

#### Week Ending—Friday 10th March 2023

## Newsletter



### Trellech Primary School

#### Eisteddfod

Following the half term break we came back to a busy week, firstly with our school Eisteddfod last Wednesday. This was such an privilege to be part of as we hadn't come together as a whole school for this event since 2020. We were blessed with wonderful performances from our talented pupils as they sang, danced, played instruments, recited as well as presented their artwork, handwriting and creative writing. The decision of the winner of the Bard was a difficult decision but many congratulations to Ruby (Y5) who impressed Mrs Peacock with her extended piece of writing. The musician of the Eisteddfod went to William (Y6) who impressed the staff with his performance on the piano. The overall winning house after a nervous start were Monnow by a single point! Congratulations to all our pupils who made the return of our Eisteddfod such a pleasure. Some of the winning pieces can be seen displayed in the school entrance, please do come and share the work of our talented children.

We now look forward to joining our cluster friends as we take part in our Cluster Eisteddfod later in the month, as some of our pupils represent Trellech during a showcase of talent from the Monmouth Cluster.

#### **World Book Day**

Last Friday saw World Book Day take place with many pupils taking the opportunity to dress as book character. During the day the children had lots of opportunities to immerse themselves in books not only independently but alongside friends. Each child designed a book cover and book vouchers, kindly donated by the PTFA were given to the most eye catching in each year group. Congratulations to Casper, Woody, Daisy, Ellen, Charlotte, Max and Sienna— we hope you enjoying selecting your new books.

Each child should have received a £1 Book token that can be exchanged for a World Book Day Book, or put towards a book of their choice. If your child did not receive one, please let us know.

To end our World Book Day, our wonderful PTFA held a book sale and Disco. Once again an incredible evening was had by all and all monies raised will support the purchase of resources for your children. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who arrange such events, set up, serve, and clear away afterwards. Without you these events, which make memories for the children could not take place.

#### **Reception Family Learning**

Last week we began the first of our Family Learning Sessions led by Acorns for Parents in Reception. It is always a pleasure to welcome families to school and something we will continue to build upon as the year progresses.



#### **Active Travel Plan**

Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the child/ parent survey that will help in update of our Travel Plan. Whilst much of the feedback came as no surprise there are key areas that will help us develop and identify key initiatives in the near future. It will also help inform the work led by our Heddlu Bach and Junior Road Safety Officers.

#### **Extra Curricular Activities**

Following Lockdown and the need for bubbles we are very pleased to be offering extra curricular activities once again. Our girls football sessions continue each Thursday, whilst chess and sign language club takes place each Monday. I am sure you will join me in thanking the staff who are leading these activities. Diolch yn fawr.

#### **Supporting Development**

This term we welcome back Miss Sara, Miss Gregory, Mr Rawlins to continue the placements in Education but we also welcome Miss Saunders who will be joining Year Four each Monday for the coming 6 weeks who is on a placement from Hartpury College. We are very proud to support the professional development of them all.

#### Congratulations.....

to Molly (Y5), who has been accepted into the Gloucestershire Golf Academy. A fantastic achievement and we are very proud.

#### Spring Term 2023

Fri 17th Mar-Comic Relief (Wear Red PE Kit)

Weds 22nd March-Cluster Eisteddfod

**Weds 29th Mar**– Rec, Y1 & Y3 Musical Celebration (Parents Welcome)

Thurs 30th Mar- Pupil Reports Issued via Email

**Fri 31st Mar**– Year Five Easter Service at St Nicholas 9.30am (Y5 Parents Welcome)

Fri 31st Mar- End of Spring Term

Mon 17th April- Summer Term Commences

Weds 26th—Fri 29th April—Yr6 Residential Gilwern

Mon 15th—Weds 17th May—Yr5 Residential Viney Hill

Fri 26th May- Half Term Commences

#### Summer Term 2023

Mon 5th June- Summer Term Two Commences

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> June: KS2 Sports Day

Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> June: FP Sports Day

Weds 21<sup>st</sup> June: Reserve KS2 Sports day

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> June: Reserve FP Sports Day

Fri 30th June: INSET Day School Closed to Pupils

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> July: PS3 Summer Performance

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> July: PS3 Summer Performance

Fri 21st July—End of Summer Term

#### **Staff Contact Details**

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School Office: trellechprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

#### **Comic Relief**

Takes place on Friday 17th March, donations can be made via the following link: https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=10605

Children are asked to wear red PE Kits on this day as we will complete a whole school Daily Mile Challenge! All monies from Fruit Tuck on this day will be donated to Comic Relief.

