


SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 17 – October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers, Governors and children

What a fantastic first half term of the new academic year, finishing off in style with our PTA Halloween Disco. A big thank you to our brilliant PTA for all their hard work in organising another fantastic event. A big thank you also to our amazing staff who supported the event and to parents/carers and children for the wonderful effort with Halloween costumes.

I hope everyone enjoyed our recent class assemblies. I am so proud of all the children for how brilliantly they performed, showcasing all the amazing work that has been covered over the last eight weeks. I am sure you'll agree that we have certainly packed a great deal into this time with trips, visitors, awareness days and much more. Thank you once again to all the staff for their dedication to ensuring the best for all our children in school.

Wishing you all a wonderful half term. We return to school on Monday 3rd November when the countdown begins to the most magical time of the year.

Diolch yn fawr,
Mr Simon Lloyd-Jones
Deputy Head
Sketty Primary School

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THE RIGHT TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE
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Nursery
Meithrin



It has been a busy October at Dragonflies Nursery and time has flown! This month the children have worked hard as a class to prepare for their class assembly, which took place on the 16th October. They learnt a number of songs, in both English and Welsh, to showcase autumn and our class topic, 'Myself and My Family.' Their performance on the day to their families was absolutely fabulous! We are so proud of them for having the confidence to perform on the stage for the first time to a large audience. We can't wait for our Sioe Nadolig in December.

During this month, the children have further developed their learning of phonics, using their knowledge of traditional rhymes and songs. They have been learning to identify rhyming words and onomatopoeias, count how many sounds are in a word, orally blend words and to join in with tongue twisters. Through these phonic activities the children are also developing their ability to listen attentively.

A great big thank you to parents for supporting our Shwmae Day. The children enjoyed learning a Shwmae song and finding out about symbols that represent Wales. During the day the children also learnt to play Beth sy'n yn y Bocs, which I am sure they will share with you at home.

We concluded the month by finding out about Diwali and learning a Diwali dance. This is part of our No Outsiders work, where we explore similarities and differences and emphasize the message - All different, all welcome!

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Reception

Derbyn

We began the month by exploring the powerful message behind Black History Month. The children were introduced to Martin Luther King Jr. and his famous *"I have a dream..."* speech. We had some thoughtful discussions about kindness, fairness, and celebrating our differences. This linked beautifully with Show Racism the Red Card day, where we all wore red to stand together against racism. We read a wonderful story about inclusivity and talked about how everyone is unique — and that's what makes the world so special!

Our red clothes made a second appearance for 'Su'mae Shwmae' Day! What a fantastic celebration of our Welsh language and culture. The children practised simple Welsh phrases, sang traditional songs, and worked together to create the word "Shwmae**"** using different classroom resources. It was truly bendigedig!

This month we have also celebrated 'National Poetry Day' where the Reception children learnt the traditional song '5 little Ducks' and then recreated their own version of the song by using different animals and verbs! From Ducks, to Dragons, to Gazelles, their imagination was brilliant to say the least!

The highlight of our month was without a doubt our Reception Year Group Assembly. The children shone brightly as they retold the classic tale of The Three Little Pigs. Their storytelling, singing, and confident stage presence left everyone in awe — families, buddies, and staff alike! We are so proud of every single child; they were absolute superstars.

As always, diolch for your continued support, encouragement, and kind words — they mean the world to us and truly help make Reception such a warm and positive place to learn. We can't wait to see what magical moments lie ahead as we begin preparations for our Christmas performance... watch this space!

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Year 1
Blwyddyn 1

October has been such an exciting month in Year 1! The children have continued to show wonderful enthusiasm and curiosity in their learning.

It has been a busy and exciting month where we've been learning about Fairtrade — discovering where our food comes from, signing a banana to make our Fairtrade pledge, and designing our own Fairtrade lunchboxes full of delicious, ethical choices. In Literacy, we've been writing shopping lists for Mrs. Grinling to help her make tasty lunches for Mr. Grinling, while in Maths we've been representing numbers from 1–20 using different materials and creating bar charts in JIT from our traffic survey data.

We have also been learning about Diwali, designing our own colourful diva lamps ready to make after half term. Outdoor learning has been full of adventure, building a zipwire for Hamish, measuring the scale of Bracelet Bay's lighthouse, and completed an I Spy of what we could see around Sketty School.

A real highlight was our class assembly, where the children sang sea shanties, performed our Great Welsh Song, and retold The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. They were fantastic!



To finish the month, we went on our amazing trip to Bracelet Bay! The children helped Mr. Grinling build a zipwire, made lighthouses on the beach, carried out a traffic survey, and completed an I Spy to compare what we can see in two localities. It was a brilliant day!



