



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome everyone to our June newsletter. It certainly has been a very busy month! Please enjoy reading through the class pages which show how rich and diverse our curriculum is and share the wonderful achievements of the children.

A new section has been added where you can meet the governors of the school and find out a little bit about who they are and what they do.

We only have three weeks left of this academic year and I'm sure you'll agree it has been a very eventful one! Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy!

Diolch pawb!
Mrs Bev Phillips
Headteacher
Sketty Primary School



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Progression Step 1



June has been packed full of events at Dragonflies Nursery. We read the story, *The Green Giant* by local author Katie Cottle. The children were very keen to share their thoughts on how we can make our environment a greener and healthier place. Morning Nursery participated in a charity project, to raise money for Woodfield



Animal Sanctuary on Gower. After finding out about the animals that are cared for at the sanctuary, the children were very eager to ask for sponsorship to take part in a week of exercise and games sessions. The parachute was a popular choice for games and we were so lucky to have a week of sunshine, so the exercises and games could take place outdoors. The total raised for Woodfield will be revealed in the next newsletter. A great big thank you to everyone who supported the children through sponsorship.

Reception had a very enjoyable time at Caswell Beach as we continue our



Summer Term topic 'Sun, Sea and Sandy Toes.' In class we have been learning the story 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' and look forward to sharing this in our end of year assembly. We have been discussing the dangers of plastic pollution. The children produced some fantastic writing explaining how we can help.

Our maths work has been weighing and measuring objects using scales, finding more or less and solving word problems. In Literacy, we have been learning about time connectives such as first, next, then and finally to help our recount writing. A very busy month!

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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Progression Step 2



June has been a busy month in Year 1 and the caterpillar eggs arriving has been a real highlight. The children have been so excited learning about the life cycle of the butterfly and watching the stages unfold before their eyes. They now wait with bated breath for the butterflies to



emerge. In Maths they have been working on time, both analogue and digital. They have been using o'clock and half past in a range of practical activities. Through the story of Bobble by Helen May the children celebrated Refugee Week. They listed what precious items they would take with them if they had to leave their homes and created beautiful and thoughtful pictures of 'Bobble' in his new home.

Year 2 have had another busy month. We have been enjoying learning about woodland animals, the trees we have in our woodland and spending time learning outdoors. We have started to learn about bees and their vital role in the environment. We have been writing mini books about bees and we have been planting bee friendly plants. We have been busy making lots of products ready for our 'Honeywood Market' next month. We hope to see you there! In Literacy, we have been learning how to write causal connective sentences and how to use speech marks in our writing. We have also been busy learning our 'The roundabout land' talk for writing text. In Numeracy, we have been learning about halves and quarters and been learning to use a variety of coins to add amounts together.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Year 3 have been working hard to create persuasive posters using AI to persuade people to come to our SOSCARS event. We have been collecting data and inputting the information to develop our data handling skills. We have planned our Science investigation for our pond dipping activity in school. Currently, we are working on planning our keep fitathon which is next month. It was Year 3's turn to share in Welsh assembly and the whole year group sang 'Sut mae'r tywydd heddiw.' They were amazing and even had to cope with the sound not working for their performance. Da iawn pawb!



Progression Step 3



Year 4 have been busy conducting research in preparation for Enterprise Day. Our children visited the Co-op and Bluebell as part of our numeracy project, providing them with valuable insights into how businesses operate and the importance of numeracy skills in real-life situations. We would like to thank both the Co-op and Bluebell for letting us visit.

As part of the project, we also visited the city centre to collect data through market research. This helped the children to purposefully develop their oracy skills and gain an understanding of customer preferences.



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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Our children have worked hard to make products that they sold today during their enterprise event at Sketty Community Church. We hope you liked the products and our efforts paid off. This hands-on experience has not only helped them to develop their entrepreneurial skills but also fostered teamwork and creativity among the children.



Year 4 have also been focusing on dental hygiene in class. By exploring the importance of oral health, our children have gained a greater appreciation for the significance of maintaining good dental habits by revealing areas they are missing using disclosure tablets.