#### **Fundraising Efforts**

James, Harry, Josephine and Lucy once again spent time during the half term break to hold a bake sale. Motivated by the need to purchase a defibrillator for one of their fellow pupils they set to work once again, they raised a magnificent £ 75 towards this important cause.

Thankyou to our wonderful pupils and all those who supported them.



#### **Period Poverty**

Following the event held on Wednesday by Monmouthshire for International Women's Day, 'Its Important Period' in Abergavenny. We are very pleased to share that we have a range of Sanitary Products including reusable products available for our families and members of the community. These are in the front entrance (storage cubes) for collection. Please feel free to help yourselves.

#### **Continual Curriculum Development**

Following the introduction of Curriculum for Wales in the autumn term, we are committed to continually improve our practices and opportunities for our learners. Mrs Peacock was privileged to be at the recent consortia launch of 'Developing an Anti Racist Culture in Schools'. With keynote speakers including Chantelle Houghton (DARPL) and Rachel Clarke (Apex Education & Granddaughter to Betty Campbell) a thought provoking morning was witnessed with the 4Cs being at the heart of what we do: Commitment, Courage, Care and Cynefin.

#### **Additional INSET Day**

The additional INSET Day has been confirmed by Welsh Government following consultation. The date for this will be confirmed as soon as possible for a date in the Summer Term.

#### **Class News**

#### Reception:

Reception have had another busy two weeks. We have been lucky to receive an incubator filled with eggs, the children have been observing this each day and we are extremely excited for them to hatch. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Cookman for arranging this for Reception and allowing us to gain new experiences. In Maths, we have been concentrating on doubling numbers to 5. We learnt a hip hop/rap song to help us with our doubling, I'm sure the children would love to sing this for you. In humanities, we have started to look at the different countries within the UK, we are branching out from our topic of Cynefin to explore 'the world around me'. We have been looking at maps and exploring using positional language. In Welsh we have been learning how to ask and response to a given question. The children have shown great interest in the Welsh language. In forest school, the children were super excited to explore minibeasts with Miss Light and Miss Ward. They used magnifying glasses to look closely at each minibeast. This has allowed them to understand the important of the bug hotel they created before half term. We are looking forward to, continuing our topic further. Thank you for your continued support.

#### Year One:

For the Eisteddfod last week, Year 1 were busy painting daffodils, singing Aderyn Melyn and reciting Fly, Dragon, Fly. They were brilliant listeners during the performances and awards, as well as enthusiastic supporters of the winners and their own houses. On Friday it was wonderful to see the class in their outfits, and we had such a literacy-rich day writing book reviews and sharing our favourite books with each other. This week we are writing diary entries, thinking about writing in the first-person and in the past tense! This really is a class of clever writers. In maths we have been looking at coins and their values, beginning to add them together to make totals. Forest School was particularly fun this week — our university student, Miss Sara, led the children in throwing paint-filled water balloons at trees to create colourful patterns for the Hindu festival of Holi, or the Festival of Colours. I wonder what the next fortnight will have in store for us!

#### **Year Two:**

Year Two pupils were very busy as soon as they came back to school this half term. We had lots to prepare for our eisteddfod which went really well. The pupils have practised their class song 'Dau gi bach' and really did themselves proud when performing. The pupils also produced some fantastic art, handwriting and stories and gave clear expressive recitations of a poem. Congratulations to all those who took part in all of the disciplines. We have started to learn about sharing and division in numeracy. It's been great to see the pupils using things around them such as counters and natural objects to help solve problems. At Forest school year 2 worked with year 3 to create and orally retell their own short stories that were based in a forest. Da iawn on using fantastic memories, great choices of vocabulary and teamwork. Year twos have been taking pride in their environment and using bark to tidy up the outdoor learning area; picking up litter and weeding and turning over the raised bedding soil. Well done all. I am so proud of your hard work!