We are so proud of how hard the children have worked this half term — their confidence, teamwork, and excitement for learning continue to shine. Bring on November (and a little Christmas sparkle)!

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Year 2
Blwyddyn 2

The children have all settled brilliantly into the school year and are familiar with the routines. I'm sure you'll agree, the children were all amazing performing in our Year 2 assembly. Being on stage in front of an audience can be quite scary but they all took it in their stride and enjoyed sharing with you some of the things they have learnt in class.

The children are continuing to enjoy the topic 'Reach for the Stars' and in October we have linked this with Black History month. We have learnt about the lives and influence of Mae Jemison, the first female black astronaut and Katherine Johnson, the mathematician who made the moon landing possible.



This month we have also been learning about Diwali and the children have made colourful crafts and mehndi patterns, learning about the importance of understanding different ways of life and faiths.

The children have been enjoying SKIP in PE lessons where the children focus on movement and agility. The children have enjoyed completing an obstacle course and playing games where they may have to work individually or as a team and need to think logically.

We have continued to learn about the importance of recycling and had an assembly with Sammy Seagull to talk about looking after the environment. Thoughts of Halloween have been creeping in and the children loved the Halloween disco which was a lovely end to the half term.

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Year 3
Blwyddyn 3



What a fantastic and eventful month it's been in Year 3! Our main highlight was the Victorian Immersion Day, where both children and staff stepped back in time. Dressed in authentic Victorian attire, the children experienced a day in a traditional classroom setting, standing when a teacher entered, addressing staff as "Miss" or "Sir," and even following the strict rule of no speaking Welsh! It was a brilliant way to bring history to life and sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

We also held our Class Assembly, and we'd like to say a huge thank you to all the families who came to support us. The children were proud to share what they've been learning and performed with confidence and enthusiasm.

In Literacy, we've been working hard on diary writing. The children completed their hot task using all the skills they've developed since their cold task, showing fantastic progress in structure, vocabulary, and expression. In Maths, we continued our work on place value, building strong foundations and confidence with numbers.

In Science, we explored the question: Why do copper coins change colour? This led to a hands-on experiment investigating how to clean copper. A brilliant example of child-led inquiry and scientific thinking.

This month has truly captured the children's imagination. They've not only deepened their understanding of the Victorian era but also developed their own learning missions, ideas, and skills they're excited to grow.

We're incredibly proud of Year 3.

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Year 4
Blwyddyn 4

We've had a fantastic month in Year 4, full of learning, creativity, and a bit of Roman engineering!

This month, our budding writers have been exploring recount texts. We've been identifying the key features that make a recount engaging and informative—such as chronological order, time connectives, and personal reflections. The children have enjoyed reading examples and are now preparing to write their own recounts based on exciting experiences.

In Maths, we've continued to build our understanding of place value, which has helped us confidently work with numbers up to 1000. We've also been using number lines to 100 and 1000, developing our estimation and positioning skills. The children are becoming experts at spotting patterns and understanding the value of digits.



Our topic this term, "Invaders", has been a real hit! The highlight so far has been our dissection of ancient Roman poo (don't worry—it was a safe and educational replica!). Through this messy but memorable activity, we discovered what the Romans ate and how their diet compares to ours today. We also put our engineering hats on and built our very own Roman road. The children worked collaboratively to layer materials just like the Romans did, and the final result is truly impressive. If you have a moment, please do come and see it—it's a marvel of mini engineering and a testament to the children's teamwork and creativity.

We were so proud to present our class assembly this month, and we hope you all enjoyed watching it! The children worked incredibly hard to rehearse their lines, sing with confidence, and share what they've been learning in a fun and engaging way. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase their talents and growing confidence—thank you for your support and encouragement!

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Year 5
Blwyddyn 5



We have had another busy month in Year 5. We were lucky to have Craig and Yvonne into school from the Welsh Ambulance Service. They delivered a lesson which reinforced and developed the children's lifesaving skills in the event of an accident or cardiac arrest.

We also celebrated Children's Mental Health Week; discussing ways in which we can learn to regulate when we feel overwhelmed.

The children also have been researching the Second World War and are in the process of writing an information page to create an infographic. The children have learnt how to code a Microbit to send Morse code messages through Bluetooth. They enjoyed sending and decoding the messages.

We are also proud to announce that our new Bronze Sports Ambassadors are Lucas, Eva, Lily and Oliver. They will be supported by Sports Ambassadors: Ava, Rayan, Isla and Emaan. Congratulations to them all and to those children who applied. We really enjoyed reading their applications and will be using the mottos they included in the application: '*Take* a breath and try your best!' It's not the size of you that matters, it's the size of your heart.