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Article 28

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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Progression Step 3

In Year 5, our journey through the wonders of the Blue Planet continues as we dive deeper into the effects of plastic pollution. This month, we wrapped up our studies of the water cycle and embarked on an eye-opening exploration of plastic pollution.



A highlight of our month was an enriching visit to Techniquest, where our students participated in a fantastic workshop. They engaged in hands-on activities that included studying the effects of phytoplankton, examining the pH levels of water, and learning about water purification processes. This immersive experience not only reinforced our classroom learning but also inspired our students to think critically about environmental conservation.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Primary Partners

Year 5 represented our school brilliantly at Swansea Grand Theatre. They are such a talented group and dazzled the audience with a medley of songs and dances inspired by The Greatest Showman. The performance was a resounding success, and we couldn't be prouder of our talented pupils. Huge thanks to Mrs Porter and Mrs Stockton who have spent months putting the performance together and the amazing Year 5 staff for supporting them along the way.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Progression Step 3



Wow, what a month Year 6 have had! The highlights have definitely been beach rugby, Crucial Crew at the Waterfront Museum, residential at Stackpole and an amazing performance at the Taliesin and meeting the inspiration for our dance and art work, the amazing Glenys Cour. Amongst all these activities, in Literacy



we have used our knowledge of explanation text to write about the journey of a t-shirt from farm to shop.



At the Waterfront Museum we learned how to be safe on the railway, around electricity, on the road, in a fire and online. The smoke tunnel was definitely one of the highlights of this trip.

Year 6 had an amazing time in Stackpole for our residential. We completed a very muddy assault, jumped off rocks while coastering, surfed at Freshwater West and tried our hands at paddleboarding (though I think more time was spent in the water rather than on the boards!).



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Taliesin Dance Project

Our Year 6 children took part in the Taliesin Dance Project this month. They have been rehearsing with Julie Hobday since January and it culminated in an amazing performance, showcasing great talent from five schools in Swansea. Congratulations to all our children, we are very proud of you. Massive thanks to Julie and the Year 6 team for their hard work in producing such a fantastic performance.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Expressive Arts at Sketty



Our singing assemblies on a Friday afternoon are one of the highlights of our week. Hearing the whole school sing with such enthusiasm and passion is a joy for us all. Use the QR code to hear our whole school singing Love Shine a Light.



Sketty Singing Club were invited to sing as part of a concert with Abbey Players at Sketty Methodist Church. The children were amazing and sung three songs by themselves, and also sung Do-re-mi from The Sound of Music with Mrs Griffiths and Any Dream Will Do from Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat with Mr Lloyd-Jones. Use the QR codes to hear some of the songs.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Technocamps



Year 2 enjoyed their visit from Technocamps. They taught us how to use the programme scratch jr to code. We had lots of fun following algorithms to learn a dance. We also learned how to write our algorithms.



In Year 3, Technocamps introduced us to the coding program Scratch. We have been focusing on using Microbits to code. Using Scratch was a great way for the children to take what they have learnt on Microbits and transfer it to a new program. Everyone in Year 3 was able to code a game where they would score points if their character was able to catch certain objects. They all worked very hard and there were some pretty impressive results.



Year 4 have also been working with Technocamps. They learnt that they could programme microbits in many different ways and that it has multiple uses. Through the microbit, the children explored different methods of coding and were able to turn their ideas into moving digital designs that included sound and audio.

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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Modern Foreign Languages

At Sketty Primary School, we are very fortunate to have the amazing Mrs O’Leary who not only supports our youngest children in Nursery, but also teaches Spanish to our Year 5 and 6 pupils. Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Madrid to practise their Spanish phrases. They all remember their passports and loved role-playing together.



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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Athletics Championships

Congratulations to our Year 4 and Year 6 Athletics team who braved the rain to compete at the West Glamorgan Athletics Championships at Swansea Bay Sports Track. They represented the school brilliantly.



We are delighted that Alanna was 1st place in Year 6 Long Jump and Year 6 girls won the relay and will be heading to the finals on 1st July. Da iawn pawb!



