



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 2 – May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter. As you will see, we have been very busy and we are particularly proud to have gained School of Sanctuary status. A big thank you to Mrs Miller for leading this project and the School of Sanctuary committee who were justifiably praised for their hard work.

We hope you enjoy reading about our lovely school and the wonderful experiences the children have.

Wishing you all a fabulous half term. Hopefully the sun will be shining for us. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Tuesday 4th June**.

Cofion Cynnes
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher
Sketty Primary School

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Progression Step 1



It has been a busy month in Dragonflies Nursery, celebrating two important events in our school calendar. We celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week and this year's theme was "Move more!" which fitted in perfectly with practising and performing our sports day. The children enjoyed sharing their sporting talents with their families through taking part in a variety of races and activity gardens. The limbo was a big hit! We were so pleased that the sun was shining for us. We celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity and used the story, Hello Hello by Brendan Wenzel, from our No Outsiders Programme as a focus. We discussed what it means to say hello and how it makes us feel. We then practised saying hello using the different home languages in our class. The children also enjoyed playing a game, whereby they randomly selected another child's photo and then approached them to say hello.



Reception have continued with our Summer Term topic 'Sun, Sea and Sandy Toes.' We have been learning about different sea creatures and have been making factfiles about the information we have found out using our ICT skills.



We enjoyed creating artwork in the style of Keith Haring as part of our expressive arts project. In Maths we have been learning about data handling, collecting and recording information about sports and helped plan our Sports Day by choosing the events we wanted. We have also been using the beebots to help develop our understanding of directions.

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Progression Step 2

The children in Year One have continued to enjoy work linked to our topic 'Wild Things'. They have been developing their understanding of different types of animals and their habitats through discussion, research and sorting activities. In Maths they have been working on using a number line to add whole numbers and complete addition problems with missing numbers. The children engaged in role play and discussion linked to one of our 'No Outsiders' texts. Errol's Garden by Gillian Hibbs explores diversity in communities and stresses the importance of asking for help.



May has been a busy month for Year 2. We have been enjoying learning about the woodland habitat. We celebrated 'Hedgehog Awareness Week' by learning all about hedgehogs. We read the story 'Don't hog the hedge', wrote hedgehog fact files and made posters to help our hedgehogs. We have become hedgehog experts!

Year 3 have been very busy putting the finishing touches to our documentary about the Mumbles railway, with help from Michelle McTernan and our director Jay. We have also moved onto data and statistics in Maths and persuasive language in Literacy. We enjoyed using artefacts from the Egypt Centre from Swansea University.



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Progression Step 3



As usual, we had a busy month. The children explored how to survive on a desert island during our event day. Luckily, the weather was in a good mood, and the only rain we had came from Storm Jones (Miss Jones) when evaluating how well their shelter was constructed. We also purified dirty water, although we didn't go as far as drinking it. We traversed a river—some children were "washed away," never to be seen again. The children also hunted "marshmallow birds" and started a fire using a flint and striker to cook their food.



This month, our practise for Primary Partners has ramped up, and it is starting to take real shape. We will be performing next month at the Grand Theatre, a medley of The Greatest Showman songs. Make sure to get your tickets! As well as this, Year 5 have spent time: designing, experimenting and creating rock pools out of clay. We have focussed on pinch and coil techniques to create our pots and then added lots of intricate coral designs.



Year 6 have had another busy month. We have continued our topic 'Change' looking more closely at the environmental impact our food, transport and clothing choices have. The children have also been debating the ethical impact of our choices, in particular looking at how we can make a difference in the future. We had a magical visit to Harry Potter World at the beginning of the month, we have experimented with coding microbits and continued with our dance for the Taliesin. Sports' Day was also a big success! What a month!

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Expressive Arts at Sketty



We have a number of year groups working on exciting Music projects in school. Year 4 are working with Swansea Music Service and learning to play the Pcorn and Pbone. They will be taking part in an exciting performance at the end of the Summer Term.



Year 3 are continuing to learn how to play the Pbuzz and have been continuing lessons in class and with Swansea Music Service. They are also rehearsing for a special performance at the end of term.



Our singing assemblies are a huge success and the children are loving learning new songs each week. Use the QR code to hear our whole school singing Reach in one of our assemblies this month.

