

# Flamingos



Penclawdd Primary School : Spring Term 2026

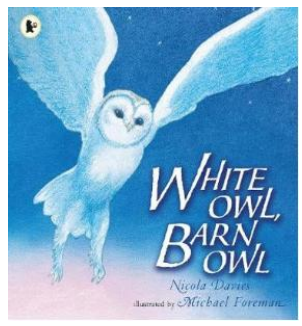
Happy New Year!



We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holidays and a well earned rest. We are so proud of the children and how well they settled into full time school life and of our Yr 1's who were the best role models! We cannot wait to 'spring' into Spring Term and for some new learning experiences. Please take a look at what we have planned...

### Topic Overview

Our topic for this term is 'Splendid Skies'. I am SO excited for this topic as it has been chosen and will be driven by the love, curiosity and drive of our learners. We will look at nocturnal animals, flight, birds, owls, bats...and wherever else the children wish to take it! Our literature book 'White Owl, Barn Owl' will also deepen our learning experiences. We hope to spend much time in the woodland exploring our topic in our natural world - I know the love of the outdoors is a love of the children.



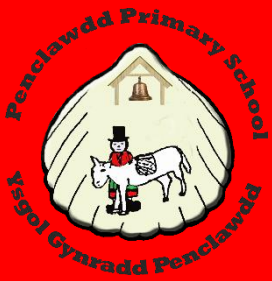
### Our Big Questions:

- Why do some animals come out at night instead of during the day?
- How do birds and bats stay up in the air when they fly?
- What makes an owl special compared to other birds?
- How are bats different from birds even though they both fly?
- What do nocturnal animals need to help them see or find food in the dark?

### Engage/ visitors

To kick start our topic we will be welcoming Will from 'Will's Petting Farm' who will be bringing his barn owl and sharing his knowledge. We are kindly asking for £2 to cover this educational experience for your child. Please send in the money by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Diolch!





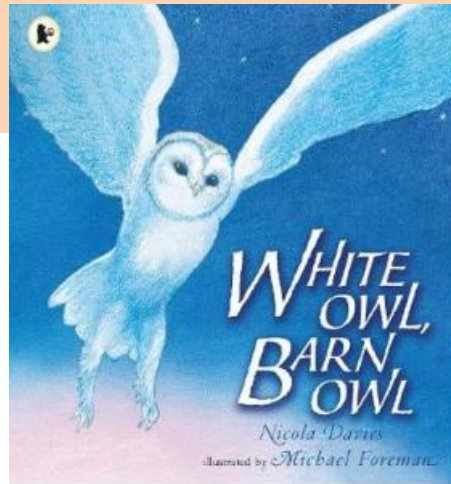
# Flamingos



## Penclawdd Primary School : Spring Term 2025

### Literacy

The children have literacy lessons on a daily basis throughout the week. One of these sessions focuses on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. This half term, we will use literature to help fire our imagination. We will use the book 'White Owl, Barn Owl' to help deepen our learning - expressive arts and outdoor learning will stimulate the curiosity and the awe and wonder of this beautiful book. The children will have the opportunity to explore barn owls, write some fact files, draw illustrations, read facts and speak and share their findings at an end of term class assembly to our families (date to follow).

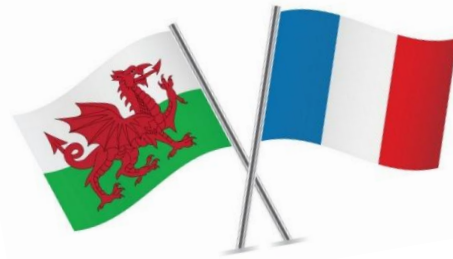


### Welsh and French

We learn Welsh daily during 'Slot Drilio' sessions. These are quick, fun activities that reinforce vocabulary and sentence patterns.

We also have separate Welsh lessons to extend our knowledge of the Welsh language through new sentence patterns, vocabulary, reading and writing. This term, we will focus on body parts, illness, clothes and weather.

Alongside Welsh, we will also be learning French. The children will be learning how to say the days of the week in French. They will practise pronunciation through songs, games, and repetition, helping them to build confidence and enjoyment when using simple French words.



**Our January Right of the Month**  
Article 29 : To be the best that you can be





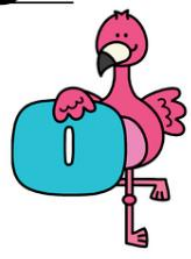
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## Numeracy

We love maths and numeracy! We love to play and explore, chat and share. This term we will continue to develop number sense, mass and capacity, shapes - 2D and 3D and we also explore maths reasoning - real life problems. Year 1's will be working on place value from 20-50 and we will also be looking at height, weight and shape. Our lessons are hands on so please keep up to date on seesaw so that you too can extend the learning and chat at home. If one of our reasoning questions is - who ate all the biscuits? Who has the most? Then of course you can repeat this at home!!! .



## Science & Technology

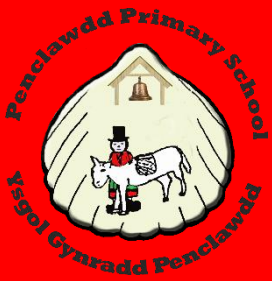
Our Science topic for this term will all be about living things. We will look at habitats, food groups (consolidating and deepening the learning here for the Yr 1's) and what we can do as citizens to ensure we have a happy world!

### Digital Skills (DCF Focus)

Throughout the year, we continue to develop our computer skills through focused computer lessons and applying skills across the curriculum. This term, we will focus on data and computational thinking. We will learn how to make a pictogram, a graph, programme a beebot robot and we will be looking at tally charts - both digitally and on paper. These lessons happen weekly. Our spellings are also on Hwb and I would encourage all learners to log on and use the spell blast to help with the learning.