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Year 6
Blwyddyn 6

As the first half of the autumn term draws to a close, our Year 6 pupils have truly made it one to remember! Their final few weeks have been packed with exciting experiences, achievements, and unforgettable moments.

Our talented footballers represented Sketty Primary with pride and determination at the Urdd tournament at Ashleigh Road. Their teamwork, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm were a credit to the school — well done to all who took part!

Our current topic was brought to life through a magical visit to the Dylan Thomas Theatre, where pupils were captivated by the performance of Eye of the Storm. This was followed by enriching visits and workshops at both the Swansea Museum and the Waterfront Museum, deepening their understanding and sparking curiosity.

In class, pupils have been busy crafting explanation texts on how tornadoes are formed — combining creativity with scientific understanding. Their writing has been thoughtful, informative, and full of flair!

We've also been sharpening our reasoning skills in maths, tackling challenges with confidence and developing strategies to solve problems logically and effectively.

It has been a brilliant few weeks, and we couldn't be prouder of the effort, enthusiasm, and energy Year 6 have shown. We hope everyone enjoys a well-earned rest over half term — ready to return refreshed and ready for more adventures!

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Awareness Days

Diwrnodau Ymwybyddiaeth

This month, we dressed in yellow to celebrate Mental Health Day. This is such an important day in helping to raise awareness of mental health and promote the importance of mental well-being for our children.





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Awareness Days
Diwrnodau Ymwybyddiaeth



Show Racism the Red Card is an important event in the school calendar. We wore red to show our commitment to stamping out racism.









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Awareness Days
Diwrnodau Ymwybyddiaeth



A highlight of this month was our Shwmae Day celebrations. Pupils, staff, and even parents joined in the fun, greeting each other with a cheerful *"Shwmae!"* and taking part in our Welshie Selfies using the photo frame and props. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces – even parents stopped for a quick photo and a Shwmae Day smile!









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School Council
Cyngor Ysgol

School Council completed the final part of their selection process of Year 3-6 attendance posters.

Councillors chose a variety of designs to highlight the importance of attendance. The selected posters will be displayed around the school and shared on the school website and Dojo.

A big thank you to all our pupils who completed a poster design and congratulations to those pupils who designs have been chosen to support pupil attendance in our school.



Your Child's Attendance	National Guidelines
100% - 95%	Optimum chance to achieve well. Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
94.99% - 90%	Satisfactory, although your child may have to spend time catching up with work they have missed.
Below 90%	Cause for concern: - 1. Your child may be at risk of underachieving. 2. Your child may need extra support from you to help catch up with missed work. Your child may be missing out on a broad and balanced education.

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Eco Crew
Criw Eco



Congratulations to Y2MJ who won September's battery competition.

They really set the bar high collecting an amazing 451 batteries.

Keep them coming, we will announce October's winners after half term.

On Thursday 23rd October the Eco Criw were very excited to welcome Thomas Williams from the Recycling team at Swansea council and Sammy the Seagull their recycling mascot. They brought with them Councillor Robert Smith, the cabinet member for education and learning to present our prize for collecting the most batteries in Swansea last year - an amazing 254kg! The Eco Criw have rallied the school continually and are looking forward to the challenge of collecting even more in the coming months. We really appreciate the support of the whole school community in this project.



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Eco Crew
Criw Eco



Rags2Riches4Schools
Our next collection is in just under 3 weeks on 12th November. This is an amazing project that we have been part of for a number of years. It is more than fundraising - it's about protecting our planet and reducing landfill as well as being for a good cause.

Currently all donated clothes are being sent to Ukraine to support families there. In an effort to contribute to a greener future they no longer send flyers or plastic bags for your items.

You can use any bag, preferably a recyclable one, secure it tightly and bring into school from Wednesday 5th November. The crate by the school barrier will be open at school drop off and pick up from then until the collection date of the 12.11.25.

Please see school story for a checklist of items that they accept and those they cannot take. Many thanks for your continued support with this project.

