

SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 18 – November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers, Governors and children
November has been an incredibly busy and exciting month at Sketty Primary School! We are so proud of all the wonderful activities and achievements across the school.

A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for their continued support, especially for funding the refurbishment of our pond area. We can't wait to make full use of this beautiful space in the spring.

We are also extremely proud of the children who have represented Sketty Primary as ambassadors – they have done a fantastic job showcasing the values of our school.

Looking ahead, December promises to be full of festive cheer! We have lots of Christmas shows for you to enjoy, and our talented choir will be performing at several events, including the Lord Mayor's Carol Service at St Mary's.

If you are able, please join us this evening at Sketty Community Church for the Christmas tree lights switch-on, where our choir will be singing.

Finally, a big thank you to all our staff, governors, parents/carers, and of course our fabulous children for making November such a wonderful month at Sketty Primary School. We are excited for everything December has in store!

Cofion Cynnes
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher
Sketty Primary School

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Nursery

Meithrin

It has been an eventful November in Dragonflies Nursery, packed full of awareness days and preparations for our Sioe Nadolig.

We launched Anti-bullying Week by celebrating Odd Sock Day and wearing odd socks to school. This was a perfect opportunity for us to discuss and celebrate difference, and to remember our No Outsiders message-All different, all welcome! The children loved showing and comparing their socks and talking about the different colours and patterns. The children also enjoyed listening to the story, 'Is there anyone like me?' from our Think Equal programme. Our theme for the week was also kindness, and so we sang a song every day to remind us of our school rule-Kind hands, kind feet and kind words. We discussed examples of kindness daily using the Think Equal story, Helping Hands. We concluded the week by celebrating Children in Need, to show our understanding of kindness, and Friendship Friday, whereby we discussed what makes a good friend.



The children have thoroughly enjoyed the pumpkin theme throughout our provision this month, reusing the pumpkins left over from Halloween. Our role play started off with a pumpkin shop, which then turned into a pumpkin café, whereby the children developed their understanding of size, weight, shape and money. The children then loved working together as a class and searching for the pumpkins that had rolled themselves into the forest during the weekend. Before the pumpkins were returned to class, we couldn't resist having pumpkin races down the bank. It was a particularly wet day, which just added to the fun. We have now created our own pumpkin compost patch in the mud kitchen for the mushy pumpkins.

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Reception

Derbyn

What a wonderful and busy month we've had in Reception! Our cinema trip to watch The Smurfs was a real treat — the children were full of excitement, loved seeing the characters on the big screen, and made us incredibly proud with their excellent behaviour throughout the day.



In class, we've been enjoying some fantastic literacy and writing linked to our whole-school novel *Float*. The children have explored new vocabulary, talked about the feelings and events in the story, and practised writing simple sentences and captions. Their confidence and enthusiasm for early writing is really shining through.

A big highlight was giving out reading books to every child for the very first time. They were so proud to take them home, and we've talked lots about looking after books and sharing stories with family. Thank you for supporting them — these early reading moments make such a difference.

We've also begun our Christmas sharing practice, and the children are already singing beautifully with huge smiles and energy. We can't wait for you to see all their hard work. It's been a joyful month full of learning and new experiences, and we're excited for all the festive fun still ahead!

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Year 1
Blwyddyn 1

What a busy and exciting month we've had in Year 1! The children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm

This month we celebrated Odd Socks Day to mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week, encouraging everyone to celebrate individuality and kindness. We also took part in Children in Need, helping raise awareness for an important cause. On Remembrance Day, the children showed great respect as we reflected on why we remember. A highlight of the month was our exciting cinema trip, which the class thoroughly enjoyed.

As we head towards December, the children have begun practising for our Christmas sharing performance, Born in a Barn. They have also started creating beautiful crafts for the Christmas Market, putting lots of effort and creativity into their work.

In Maths, they been learning how to find 1 more, 1 less, and 10 more than a given number. They have also been developing their confidence using a 100 square to support their number skills. In Literacy and Topic work, the children have enjoyed learning about the history of lighthouses and have been writing simple sentences about the characters from The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch.



Outdoor learning continues to be a big favourite in Year 1. This month, the children have enjoyed playing outdoor games and exploring the environment around them. They particularly loved going on autumn colour hunts, looking for signs of seasonal change.