We're always promoting online safety and ensuring that the children know how to keep themselves safe when using devices.





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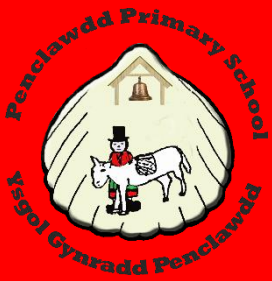
## Humanities

In Humanities, children will explore the world of animals and nature through exciting questions. They will learn about nocturnal animals and discover why some creatures come out at night while others are active during the day. The children will investigate how birds and bats can fly, comparing their wings and movements. They will find out what makes owls special, such as their silent flight and sharp eyesight, and understand how bats are different from birds even though both can fly. Children will also think about how animals survive in the dark, exploring senses like hearing and sight. These activities will help them develop curiosity about living things, ask questions, and understand how animals adapt to their environments.

## RVE

In RVE, our big question is "What is a Christian and why do they love Jesus?" Students will explore Christian beliefs about God as the creator, who Jesus is, and what he taught about love, forgiveness, community and following God. They will also consider how the teachings of Jesus influence the lives and actions of Christians today.





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## Expressive Arts

In Expressive Arts, our youngest learners dive into the fascinating world of nocturnal animals and flight. Through art, music, drama, and movement, children explore how owls glide silently and how bats swoop through the night sky. They will create masks and night-time paintings and a whole class collage. We will also compose sounds inspired by nature, and act out the movements of animals in the dark. Our literature book 'White Owl, Barn Owl' will also give us the opportunity to do some sketches and to also develop our tone in painting using a variety of paints - some of which we have touched upon and will give us the chance to explore and develop this skill.

## Health & Wellbeing

This term, we will focus on the well-being of ourselves and others. We'll look at the qualities of both ourselves and our friends. We will be working on our programme 'Think Equal' and through a story we will be developing citizenship skills of kindness, thoughtfulness and caring for ourselves, others and the world around us.

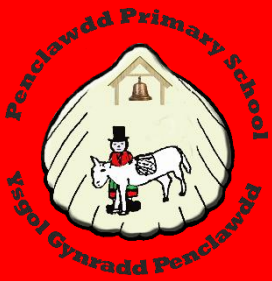
We will also be looking at food that makes us healthy and specifically what we can pop in our lunchboxes to have a healthy lunchbox - we hope the children will help you to put together a healthy looking lunchbox.

In our PE sessions, we'll focus on developing our creative skills through dance. We will be able to use our topic to help us put together sequence of dance and build confidence for us to be able to share it to our friends. We will continue to work on our 'gardens' and develop our throwing and catching skills, hand/foot co-ordination skills and our endurance skills through our obstacle course - our Monday PE lessons make Mondays pretty special day and we continue to foster the love of movement through each day -encouraging our learners to understand movement means happiness for our body and mind.



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



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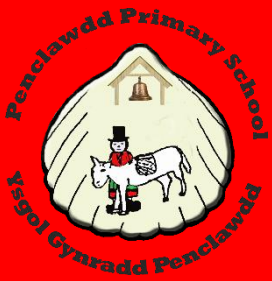
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### Reminders

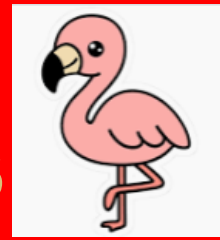
Day	Activity	Information
Monday	PE	Please ensure children have a change of kit (shorts, t-shirt) and appropriate footwear for PE. We always encourage children to change before and after a PE lesson but they will always be able to do PE, even if they forget to bring their kit, providing they have suitable, safe footwear.
Monday	Library	Children have the chance to visit our School Library to select a reading book - this book will remain in school for the children to enjoy after PE to rest and relax.
Wednesday	Outdoor learning	Please ensure the children have wellies/ change of shoes and a waterproof coat for this day. However due to the way we play and learn please ensure waterproofs and wellies are left in school for each day.
Friday	PPA	Mr Culpin Teaching class
	Spellings (PM)	Miss Smith will be leading spellings on a Friday pm.

### Diary Dates

<b>January</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> January - Will visit (£2 per child please) 25/1/26- St. Dwynwen's Day
<b>February</b>	9/2/26- Children's Mental Health Week 10/2/26- Safer Internet Day 13/2/26- Dydd Miwsig Cymru
<b>March</b>	2/3/26- St. David's Celebration 5/3/26- World Book Day 9/3/26- British Science Week 18/3/26 Flamingos Sharing the Learning to parents Assembly 2pm 20/3/26- Red nose Day 23-24/3/26- Parents Evening



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**HOME  
LEARNING**

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

[Penclawdd Primary School - Home Learning](https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/home-learning)

## How can you support at home

### Spelling

children do regular spelling activities throughout the week and are tested on their words each Friday. Please support your child by practising these words with them regularly. You can do this in a fun way with a letter hunt, in sand/salt and on Hwb with spell blast.

### Reading Books

We always encourage reading at home as much as possible. Children will take part in guided reading sessions, reading based work in their literacy as well as being listened to read during the school week. Take a look at our termly reading spine for some wonderful books to read with your child.  
<https://www.penclawddprimary.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=189&type=pdf>

### One Minute Maths

White Rose Maths has a wonderful 'One Minute Maths' app - I would really encourage this and challenge your little one each day - they love it!

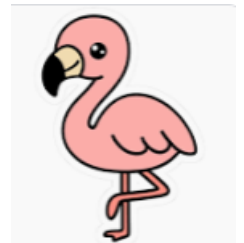
### SeeSaw

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](#)