



Abbey Primary School Newsletter

July 2025 Gorffennaf

Right of the Month

Article 31: You have the right to relax and play

Wednesday 16th July 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well...what a year it has been at Abbey. As I write this final newsletter of the academic year, I've taken a moment to reflect on what has been a hugely successful second full year as Head Teacher of this wonderful school. Like all schools, we've faced our share of challenges, but the many achievements and success stories have far outweighed them.

Our priority remains to provide a world-class education in a happy, safe, and nurturing environment...one where every child is supported to become the very best version of themselves. We want our pupils to flourish, develop resilience, and grow into thoughtful, responsible citizens of both our community and the wider world.

With your support, alongside that of our dedicated governing body and the entire school community, I believe we are delivering rich and meaningful learning experiences, excellent value for money, and a strong, positive school ethos. I really hope you have enjoyed the opportunities to visit school and feel welcomed whenever the opportunities arise.

Throughout the year, I've welcomed advice, feedback and support, and together as a school we have listened, reflected and responded to the needs of our pupils. Our focus remains on providing the very best for every child and continuing to raise standards and allow each pupil to progress as they move through the school.

Thank you sincerely for your continued support. By working together, we really can make a lasting difference to the life chances of our children.

Year 6

As the school year draws to a close, we say a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 6 pupils. They have been fantastic role models across the school, showing maturity, kindness, and a strong sense of community.

Throughout their time at Abbey, they have grown into confident, resilient young people, ready to take on the challenges of secondary school. We are incredibly proud of everything they've achieved: academically, socially, and personally, and we know they will continue to thrive as they take the next steps in their educational journey.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank our Year 6 pupils for the contribution they've made to school life. They leave with our very best wishes for the future and will always remain part of the Abbey family.

Good luck, Year 6...you'll be truly missed!



PTA

Our amazing PTA has once again gone above and beyond this year, putting in tremendous effort to create memorable experiences for our children and families, while also raising valuable funds for the school.

The year kicked off with the Macmillan Coffee Morning, supporting a truly worthy cause. The always-popular Halloween Disco brought plenty of fun and excitement for the children.

The festive season was a busy one, with personalised Christmas cards and mugs, as well as a successful Christmas raffle. In February, the children had a fantastic time at the Valentine's Disco with Mad Jay.

We also held Mother's Day and Father's Day raffles, which saw many lucky winners! Ongoing initiatives like the Asda Rewards Scheme and the School Lottery continue to provide a welcome boost to our fundraising efforts.

Thanks to the success of these events, every pupil received a Christmas and Easter goody bag, enjoyed ice lollies after Sports Day, and celebrated with a free Summer Serenade party.

The PTA has also supported a wide range of school activities, including contributions to Team Terrific resources, the EYAC trip, transport costs, and a special donation to celebrate our Year 6 leavers.

The amount of planning and dedication that goes into organising all of this is truly remarkable. A heartfelt thank you goes to Lauren James, our PTA Chair, and to every member who generously gives their time to support our school. Your efforts are deeply appreciated!

Staffing changes

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to share some important staffing updates.

After 14 years of dedicated service, Mrs. Gibbings will be leaving Abbey Primary to take up a new role as a Road Safety Officer in Swansea. This is a fantastic opportunity that brings her closer to home, and we know she will continue to make a positive impact in her new role. Mrs. Gibbings has been a much-loved and highly respected member of our team, and her care, commitment, and contribution to the school over the years have been exceptional. She will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and families alike.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs. Hughes, who has worked at Abbey for 9 years. She has taken the decision to step away from her role with us in order to take on additional hours in her current job. Mrs. Hughes has provided fantastic support during her time here and has played an important part in school life. We're sure you will join us in thanking both members of staff for their years of dedication and in wishing them every happiness and success for the future.

With these departures, we are pleased to welcome several new staff members who have recently been appointed by the Governing Body to support our pupils:

- Miss. Marla Phillips, Miss. Milla Howell, and Miss. Olivia Deavall have joined us on full-time temporary contracts and are already making a positive contribution to the school.
- We are also delighted to welcome Mrs. Sarah Davies, who has been appointed on a part-time contract and brings valuable experience to her role.

Mr. Mellin

I would also like to share that Mr. Mellin has recently been appointed Curriculum Lead at Blaenhonddan Primary School, after being successful at interview. This is a great opportunity for Mr. Mellin, who used to attend Blaenhonddan as a pupil and has strong emotional connections to the school. It is an opportunity for him to lead curriculum development in a different school, adding to his skillset and experience. He has played a key role in leading teaching and learning at Abbey, and his passion, knowledge and drive have had a significant impact across the school. He will be sorely missed by both staff and pupils, and we wish him every success in the future.

Mr. Mellin's start date is yet to be confirmed by the Governing Body, with a likely start in Blaenhonddan Primary in January 2026.

INSET Days

A polite reminder that the final INSET Day for this academic year is **Monday 21st July**. As previously communicated, we will also have an INSET Day on **Monday 1st September**.

Confirmed dates for your diary

Date	Activity/Event
Friday 18 th July	LAST DAY OF TERM FOR PUPILS
Monday 21 st July	INSET DAY
Tue 22 nd July to Fri 25 th July	FOOD & FUN – WEEK 1
Mon 28 th July to Thu 30 th July	FOOD & FUN – WEEK 2
Mon 4 th Aug to Thu 7 th Aug	FOOD & FUN – WEEK 3
Monday 1 st September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 2 nd September	Pupils return after the summer holiday

Thank you for taking the time to read my July newsletter and thank you to you all for your continued support for myself, the staff and your wonderful children. I wish you all the very best summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. K. M. Hodder
(Head Teacher)