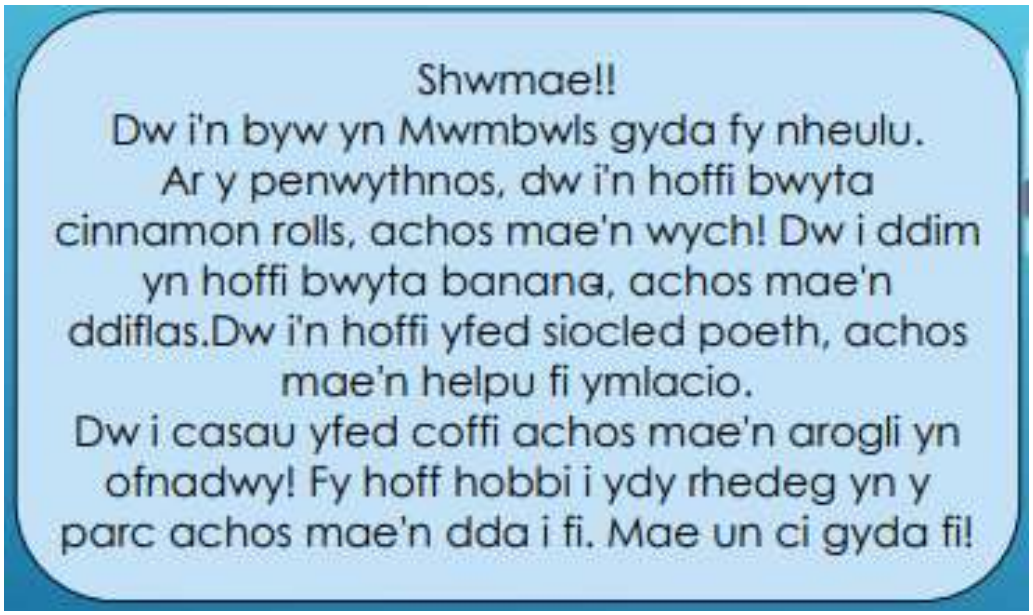
Mrs Palmer and The Eco Criw



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Welsh Crew
Criw Cymraeg

We've also been continuing our exciting Pwy yw Pwy? (Who's Who?) initiative with another mystery teacher! Learners have loved listening to the clues and trying to guess who it might be. There have been lots of guesses for Mrs Griffiths, but remember – our mystery teacher lives in Mumbles! Keep those guesses coming and keep using your Welsh, pawb – dal ati!



Scan the QR code to hear the teacher profile being presented by two of our learners!

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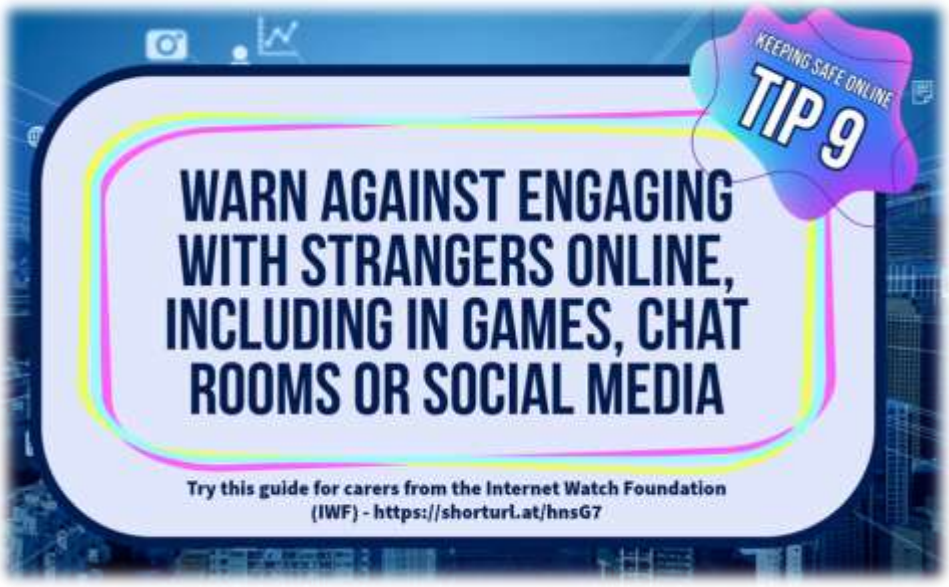
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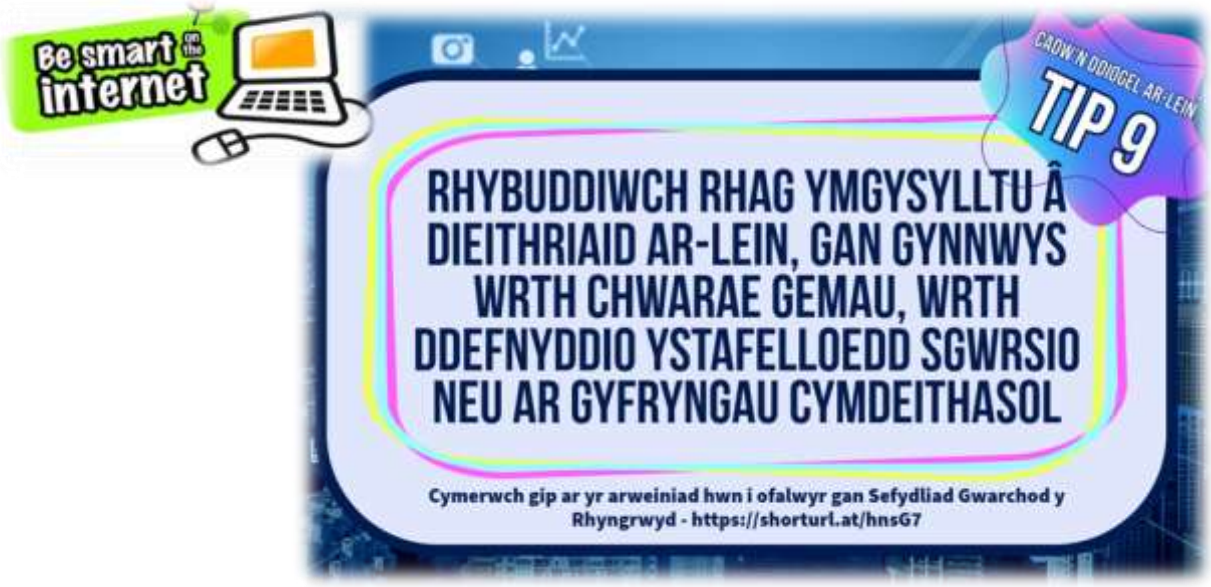


