



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 1 – April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to present you with our new monthly newsletter which will keep you up to date on the exciting projects, activities and experiences that are happening across our wonderful school.

This will be a project which is led by the children, and each class will have the opportunity to produce and edit the newsletter over the months to come.

Cofion Cynnes
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher
Sketty Primary School

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Progression Step 1



Morning Nursery have launched their new topic, Nature Detectives. They began the topic by exploring our school grounds to identify "What is nature?" The children are enjoying working in mud kitchen and using nature in their play. They have made some very tasty treats for the animals that live outdoors. During this month the children have also learnt about Eid and how it is celebrated by their peers. They have also explored the concepts of pattern and shape through creating their own Mehndi patterns.

Our afternoon Nursery class continues to welcome new members. Our focus has been on learning the routine and developing cooperative relationships with others through play. The children in afternoon Nursery particularly enjoy singing and joining in with the Singing Hands Program. If you would like to learn the songs at home, they can be found on YouTube.

Reception are enjoying their Summer Term topic 'Sun, Sea and Sandy Toes.' We started with a fantastic immersion day in school. Everyone dressed up in their beach clothes and had lots of fun, despite the horrible weather. The role play areas are a real success with Miss Baldwin's class choosing an aeroplane and Mrs Eagle/Mr Lloyd-Jones' class enjoying the beach café.



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Progression Step 2



April has been a busy month in Year One as we have begun our New Topic 'Wild Things'. We completed our EPIC planning and came up with lots of ideas of what we would like to do and learn. We have been enjoying activities linked to the story 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendac. So far, we have made items for our role play, created our own musical 'Wild Rumpus', made food in the mud kitchen for Max and 'The Wild Things', painted pictures linked to the story.

Year 2 have had another busy start to the term with our new topic 'The Enchanted Woodland'. The children completed their EPIC planning, generated questions to plan for the topic and have been enjoying learning about the environment, trees, and woodland animals. We read the book 'A tree is nice' and talked about all the reasons why trees are important. Our No Outsiders book has been 'What the Jackdaw saw' and the children talked about different ways of communicating and have been enjoying learning British Sign Language.



This month in Year 3, we have been celebrating and finding out about Ramadan and Eid. Mrs Jama, one of our wonderful Year 3 TAs, created an Eid table. She talked to us about her beliefs as a Muslim, and what she does with her family during this very special time. We loved tasting some new foods and sweet treats. Blasus iawn!

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Progression Step 3



Year 4 have been very busy this April. We have started our new topic Wild Isles. In their EPIC planning the children decided that they would like to go on a visit and take part in a nature walk. Therefore, we visited the Botanical Gardens of Wales and enjoyed a talk on habitats and a walk around the beautiful grounds.

During the month of April, Year 5, kick-started their investigation into our new topic 'Blue Planet' teaching the water cycle. We have used the knowledge gained from this to help plan, draft and write an explanation text. We have started to venture into the disasters in which society has caused to our great oceans. We have completed a science experiment, clearing up the oil spills (similar to the disaster that happened in Pembrokeshire back in 1993).



Year 6 have had a busy month. Our topic of 'change' got underway with the children investigating the history of food production, what our clothes are made from and where they come from, and the history of transport. Bounce back have been working with the classes on Monday mornings looking at resilience and promoting good mental health while an education officer from the Ospreys has been teaching the children rugby skills. Using the work of Glenys Cour as inspiration, Year 6 are working hard to choreograph a dance for their performance in the Taliesin in June.

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School Audits

Over the last few weeks, we have been visited by the Local Authority who conducted a comprehensive Fire Safety Audit. As a school, we were commended for the quality of our paperwork and some good practice in our school was taken away to share with other schools.

Governors visits

Our Chair of Governors visited school to carry out a learning walk and spent some time in class with Year 3JG. He commented on the excellent practice shown, especially with the use of Welsh within the classroom. Da iawn Mrs Griffiths!!