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Year 2
Blwyddyn 2



As always, we have had a very busy month in Year 2. We have been continuing our 'space' topic, and the children have loved building rockets from construction.

This month has also brought many annual events such as Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Children in Need. The children made super bonfire pictures using chalks and black paper and made poppies after talking about the importance of Remembrance Day. Children in Need was lots of fun with a non-uniform day and some lovely, themed crafts.

This week we have begun working on our whole school book, 'Float'. As well as this being part of our literacy lessons, we have also linked this to Science and been testing different shapes of clay to see if they will float or sink. The children made predictions and then conducted an experiment to see if they were right.



Also, this month, the children have been making keepsake clay coasters imprinting designs from natural objects. They will be painted and glazed and already look beautiful. We are well on our way with rehearsals for our Christmas sharing and the children can't wait to perform for you all.

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Year 3
Blwyddyn 3

November has been an incredibly busy and exciting month for Year 3! We've officially started practising for our Christmas sharing performance, and we hope you're ready to sing and clap along for our amazing cast in "Lights, Camels, Action!" The children have been working hard to bring this festive show to life.

Around our rehearsals, Year 3 have been diving into creative writing by exploring Kenning poems, starting with feelings and emotions before moving on to their hot task about Victorian children's jobs. In Maths, the focus has been on developing addition and subtraction skills, and every child has shown fantastic resilience in tackling these challenges.



One of the children's favourite activities this month was creating clay Christmas tree decorations. They designed their decorations using stencils and applied measuring and pattern formation skills to make their creations truly special.

To top off this action-packed month, Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic visit to meet former Sketty teacher Paul Rees, who brought Copperopolis to life with a guided tour and fascinating explanation of Swansea Copperworks. The rest of the day was spent indoors at the Waterfront Museum, where the children learned all about a Victorian Christmas—a perfect way to end a memorable month!

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Year 4
Blwyddyn 4



This month, Year 4 stepped back in time with an amazing trip to Caerleon Roman Fortress. We explored the amphitheatre, imagined gladiators in action, and discovered how Roman soldiers lived and trained. The museum exhibits, including mosaics and armour, gave us a real insight into Roman life. We even practised marching like Roman soldiers—what a challenge.

In Maths, we completed our topic on Place Value and have been applying our knowledge during outdoor learning activities. Alongside this, we've been progressing through Winning with Numbers and celebrated a number of exciting "wins" this month, well done Year 4. We've been working hard on extending sentences for writing using present participle adjectives and writing complex sentences. We are now preparing for our recount text hot task this week showcasing everything they've learned in a polished piece of writing.

Our Welsh focus has been on writing a recount of the Halloween disco using newly learned vocabulary. It's been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence with their Welsh writing skills.

We also programmed step counters to calculate how far a Roman army could march in one day. Towards the end of term, we plan to walk the same distance as the Romans did in a day, a fun and active way to combine history, technology, and fitness.

The children have been working incredibly hard preparing for our Christmas performance. Rehearsals are in full swing, and we can't wait to share the show with you soon!

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Year 5
Blwyddyn 5

November has been a busy and exciting month in Year 5. We enjoyed a trip to the cinema to watch the animated film Kensuke's Kingdom, which tells the moving story of a young boy's struggle to survive on a desert island. The children loved the film, and we look forward to reading the book it was based on later this term.

In class, we have continued our work on our topic - Escape, learning about the experiences of refugee children and reflecting on how their lives compare to our own. As part of this work, we also raised money to support children in the UK who are facing troubles of their own - an important step in helping us grow into confident, informed ethical citizens. To round off the topic, the children took part in our very own escape room, using the skills they have developed throughput the term to solve problems and work together in teams. It was a fantastic day and wonderful way to celebrate their hard work.



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Year 6
Blwyddyn 6

As we approach the end of the calendar year, November has been another exciting and busy month for Year 6.

In Mathematics, the children have shown fantastic enthusiasm while tackling tricky long multiplication and long division problems. In Literacy, we've been enjoying Clockwork by Philip Pullman; a perfect read for this time of year. In writing we are exploring discursive language features and learning how to use discourse markers effectively. We also joined the whole school in reading Float by David Miyares, which inspired the children to create paper boats and test their floating skills. Afterwards, they wrote imaginative stories filled with figurative language, including onomatopoeia and personification.