#### Year Three:

Since our return to school Year 3 have been incredibly busy. Our first week back saw us celebrating our Eisteddfod, during which I was impressed by the effort made by all children. They produced some creative stories based on our class text and some fantastic observational drawings of daffodils, as well as learning and performing a Welsh poem. We also enjoyed taking part in World Book Day activities, sharing our favourite books and designing a new front cover, then using our storytelling skills to create an exciting story in collaborative groups with Year Two inspired by the nature around us when we visited Forest School. In Literacy we have been starting to look at non-fiction texts, building up to writing a set of instructions following our Clever Writer approach. Our Maths has been focused on introducing division, firstly by sharing objects into groups, then moving on to using repeated subtraction on a number line. It has been lovely to see all the children making use of the objects around the classroom to support their learning and build their confidence. In ICT we are beginning to look at writing algorithms to perform a task, and looking for errors to debug if our algorithm doesn't work correctly. A great start to our coding and programming – da iawn all!

#### **Year Four:**

Last week was Eisteddfod, so very busy painting, writing, singing and learning a Welsh recital. We were very proud of them all. Forest School was very cold, so please can you ensure your child has extra warm clothing, including hats and gloves. The children were very creative at the forest when creating symmetrical and asymmetrical patterns using natural materials. We all enjoyed World Book Day and the children looked amazing. So thankyou for your efforts. In Literacy, we have created leaflets advertising Trellech. They are superb- colourful, interesting, packed with information and a few are even bilingual. What authentic learners you are. We have displayed some of them in the foyer and others will be displayed in the Church. In Numeracy, we are learning the 6x tables, in and out of order, as well as consolidating 2, 3, 4, 5- and 10-times tables. Last week we have been subtracting multiples of 10, bridging the 100; and this week we are continuing with subtraction by partitioning. This method supports the children to understand the value of numbers when we have to regroup. (Additional information explained in homework). We have been looking at the American, modernist Artist, Georgia o' Keeffe. Hopefully we can make a Mother's Day card in her style of artwork. In our ICT sessions we been using a site called LunaPic to look at how digital photos can be edited. We have explored cropping, rotating and different colour effects. Thank you for your continued support.



#### ¥ear 5

Year 5 have had a great start back after half term finishing of our work for our Cynefin topic. It was a very hectic first week back preparing for our Eisteddfod. We all enjoyed a morning celebrating Wales, listening to music, watching dancing and learning who had become our Bard for 2023 – bendigedig Ruby! We then spent the afternoon making Welsh cakes, which apparently were delicious, and many found it a challenge to wait until they got home to eat them. The week ended with us being dressed as our favourite book char actors, spending the day completing a carousel of activities and reading book – what a lovely why to spend a Friday. This week we continue with our Expressive Arts activities and have researched, designed and made love spoons. We found out what each of the designs on a spoon symbolises and made our own spoons using symbols which were important to us. We then had great fun making our love spoons using salt dough using our designs. Wednesday morning saw our first trip this year to forest school... and what a trip we had! A Winter Wonderland greeted us (in March) and we had great fun in the snow, taking photographs in the style of Drew Buckley. What a great way to spend a Wednesday morning! We spent the rest of the week creating our own 7 Wonders of Wales using Adobe Spark, recapping the names and properties of 3d shapes and making them using nets, and writing a draft letter to our French pen pals – what a busy 2 weeks we have had.





#### Year Six:

Year 6 have been incredibly on our return to school, taking part in our Eisteddfod and World Book Day and wrapping up our topic of Cynefin. The Eisteddfod proved to a lovely whole school event and I was incredibly proud of the effort made by all the children. They all showed enthusiasm, determination and were supportive of their classmates. The costumes worn by the children on World Book Day were wonderful and we had a day full of reading related activities, from designing alternative book covers, to creating wordles and inspirational quotes about reading. Our topic of Cynefin has now drawn to a close and for the last three weeks of term we will be having a science focus, focussing a week each on biology, chemistry and physics. We finished the topic with some wonderful activities. For literacy, the children have created their own "Severn Wonders of Wales" on adobe spark, choosing places of significance to them both close to home and further afield. For humanities and expressive arts we have researched the meaning of Welsh love spoons and designed and made our own using salt dough, the results are beautiful, and we can't wait to share them with you. Our focus for numeracy has been grid references and nets. The children have learnt two, four or six figure grid references and used them to find local landmarks in the area. They have also drawn nets to make a 3d model of St Nicholas church. Our residential trip to Gilwern is fast approaching and we are busy organising dormitories, kit lists and medical forms in preparation for a wonderful time away.



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# Support for families

With half term approaching, we know some families may be worried how they will afford daily essentials, as well as providing meals for their children who are off school.

#### Did you know?

Families who receive the pupil development grant and are in receipt of a means tested or disability benefit may also be entitled to help towards their water bills.



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