.

Many thanks again for your continued support.
As always

Mrs Bev Phillips

Head Teacher



Be the best you can be!
Gwnewch eich gorau glas!



In the Classroom

Nursery

It has been a busy half-term at Dragonflies Nursery! We began the Summer term in morning Nursery by launching our new topic, Nature Detectives. Celebrating Earth Day provided a great opportunity to do this, and to highlight the importance of using nature in our play and learning. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in outdoor yoga, mud kitchen, mud painting, using natural materials to create pictures, and they especially enjoyed the "ocean clean" activity in the water play area, whereby they had to use fishing nets to fish out the litter in the ocean, so it didn't harm the sea creatures. This activity provided a great opportunity to remind the children not to leave their litter on the beach. It has also been a half-term of celebrations at Dragonflies! The children enjoyed learning a dance for Eid and performing the dance in an assembly to the rest of the school. We also had our own party to celebrate the King's Coronation. The children made their own crowns and tiaras for the occasion and learnt a special song, which they performed in our school Coronation Assembly. During the last week we celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity, whereby the children were invited to come to school wearing something to celebrate their culture. We also learnt to say "Hello" in the different languages associated with our class. A great big thank you to the parents for supporting our celebration days, which are such an important part of our curriculum.



Reception

Our new topic for the Summer Term is Sun, Sea and Sandy toes. We started our topic with a sinking and floating investigation. This investigation helped us on our way to completing our Design and Technology construction project. We were challenged to create a boat that floats using recycled materials. The children really enjoyed putting their creativity and knowledge to the test to create fantastic boats. The boats were tried and tested, re-modelled and we thought about how we could make them even better next time. We have been working on our digital skills to create a fact file on our favourite sea creature, collaborating with others to research facts and pictures. This term the children have had lots of fun taking part in our weekly woodland adventure. We have explored our wonderful woodland area using magnifying glasses and books to find out more about the bugs we have in the area. We have planted seeds to help the trees grow to celebrate Earth Day and made seed bombs for our gardens to help the bees. To celebrate the King's Coronation we wrote cards to send to the palace, we await a response from the King!

Year 1

This half term our topic has been 'Wild Things' with a focus on wild creatures in our locality. The children have had the opportunity to observe, first hand, the lifecycle of our classroom butterflies. They have looked at the geography of Wales and different habitats within it. They have explored relationships between living things, their habitats and their life cycles. Our class story is 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. The children have produced some wonderful art linked to the story as well as building boats for Max and enjoying their own 'Wild Thing' role play. They are using a 'Talk for Writing' approach to learn the story and are looking forward to performing it later in the year. Our two 'Loose Parts Play' areas- inside and out, have proved very popular and the children have shown skills of collaboration and resilience as well as amazing creativity and imagination. We have marked two celebration days this term- Earth Day and Cultural Diversity Day. The children made environmental pledges and enjoyed talking about the importance of living in a diverse society. We have focused on subtraction and addition in Maths. The children have been using number facts to add three numbers and used a range of practical methods to support their learning with lots of reinforcement in provision inside and outside the classroom. In Music, they are continuing to explore different rhythmic patterns, composing their own sequence using traditional music notation. The children have continued to development their movement, balance, throwing and catching skills through our SKIP programme.



Year 2

Year 2 have been very busy this term! We have been developing our outdoor area through projects ongoing for the summer term. The pupils have learnt how to weave, creating designs using wool and a hula hoop. We have made pebble art on our bank, which will eventually be turned into a big collage. We have started building our bug hotel, using a range of natural materials at each level – which is already a home to some woodland warriors! Year 2 have also been involved in planting flowers such as Sunflowers and Geranium. We water these daily and will be selling them in our enterprise project at the end of the term. We were very lucky to be granted funding from Gower Society Youth (GSY) and the Gower Society. Through this, we had the chance to visit Ilston Woods and learnt



about our local trees, leaves and woodland animals which links to our school approach of Cynefin. We will also be visiting Caswell Woodlands next half term. We have also taken part in Eid, we had a visitor in for World Culture Day, the Kings' Coronation and we also celebrated Earth Day.

Year 3

As always, Year 3 have had another busy half term! This half term, we started our new topic 'Wonderful Wetlands'. We launched our topic by Visiting Llanelli Wetlands where we learnt about wetland habitats, and went pond dipping to see what species live in a wetland. We have also been learning about plastic pollution. As ethically informed citizens, the children were so worried by learning about the effects of plastic pollution, they wanted to do something to tackle this issue. As part of their Summer Term Numeracy charity project, Year 3 voted to choose 'Keep Wales Tidy' as their charity to raise money for. The children decided to do a sponsored 'keepfitathon' and planned the event themselves. This helped the children to be enterprising and creative pupils who work hard for the good of others. They used their Numeracy skills to time themselves, count money and handle data they collected through the voting stage of the project. Thank you to everyone who sponsored us! We have also been focussing on addition and subtraction in maths. In science, the children have been learning about wetland animals, food chains and adaptations. In technology, we have been working on our coding skills and learning to de-bug. In literacy, the children have been learning to write a persuasive text to persuade people to visit Llanelli Wetland. In Health and well-being. In PE, we have been working on our gymnastic skills and learning to work as a team in outdoor games. We have continued to practise the pbuzz and are enjoying learning to play some new tunes.