One of the highlights this month was our trip to see Paddington 3. The film's heart-warming message that home is wherever you feel loved really resonated with the children. We also took part in Anti-Bullying Week by wearing odd socks and discussing the importance of kindness and understanding.

In humanities, our research into the Aboriginal cricket team that played at St Helen's in 1868 continued. This led us to read The Rabbits by Shaun Tan and John Marsden, sparking thoughtful conversations about colonialism and its impact.

Year 6 have also loved spending time with their buddies, creating chatterboxes to help them learn simple Welsh words and phrases. It's wonderful to see these friendships grow.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the upcoming Carol Service at St Paul's Church next month—a festive occasion we hope you'll join us for.

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Remembrance Day

Dydd y Cofio

On Remembrance Day, all classes stopped what they were doing at 11am to remember those who fought so bravely and died in the war. In PS1 and PS2 the children watched a lovely video called 'Poppies' which shows war beautifully from an animal's perspective and decorated poppies. Older classes reflected on the day as part of morning challenge and class discussions.









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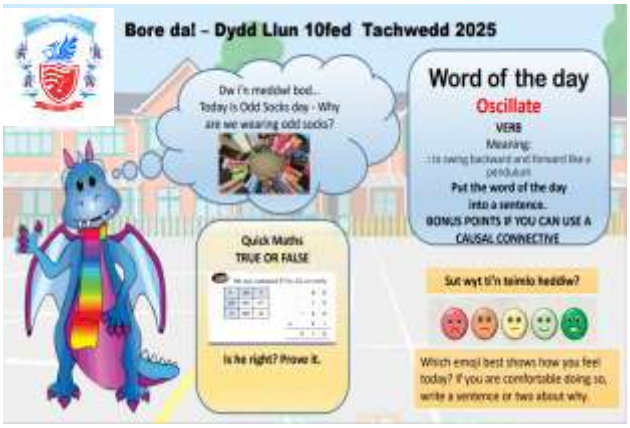
Anti-Bullying Week
Wythnos Gwrth-Fwlio

This month we celebrated Anti-Bullying Week at Sketty Primary with this year's theme 'Power for Good.' We participated in Odd Socks Day and Friendship Friday and reinforced our school values – Kind Hands, Kind Feet, Kind Words.









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Children in Need Day
Diwrnod Plant Mewn Angen



Thank you to everyone who made a contribution to our collection for Children in Need.

We were delighted to raise more than £300 for the charity. This money will be used to fund over 1,500 local charities and projects across the UK that support children and young people facing challenges like poverty, disability, illness, and neglect.

We were very proud to see one of our wonderful Year 3 pupils featuring as part of the programme on show night alongside his group Talking Hands which is funded by Children in Need. Da iawn i ti!!





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School Council
Cyngor Ysgol

This month, the School Council shared a presentation of all the work they have done so far this year and the last academic year to improve attendance in our school. Hopefully this work will continue to improve attendance. The Attendance data so far this year shows that there has been a slight improvement since School Council have started working on this which is positive.

The winning designs of the attendance posters were announced in assembly and copies of the posters have been displayed around the classrooms, windows and doors. Congratulations to all our winners.



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Eco Crew
Criw Eco



Thank you to everyone who sent in their unwanted clothes for our Rags 2 Riches campaign. We collected over 300kg, raising just over £85 for the school. Thank you to the Eco Crew who worked very hard to load the van on a very miserable afternoon.



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Eco Crew

Criw Eco

Our Year 6 Eco Committee visited Swansea Area today to attend the Green Economy Conference and Exhibition. They enjoyed a range of activities including listening to guest speakers such as the Leader of Swansea Council. They also visited exhibitions and workshop stalls where they spoke to different companies and businesses including Barclays Bank, Castell Howell, Plantasia and Bio Hub, learning about how these companies support school, colleges and businesses to 'grow your career' in an eco-friendly way.







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Welsh Crew
Criw Cymraeg

The Criw Cymraeg continue to lead the way in promoting the Welsh language and bilingualism across Ysgol Sgeti.