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Internet Safety
Rhyngrwyd Mwy Diogel







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Internet Safety
Rhyngrwyd Mwy Diogel



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Helping the Community

Helpu'r Gymuned

Thank you to everyone who helped support Matthew's House at Harvest time. All donations will be used to support some of the most vulnerable people within our community.

For more information about Matthew's House, please click on the link below.
www.matthewshouse.org.uk



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Singing Club
Clwb Canu

Our fantastic Singing Club performed in a special concert at St Paul's Church, raising over £1,600 for Breast Cancer unit at Singleton Hospital.

As always, the children represented our school brilliantly, sang with gusto and made the audience extremely happy with their uplifting repertoire of songs. Diolch i Mrs Porter and Mrs Griffiths for their hard work teaching the children and to the parents, carers and families who supported.

BREAST CANCER NOW The research & support charity



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Football Team
Tim pel-droed



Congratulations to our Year 6 Football team who represented the school brilliantly in the Urdd Open Football Competition.

They showed great teamwork and had a lovely time too. Da iawn pawb!

urdd.org
Urdd Gobaith Cymru



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Staff Training

Hyfforddiant y Staff

Our October Inset Day involved all staff attending the National Education Show in Cardiff and completing some interesting training on a number of topics including outdoor learning, ICT and Additional Learning Needs. This was an excellent training day for staff to continue their professional development and has provided them with lots of exciting ideas to bring back to the classroom to further enhance learning at Sketty Primary School.











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PTA
Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon



Bake Sale Dates 25/26

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
07/11/25	Bonfire Theme Bake Sale	Year 5 - Mr Knight Rep - Sian Harvey
21/11/25	Pre loved Xmas Sale	Year 5 - Mrs Williams Rep - Aime Rushton
05/12/25	Christmas Bake Sale Carol Singers	Year 4 - Mrs Griffiths Rep - Danielle Spencer
16/01/26	New Year Bake Sale	Year 4 - Mr Tucker Rep - Katie Cooze
30/01/26		Year 3 - Mr Dunt Rep - Rhian Thomas & Cory Carra
13/02/26	Valentine's Bake Sale	Year 3 - Miss Baldwin Rep - Alexandria Jones
27/02/26		Year 2 - Miss Jones Rep - Carlie Williams
13/03/26	St Patrick's Day Bake Sale	Year 2 - Mrs Wanless & Mrs Miller Rep - Stephanie Booth
24/04/26	Springtime Bake Sale	Year 1 - Mrs Palmer & Mrs Gillett Rep - Rhiannon Akers
08/05/26		Year 1 - Miss Christer & Mr Lloyd-Jones Rep - Hannah Cullen
05/06/26	Summer Bake Sale	Reception - Miss Emily Jones Rep - Mel Burtonwood
19/06/26		Reception - Miss Rees & Mrs Porter Rep - Beth Phillips
03/07/26		Nursery AM & PM - Mrs Fox Rep - Rhea Hill & Stephanie Booth

