



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 8 – December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It most certainly has been a very busy 2024, finished off with our wonderful Christmas celebrations. All of our Christmas shows have been amazing, showcasing how talented our children and staff are. Don't forget to tune into Radio BBC Wales at 8am on Christmas morning to hear the wonderful concert our Year 6 were part of performing at the Brangwyn Hall.

A big thank you to parents, carers, and Governors for all your support this year. Working in partnership is a strength of our school and we thank our wonderful PTA for organising fabulous events we can all enjoy. I am grateful for a very talented committed staff who work so hard, ensuring our children get the best experiences they can. And to our wonderful Sketty Primary Children! It is a privilege to be their Head teacher and I can't wait to see what they'll get up to in the New Year.

I wish you a very Happy Christmas and pray for a peaceful New Year for us all. Please enjoy the festivities and try to rest a little in readiness to do it all again in 2025!!! It's going to be busy!!!!!!!

Kind Regards
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher

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Nursery

Meithrin

We have had so much fun celebrating Christmas in Dragonflies Nursery! The children in morning Nursery worked so hard to prepare for their Sioe Nadolig and were superstars on stage! A great big thank you to the parents for providing the fabulous costumes and for being a part of the audience.



It was wonderful to welcome the parents of afternoon Nursery to take part in a variety of Christmas activities with their children. Salt dough decorations were very popular! Santa Claus also came to visit, which was such a surprise for the children.

Both morning and afternoon Nursery classes had fun taking part in the Santa Marathon. Morning Nursery had the challenge of counting how many times they could walk around the yard in 10 minutes. Afternoon Nursery did the same, but for 5 minutes. The children loved being healthy dragons.



Morning Nursery have been discussing “What is a celebration?” and have been comparing their favourite family celebrations. Diolch yn fawr to all of the parents that emailed photos, the children certainly enjoyed sharing and discussing why they enjoyed a particular celebration.

A great big thank you to the parents for your continued support throughout the Autumn term, and we look forward to welcoming the children back for more adventures in 2025!

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Reception

Derbyn

December has been extremely busy but so exciting in Reception.



We enjoyed our Autumn Term Maths project, planned our route to the park and raised an amazing £770.73 for The Mr X Appeal by doing our Sponsored Walk. Diolch yn fawr pawb for your very generous support!! We also took part in the first Daily Mile Santa Run, dressed up in Christmas clothing and completed a walk around the yard with our Year 6 Buddies.



In Literacy, we have been writing instructions to make a gingerbread man. The children worked so hard on their writing and had a lot of fun making and eating them in class.

Our Christmas sharing was incredible. The children made us so proud with their amazing singing and the way they said their lines. Thank you to all the parents and carers for providing such amazing costumes and helping the children with the songs at home. Wiggly Nativity will be in everyone's heads well into the New Year.



We finished the first term in Reception with an amazing trip to Gower Christmas Tree Farm. It was a wonderful experience and the perfect way to end our Autumn Term.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Year 1

Blwyddyn 1



We kicked off December with our spectacular 'Born in a Barn' Christmas Sharing, where the children truly shone with their performances. A huge thank you to all of you for your incredible support and enthusiasm – it made the event even more special!



Alongside our festive fun, Year 1 has been hard at work on their Christmas Enterprise project. In Maths, we've been learning about money, using our knowledge of coins to help us with the project. The children crafted beautiful clay Diva Lamps, created delicious Marshmallow Snowmen and peppermint creams, made magical reindeer food, designed personalised calendars and cards, and put together unique Christmas decorations, just to name a few! The Enterprise was a huge success, and we are so proud of how hard the children worked to sell their amazing creations. Thank you again for your ongoing support throughout this busy month.



As we head into the Christmas break, we wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year for more fun, learning, and laughter in 2025!

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Year 2

Blwyddyn 2

December has been another very busy month in Year 2!



We concluded our VIPs topic this month. We wrote a recount of the events of the Great Fire of London. We completed our Numeracy and D&T project where we learned about 3D shapes. We looked at Tudor houses, made prototype houses from 3D shapes and then used nets to make 3D models of Tudor houses to recreate the streets of London before the

fire of 1666. We also used our D&T and creative skills to make clay pinch pots, which we fired in the kiln.

