



# TREMAINS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

### NEWSLETTER: CYLCH LYTHYR

## New admin email address

Please note that the admin email address is now [admin@tremainsps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@tremainsps.bridgend.cymru). **Please remember to state your child's full name and class in your email.**

## Attendance

Your children have taken part in a discussion about the importance of attending school regularly and being punctual.

The children tell us that:

- They like coming to school but when there is a friendship issue, they do not like it so much.

**You can help by having regular discussions with your child about their school day. You may notice a change in their behaviour, especially when getting ready for school or they may tell you that they are feeling unwell when you think that they are fine. This may be the time to ask how things are with their friends and encourage them to seek support from their class teacher.**

- They agree that attendance is important but acknowledge that they have had days off when they were fit enough for school. They told us that they had a day off when it was their birthday or a day trip or when they were just not in the mood. Another reason was that they attended a medical appointment in the morning and then had the whole day off.

**You can help to improve your child's attendance by confirming to them that you also believe attendance is important and that coming to school on your birthday is a lovely way to celebrate a special day with their friends and teachers. If your child is telling you that they are not in the mood for school, explain that this is not a valid reason for a day off. Again, a discussion may help you understand why they are feeling this way and we will be happy to help where we can. Please let us know if your child is not happy to come to school.**

**We would be pleased if you could ensure that your child returns to school following a medical appointment. Thank you.**

- They told us the reasons why they are sometimes late for school. They acknowledged that they did not like being late as they did not like going into class when the lesson had started. They told us that they were late because the alarm did not go off, they had forgotten something and had to go back home, traffic problems, their behaviour or behaviour of their siblings.

**Being punctual is important in all aspects of our lives and we would encourage you to instil this into your children. We acknowledge that every family has a day when things just 'go wrong' and lateness is totally unavoidable.**

The Designated Safeguarding Officers for Tremains Primary School are Mrs D Todd, Mrs K McDonald and Mr I Davies.

Should you find that arriving late for school is an issue for your family, we are able to help. We have lots of ideas and suggestions to support your family. Please contact Mrs McDonald or speak with your child's class teacher. We want to help make your mornings as peaceful as possible and to ensure your child does not miss the start of their lessons.

- They tell us that they know school is important and when they are not in school, they miss out on seeing their friends, learning new things, playing and having fun as well as missing their teachers. They recognise that they want to be smart and do well in their lives with a good job and to earn good money.

**Thank you for your support to continually reinforce to your children the importance of school.**

- They have given us many suggestions of incentives and rewards for good punctuality and attendance and the staff will consider these suggestions for the start of the new term in January. Some of the ideas were a dressing up day, Dojos, class competitions, a film, extra play and certificates.

**Look out for information about these incentives in the next couple of Newsletters.**



## **,Years 4 and 5**

### **Blwyddyn 4 a 5**

In Year 4 and 5, we have been 'Dancing through the Decades'. The children have learnt to do the 'Charleston' from the 1920s. They have listened to 'Jailhouse Rock' and danced in a 'Rock 'n' Roll' style from the 1950s. They have been funky and danced to 'Disco' tracks from the 1970s and finally mixed a combination of 1980s and 1990s moves to MC Hammer. They particularly liked the 80s/90s session. Ask them to show you their moves...their 'Moonwalks', 'Sprinklers' and 'Worms' in particular, were fantastic!



## Christmas Jumpers



Christmas is fast approaching and as usual we will be inviting pupils to wear Christmas Jumpers for our Christmas lunch and during the festive period.

If you would like to donate any Christmas jumpers that your child has grown out of we will be happy to distribute them to other families.

Please send your donations into school with your child or you can drop them off at the admin office in either building. Thank you in anticipation of your support and helping to reduce clothing waste.

### Values Education

Here at Tremains Primary School, we believe the ethos of the school should be built upon mutual respect of each other. To promote this, our school endorses core values each month. Each month a pupil from each class will be selected as 'Value Champion' and receive a certificate for their efforts.

#### Our values 2023—2024

September: Selflessness

October: Respect

November: Commitment

**December: Ambition**

January: Determination

February: Inquisitive

March: Trust

April: High Standards

May: Confidence

June: Kindness

July: Creativity



November is over and **Ambition** is our focus for December.

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**Father Christmas will be in school on**  
**Thursday, 14th and Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December.**

**14<sup>th</sup> December – 7JH and 8NW/JW - LRB classes**

**15<sup>th</sup> December- Nursery – Y6**

All children will be able to have their photograph taken with Father Christmas. Parents will be given a link to view the image and you can purchase a print if you wish. There is no obligation to purchase.