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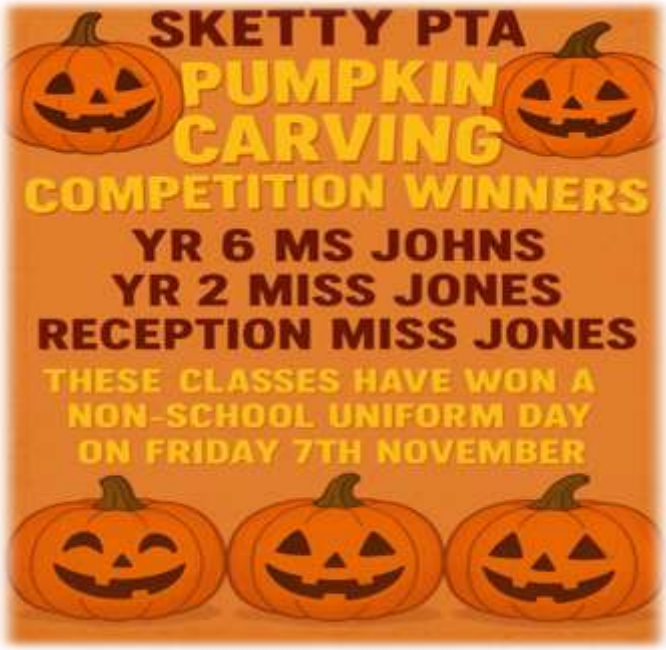
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PTA

Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon

Thank you to everyone who came to the Halloween Disco last night. It was a fantastic event where lots of fun was had by the grown ups and children. Huge thanks to the staff that stayed to support.



Well done to the three classes who won the competition to design and carve their own Pumpkin.







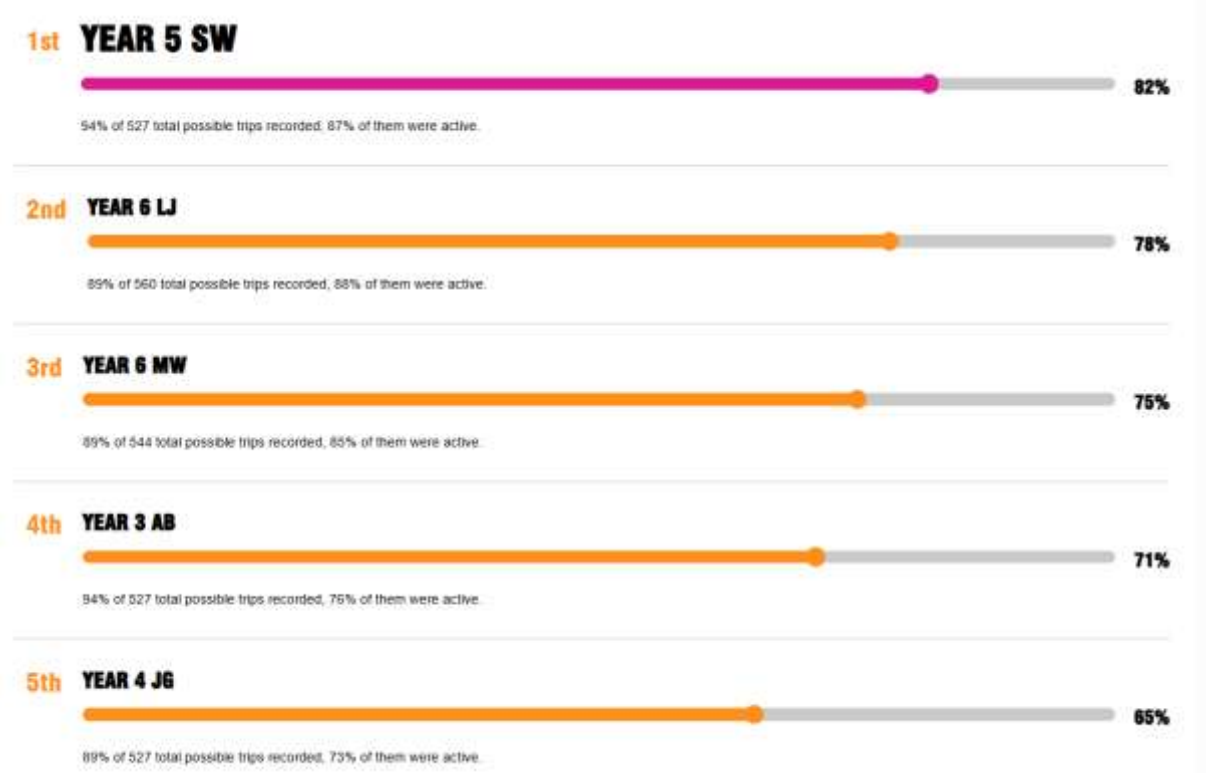
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Living Streets

Our Living Streets project has been continuing this month. Well done to everyone who has become more active since we started this project. The aim of the project is to create a nation where walking and wheeling is the natural choice for every day, local journeys. If the children can walk, cycle, scoot or walk and stride once a week over the month it will make a difference.



