

Glan-Yr-Afon Primary School



Newsletter

September 2025

Our School Targets 2025-2026

We have identified 5 priorities which will be a key focus for us this year:

We want to make teaching and learning even better so everyone can achieve their best.

We want everyone to speak Welsh more in school.

We want everyone to make maths lessons fun and improve our maths skills.

We want to give pupils leadership skills and help improve our school.

We want to continue to improve our attendance and punctuality



School Uniform

We politely ask parents that all children come to school in school uniform each day. School uniform contributes to a sense of community and belonging for children.

Our school uniform is royal blue (black for Year 6) and can be purchased at [YCSPTS](#) with the school logo attached or purchased reasonably from most major supermarkets.

On PE days, children can wear their PE kit to school. Children should wear white t-shirt and black/grey trousers or shorts and suitable footwear.

Please ensure all uniform has your child's name inside.

If you need any assistance with school uniform please speak with Mrs Mountstephens via the main office. Mrs Mountstephens organises a free uniform shop in school every Friday morning 8.35 – 9.00am.

Proud as a Cloud!

Every Friday we have our Celebration Assembly. This is when we reward positive behaviours throughout the week. We reward children who go 'above and beyond' and also reward children for showing our school values consistently.

Children receiving certificates are treated as our VIP (Very Important Pupil!) for the following week.

Our VIP's become our 'line leaders' at play/lunch times; sit on chairs/benches during assemblies/carpet time and are invited to wear their own clothes to school for the week (parental choice).



School Dinners



Please ensure school dinners are booked before 8am each day on ParentPay.

Although all primary school children receive a free school dinner in Wales, we are still encouraging parents to apply for free school meals, as a successful application provides parents with additional financial support (eg. school uniform). If you think you may qualify for this please contact the main office who can advise you on how to apply.

Snack

Polite reminder - children are only able to bring a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables to school. Drinks should be water or fruit juice with water.

School Values



We will be promoting our school values – **respect, determination, creativity, independence, responsibility and teamwork** throughout the year.

It would be helpful if you could regularly discuss these at home with your child.

This half term we will be focussing on 'respect'.

We will talk about how we can show:

- Respect for others
- Respect for the school and the environment
- Respect for learning
- Respect for ourselves

Dates for your Diary

Important dates:

Tues 4th & Weds 5th Nov – Parent/Carer Consultations

Fri 24th Oct – Last day for pupils

Mon 27th Oct – Fri 31st – Half Term

Mon 3rd Nov – Children return to school

Friday 19th Dec – Last day for pupils

Mon 22nd Dec – Fri 2nd January – Christmas Holidays

Mon 5th Jan – INSET day

Tues 6th January – Children return to school

INSET Days 2025/26:

Friday 28th November 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 27th March 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

School will be closed to all pupils on these dates.

Thank you.

Attendance



A HUGE thank you to parents/carers who continue to send their children to school on time, every day. You are giving them the best possible chances for lifelong learning and success. We thank you on their behalf!

Children enjoy celebrating their attendance success during our Friday assemblies! Your child can tell you about this.

At the end of last year, we were t thrilled to be **the most improved school in Cardiff for attendance.**

Please remember school starts at 8.45am every day. Children should be sat in classrooms at 8.45am. Doors are open from 8.35am. Children arriving after 8.45am will receive a late mark.

Please request a school holiday form from the office if you are taking holidays during term time. Please note that school is **unable to authorise any holidays during school time.**

Our School Attendance Officer is currently contacting families who we feel need support with attendance and punctuality.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please call the school office to speak to Mr Matthews.

Family Engagement Officer



Mrs Mountstephens is our Family Engagement Officer. Mrs Mountstephens can help with a number of things, including course registration, school uniform, foodbank vouchers etc. Please see Mrs Mountstephens if you have any concerns or questions.

We have been running several successful Family Engagement sessions at Glan Yr Afon Primary School. Parents/carers are invited to attend sessions to work with their children and explore ways of helping with your child/ren's education and wellbeing. Sessions are free and free tea/coffee is provided.

We currently have two family engagement courses running:

Every Monday at 1.30pm we offer parents/carers the opportunity to work with their children to become 'Happy Healthy Cook Stars'! It is a healthy eating programme and all ingredients and equipment is provided.

Every Wednesday at 9.00am, in partnership with Families Learning Together, we run our 'Calm Quest Tales' – a fun and interactive session where parents/carers and children explore emotions together through play, creativity and storytelling.

If you are interested in attending one of our fun and engaging courses please see Mrs Mountstephens who will be able to help.

Safeguarding

The safety and wellbeing of our children is our top priority at Glan Yr Afon Primary School.

The beginning and end of the school day are a particularly busy time for staff as they need to ensure all children are accounted for and dismissed safely.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff at the end of the school day we politely ask that parents/carers wait until all pupils have been dismissed safely.

Alternatively, parents/carers can contact the main office to book an appointment to speak with a member of staff.

Thank you for your understanding.

Online Safety

Help our children be safe online. Monitor any online accounts carefully and make sure you stick with recommended age limits.



Safeguarding Officers

For your information the school safeguarding officers are:

Mrs Rhian Lundrigan

Mr Graham Matthews

Mrs Sam Hyde

Family Fun Assemblies



Parents/Carers are invited to their child's class Family Fun sessions which run throughout the year. Children present an assembly on what they have been learning and parents/carers are then invited to attend a fun workshop with their child to complete an activity based on their child's current learning. Family Fun sessions will take place on Wednesdays at 2.15pm. Free tea and coffee will be available for all parents/carers in attendance.

Please see dates for each Family Fun session below:

Date	Class
	Nursery
Thursday 25 th June 2026	Reception / Year 1
Thursday 14 th May 2026	Year 2 / Year 3
Thursday 12 th March 2026	Year 4
Thursday 20 th November 2025	Year 5
Thursday 13 th November 2025	Year 6

School Streets System

Polite reminder that Browning Close remains closed to all traffic 8.30am-9.30am and 2.30pm-3.30pm.

Please ensure you park sensibly at the end of the road when dropping/collecting children.

Bikes/Scooters

No bicycles, scooters or e-scooters can be ridden on the school site at any time by children or adults. We need to keep both children and adults safe.

We ask that parents supervise their children when entering/leaving the site to ensure these are not being used. Thank you for your support.

Communication

Please make sure that the school office staff have your current mobile phone number, email address and up to date emergency contact numbers. It is important that we are able to contact you when needed. Please ensure the school office are always informed of any changes to personal details.



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