Recently, they've been busy making engaging videos to share the Pwy yw Pwy? clues. Can you solve this weeks' mystery teacher?



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Welsh Crew

Criw Cymraeg

Looking ahead, the Criw are already planning exciting events for both the school and the local community, so keep an eye out for what's coming next!

We're thrilled to welcome our new Year 3 members, who are really embracing their new role. They're growing in confidence every day and loving the opportunity to make a big difference in school life.



Diolch yn fawr to the Criw Cymraeg for their hard work and dedication—what a fantastic team! Arbennig!

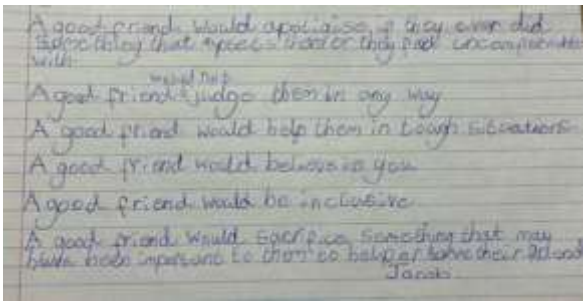
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Big Question
Cwestiwn Mawr

This month we shared our Big Question where all members of the school community respond to an important philosophical question. We continue to have amazing responses from the children and have been so pleased with their discussions.











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Right Respecting Schools Ambassadors
Llysgenhadon Ysgolion sy'n Parchu Cywir



This month marked an exciting start to our Rights Ambassadors work. Some of our Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to represent the school at the World Children's Day event, My Day, My Rights, held at the Collaboration Station. Throughout the day, the pupils engaged in a range of inspiring activities designed to help them understand the importance of children's voices in shaping their communities.

The event began with a session led by representatives from Swansea Council, who shared the real changes that have been made across the city as a result of listening to children. Hearing how young people's ideas and concerns have influenced decisions helped our pupils see how powerful their voices can be.

The pupils then explored an interactive marketplace, where they met organisations working to support children in areas such as poverty, mental health, wellbeing, safety, and children's rights. They asked thoughtful questions, gathered information, and discussed the issues that matter to them most. This experience encouraged them to think deeply about fairness, equality, and the role they can play in helping others.

This event has sparked enthusiasm, curiosity, and a keen interest in promoting children's rights within our school. We are looking forward to building on this momentum with lots of exciting rights-based activities and projects planned for the coming months.

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Sports Ambassadors

Llysgenhadon Chwaraeon

Our Year 5 children had a great day learning about the role of Bronze Ambassador by visiting the LC2 in Swansea. They learnt how to organise their own sports club in school using the STEP (Space, task, equipment and people) and EDD (explain, demonstrate and do) approaches. They also learnt how to get children more excited to do the daily mile by jumping, hopping, skipping and not just walking and have been given some lovely ideas for lunchtime sports clubs.





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Thank you
Diolch

MATTHEW'S HOUSE

HOSPITALITY AND HOPE IN THE HEART OF SWANSEA

19th November 2025

Dear Sketty Primary School

We wanted to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** for your harvest collection. As we begin to enter the colder months of the year with the nights drawing in, we will see more and more guests through our doors seeking warmth, support and hope. Your generosity makes such a difference and has a significant impact on the lives of those in our community.

Your contribution helps us to continue supporting vulnerable people in our city. We recently completed our latest project, Greenhill Gardens, transforming an overgrown and forgotten space into a place of remembrance, beauty and community. This new heritage green space is for the public to enjoy, so we would love you to come and see it for yourself - please pop in for a cuppa anytime!

As you may know, Matthew's House has now been running for 8 years. To date, we've served over **230,000 meals,** distributed almost **8,000 dignity packs** filled with hygiene items. Our wonderful **152 volunteers** have now donated over **107,000 hours** of their time, love and energy. Our pay-as-you-feel, waste food café continues to serve an average of **200-300 different people** every week. Matt's Shower and Laundry facilities continue to be gratefully utilised by rough sleepers in the city, and our friendly advocacy 'Buddy' scheme has now supported over **1,500 guests** with meetings and chats about whatever issues they may be facing. The **Hope in Swansea** smartphone app now has over **170 registered support services** and is hailed as a "really useful tool" by volunteers and support workers across Swansea. **Matt's Community Choir**, with 50 members, meets each week for the joy of music, wellbeing, and community.



