



Glan-Yr-Afon Primary School

Newsletter

September 2024 – Autumn 1

Croeso!

We have had a wonderful first few days back at school. Children have been busy settling into new routines and getting to know their new class teachers. We have a busy year ahead with lots of exciting things to look forward to!

ESTYN Report

We were delighted with our ESTYN report that was published at the end of the last academic year! The report comments positively on standards of teaching, learning and wellbeing within our school. Our reports can be accessed here:

<https://www.glanarafonprimary.com/estyn-reports/>

Diolch yn fawr!



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.

School Uniform

It has been wonderful to see nearly all children looking smart in their school uniform, on their return to school. A huge thank you to parents/carers for supporting this.

Embroidered navy jumpers (black hoodies for Year 6) can be purchased online: [YCSPORTS](#)
Alternatively many major supermarkets also provide navy jumpers/cardigans.

On PE days children can wear their PE kit to school. Please ensure that children are wearing a white t-shirt, black/grey joggers or shorts and suitable footwear for PE.

Please see Mrs Mountstephens if you require any support with school uniform. Diolch.

Asda - Cashpot for Schools

ASDA

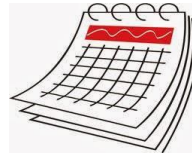
Asda has launched a loyalty scheme called Cashpot for Schools. This allows shoppers to select their local school and Asda will reward 0.5% of each shop to the local school.

We are politely asking parents/carers, staff and family members to select Glan Yr Afon Primary School as their local school for each shop. The Asda Rewards app allows you to select Glan Yr Afon Primary School as your chosen school and this is accessible on all app stores by searching 'Asda Rewards'

All donations received will benefit our children and provide them with additional opportunities.

Thank you for your support.

Dates for diary



Important dates for this term:

Weds 18th Sept - After school clubs start

Mon 21st & Tues 22nd Oct – Parent/Carer Consultations

Thurs 24th Oct – Year 6 Family Fun Assembly

Fri 25th Oct – Last day for pupils

Mon 28th Oct – Fri 1st Nov – Half Term

Mon 4th Nov – Children return to school

Friday 20th Dec – Last day for pupils

INSET Days 2024/25:

Monday 6th January 2025

Friday 11th April 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

School will be closed to all pupils on these dates.

Thanks



Proud as a Cloud!



Every Friday we have our Celebration Assembly. This is when we reward positive behaviours throughout the week. We reward children going '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 during assemblies/carpet time and are invited to wear their own clothes to school for the week (parental choice).

Personal Details

It is important that we have up-to-date details for all children. Please make sure that we have current contact numbers, including emergency contacts.

We are increasingly becoming paperless and sending information via email.

Please ensure we have your email address registered.



Attendance and Punctuality



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. I thank you on their behalf!

Children are enjoying celebrating their attendance success during our 'Class Attendance Race' every Friday! Your child can tell you about this.

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

Mr. Matthews will be able to answer any questions.

Universal Free School Meals



All primary aged children are now eligible for free school meals as part of Welsh Governments recent initiative. Meals can be preselected using ParentPay.

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.

Twitter / X

Each class regularly post photos and updates on our Twitter/X account which allows parents an insight to what their children are doing throughout the day.

Please follow our account:

@GlanYrAfonPS



Family Fun Sessions

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 1.45-2.45pm (Year 1-6). Free tea and coffee will be available for all parents/carers in attendance. Please see dates for each Family Fun session below:



Dosbarth Oren (Year 6) - Thursday 24th October 2024

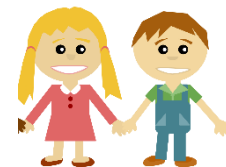
Dosbarth Gwyrdd (Year 4) – Thursday 6th February 2025

Dosbarth Melyn (Year 2/3) – Thursday 27th March 2025

Dosbarth Coch (Year 5) – Thursday 3rd April 2025

Dosbarth Glas (Year 1/2) – Thursday 16th May 2025

Dosbarth Pinc (Nursery & Reception) – Thursday 26th June 2025 (9am start)



We look forward to welcoming you!

Extra-Curricular Activities and Clubs

Clubs will resume for children (Year 1-6) next week. Reception children will be able to access clubs from next term. After school clubs will run 3.00-3.45pm. Children will need to be collected promptly at the end of each session. Clubs are listed below. Children must register their interest by attending the first session.

Club	Day	Year Groups	Staff	Location
Arts and Craft	Wednesday	Y1-Y3	Mrs Williams	Dosbarth Pinc Classroom
Movies and Making	Wednesday	Y1-Y3	Mrs Townley Mrs Haines	Dosbarth Glas Classroom
Dance	Wednesday	Y2-Y6	Mrs Hyde Mrs Bryant	Main Hall
ICT	Wednesday	Y4-Y6	Miss Thompson Mr Main	Dosbarth Oren Classroom
Football	Wednesday	Y5 & Y6	Mr Matthews Mrs Williams	Outdoors / Main Hall
Choir	Wednesday (lunchtime)	Y4-Y6	Mrs Lundrigan	Main Hall
Creative and Crafty	Wednesday	Y4-Y6	Mrs Powell Mrs Gannon	Dosbarth Coch Classroom
Games / Teambuilding	Various (lunchtimes)	Y1-Y6	Support Staff	TBC

Family Engagement Officer

We have been running several 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.

Our next family engagement session is on a Tuesday morning at 9.00am, starting on 17th September 2024.

The sessions, in partnership with Cardiff and Vale College, are designed for parents/carers of Year 5 & 6 children, and focusses on building confidence as children move up the school. Register your interest with Mrs Mountstephens



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.



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