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Expressive Arts at Sketty

Our Year 5 pupils are working very hard learning songs from The Greatest Showman for Primary Partners. This is such an exciting opportunity for pupils across Swansea to experience life as a performer and take the stage at the Grand Theatre



Tickets on sale now

<https://www.swanseagrand.co.uk/PrimaryPartners24?qpsi=booknow>

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Inset Day

We welcomed Jenna Gravelle and Anthony Jones from Partneriaeth to deliver Challenge and Pace training. This was a wonderful training day which helped all staff to reflect on what makes Sketty a fantastic school and also provided us with some interesting ideas for ways we can further challenge and inspire the children within our classrooms.



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School visits

Katie Pelosi from Newton Primary School came into school to look at our approach to missions. She spent some time in Year 3 and also spoke to some of the children in Year 6 to hear about how it develops throughout the school.



We also welcomed 32 teachers to Sketty Primary School from across Spain, Italy, Poland and Sweden. They loved visiting our school and Mr Lloyd-Jones and Mrs Miller shared the amazing work we do on Inclusion and Well-being.

International Links

This month Mr Knight and Mrs Copus visited South Africa with staff from Brynhyfryd Primary School learning more about their approach to translanguaging and anti-racism. Lots of ideas brought back to school to enhance our work at Sketty.



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Living Streets



Our Living Streets project has been continuing this month and the children will soon be receiving their first badges. There has definitely been an improvement in active journeys since we started, with 60% of journeys to school active. This has been helped by the drier and brighter weather.

CLASS OF THE MONTH

These classes have recorded the most active trips this month.

1st YEAR 3 JG



90% of 465 total possible trips recorded, 88% of them were active

2nd YEAR 2 ER/SM



91% of 465 total possible trips recorded, 78% of them were active

3rd REC KE/SLJ



94% of 330 total possible trips recorded, 70% of them were active

Well done to Year 3JG who made the most active journeys in May.

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

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School Council

Our school councillors visited the Council Chambers in the Guildhall where they met with local councillors and delivered our petition. We are so excited to announce that the Councillors were so impressed with the work the children have been doing and have agreed for a new crossing to be installed on Llwyn Mawr Road, with the work to be completed over the summer. Congratulations to the School Council and Miss Lewis for all your amazing work on this project and thank you to everyone who signed the petition.



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The Big Conversation

Some of our Year 5 Rights committee took part in The Big Equality Conversation. This term's conversation focused on Health and wellbeing. The visit allowed pupils from Sketty to share our thoughts and experiences on playtimes, school dinners, disability and healthy relationships.



During the day, pupils were encouraged to share their views on each topic through games and discussions and had the opportunity to work with other local Rights Respecting Schools.

ZA – “I really liked the activity about disability because we had to really communicate well and it gets your mind going”

NO – “I liked the conversation on school dinners...It gave me a chance of saying what I think about food in school”

We look forward to hearing how our work has helped shape these priorities and working on the action plan that follows.

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School of Sanctuary

We are so pleased to announced that we passed the assessment to become a School of Sanctuary and are now recognised as a place of refuge and sanctuary for people who have joined the community, especially Refugee and Asylum seeking families. Well done again to Mrs Miller and the School of Sanctuary committee for their hard work.



Year 5 will be attending an awards ceremony to celebrate our success on Monday 10th June at Swansea Arena.

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Community Café

Another group of Year 6 children hosted guests at our 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 14th June 2024

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Sketty Library

Our Year 3 children have been enjoying making visits to Sketty Library. We had a short presentation on how libraries operate, emphasising the importance of returning books on time and how to renew them if needed. He also showed us how to use the library's alphabetical system to find books and introduced the children to some new arrivals in the children's section. All children had the opportunity to take out books of their choosing which has helped to further their love of reading.



PIC • COLLAGE

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Cultural Diversity Day

This week, we celebrated Cultural Diversity Day in school. PS2 enjoyed a lovely day where they swapped classes and spent time with different teachers and in different countries. Year 1 teachers were based in Spain, Year 2 in France and Year 3 in Egypt. Lots of fun was had by staff and pupils. Thankfully everyone remembered their passports for their trips!!



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Sports Week

This week we had some fantastic sports days both in school and as Swansea Bay Sports Park.