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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

SOSCARS

Year 3 were cordially invited to attend the SOSCARS this month where their film 'Memories of the Marvellous Mumbles Train' had its world premiere. It was a very exclusive event with a red carpet and the paparazzi even turned up to take photos. Sketty Primary were successful in every category including Best Actor, Best Sound Mixing and Best Director. Llongyfarchiadau pawb!! We are so proud of you for your work in this project.



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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Refugee Week



As part of Refugee Week work, the School of Sanctuary committee were invited to Sketty Library to take part in an animation project, linked to the topic of 'Our Home'.



The children worked with Dean Kelly who is Cultural Community Co-ordinator for the local authority and the incredibly talented filmmaker Jamie Panton, to create animations. The children were all really engaged throughout and worked really hard to create a short animation in pairs linked to the theme. These will be available to share, once they have been edited.



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Article 28

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Article 29



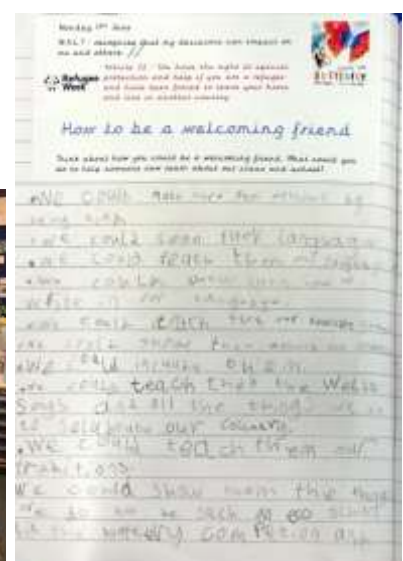
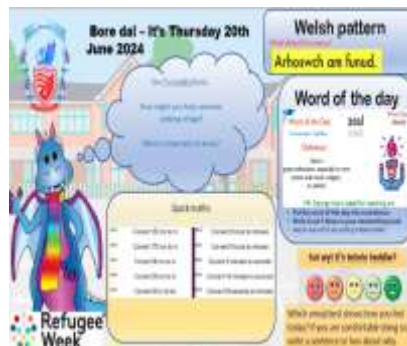
SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Refugee Week

During Refugee week all classes worked on activities to help the children understand what it is like to be a refugee. They had a lot of fun and learnt a lot too.



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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

School Council/Rights Respecting team

This month some of the representatives from our School Council and Rights Respecting team interviewed candidates for a new permanent teacher position. They took their roles very seriously and asked some very probing questions to get the best out of the visiting teachers. They then fed their views back to Mrs Phillips and the Governors to help them with their decision on the day. Da iawn pawb!!



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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Eco Committee



This month, Matthew Bunt, Swansea's Eco Schools Officer, visited Sketty to review all that we have been doing over the last 12 months to retain our Eco-Schools status. He was very happy to see that Eco-Schools is still running effectively in and that we have continued to progress with new ideas. He was so impressed with the children he spoke to on the Eco Committee who explained our recent projects or talked through the work they had been doing in class.



He was delighted to be able to confirm that we have retained our platinum Eco-Schools status. Here are just a few of the highlights he mentioned:



- The Eco-Schools monthly display was outstanding, a fantastic way of spreading the Eco-message and celebrating success.
- The curriculum based approach to exploring Eco-Schools topic areas again is a superb way of engaging the whole school in sustainability education. I really enjoyed hearing from the pupils about their projects on fast fashion and habitat development.
- I love the way you use National and International Eco-days to develop a whole school approach to issues exploring impact on the planet.
- The school grounds continue to develop fantastically for wildlife, education and play.

**Well done to all the staff and pupils on helping to achieve this status,
especially thanks to Mrs Palmer and our fantastic eco committee.**

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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

School of Sanctuary

Our School of Sanctuary committee and Year 5 pupils attended an exciting awards ceremony at Swansea Arena. The School of Sanctuary committee presented our journey to achieving the award, performed their rap, the music was written by Sami, and the words were written by the whole committee. The Year 5's performed one of their Primary Partners songs - This is Me! We are very proud of all the children who attended and represented our school so brilliantly.



