



Abbey Primary School Newsletter

Medi 2025 September

Right of the Month

Article 28: Right to an Education

Dydd Mawrth Medi 9 / Tuesday 9th September 2025

Annwyl/Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break, especially with the lovely weather we were treated to this year.

It has been wonderful to see so many of you around school, and the staff and I were delighted to welcome back all our pupils. Their smiles and enthusiasm have been a real highlight, and it is pleasing to see how quickly they have settled back into school life.

After completing another successful year at Abbey, we now look ahead with excitement. This year gives us the opportunity to reflect on what we have achieved, and to continue building and improving as a school community. Your input is a vital part of that journey, and we greatly value your thoughts and ideas.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff, governors, pupils, and parents for the tremendous support shown last year. With that same sense of teamwork and commitment, I am confident that 2025–26 will be another successful year for Abbey.

Staff Changes

It has been lovely to welcome new members of staff to the school again this September, with Miss. Howell, Miss. Phillips, Miss. Deavall and Mrs. Davies joining our talented team.

ClassDojo

This extremely effective tool has been used very effectively for the past two years and I hope you can all see the benefit of this platform. Just a reminder about the protocols of using ClassDojo, ensuring that important and urgent messages are still phoned through, as ClassDojo may not always be seen by staff.

Staff won't always respond to messages after working hours, although there may be exceptional circumstances. Staff will also not post after working hours, where possible, again, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Absences need to be reported via the school office, using the voicemail service, please. Diolch yn fawr.

PTA

The PTA have kindly offered to pay for water bottles for the children again this year. Thank you for your wonderful support. With water bottles provided, can pupils refrain from bringing in their own water bottles, particularly the large XL ones, as there is limited storage space.

Mrs. Griffiths will be sending a separate PTA newsletter soon outlining their fundraising plans and also opportunities to join our proactive PTA.

Punctuality & Attendance

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Attendance remains a key priority for the school this year, even though we were pleased to see an improvement during the last academic year.

Our target for 2024–25 was 93.5%, and while we fell just short of this, we did achieve 93% – an increase on previous years and a step in the right direction. With your support, I am confident we can reach and exceed our target this year. Governors will be asked to confirm the official target at the AGM.

This term has started positively, although not quite as strongly as last year, with a number of pupils still on holidays. We cannot afford to let this become a trend. While we fully understand there will be genuine cases of illness or hospital treatment, please support us by:

Booking holidays and routine appointments (e.g. dentist, optician) outside of school hours whenever possible.

Providing the school office with evidence of medical appointments.

Every day in school counts. Missing even a small number of lessons can make it harder for pupils to keep up with their learning and progress.

Punctuality is equally important. Late arrivals disrupt learning for both the child and their classmates. Persistent lateness will be closely monitored and may be referred to our Education Welfare Officer, Ms. Tiona Richards.

It is the law that children of compulsory school age attend school regularly. Following guidance from our EWO, families already causing concern will continue from where they left off in the attendance process. This means that letters will not restart at Letter 1, and some families remain at risk of prosecution. Fines issued for poor attendance must be paid promptly; failure to do so will result in legal action being taken by the local authority.

With your continued support, I am confident that together we can achieve even greater success this year.

School Uniform & P.E. Kits

It is very important that pupils wear the agreed school uniform during the school day. Our uniform can be purchased from Macron [here](#).

On P.E. days, pupils can wear P.E. kit which should consist of a t-shirt (Sports Day t-shirts can be worn) plus black shorts and socks. Trainers must be worn, and any pupils in inappropriate footwear will not be able to take part.

P.E. is an important aspect of school life, and it is vital pupils participate to stay fit and healthy, as well as socialising and working on integral skills such as problem solving and teamwork.

Premises

Car Park/Drop-off Zone

I would like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of parking safely and considerately on and around our school premises. The safety of our pupils, families, and staff must always come first.

Please ensure that:

- Cars are not parked on yellow zig-zag lines or in restricted areas outside the school gates.
- Driveways of local residents are kept clear at all times.
- A maximum speed of **5mph** is observed at all times on the school premises.
- Whenever possible, nearby parking areas are used and families walk the short distance to school.

Unsafe or inconsiderate parking not only causes frustration but also puts children at risk. Your cooperation makes a real difference in keeping everyone safe.

School Field

You will have seen the fences and machinery on our school field since your return to school. The local authority has employed [Emroch Landscapes](#) to rectify the issues with our school field. The Director of Education, Andrew Thomas, was disgusted at the state of the field when he came out and hopefully this company can give a suitable field for the pupils to use.