Thank you so much for believing in Matthew's House and helping us provide hope to those who need it most.

With love and thanks,
The Matthew's House Leadership and Family

Thom Lynch

Project Leader
Matthew's House, Swansea
Thom@matthewshouse.org.uK

07708 115903 matthewshouse.org.uk friends@matthewshouse.org.uk @mattshouseSA1
Location: Matthew's House, High Street, Swansea, SA1 1LW **Correspondence address (IMPORTANT):** Matthew's House, PO Box 696, Swansea, SA1 9PQ

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International Schools

Ysgolion Rhyngwladol

Ms Johns and Mrs Griffiths visited Ireland as part of an International Schools conference focussed on Literacy.

Mrs Griffiths shared our journey with the Welsh language, impressing the other teachers and professionals with the fantastic work our children and staff have been doing to immerse the language at Ysgol Sgeti.







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Visitors to Sketty School
Ymwelwyr i Ysgol Sgeti

Today we welcomed Torsten Bell MP to the school. He was blown away when walking around the school and speaking to our Year 6 children who talked about their work on School Council, Criw Cymraeg and Eco Committees. He also had the pleasure of hearing our school song in assembly sung by our Singing Club.







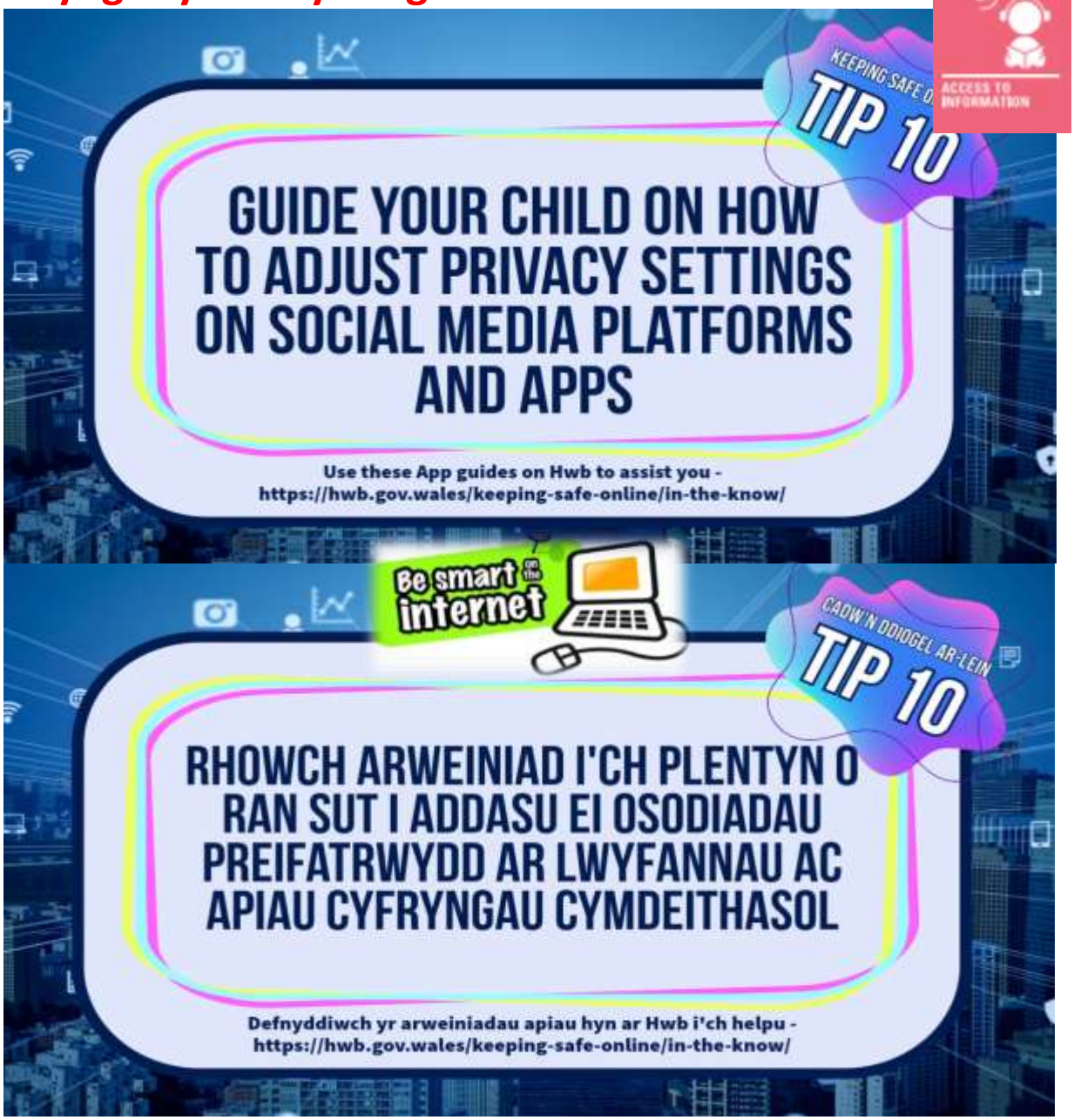


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Internet Safety
Rhyngrwyd Mwy Diogel



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PTA

Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon

Despite the awful weather, we officially opened our new pond area this month. Thank you so much to the PTA who contributed the £6000 to fund the project. This area will now be used by children across the school for their learning and as a quiet well-being space.



The PTA have also approved funding for a number of other requests including welly racks for Year 3 and 4, a rack to safely store scooter for the older children and equipment to enhance our sensory room. We are very grateful for your continued support to our school.

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PTA
Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon



Bake Sale Dates 25/26

PTA

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
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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Cymdeithas Rhieni ac Athrawon



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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 6 MW 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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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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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	93.3%