Heritage Award

Year 6 have been working on a very exciting project on 'The Battle of Swansea' with Aberystwyth University and this has been a fantastic topic which the children have driven forward. Last week we were assessed for the Heritage award. We are hoping for some positive news in the next few weeks.



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TRIADS

Some of our teachers have been working hard in their TRIADS. This is an excellent opportunity for teachers across the school to visit the classrooms of their colleagues, observe good practice and use it to help further develop themselves. Some of the TRIAD groups have been looking at how Welsh is developed through Ffa La La, questioning skills and independent learning through missions and active learn.

AOLE Teams

Area of Learning and Experience teams have also met recently to audit and evaluate provision across the school. Targets have been set for development over the remainder of the summer term and into September 2024.

Partnerships

As a partner school of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, we continue to benefit from having a number of teaching and college students within the school. This is a partnership we are really proud of as we help to support and nurture the next generation of education professionals.



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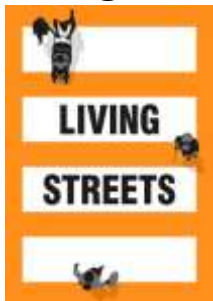
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International Links

Some of our teachers visited Sweden on an outdoor learning programme. Mrs Williams, Mrs Gillett and Mr Dunt thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have lots of fantastic ideas to further develop outdoor learning at Sketty Primary School.



Living Streets



We are excited to have been chosen as part of this exciting project. The project enables children to self-report how they travel to school each day. If they can travel actively (either by walking, cycling, scooting or Park and Stride), at least once a week for a month, they get rewards with a badge. To find out more information about living streets, click on the following link <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/>

Kerbcraft

Nicola Darlington who is the Child Pedestrian Co-ordinator has been visiting our school for a number of years. She is currently working with Year 2MJ, supporting them with important skills needed to be safe when crossing the road.

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PC Craig

We are very fortunate to have a Police School Liaison Officer who works across the school. Year 4 enjoyed a visit from PC Craig recently and he delivered a great session to the children 'Friend or Foe.'

School Council

Our school councillors are currently working on improving the parking situation around the school. They have met with local councillors and will be taking our petition to the council chambers in May. Watch this space for more updates!

Reminders

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. Apparently the sun is due to come out soon so please can the children have footwear suitable for being outdoors and running around.



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Community Café

This month, Year 6 launched their community café at Sketty Community Church. The children had a wonderful time providing refreshments for the visitors and sharing their learning in school.



Next event – Friday 10th May 2024

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RNLI

The children across the school were lucky enough to have a special assembly from the RNLI where they explained how to keep safe on the beach this summer.



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Mumbles Railway



Year 3 have had great fun working with the Arts Council of Wales and film maker Jay Bedwani. The children have explored how to plan, create and develop their film making skills. Taking these skills into the real world, Year 3 are currently in production for a local history documentary on our local legend, the Mumbles Train. We have explored its rise and fall through history. We have interviewed local people and collected their Mumbles Train memories. Our on location filming scenes of Swansea and Mumbles starts today. We have also been supported with our voice over techniques by Welsh actress Michelle McTernan who has been whipping us into shape with our pronunciation and expression. Steven Spielberg...watch this space!!



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Earth Day

We had a fantastic day in school celebrating the importance of looking after the environment on Earth Day. The children enjoyed some fantastic activities in class. Reception and Year 6 planted some native wildflowers with Karen Jones who is the Local Authority Environmental Officer. We ended the day with our Earth Hour where all lights and technology stayed off!!



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Residential

The children in Year 4 and 5 enjoyed their residential to Llangrannog and challenged themselves with a range of exciting outdoor activities including climbing, ziplining and horse riding to name but a few. Thank you so much to the staff who accompanied them on the visit.



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School of Sanctuary

This week we were assessed to become a School of Sanctuary. We are hoping to be recognised as a place of refuge and sanctuary for people who have joined the community, especially Refugee and Asylum seeking families. Our visitors were so impressed with our school. Well done to Mrs Miller and the School of Sanctuary committee for their hard work. Fingers crossed for good news next week!!