Year 4

Year 4 have had another busy half term which started with a fantastic residential to Llangrannog. We are underway with our summer topic of Wild Isles. In humanities, we have used atlases and maps to locate places in in the British Isles, and practiced our orienteering skills to find places in the school environment which we could re-wild. In science, we have enjoyed dissecting flowers and finding the different functions of the parts of a flower. We have been finding out about the importance of biodiversity. On World Earth day we put aside devices, turned off lights, read books and played games. In health and well-being, we have explored small athletic games including bucket ball and grab and go. Year 4SK have refined their gymnastic skills while Year 4 LJ have enjoyed water safety skills in the national pool. During mental health awareness week, the picture book 'When sadness calls' by Eva Eland explored what to do when we feel sad. In maths this term, we have learnt to tell the time to the nearest minute, calculated durations of time and read timetables using 24 hour clocks. Currently, we are busy preparing for our enterprise project which takes place in Castle Gardens on Friday 16th June (save the day!). The children have researched items to make and we are busy planting and a making clay pots to sell. We are looking forward to an exciting final half term.



Year 5

Year 5 have been busy this last half term studying our new topic, 'Blue Planet'. During this term, we have studied animals and their adaptations, food chains and food webs and lots more. With an Expressive arts focus, we have created rock pools out of clay, coil pots with a sea creature jumping out of the pot. We enjoyed learning a couple of songs for our class assembly. Our class assembly was a chance to show off our completed enterprise topic and hand out order forms to sell some of the bottles, mugs and key chains with our unique designs on. For our class assembly, we have also worked on writing a persuasive text to really sell our products. This half term has also been a special one, as we have been given the opportunity to perform in the Grand theatre in Swansea for Primary Partners. This term Year 5 have been learning new dance routines and songs to perform on stage!

Year 6

The Summer Term has been extremely busy so far and started with a bang as we all packed our bags and made the way to Llain for our residential. An enjoyable time was had by everyone, and we took part in a range of adventurous activities including high ropes, kayaking, paddle boarding, bush craft, archery and survived the most slippery journey to the beach.As enterprising, creative contributors, the children have designed and made products for our Enterprise market, including candles, bath bombs and landscapes of the locality. They had to overcome a number of challenges but made a wonderful profit at the end. Thank you to all our families for supporting.





Ameer Davies-Rana came into school and inspired all the children to speak Welsh and involved vlogging, VR headsets and recording booths. An amazing opportunity for all our Year 6 children. We have also had a Quidditch session, a number of transition events, including the CHAT team from Olchfa coming in to talk to our classes. Our Taliesin Dance project work is developing all the time and the children have been enjoying adding their own ideas to their pieces. We also had an art lesson with Mark Haycock, producing Bansky inspired artwork as part of the exhibition for the project. Onwards to our final half term at Sketty. Only seven weeks to go!!

School Visits





Year 3 visited Llanelli Wetlands as part of their new topic 'Wonderful Wetlands'.

Year 4 and 5 visited Llangrannog for their residential.





Year 6 visited Llain for their residential.



Criw Cymraeg

This term we have carried on promoting Welsh across the school to get the Bronze Siarter Award. We meet every week to decide on a new Partrwm yr Wythnos and to do our Criw Assembly on a Monday morning. The whole school have been learning the Welsh alphabet rap (see the Criw page for a link to try at home).



PS 3 had an amazing 2 days with Ameer who taught us how to vlog and make Welsh podcasts. He had really important message for us—speaking Welsh is really important, it can give us lots of opportunities and is fun.

PS 1 and 2 have enjoyed reading Tric a Clic and practising our Welsh. Blywddyn 2 enjoyed holding their assembly for their parents on Friday 26th May and singing a Welsh song—Shwmae.

The Criw have been checking that our signs are bilingual around school and we have added to our Welsh page on the school website. We also had a zoom meeting with the crew in Bishopston, this was great and we could ask them for tips about achieving the Siarter.

Next term we are looking forward to a visit from the singer Bronwen and hopefully a return visit from the author Caryl Lewis.

Article 7 - You have the right to a nationality (to belong to a country).

Siarter Iath

Our Criw Cymraeg receiving the Bronze award!



Awareness Days

Earth day – On Friday 21st April, we celebrated earth day. Pupils across the school learnt about how crucial it is that we take steps now to protect our precious planet.







Cultural Diversity Day – On Monday 22nd May, we celebrated Cultural Diversity Day. The No Outsiders Inclusion committee presented an assembly about what World Day of Cultural Diversity is. Pupils and staff across the school had the chance to dress up in traditional clothes or costumes from their country or culture. It was fantastic to see everyone dressed up and to learn about others countries and cultures.



Year 6 Enterprise Market

Year 6 had a successful market as part of their Summer Term Numeracy Project.





Our curriculum helps our learners to become enterprising and creative contributors.



Charitable Donations

Year 3 raised £783 for the charity 'Keep Wales Tidy' as part of their Summer Term Numeracy project – Da iawn blwyddyn tri!

Thank you all for your ongoing support and generosity!!!





Be the best you can be!
Gwnewch eich gorau glas!