Reception ER/SP	93.4%
Year 1 HC	95.2%
Year 1 KP/SG	94.3%
Year 2 CW	94.8%
Year 2 MJ	92.0%
Year 3 AB	95.9%
Year 3 WD	96.0%
Year 4 JG	94.5%
Year 4 NT	94.3%
Year 5 SW	96.1%
Year 5 SK	89.7%
Year 6 MW	92.1%
Year 6 LJ	93.8%

This month, our whole school attendance was 93.9% which is an increase on last month.

Congratulations to Year 5 SW 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
December 2025

Date	Event	Year group
01/12/25	Sarah Hopkins workshop	Year 6
02/12/25	Nursery Christmas Sharing (10.00am)	Nursery
	Christmas Carols on Oxford Street	Singing Club
03/12/25	Year 1 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 1
04/12/25	Year 2 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 2
05/12/25	Mini Christmas Fayre and Carols on the Yard	All
08/12/25	Year 3 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 3
	Sarah Hopkins workshop	Year 6
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
	Year 5 Christmas Sharing (2pm and 5pm)	Year 5
	Sarah Hopkins workshop	Year 6
	Lord Mayor's Carol Service – 6pm	Singing Club

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Date	Event	Year group
11/12/25	Reception Christmas Sharing (9.30am and 2pm)	Reception
	Year 6 Christmas Sharing (6.30pm)	Year 6
15/12/25	Christmas Church Experience	All
16/12/25	Playgroup (9.30am-11.00am)	Nursery
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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Spring Term Classroom Sharing
Rhannu Ystafell Ddosbarth Tymor y Gwanwyn

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to invite you into school to visit our classrooms, find out what the children have been learning and take a look at their books. The dates and times for Year 1 - 6 are listed below.

Year 2 – Tuesday 27th January (9.30am)
Year 4 – Wednesday 28th January (9.30am)
Year 3 – Thursday 29th January (9.30am)
Year 1 – Tuesday 3rd February (9.30am)
Year 5 – Tuesday 10th February (9.30am)
Year 6 – Wednesday 11th February (9.30am)

Parents/Carers with children in Nursery and Reception will have the opportunity to come into school WB 02/02/25 and 09/02/25. More details will come from class teachers.

We appreciate that these times may not be suitable for everyone. If you are unable to attend, please contact the class teacher for an alternative time to view your child's books.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Cofion Cynnes
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher
Sketty Primary School

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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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