Use the QR code to hear the rap.



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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Criw Cymraeg



We have been extremely busy as we prepare for our Silver Siarter Iaith award by looking for Welsh on all displays, Welsh reading books and reading activities in all classes, and listening for staff and pupils using Welsh outside and inside the classroom. Wow...we are working hard on our Cymraeg in Ysgol Sgeti! Bendigedig!



The Criw Cymraeg have been leading and teaching Welsh games on the playground at amser chwarae (play time). Look out for the Criw every Monday and Wednesday. Hwyl a sbri!

Reminder

Siarter Iaith Assessment Day on Wednesday 3rd July – please can the children wear Welsh kits/costumes or colours of the Welsh flag on this day.



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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Dementia Aware Design Competition

Dementia Friendly Swansea is a charity helping raise awareness of Dementia across our region.



Our Y6SW pupils were invited to enter the Dementia Friendly Swansea Pin Badge Design Competition. The entries were judged by residents of care homes and attendees of the information sessions and a winner was selected. Well done to all the children who entered the competition.



We are proud to announce that the winning design is from Lottie Saunders Y6SW. Congratulations Lottie!

We look forward to seeing Lottie's badge design made and then shared by the charity Dementia Friendly Swansea throughout Swansea to continue to raise awareness and provide support to people and families living with Dementia.

<https://www.dementiafriendlyswansea.org/>



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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

PC Craig

Our Police School Liaison Officer PC Craig has been in school again this month.



Year 2 enjoyed a session on 'Who, What, Where?' which taught the children about taking care of themselves when they are not feeling well and who can help us.

Year 3's session was on 'Sticks and Stones' which focussed on the importance of showing care and consideration for others and being sensitive to their feelings.



D-Day



As a school we celebrated the 80th anniversary of D-Day by watching a short film in assembly and explaining, in child friendly language, the significance of this to our lives.

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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Meet the Governors



Mr Richard Lancaster has been Chair of Governors at Sketty Primary School since September 2024. As part of the role, he visits the school every Friday to meet with the Headteacher and Deputy Head and discuss events of the week. These meetings are so valuable in giving Mr Lancaster an overview of life at Sketty. Mr Lancaster recently attended the Taliesin Arts Centre to see the Year 6 Dance project and was overwhelmed with the quality of the work produced by the children.

Mrs Suzanne Berry has been a governor at Sketty Primary for 10 years and until August 2024 was Chair of Governors. Mrs Berry loves coming to school and recently carried out a learning walk looking at our Eco work in preparation for our Platinum Eco-Award assessment. She also looked at Welsh oracy around the school which is one of our Estyn Recommendations and to help us with our work for Siarter Iaith Silver Award assessment next month.



The Governors attended our SOSCARs awards evening to celebrate the amazing work Year 3 have been doing on the Mumbles Railway project. They also presented awards to our wonderful children in recognition of their fantastic work on this project.

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Article 28

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI *Newsletter 3 – June 2024*

Staff Training

We had an amazing Inset Day to start the month of June!

All staff were trained in Signalong, a programme to assist learners with communication difficulties and English as an additional language.



Our teachers then received Self-Evaluation training from Local Authority School Improvement Officers and our teaching assistants enjoyed ICT training from Ian Meredith, Leader of Learning for Digital Competence.



This month Miss Baldwin visited Italy to learn about the Reggio Emilia approach to teaching and learning in the early years. Miss Baldwin has come back to school buzzing with ideas to help develop a more enquiry focussed approach at Sketty Primary School in early years.

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Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Staffing News



We are very sad to announce that Mr Jordan Hughes will be leaving Sketty Primary School at the end of this academic year for a new career a mortgage advisor. Mr Hughes has been teaching at Sketty for 6 years and is a very popular member of staff. He will be missed a great deal by staff and pupils at Sketty and we wish him the best of luck for his new venture.

Also leaving after three years is Miss Megan Caswell who has successfully completed her teacher training with us which has involved her spending time in all classes around the school. She has been appointed to a new position as a teacher in Westwood Community Primary School. We are sad to see Miss Caswell leave but know she will be a huge asset to her new school.



