

Flamingos



Penclawdd Primary School : Autumn Term 2025

Shwmae Flamigos!

Croeso nol! How exciting to be starting a new term and for some of our fledglings it is an entire new classroom and a FULL on school day – I cannot wait to make memories with all the children. This term will be filled with exciting opportunities to learn and grow. Most importantly, we'll be focusing on helping the children feel confident, happy, and proud of their achievements, while continuing to build strong friendships and a supportive classroom community. We can't wait to see what this term brings and to share the children's successes with you along the way!

Topic Overview Cynefin

This term, our project is all about *Cynefin* — exploring our village of Penclawdd and what makes it such a special place to belong. The children will become curious *Street Detectives*, spotting human and physical features in the local area and learning how Penclawdd's history and the Penclawdd Railway has changed – we will be asking the children what they want to look at and delve deeper into their curiosity.

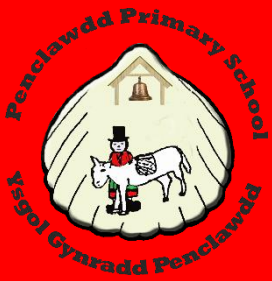
Along the way, we will be asking big questions like:

- What makes Penclawdd unique?
- How has it changed over time?
- What does it mean to belong to a community?

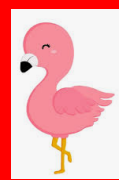


Engage

As we go through the next few weeks the children will be telling me what they would like to learn about – so far they have said that they want to look at the local farms and farm produce (and of course animals!) so we will look at these. We hope to go for a class walk to the Penclawdd Railway Platform and we also hope to have a visitor with some fluffy animals coming in – watch this space for more sparks to fly!



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Our literacy this term will be closely linked to our Cynefin topic. Through carefully chosen texts, the children will explore themes of belonging, community, and how places change over time. We will:

- Read and enjoy books such as *The Train Ride*, *The Tiger who Came to Tea* and *Our Families* - using them to inspire discussion, imagination, and writing.
- Write recounts of our local walks and visits, sharing the features of Penclawdd we discover.
- Practise giving instructions, such as how to cross the road safely or directions to the estuary.
- Create captions, labels, and maps to describe our village.
- Take part in oral storytelling with prompts like "What do I see..." to connect with our local history.

These activities will give the children lots of opportunities to build their skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening, while also celebrating their sense of place and identity.

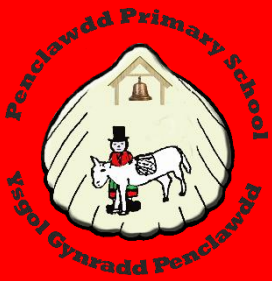
Welsh and French

In Welsh, Flamingos practice their Welsh through daily slot Drillio sessions, which allows them to practice patterns and phrases. Our daily Helpwr Heddiw takes part in building speaking and listening skills. Alongside this, they will continue with Tric a Chlic to strengthen early reading skills in Welsh, and use Fa La La songs to make learning fun and musical. In French, pupils will be introduced to simple greetings, colours, and numbers through songs, games, and role play.

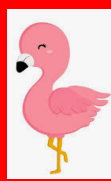


Our September Right of the Month is:
Article 28 : The Right To Education





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Mathematics and Numeracy

This term in maths, will be building strong number skills while linking their learning to real-life contexts in our Cynefin project.

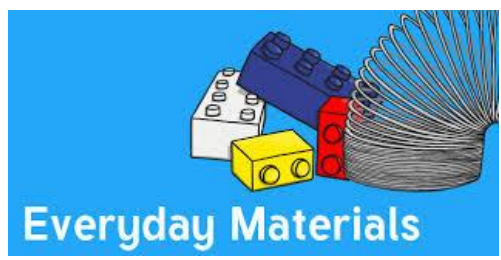
Reception will be looking at counting accurately, recognising numbers, sorting objects and we will be looking at patterns. Year 1 will focus on place value within 20, exploring how numbers are made and comparing them using practical resources. They will also begin addition and subtraction using pictures, objects, and number lines.

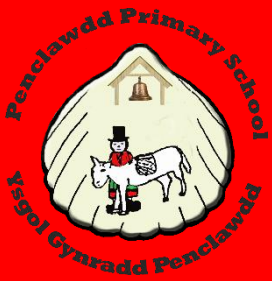
We will all be exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes through play.

Science & Technology

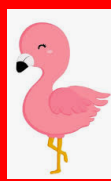
In Reception and Year 1, the children will be developing their curiosity about the world around them through play, talk, and simple investigations. They will explore a range of everyday **materials**, learning to name them (wood, metal, plastic, glass, fabric) and talk about their **properties**, such as hard/soft, bendy/stiff, waterproof/absorbent, or transparent/opaque. Through hands-on activities, the children will compare objects and group them in different ways, test which materials float or sink, and find out which ones are best for different purposes, such as keeping us dry or building a house.

As part of our *Cynefin* project, the children will link this learning to the local environment of Penclawdd — looking closely at the materials used in houses, shops, and landmarks in our village.





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Humanities

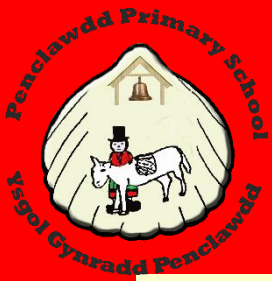
In humanities this term, our youngest learners will begin to explore **who they are and where they belong** as part of our *Cynefin* project. They will talk about their families, friends, and community, thinking about what makes them and others special. The children will take part in simple map and “Street Detective” activities around Penclawdd, spotting features like houses, shops, the estuary, and the marsh, and noticing how our village is a special place to live.