**The Year 2 Sports Day has been rescheduled for Wednesday 12th
June – 1.15pm.**

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Mental Health Week

The theme for Mental Health Awareness day this year was 'Movement for Mental Health'. All classes in school enjoyed celebrating Mental Health Week. This involved yoga, learning outdoors, gardening, exercising on the field and resilience workshops.



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Siarter Iaith Cymraeg

This term, we are all working really hard to hopefully achieve the Wobr Aur (Silver Award) for Siarter Iaith Cymraeg. Criw Cymraeg Ysgol Sgeti had the great pleasure of welcoming the Criw Cymraeg from Bishopston Primary School. The Sketty Criw were very proud to show the children from Bishopston our fantastic learning environment, and how we have been working very hard to raise the profile of Welsh in our school community. The Bishopston Criw taught us some new Welsh language games, and we are excited to teach them to our class buddies over the next few weeks. Arbennig Pawb!!



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Urdd Art, Design and Technology competition

Congratulations to Elijah in Year 3, who was placed in third position in the prestigious Urdd art competition. Elijah was presented with his certificate at the West Glamorgan Urdd awards ceremony at Ysgol Tan y Lan this week. Bendigedig Elijah!!



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PC Craig



Our Police School Liaison Officer PC Craig has been in school again this month. Year 4 were very lucky to have another visit as he delivered a great session to the children 'Sinister Substances.'



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. We have already seen some glimpses of sun in May and this will likely continue in June and July so please can the children have footwear suitable for being outdoors and running around.



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Attendance Winners for May

Reception AB	85.2%
Reception KE/SLJ	91.1%
Year 1 KP/SP	84.7%
Year 1 LOM/SG	87.1%
Year 2 MJ	89.8%
Year 2 ER/SM	89.5%
Year 3 NT	89.8%
Year 3 JG	91.7%
Year 4 SK	92.4%
Year 4 EJ	90.1%
Year 5 JH	88.1%
Year 5 WD	87.6%
Year 6 SW	87.8%
Year 6 LJ	87.9%

This month, our whole school attendance was 87.7% which is well below what is expected for our school. This has included an attendance of 79.1% today. Please be aware that the children's attendances will be scrutinised after half term by our Education Welfare Officer.

Congratulations to Mr Knight's 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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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
	Stackpole Meeting – 4.30pm	Year 6
05/06/24	World Environment Day	All
10/06/24	Eco Award Review	All
11/06/24	Class Photos	All
12/06/24	Rescheduled Sports Day	Year 2
	Technocamps sessions	Year 3 + 4
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	Rescheduled trip to Ilston Woods – Nature Days	Year 2 MJ
	PTA Cake Sale (Reception AB) – after school	All
	Concert at Uniting Church Sketty – 7pm	School Choir
WB 17/06/24	Taliesin Dance Week Performances - 20/06/24 (SW) 21/06/24 (LJ)	Year 6
18/06/24	Technocamps sessions	Year 1 + 2
21/06/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Who, what, where?)	Year 2
24/06/24 – 26/06/24	Residential at Stackpole	Year 6
28/06/24	PTA Cake/Uniform Sale (Nursery) – after school	All
27/06/24 + 28/06/24	Transition at Bishop Gore	Year 6
01/07/24	Lifesaving Skills Sign language	Year 5 + 6

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Dates for your diary/Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

Date	Event	Year group
02/07/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Stay Smart)	Year 3
02/07/24 – 05/07/24	Transition week at Olchfa	Year 6
03/07/24	Siarter Iaith Silver Assessment	All
04/07/24	Transition Day – children meet their new teachers for September	All
05/07/24	PTA Summer Fayre (from 3.30pm)	All
09/07/24	Music Celebration at the Brangwyn Hall	Year 3 + 4
10/07/24	Road Safety talk with Nicole Darlington	Years 3 - 6
11/07/24	School Nurse Visit	Year 6
16/07/24	Manor Wildlife Park	Year 1
17/07/24	Llanelli Wetlands	Year 3
18/07/24	Quidditch	Year 6
19/07/24	Last day of Summer Term Pupils return on Wednesday 4th September	All

**There may be additional dates added over the next few weeks, but we will
do our best to give you as much notice as possible.**

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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

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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