



Abbey Primary School Newsletter

April 2025 Ebrill

Right of the Month
Article 30: Your right to use your own

Wednesday 30th April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the Easter holidays. I hope you enjoyed the time with your families and friends and managed to get away and have some relaxing time off work.

As we start the summer term, the sun has come out again and it is a wonderful opportunity for the pupils to be learning outside and having a great experience of school life.

Fundraising

The Football First Fundraiser was a huge success and I would like to **thank you all** for your generous donations. **We raised an amazing £6,000!** The prizes will be distributed in the next couple of weeks from Football First and the money raised will go directly back to the pupils.

Each Ministry will be given a pot of money to spend, and the ministries will discuss priorities with all classes. They will learn to budget appropriately, make decisions on their spend and assess the impact.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

On Thursday 10th April we were awarded our Silver Accreditation for Rights Respecting Schools Award. A huge thank you goes to Mrs. Williams who has led on the accreditation, alongside the Eco, Ethics & Rights Ministry.

During the accreditation, Stuart Whiffin, UNICEF Assessor, spoke to staff, pupils, parents and governors. He was incredibly impressed by the work that goes on in school around children's rights and the pupils were a credit to us all.

We now have the right to use the following logo:



Parent/Carer Survey

As part of our continuing reflection and improvement journey, we would like you to complete a parent/carers survey about the school. This survey is the same as the Estyn Parent/Carer pre-inspection questionnaire.

Please click the following link or feedback picture to provide your thoughts, celebrating the successes and helping us to continually improve. Diolch.



[PARENT/CARER SURVEY](#)

So far, we have only had 12 responses, so really need families to complete it. The survey will be closed on Friday 9th May, so if you haven't fed back to us, please do.

Premises

Just to reiterate what I said last month, there are a few concerns/complaints I have received regarding the school grounds.

- Please may I politely remind parents/carers and friends of Abbey that dogs are **NOT** allowed on the school grounds, even if they are being held.
- **Scooters** and **bicycles/bikes** are also not allowed to be ridden on school grounds.
- There is **no smoking/vaping** policy on school premises, and it is **illegal** to do so.
- Please **DO NOT** drop litter.
- Please ensure you park your car carefully and **DO NOT** mount kerbs or pavements.
- **Please ensure that you follow the one-way system around the car park. Do not go the wrong way to get a space! These actions could cause an accident.**
- Please **DO NOT** park in the drop-off zone in the **MORNING**. This is dangerous as children are then walking between parked cars. You **CAN** park there in the afternoon, as no children are getting 'dropped off' at that time.

Parent/Carer Workshop – 19th & 20th May

Like last year's numeracy sessions for parents/carers, we will be holding another Parent/Carer session in school. It will be an opportunity for you to visit your child's class and take part in the learning with them.

The focus this year will be on our 'cooperative learning approach', which is a way of teaching and learning that the school has adopted to improve pedagogy across the school.

Cooperative learning is an instructional strategy where pupils work together in small groups to achieve shared learning goals, fostering both academic and social development through collaboration and mutual accountability.

It will be great for you all to come and see our approach to the new curriculum for Wales, in a safe, fun and friendly environment. I hope you can make it, as last year was a resounding success and the children loved having their loved ones in! If you would like to attend this wonderful opportunity, please complete this [form](#) which will allow us to plan effectively for the sessions.

Sports Week

Our Sports Week will be taking place week beginning **16th June** and below are our confirmed Sports Day dates for each year group. The pupils will be walking to Neath Sports Centre in the morning, aiming for a 9:45am start.

Date & Time	Year Group(s)	Venue
Tues 17 th June (9:30am)	Nursery (am)	MUGA
Tues 17 th June (9:30am)	EYAC	EYAC yard
Tues 17 th June (1:15pm)	Nursery (pm)	MUGA
Tues 17 th June (1:30pm)	EYAC	EYAC yard
Wed 18 th June (9:45am)	Years 4, 5 & 6	Neath Sports Centre
Wed 18 th June (1:15pm)	Reception	MUGA
Thurs 19 th June (9:45am)	Years 1, 2 & 3	Neath Sports Centre

INSET Days

Our FINAL two INSET Days will be on **Friday 11th July** and **Monday 21st July**.