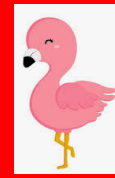
RVE

In **Religious Values and Ethics (RVE)**, the children will learn about harvest and the importance of sharing, hear the Christmas story, and reflect on values like kindness, love, and happiness. They will begin to understand that people celebrate in different ways, and that we can all show respect and care for one another, no matter what we believe.

Through stories, celebrations, and local exploration, the children will start to build their sense of identity and belonging, learning that Penclawdd is part of their *cynefin* – the special place where they live and grow.



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Expressive Arts

This term, the children will be using art, drama, music, and performance to bring our *Cynefin* topic to life. Our Literature focus of 'The Train Ride' will allow us to explore tone and texture and observational drawings of landscapes. The children will also experiment with mixed media to produce our own e book – adding music, narration and of course bright illustration.

Throughout the term we will be working with the Sealions class in a carousel of activities to develop our musicality of pitch and rhythm, listening skills through dramatic role play using stories based on our community to engage our imagination and using I-movie to develop our own video of our special school.

Health and Well-Being

This term, we will be focusing on helping the children to build confidence, resilience, and positive relationships. At the heart of all we do is the well-being of the children. We will be using our 'Think Equal' programme to develop the understanding of feelings and how we are all unique and how our families are all unique and special. The children will take part in discussions about kindness, belonging, and who helps us in our community, as well as reflecting on what makes them feel happy and safe. We will explore important skills such as how to cross the road safely linking to our walks and local visits. In PE, the children will continue to develop coordination, balance, and teamwork through fun games and activities, while also enjoying the chance to be active and healthy outdoors. We will discuss the 'Rights of the Child' and help the children to understand that we have rights and how we can all be heard.

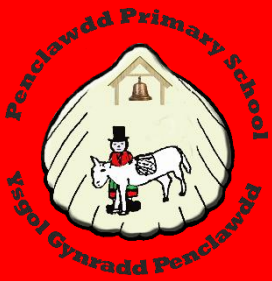
The fruit trolley is fully stocked and ready for customers — **30p per day.**

Healthy School Reminder 💧

As part of our commitment to being a healthy school, we kindly ask that children **only bring water** to drink during the school day. This helps promote good habits, supports concentration, and encourages healthy choices

Warm Autumn Treat! 🍲

After half term, we'll be serving homemade vegetable soup—a cosy and healthy option for chilly days! Available to buy at school, it's a delicious way to warm up and enjoy fresh, seasonal ingredients.



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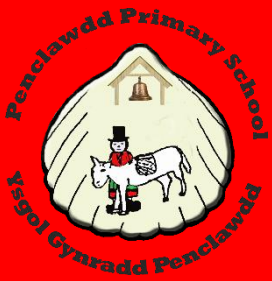
Reminders

Day	Activity	Information
Monday	PE	PE kit required. Suitable footwear is needed. Long hair will need to be tied back.
	Spellings	Monday Miss Smith will be working with the children on their spellings. Yr 1's will bring their new spelling sheets home to be assessed the following Monday.
Friday	Library	Children will have the opportunity to visit the school library and change their book weekly.
Friday	Mrs D PPA am	Mr Culpin will cover the class.

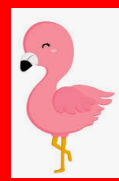
Diary Dates

September	15/09/25 International Day of Democracy Pupil Groups voting 24/09/25 National Fitness Day Autumn Sports Day
October	1/10/25 - 31/10/25 Black History Month 10/10/25 World Mental Health Day 15/10/25 Shwmae Day 23/10/25 Harvest @ Tabernacle— Parents invited
November	10/11/25 World Science Day 10/11/25 - Odd Sock Day 10/11/25 - 14/11/25 Anti Bullying Week 11/11/25 Remembrance Day 14/11/25 BBC Children In Need 20/11/25 Universal Children's Day School

December dates to be shared after half term



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Literacy, Maths, Topic and Reading Spine– please find on our online class page

<https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/class-pages-and-online-learning/flamingos-progression-step-1/2/home-learning>

How can you support at home

Spelling / Phonics	Practise the sounds and spellings your child brings home. Little and often is best, and short, fun activities (like spotting words in the environment) really help them remember. Spellings for Flamingo class will be on a Monday. https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/cwricwlwm-curriculum/our-pps-curriculum-summary/aole-languages-literacy-and-communication/spelling-and-phonics-home-learning
Reading Books	Encouraging your child to read at home regularly helps build confidence, comprehension, and a love of stories 📖✨. You can explore some great reads by clicking this link to access our Reading Spine, full of exciting books for all interests. Please send your child's reading book in on their specific reading day only – please read the book a number of times to build confidence and share the love of reading! https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/_site/data/files/users/curriculum/20E6514C8D95029EE9DBE57B3C1B03C9.pdf
Maths At Home	Encourage your child to practise number skills at home, such as counting forwards and backwards, number bonds, simple addition and subtraction, and recognising shapes. Everyday activities like cooking, shopping, or spotting house numbers are a great way to make maths fun and practical. https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/page/?title=AoLE+Mathematics+And+N

SeeSaw

If you have not yet received your Seesaw code, please contact us as soon as possible. Weekly updates—including important information, photographs, and highlights of classroom activities—will be shared via Seesaw. Please note that during teaching hours, I may not be able to respond to messages immediately. If your message is urgent, kindly contact the school office directly.

Be On Time!

Please ensure your child arrives promptly for school each day. Lessons begin at 8:50am, and a calm, punctual start helps children settle quickly and get the most from their learning.

Attendance

Please report your child's absence via this form – [click here](#)