This month we advertised for a new permanent teacher at Sketty Primary School starting in September 2024. The shortlisting process was tough as we received a large number of applications. 4 candidates were shortlisted and each candidate carried out a lesson observation and were interviewed by the School Council/Rights Respecting committee and Governing Body. We are delighted to announce that Mr Mark Williams has been appointed to the team at Sketty. Mr Williams comes to us from Blaenymaes Primary School and we know that he will be a real asset to our school.

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YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

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.

CLASS OF THE MONTH

These classes have recorded the most active trips this month.

1st YEAR 3 JG



2nd YEAR 2 ER/SM



3rd YEAR 5 JH



Well done to Mrs Griffiths' class who made the most active journeys in the month of June.

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

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YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

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 you're your usual school jumpers as well.
- Please wear sensible shoes to school. The weather has been glorious at some point this month and hopefully this will continue for July and the holidays so please can the children have footwear suitable for being outdoors and running around.



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YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Attendance Winners for June

Reception AB	87.9%
Reception KE/SLJ	93.4%
Year 1 KP/SP	94.3%
Year 1 LOM/SG	89.7%
Year 2 MJ	92.9%
Year 2 ER/SM	94.7%
Year 3 NT	91.4%
Year 3 JG	89.0%
Year 4 SK	92.7%
Year 4 EJ	95.1%
Year 5 JH	92.6%
Year 5 WD	91.6%
Year 6 SW	91.4%
Year 6 LJ	90.1%

This month, our whole school attendance was 91.9% which is a significant improvement on last month but still below what is expected for our school. Please be aware that the children's attendances will continue to be scrutinised before the end of term by our Education Welfare Officer.

Congratulations to Year 4 EJ for the best 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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SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI

Newsletter 3 – June 2024

Dates for your diary/Dyddiadau i'ch dyddiadur

Date	Event	Year group
01/07/24	Lifesaving Skills and Sign language	Year 5
02/07/24 – 05/07/24	Transition week at Olchfa	Year 6
02/07/24	PC Craig Hadley workshop (Stay Smart)	Year 3
	End of year sharing (2.45pm)	Year 4
03/07/24	Siarter Iaith Silver Assessment – please wear Welsh kits/costumes of Welsh flag colours.	All
04/07/24	Transition morning for Nursery to Reception	Nursery
	Playgroup	Rising 3s
	End of year sharing (2.45pm)	Year 5
05/07/24	PTA Summer Fayre (from 3.30pm)	All
08/07/24	Enterprise Sale and end of year sharing (2pm)	Year 2
09/07/24	Music Celebration at the Brangwyn Hall	Year 3 + 4
	Trip to Dinefwr Castle	Year 5
	Enterprise Sale and end of year sharing (2pm)	Reception
10/07/24	Road Safety talk with Nicole Darlington	Years 3 - 6
11/07/24	School Nurse Visit	Year 6
12/07/24	Transition morning for September	Reception to Year 5
15/07/24	Enterprise Sale and end of year sharing (2pm)	Year 3
16/07/24	Manor Wildlife Park	Year 1
	End of year sharing (10.45am)	Nursery
	Leavers performance at Dylan Thomas Theatre (2.00pm and 5.30pm)	Year 6
17/07/24	Llanelli Wetlands	Year 3
	End of year sharing (2.45pm)	Year 1
18/07/24	Quidditch	Year 6
19/07/24	Last day of Summer Term	All
	Pupils return on Wednesday 4th September	

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 ~
Article 29



SKETTY PRIMARY SCHOOL
YSGOL GYNRADD SGETI
Newsletter 3 – June 2024

COME & JOIN US FOR OUR
SUMMER
FAYRE
FRIDAY 5TH AT SKETTY
JULY PRIMARY SCHOOL
3.20PM - 5.20PM

**All Money Raised Will Go
Towards The PTA To
Provide More Resources
& Experiences To
Enhance Our Children's
Educational Experience**

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Newsletter 3 – June 2024

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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