Food & Fun

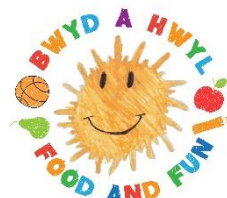
For the first time, we will be running a Food and Fun scheme throughout the summer holidays. The Food and Fun programme will be run by school staff and funded by the local authority. It is FREE OF CHARGE for pupil from RECEPTION to YEAR 6 to attend. Please use the following link to confirm your interest and dates required. <https://forms.office.com/e/PrP3jekwDg>

There will be 12 days on offer starting on **Tuesday 22nd July**. The dates are as follows:

Week 1 - Tues 22nd July to Fri 25th July

Week 2 - Mon 28th July - Thurs 31st July

Week 3 - Mon 4th August – Thurs 7th August



The day will start at 8:30am where the pupils will have breakfast and end at 12:30pm after they have eaten lunch. There will be classroom-based activities, as well as sport activities, guest coaches and visitors and a possible trip. These will be planned once we have a confirmation of numbers.

We can allow up to 40 pupils in each cohort and have requested 2 cohorts with the local authority. So, please respond to this form to confirm your child's place. It will be first come, first served. We need to know numbers to ensure we adequately staff the programme and plan excellent learning opportunities.

What are the main benefits of Food and Fun?

- The schemes encourage children to be more active over the summer
- Improvements in children's diets
- Making new friends and having fun
- Learning and engagement with school
- Improving parents' health and well-being
- Parents learn new skills
- Involves the whole family
- Facilitates collaboration between agencies
- Makes better use of existing facilities
- Encourages community engagement
- Offers paid and voluntary employment
- Signposts to other services
- Helps parents meet the costs of school holidays

Sad news

It is with great sorrow that I have to report that former teacher at Mynachlog Nedd Junior School, Mr. Paul Morgan, has sadly passed away after a long battle with cancer. Many of you may have known him or been taught by him over the years and we send our sincere condolences to Mr. Morgan and his young family.

He was the current Head teacher at Ynysfach Primary School, and he will be a huge loss to the teaching profession. His funeral takes place at Margam Crematorium on **Thursday 8th May at 1:45pm**. Staff members here who worked with Mr. Morgan for many years will be in attendance.

Confirmed dates for your diary

Date	Activity/Event
Monday 5 th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 6 th May	Year 4 Brass lessons in school (weekly for the term)
Wednesday 7 th May	Dŵr Cymru Assembly & workshops (Y5)
Thursday 8 th May	Nutrition workshops with School Nurse for Year 3 & Year 6
Friday 9 th May	Lifesaving skills and British Sign Language workshops (Y6)
Friday 9 th May	Year 5/6 Football Festival at Clwyd Primary School
W/B 12 th May	After-school Clubs start for summer term (7 weeks)
Mon 19 th & Tues 20 th May	Parent/Carer workshops in classrooms (see info above)
Friday 23 rd May	End of half term
Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May HALF TERM	
Monday 2 nd June	Staff and pupils return after half term
Monday 16 th June	SPORTS WEEK
W/B 23 rd June	LAST WEEK OF AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS
Monday 30 th June	Year 5/6 Cricket Festival – consent forms to follow
Tuesday 8 th July	Year 6 Transition Day @ Dwr-Y-Felin
Wednesday 9 th July	Year 5 Transition Day @ Dwr-Y-Felin
Thursday 10 th July	Year 6 LEAVERS' DISCO (4pm – 5:30pm)

Yours faithfully,



Mr. K. M. Hodder
(Headteacher)