Termly Newsletter

You will receive a termly newsletter from your child's class teacher on Monday 22nd September via ClassDojo. This will outline what pupils will be learning under our 'Power' concept this term, along with key reminders such as PE kit and other important information.

Snack/Fruit

From next week, we will be selling fruit and snack in school. Parents/Carers in Foundation Phase (Nursery – Year 2) can pay a half termly fee (£1 per week). This must be paid through ParentPay if you want your child to receive snack. Any issues regarding payment, please speak to the school office.

Pupils in Year 3 to Year 6 can bring in a small amount of money per day to purchase some fruit. Each piece of fruit will be priced at 40p. This will be sold by 'Fruit Monitors' during break time at the Dojo Shack.

Bikes and Scooters

Bikes and scooters must not be ridden on school grounds. If your child brings a bike or scooter onto the premises, please ensure it is walked to the bike shelter.

We strongly encourage active and healthy lifestyles, but with many younger pupils moving around the site, this rule is in place to keep everyone safe and to prevent accidents.

Annual Consent Forms

We will be collecting our annual consent form information online again this year and the consent form can be found by clicking this [link](#).

School Photos

Colorfoto will be in school on **Tuesday 23rd September** for our annual back to school photograph day.

Parents'/Carers' Consultations

We have arranged Parental Consultations for **W/B 20th October**. Further information will follow but please can all parents/carers ensure they attend these important meetings where you get to meet your child's teacher. The meetings will take place in person in the school hall.

After-School Clubs (Autumn Term)

Once again, we are delighted to be offering a wide variety of clubs for pupils this term. All clubs are free of charge and run by our dedicated staff, with the exception of Cooking Club, which carries a small fee to cover the cost of ingredients. A big thank you to all staff for giving their time to provide these valuable extra-curricular opportunities for our pupils.

The timetable for clubs will be shared on ClassDojo in the next few days, and consent links will be available on ParentPay once staff have finalised their clubs and details. Clubs will begin during the week commencing **Monday 22nd September** (for a 4-week block). The same clubs will resume straight after October half term (4-week block) and stop **week ending 28th November**.

INSET Day

I have booked in a number of new INSET Days for the forthcoming year. These are as follows:

- Friday 3rd October 2025
- Monday 3rd November 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

Harvest

As in previous years, we will be collecting donations for a local church and food bank as part of our Harvest celebrations. We kindly ask pupils to bring in items such as tins, packets of dried pasta, and other non-perishable foods for our collection.

Once gathered, all donations will be delivered to a worthwhile cause within our community.

Thank you for your generosity and support. Diolch yn fawr.

Confirmed dates for your diary

Date	Activity/Event
W/B 22 nd September	AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS start (4 weeks)
W/B 22 nd September	Nurture Workshop for Parents (10-week block) run by Claire Russel
Tuesday 23 rd September	SCHOOL PHOTOS (Colorfoto)
Wednesday 24 th September	Year 6 Transition Meeting with the Head Teacher of Dwr-Y-Felin (In Abbey Primary School Studio @ 3:30pm)
Wednesday 1 st October	Restart A Heart Live Session (CPR) for all year groups (all age appropriate)
Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th October	Year 5 swimming sessions (Mr. Richards' class)
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th October	Year 5 swimming sessions (Mrs. Richards' class)
Friday 17 th October	Wear Red Day 2025 Show Racism The Red Card (Non-uniform Day)
W/B 20 th October	PARENTAL CONSULTATION WEEK (No after-school clubs this week)
Monday 20 th October	Harvest Whole School Service
Friday 24 th October	END OF HALF TERM
Mon 27 th Oct – Fri 31 st Oct	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 3 rd November	INSET DAY

Tuesday 4 th November	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 4 th November	AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS RESUME (4 weeks)
Friday 14 th November	CHILDREN IN NEED
Thursday 27 th November	Flu vaccinations – Reception to Year 6
W/B 1 st December	YEAR 6 RESILIENCE PROGRAMME – Call of the Wild (2 weeks)
W/B 1 st December	Christmas Concert fortnight (specific times and dates TBC) <i>Year 5/6 will be earlier due to the Call of the Wild programme</i>
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Friday 19 th December	END OF AUTUMN TERM

Thank you for taking the time to read my newsletter. If you have any questions or queries regarding any information shared, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. K. M. Hodder
(Pennaeth/Headteacher)