Everyone worked so hard practising for our concert 'Baarmy Bethlehem' – we hope you all enjoyed as much as we did!

Thank you for your support with costumes. They all looked amazing on stage!!



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Year 3

Blwyddyn 3

Year 3 had a fantastic day out to Morgan's Hotel in Swansea. This was our final learning experience about the Victorian era. We found out about the history of Morgan's Hotel and how people celebrated Christmas during the Victorian era. We also tried out some of the jobs that people do in a hotel. Diolch to Morgan's Hotel for sponsoring our visit and transport for the day.



We have been very busy designing and making Christmas products to sell as part of our enterprise project. We made ceramic baubles, copper photo frames and 3D snowmen. We created posters in Welsh to advertise our products, and had a wonderful time using our Money Maths skills to add totals and calculate change. **Move over Alan Sugar!**

On behalf of all the staff in Year 3, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to welcoming the children back in January to hear about the Christmas adventures.

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Year 4

Blwyddyn 4

Christmas is nearly upon us and the children have not stopped.

At the beginning of the month we visited Caerleon and had a very interesting and enjoyable time. The children found the experience very informative and the guides were impressed with the children's knowledge of the Romans.



The children visited All Soul's Church for the Christmas Experience. They also all enjoyed performing Bethlehem Ballroom. Everyone worked so hard to learn the songs and their lines. Their performances were outstanding and the staff were so proud of them all. We finished the term with Christmas crafts as part of our design and technology focus. I'm sure you will be delighted with their finished products.

On behalf of the Year 4 team we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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Year 5

Blwyddyn 5

What a busy and festive month it has been for Year 5!



Our classroom has been filled with the sound of singing as we've been working hard to perfect our performances for the Sioe Nadolig – 'It's a Census, Get Me Out of Here!' We hope you enjoyed the show!

When we've not been singing, we've been diving into history by studying the Swansea Three Nights Blitz. We explored the impact of this event and used Excel to analyse data related to it. Our newfound skills have helped us gain a deeper understanding of our local history. The Blitz has also inspired our creative side, as we've been writing poetry that captures the emotions and resilience of those who lived through it. The students have produced some truly incredible work. We are very proud of them.



In addition to all of this, we've been reading the book Nici a Cris - Anrheg i Aled. It has sparked so much imagination in the class that we decided to write our own entries for the story!

Our Christmas treats also included a visit from Santa himself and taking part in the Christmas Santa Run.

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Year 6

Blwyddyn 6



We started the month in St Helen's Cricket and Football Ground. We learned more about the ground and its history, presented what we have learned about the Battle of Swansea and got to handle memorabilia from the archives. A huge thankyou to Dave, Simon and Tom for showing us around.



Christmas arrived in Year 6 with a visit from Santa. We learned about the true meaning of Christmas with a wonderful immersive experience at All Soul's Church. There was even a real donkey!



We had the amazing opportunity to perform with the BBC at the Brangwyn Hall. You will be able to hear the children on Christmas Day at 8am and 5pm on Radio Wales.

And if that wasn't excitement for one month, Year 6 worked with the incredibly talented Sarah Hopkins to create protest art in the style of Paul Peter Piech. The children's work was also complimented by Piech's daughter on Instagram.



To finish off an incredible term the children performed their Carol Service at St Paul's Church where family members were also able to view the children's wonderful work so far this year.



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

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Christmas Experience

Profiad Nadolig

Our children had the wonderful opportunity to visit All Souls Church for a magical Christmas Experience. They heard the Nativity retold by Reverend Layfetta Masih, dressed up as characters from the day and even met a real-life donkey who brought Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Such a wonderful memory for the children!



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School Clubs

Clwbiau Ysgol

Our Singing Club have had a very busy three weeks which included singing at the lights switch on at Sketty Baptist Church, with Swansea Philharmonia Orchestra at St Mary's Church, entertaining residents at Fern Court and Pen-y-Bryn care homes and performing at Carollers Cabin in Oxford Street. You made lots of people very happy and we are very proud of you all!!



Some of our Year 6 Coding Club had a brilliant day at the DVLA coding challenge awards. They took part in some really great activities throughout the day and we had our vote on who should win the award, we even came away with some computer equipment for the school.