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Attendance Winners for April

Reception AB	88.15%
Reception KE/SLJ	89.94%
Year 1 KP/SP	92.3%
Year 1 LOM/SG	93.0%
Year 2 MJ	92.9%
Year 2 ER/SM	93.4%
Year 3 JG	94.4%
Year 3 NT	90.8%
Year 4 SK	90.2%
Year 4 EJ	88.9%
Year 5 JH	91.3%
Year 5 WD	88.0%
Year 6 LJ	90.4%
Year 6 SW	94.1%

Congratulations to Mrs Griffiths' class.

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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Bake Sale Dates 2024



DATE	EVENT	NOTES
10/05/24	...	Year 1 - Mrs Palmer/Mrs Porter Rep - Helena
17/05/24	...	Reception - Mrs Eagle / Mr Lloyd-Jones Rep - Stephanie Booth
14/06/24	...	Reception - Mrs Baldwin Rep - Carlie Williams
28/06/24	Uniform Sale	Nursery - Mrs Fox - AM & PM Rep - Rhi Akers

Keep up to date with Sketty Primary School News & Events by joining our Facebook group - 'Sketty Primary School Events & News Organised By The PTA' Questions HAVE to be answered for you to be added.

If you would like to volunteer whether you be a parent/carer/guardian or grandparent please contact your class rep or teacher. It doesn't have to be your classes bake sale date.

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Dates for your diary/Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

Date	Event	Year group
03/05/24	Inset Day – No school for pupils	All
06/05/24	Bank Holiday Monday – No school for pupils	All
10/05/24	PTA Cake Sale (Year 1 KP/SP) – after school	All
13/05/24 – 17/05/24	Mental Health Week	All
13/05/24	Visit to Ilston Woods – Nature Day	Year 2 MJ
14/05/24	Visit to Ilston Woods – Nature Day	Year 2 ER
15/05/24	Visit to the Council Chambers	School Council
16/05/24	Nursery Sports Day – 10am and 1.30pm	Nursery
17/05/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Sinister Substances) – 9.15am	Year 4
17/05/24	PTA Cake Sale (Reception KE/SLJ) – after school	All
20/05/24	PS3 Sports Day – 12.30pm at Swansea Bay Sports Park	Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
21/05/24	Playgroup	Rising 3s
	Year 3 Sports Day – 1.15pm	Year 3
22/05/24	Year 2 Sports Day – 1.15pm	Year 2
23/05/24	Year 1 Sports Day – 1.15pm	Year 1
24/05/24	Reception Sports Day – 1.15pm	Reception
24/05/24	Last Day of Half Term Pupils return to school on Tuesday 4th June	All

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Dates for your diary/Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

Date	Event	Year group
03/06/24	Inset Day – no school for pupils	All
04/06/24	Back to School	All
05/06/24	World Environment Day	All
10/06/24	Eco Award Review	All
13/06/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Sticks or Stones)	Year 3
	Primary Partners – Grand Theatre	Year 5
	Crucial Crew	Year 6
14/06/24	PTA Cake Sale (Reception AB) – after school	All
	Concert at Uniting Church Sketty – 7pm	Choir
WB 17/06/24	Taliesin Dance Week – performance details to follow	Year 6
21/06/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Who, what, where?) – 9.15am	Year 2
24/06/24 – 26/06/24	Residential at Stackpole	Year 6
28/06/24	PTA Cake and Uniform Sale (Nursery) – after school	All
01/07/24	Lifesaving Skills Sign language	Year 5 + 6
02/07/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Stay Smart) – 9.15am	Year 3
02/07/24 – 05/07/24	Transition week at Olchfa	Year 6
03/07/24	Siarter Iaith Silver Assessment	All
19/07/24	Last day of Summer Term	All
	Pupils return on Wednesday 4th September	

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School Term and Holiday Dates (2024-2025)

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

18 April 2025 - Good Friday

21 April 2025 - Easter Monday

5 May 2025 - May Day

26 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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