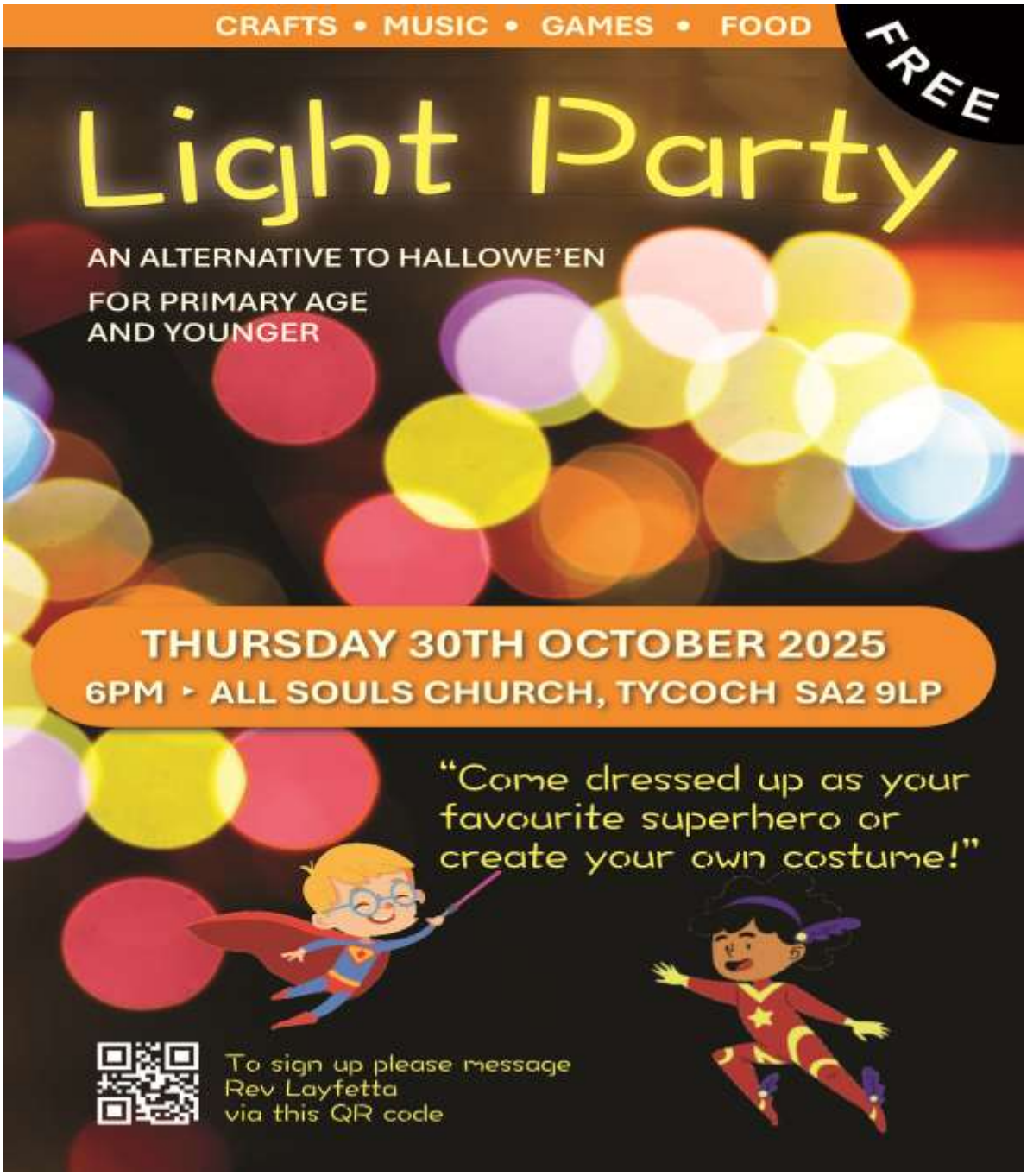
Llongyfarchiadau i Blwyddyn 5 SW who have made the most active journeys again this month. However, it is very close so da iawn pawb for being active!!

