

Ysgol Gynradd Penclawdd Primary School

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Welcome back to school, Blwyddyn Newydd dda! It has been lovely to welcome the children back and they have settled so well. We are already so proud!

Our topic for the term is 'Africa and Us'. The children have already had the opportunity to brainstorm and we have decided we would like to learn about African animals and domestic animals, different art and music of Africa and Wales and we will of course be looking at 'The Lion King' and no doubt adding some of our own musicality! Next week I have arranged for some domestic animals to visit our class for the children to have a sensory experience to engage our learning—we also hope to finish our topic with a trip to 'Folly Farm' to see some animals that reside in Africa too. More details on trips to follow. Reception children will be learning to write a fact file about their favourite animal and we will also be looking at an idyllic book in literature, 'Splash, Anna Hibiscus!' by Atinuke & Lauren Tobia. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the term, please do not hesitate to contact me either via the office or Seesaw. Diolch, Mrs D, Miss Hopkins, Mrs Davies and Miss Griffiths.



Attendance

Please inform the school office if your child is unable to attend school by 9.15am each morning. Many thanks

Please read HT weekly blog and visit our website for calendar for additional dates.

**Our January 'Right of the Month' is
Article 29 —To be the best that you can be**



This term, we will be celebrating...

Date	Event	Location
January 19th	'Africa and Us' Engage day—Will's Petting Farm to visit School (N/R)	School
January 25th	Dydd Santes Dwynwen	School
January 30th—February 3rd	National Storytelling week	School
February 1st	World Read Aloud Day	School
February 3rd	NSPCC Number Day	School
February 6th	Time to Talk Day	School
February 7th– 10th	Children's Mental Health Week	School
February 8th	Safer Internet Day	School
February 8th	Dydd Miwsig Cymru	School
March 1st	Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant	School
March 2nd	World Book Day - Parents will be invited in to read with pupils—more details to follow.	School
March 13th – 17th	Science Week	School
March 17th	Comic Relief	School
March 29th	N/R Market Stall Express Event Date to follow—trip to Folly Farm N/R end of term.	School



PPA

My PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time is on a Monday morning. The children will be with Mrs Williams and during this time and will continue to work on literacy and numeracy , as well as some doing dome Pori Drwy rhyme time with the Nursery children—details to follow on this.

PE

We will be doing PE on a Thursday morning. Please ensure that the children have suitable footwear for activities on these days. Please send the children into school in their PE kit.

Outdoor Learning/ Forest School

Outdoor Learning will take place on a Friday morning for whole class activities and we will be doing group work in our 'Downstairs Woodland' on a Monday—Wednesday - Please see seesaw for your child's group day. On the day that they are outdoors please ensure your little one brings in wellies and waterproofs and also has a change of clothes and has shoes to change into.

Sharing the Learning

This half term Nursery children will be following the 'Pori Drwy' rhyme time and sharing the learning will be based on this. Mrs Williams will be leading this and will send out any activities on a Monday to be returned by the following Monday. Reception pupils will have a medley of literacy, numeracy and topic based activities. Many of the activities I send out are based on experiences and chatter—I love receiving seesaws of their learning at home.

Spelling

Reception pupils will do their spellings on a Monday as part of their literacy—please spend time during the week working on the words.

Reading Books

Children have been allocated a reading day and read regularly in school. They also have access to Oxford Owl at home, from which you can find reading books from their stage. Please let me know if you need the login information. We encourage regular reading at home. Reception children also have a log in for reading eggs and I would ask you to use this often as the children absolutely love it! Children will have oxford reading tree scheme books, fact books, story books and I hope to build up a bank of comic books too. Exposing the children to as much literature as possible at this young age is imperative to their development.

Mathematics

The children are working so hard on many skills in maths. They absolutely love the white rose maths app—'1 minute maths' I would wholeheartedly encourage you to download this and allow them to enjoy the subitising element especially.

Letterjoin at Home

We are a cursive handwriting school and it is important for us to be teaching our children the correct formation from this young age. If you need the log in details please let me know.