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Staff News

Newyddion y Staff



After 24 years, Mrs Daniels, our Office Manager, will be leaving the team at Sketty Primary School to take up a new position with the Local Authority. Mrs Daniels will be missed a great deal by staff, pupils and parents. We thank her for her dedication and commitment to the school and wish her all the best in her new position.

Meet the Governors

Cwrdd a'r Llywodraethwyr



Mr Nathan Gynn joined the Governing Body at Sketty Primary School in 2023. He is a Maths teacher at Pentrehafod School working with children with Additional Learning Needs and has a background in outdoor and adventurous activities. He has two sons, both at Sketty Primary, George and Tommy.

Kay Meade spent 32 years as a Primary School Teacher in Birmingham and for the last 13 years back in her home city of Swansea. She took early retirement 8 years ago, and spent 6 years as an External Verifier for Newly Qualified Teachers. Once she finished this role, she realised how much she missed being an active part of school life, so was very pleased to be able to volunteer as a Governor. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling, theatre, and spending time with her grandson, who is very excited to be a big brother in 2025.



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PTA

Bake Sale

Dates 24/25

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
16/01/25	...	Year 4 - Mrs O'Malley & Miller Rep - Kirsty
14/02/25	Valentines Theme Bake Sale	Year 3 - Mr Tucker Rep - Emma Grey
14/03/25	...	Year 3 - Mrs Griffiths Rep - Katie Cooze
04/04/25	Easter Bake Sale	Year 2 - Miss Jones
09/05/25	...	Year 2 - Miss Rees & Mrs Gillett
23/05/25	...	Year 1 - Mrs Porter & Mrs Palmer Rep - Stephanie Booth
06/06/25	...	Year 1 - Miss Jones Rep - Carlie Williams
20/06/25	...	Reception - Miss Baldwin, Mrs Eagle, Mr Lloyd - Jones Rep - Rhi Akers & Hannah Cullen
11/07/25	Summer Fayre Uniform Sale	Nursery - Mrs Fox AM & PM

**Many thanks to parents, carers, children and staff
who have supported the Bake Sales so far this year.**

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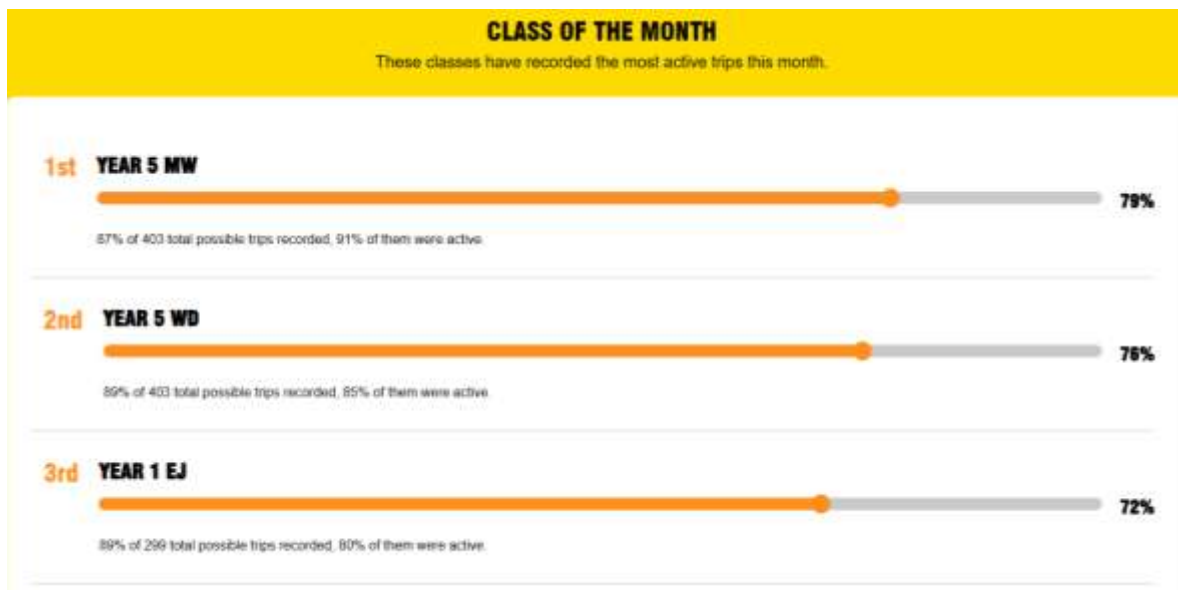


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Living Streets



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 MW who have made the most active journeys this month. Da iawn pawb!!