To find out more information about living streets, click on the following link https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/

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THE RIGHT TO LEARN AND GO TO SCHOOL
~ Eich hawl i ddysgu a mynd i'r ysgol.~
Article 28

THE RIGHT TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE
~ Eich hawl i fod y gorau gallwch fod ~
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Important Reminders
Atgoffa Pwysig

- School gates are open from 8.40am-9.00am. Please come to the office if you arrive after 9.00am.

- The register is taken at 8.50am.

- School Uniform is a red polo shirt and blue sweatshirt, cardigan or hoodie.



- PE kit is black leggings/joggers and white t-shirt.

- Please wear sensible shoes to school. No flip flops, crocs or sandals for health and safety reasons.

- As you know, we are a large school and accumulate a great deal of lost property over the year. Please help us by making sure all clothes, bags and equipment are labelled.

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Attendance
Presenoldeb

Reception EJ	92.5%
Reception ER/SP	90.5%
Year 1 HC	94.1%
Year 1 KP/SG	92.0%
Year 2 CW/SM	96.6%
Year 2 MJ	94.4%
Year 3 AB	93.8%
Year 3 WD	88.6%
Year 4 JG	93.5%
Year 4 NT	95.1%
Year 5 SW	92.4%
Year 5 SK	93.4%
Year 6 MW	89.1%
Year 6 LJ	90.8%

This month, our whole school attendance was 92.6% which is slightly down on last month.

Congratulations to Year 2 CW/SM who had the best class attendance this month. Llongyfarchiadau pawb!

Your Child's Attendance	National Guidelines
100% - 95%	Optimum chance to achieve well. Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
94.99% - 90%	Satisfactory, although your child may have to spend time catching up with work they have missed.
Below 90%	Cause for concern: - 1. Your child may be at risk of underachieving. 2. Your child may need extra support from you to help catch up with missed work. Your child may be missing out on a broad and balanced education.

If your child is unwell, please remember to contact the school office to inform us. A message can be left on the answer machine.

Please do not use class dojo to explain absences as teachers don't always get the chance to check during teaching time.

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Dates for your diary
Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

November 2025

Date	Event	Year group
03/11/25	Back to school	All
WB 10/11/25	Anti-Bullying Week	All
10/11/25	Odd Socks Day - an opportunity for the children to express themselves and celebrate their individuality.	All
10/11/25	Cinema trip – Kensuke's Kingdom (Odeon Llanelli)	Year 5
11/11/25	Remembrance Day	All
12/11/25	Cinema trip – The Smurfs (Odeon Llanelli)	Reception
12/11/25	Cinema trip – Paddington in Peru (Taliesin Theatre)	Years 3, 4 + 6
14/11/25	Children in Need Day	All
19/11/25	Roz and Kirsty photos	All
WB 24/11/25	Parliament Week	All
25/11/25	Cinema trip – The Sloth Lane (Odeon Swansea)	Years 1 + 2

December 2025

Date	Event	Year group
02/12/25	Nursery Christmas Sharing (10.00am)	Nursery
03/12/25	Year 1 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 1
04/12/25	Year 2 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 2
08/12/25	Year 3 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 3
09/12/25	Year 4 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 4
10/12/25	Gower College Performance – The Wizard of Oz	Year 1 + 2
10/12/25	Year 5 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 5
11/12/25	Reception Christmas Sharing (9.30am and 2pm)	Reception
11/12/25	Year 6 Christmas Sharing (6.30pm)	Year 6
17/12/25	Gower Christmas Tree Farm	Reception
18/12/25	Last day of Autumn Term for pupils	All
19/12/25	Inset Day – no school for pupils **Pupils return to school on Monday 5th January**	All

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School Term and Holiday Dates (2025-2026)
Dyddiadau tymhorau a gwyliau ysgolion

Term	Term begins		Half-term holiday begins	Half-term holiday ends		Terms ends
Autumn Term 2025	Monday 1st September 2025	Friday 24th October 2025	Monday 27th October 2025	Friday 31st October 2025	Monday 3th November 2025	Friday 19th December 2025
Spring Term 2026	Monday 5th January 2026	Friday 13th February 2026	Monday 16th February 2026	Friday 20th February 2026	Monday 23rd February 2026	Friday 27th March 2026
Summer Term 2026	Monday 13th April 2026	Friday 22nd May 2026	Monday 25th May 2026	Friday 29th May 2026	Monday 1st June 2026	Monday 20th July 2026

Bank holidays

3rd April 2026 - Good Friday

6th April 2026 - Easter Monday

4th May 2026 - May Day

25th May 2026 - Spring Bank Holiday

Inset Days

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Friday 3rd October 2025

Friday 19th December 2025

Friday 1st May 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

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