

Land A'hoy!

Expressive Arts

This term, our Flamingos have been developing their creativity, confidence, and imagination in expressive arts. Inspired by the beautiful work of Swansea screen printer **Sarah Hopkins**, the children learned how artists use colour, patterns, and texture to tell stories and express ideas. They experimented with simple printing techniques, layering colours and shapes to create their own unique pieces—just like real artists preparing for an exhibition!

As the children's skills grew, they began working towards creating artwork for our very first 'Penclawdd Art Exhibition'. They showed great enthusiasm and pride in planning, designing, and refining their creations, learning that art is not just about the finished piece, but also about the creative journey.

We were especially proud to see how these new artistic skills supported our learning in other areas. In literacy and film, the children used their expressive art techniques to help bring the story of "Piper" to life. Through carefully chosen colours, textures, and visual storytelling, we created a large scene inspired by the film, to help us re-tell the story - we really did love exploring with the textures.

We of course sung sea shanty's and worked on rhythm and pace to develop our own song - we used the outdoors to help re in act this song and we were singing it for days!



Science & Technology

This term, we continued to explore science and technology through exciting, hands-on experiences. As part of our digital learning, we focused on the production side of the digital skills by creating our very own "Piper" audio book using iMovie. The children loved recording their voices, adding sound effects, and bringing the story to life using digital tools. We took time to watch and reflect and we edited the final version - it will be with you shortly to enjoy!

In science, we became mini-investigators during our bug hunts in the upstairs woodland area. We compared this with the downstairs woodland and discovered that more bugs seemed to prefer the upstairs environment. This helped us begin to think about habitats and why living things choose certain places to live.

We also loved time in our downstairs woodland caring for our plants and understanding that they need sunlight and water to grow. We also discussed the natural landscapes during our beach trip and compared Port Eynon beach to our very own Estuary - we cannot wait to continue this learning. We also discussed the cockles that get picked on our shores - more of this to follow!



Language, Literacy and Communication



In our Flamingo Class, our literacy learning has been inspired by the film "Piper." As the film has no spoken dialogue, the children have been using their imagination to explore the characters, settings, and to create their own storylines. They have enjoyed describing what is happening, predicting events, and thinking carefully about how the characters might feel. It has ended with new editions ready for Disney with Piper befriendng a unicorn, Piper falling in love with a turtle and living happily ever after and also Piper riding on a pirate ship! Such fun and wonderful imagination shown - da iawn pawb!

We have also taken time to write our own 'Pirate Promises' and used the lyrics from our sea shanty to help us remember a promise! In addition to this we also made posters telling our families all the important information about our Art Exhibition - we are very busy learners!

Alongside this, we take part in daily phonics and handwriting sessions to help build strong foundations in reading and writing. The children are working hard to develop their skills and confidence so they can express their ideas clearly and be the very best they can be.

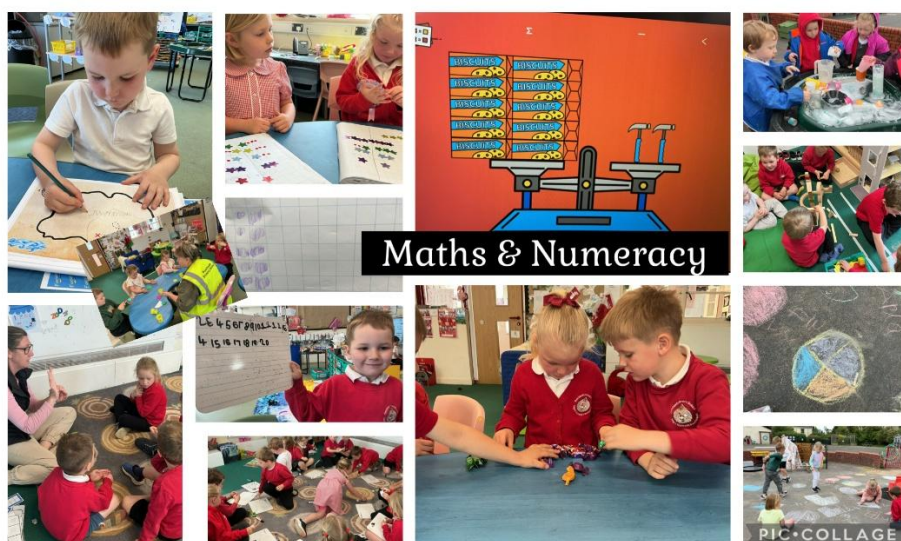
Maths & Numeracy

In our maths learning, we have been having lots of fun exploring new ideas through play and practical activities. The children have been learning how to **share equally**, using toys, snacks, and games to understand fairness and teamwork. We even used our time in the 'Downstairs Woodland' to enjoy a lovely cucumber sandwich - we of course shared them equally and divided them accordingly - we were like real life gardeners!

We have also been exploring **positional language**, using words like *under*, *over*, *next to*, and *behind* during our play—especially in building and outdoor games. It has been wonderful to hear the children confidently using these words in their conversations! We even had our own pirates walking the plank and checking to see if they should go right or left! We used pirate maps to also draw where our treasure is - we used Google Maps to help us locate areas in our own village - there is a lot of treasure in Penclawdd!

Another exciting area has been **capacity**, where the children have enjoyed pouring, filling, and measuring with water and sand. They have been comparing which containers hold more or less and making predictions.

It has been fantastic to see the children so engaged, developing their maths skills through hands-on, playful experiences!



Humanities



This term, we have been exploring our local history in Penclawdd, learning all about the famous **cockle pickers** and their important role in the community. We compared life *now and then*, helping the children understand how things have changed over time and what has stayed the same. We could identify that in the past the cockle pickers used horse and cart to bring the cockles in and now we see the big trucks and quads. We have not yet been brave enough to try the cockles! Watch this space!

We also explored our local area, looking closely at natural features such as the estuary and surrounding landscape. Using **Google Maps** to find features of our area and then we drew our own maps and hid the treasure! We also explored our woodland area and understood what we need to do to keep it nice and clean. We enjoyed visiting the beach and we cannot wait to find out - what lives in a rock pool! Watch this space!

Welsh

We love our Welsh daily drill and our Welsh lessons we have learnt 'faint o'r gloch ydy hi? And we are also working on 'wyt ti'n hoffi?' We have had some fun working on our new songs and we have had some Dydd Gwener vibes dancing along to them! We do love to chat, play and read Welsh stories. We also used this month to learn about where we belong and we loved learning about the history of Penclawdd with the Cockle Pickers and also about the smugglers at Port Eynon - we cannot wait to develop both these areas of learning.