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

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Important Reminders

Atgoffa Pwysig

- School gates are open from 8.40am-9.00am. School starts 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 AB	91.5%
Reception KE/SLJ	87.1%
Year 1 KP/SP	83.8%
Year 1 EJ	91.1%
Year 2 MJ	88.7%
Year 2 ER/SM	90.6%
Year 3 NT	91.3%
Year 3 JG	89.4%
Year 4 SK	88.3%
Year 4 LO'M/SM	90.5%
Year 5 WD	94.0%
Year 5 MW	89.6%
Year 6 SW	87.2%
Year 6 LJ	91.3%

This month, our whole school attendance was very low at 89.7% which is a further dip on last month. The EWO will be monitoring attendance in the Spring Term. If you your child is unwell, please remember to contact the school office to inform us.

Congratulations to Year 5 WD 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.

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Dates for your diary
Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

Date	Event	Year group
06/01/25	Inset Day – no school for pupils	All
07/01/25	Back to School	All
17/01/25	Dogs Trust Assembly	All
	Dogs Trust Workshops	Year 1 Year 2 Year 3
	Kerbcraft starts	Year 2
19/01/25	World Religion Day	All
20/01/25	Martin Luther King Day	All
24/01/25	Dogs Trust Workshops	Reception Year 6
28/01/25	Wear Orange for Older Adults - Action for Elders Day (All donations welcome on the day for the charity)	All
	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 2
29/01/25	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 4
30/01/25	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 3
03/02/25 – 09/02/25	Children's Mental Health Week	All
04/02/25	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 1
05/02/25	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Reception
06/02/25	Classroom Sharing – 10.45am	Nursery
11/02/25	Safer Internet Day	All
	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 5

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12/02/25	Classroom Sharing – 9.30am	Year 6
13/02/25	Valentine's Disco – Times TBC	All
17/02/25	Welsh Fortnight Begins	All
18/02/25	Ffa La La Gig	Year 1 Year 2
21/02/25	Last day of Half Term Pupils return to school on Monday 3rd March	All
03/03/25	Back to School Welsh Fortnight continues	All
07/03/25	Eisteddfod – pupils can come to school wearing Welsh costumes, kits or Welsh flag colours.	All
07/03/25– 16/03/25	British Science Week	All
10/03/25	World Book Day (More details to follow)	All
14/03/25	Comic Relief – pupils can come to school wearing red if they wish (Suggested donation of £1 per family if possible)	All
WB 17/03/25	Parents Evening Week (NO TEACHER LED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS)	Nursery – Year 2
21/03/25	World Water Day	All
WB 24/03/25	Parents Evening Week (NO TEACHER LED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS)	Year 3 – Year 6
02/04/25	Autism Awareness Day	All
02/04/25– 04/04/25	Llangrannog Residential	Year 4 Year 5
11/04/25	Last day of Spring Term Pupils return to school on Monday 28th April	All

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School Term and Holiday Dates (2024-2025)

Dyddiadau tymhorau a gwyliau ysgolion

Term	Term begins		Half-term holiday begins	Half-term holiday ends		Terms ends
Autumn Term 2024	Monday 2nd September 2024	Friday 25 th October 2024	Monday 28 th October 2024	Friday 1 st November 2024	Monday 4 th November 2024	Friday 20 th December 2024
Spring Term 2025	Monday 6 th January 2025	Friday 21 st February 2025	Monday 24 th February 2025	Friday 28 th February 2025	Monday 3 rd March 2025	Friday 11 th April 2025
Summer Term 2025	Monday 28 th April 2025	Friday 23 rd May 2025	Monday 26 th May 2025	Friday 30 th May 2025	Monday 2 nd June 2025	Monday 21 st July 2025

Bank holidays

18th April 2025 - Good Friday

21st April 2025 - Easter Monday

5th May 2025 - May Day

26th May 2025 - Spring Bank Holiday

Inset Days

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Friday 20th December 2024

Monday 6th January 2025

Friday 2nd May 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

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