### Christmas Concerts

Classes	Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Infants/Juniors
Reception - 3SS and 4KM/RK	14.12.23	10.30	11.30	Infant Hall
	15.12.23	09.30	10.30	Infant Hall
Year 1 - 5CR and 6EP	14.12.23	09.30	10.30	Infant Hall
	15.12.23	10.30	11.30	Infant Hall
Year 2 - 9RW and 10KD	12.12.23	10.30	11.30	Junior Hall
	13.12.23	09.30	10.30	Junior Hall
Year 3	12.12.23	09.30	10.30	Junior Hall
	13.12.23	14.00	15.00	Junior Hall
Year 4	12.12.23	14.00	15.00	Junior Hall
	14.12.23	11.30	12.30	Junior Hall
Year 5 and Year 6	19.12.23	18.00	19.00	ArchBishop McGrath Comprehensive School

## RECEPTION CLASSES



The children have enjoyed exploring the school grounds to look for hedgehog habitats and any clues they might live near us. They are also thinking about ways we can help protect these wonderful animals.

## Parental Engagement Sessions – Reception



We were delighted to see so many parents/carers at the recent engagement session.



As part of family engagement, our Reception families took part in a fun phonics session, finding out all the different ways we learn letter sounds and key words.



## School Uniform

## Did you know?



### Reminder

To help keep the cost of school uniform as reasonable as possible, plain white polo shirts can be worn by children of all ages.

In addition, we have a range of good quality school uniform available free. These items are available at Big Bocs Bwyd.



Thank you for volunteering.



To all the parents that have supported the Christmas Pop-Up stall – checking and sorting the donations – we would like to say a big thank you!

These events would not be possible without your support.

# Year 1

## Real Potato Heads



We had very successful parental engagement sessions. Fun had by all! Both children and adults used many skills; creative, problem solving, collaboration and cooperation. Amazing Potato Heads made.



## OUTDOOR LEARNING

Come rain or shine, the children in Year 1 will be continuing to use our 'classroom without a roof!' (What we call our outdoor learning area.) Although we have splash proof trousers and wellies for your child to wear along with their coat, it would help if you could provide **extra socks, underwear and trousers** in your child's bag in case they get wet. Thank you.





## Tremains Rangers

Tremains Rangers have enjoyed building a den using natural materials. They also added holly and berries to decorate it!



## Year 3

Year 3 children have loved using Polypad online to enhance their learning of addition and subtraction.

### **Why not try it out at home?**

It's free and you don't need to sign up. You can explore a wealth of virtual maths equipment - just search 'Polypad Virtual Manipulatives'.



Year 3 children enjoyed dressing up for Children In Need and enjoyed a range of different themed activities.

Year 3 spent a week discussing anti bullying. We celebrated our differences and our similarities and learned about how to be a good friend.

We discussed people we care about and thought about adults that we feel safe talking to if we have any worries or concerns surrounding bullying. We did a great experiment with an apple, on the outside the apple looked perfect, we dropped the apple, it still looked perfect, we left the apple and when we cut it open the inside was rotten.

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We have also enjoyed playing football at playtime with our new bibs and balls from Sports Direct.

## Year 2



We met Hannah Richley who is a nurse. We asked her lots of questions and we found out about our skeleton and what the bones are called. We enjoyed learning with Mrs Richley.

By Travis, Belle and Loui



We had a visit from a fairy storyteller. She had a broken wing, and the other fairies were being mean. We had great fun meeting her. We had a good time dancing, and we made a stream together.



By Ezra, Sophia L  
Jessica, Mia and  
Sophia F



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## Nursery

We have had another exciting month in Nursery. We have enjoyed exploring the Diwali Festival of Lights, exploring the traditions associated. The children particularly enjoyed the music and dance associated and of course making their very own chocolate sparkler!



The children also enjoyed using playdough, squishing, rolling and pinching to create unique diya lamps.



They explored adding gems and glitter to enhance their final design.

## The Colour Monster

We have also read 'The Colour Monster' story, which has helped the children identify, name and begin to understand simple feelings and emotions. We had fun using the iPad to capture how our faces change when we feel different emotions. The children also created some wonderful pieces of art, including 'Colour Monster' puppets in response to the story.

## Staying Hydrated



It's incredibly important to stay hydrated throughout the school day but...

**DID YOU KNOW?** As well as causing tooth decay, squash drinks can cause a type of tooth wear called acid erosion. Most fruit flavoured drinks are acidic and so can soften the enamel and dentine in teeth so that they wear away.

It is better to drink a whole glass of squash with a meal, rather than sipping throughout the day, which is why we **only encourage water in water bottles for use during the school day.**

Thank you all for your support.



Do you have a spare

30 minutes each week?

Would you like to support a community project?

We need additional volunteers to join our Big Bocs Bwyd team.

Please contact Mrs McDonald by email

[admin@tremainsps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:admin@tremainsps.bridgend.cymru). Thank you.

## Big Bocs Bwyd

We would be very pleased to accept donations of pantry items i.e. tins, packets or jars for Big Bocs Bwyd. If you are able to support us with a donation, please drop them off at Big Bocs Bwyd or they can be taken to the admin office in each department.

Diolch yn fawr.

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## Safe Access to School

We would appreciate your co-operation to ensure that, when parking outside of the school at both drop off and pick up times, you park considerately to local residents. Parking outside of our school is being monitored by the community police on a regular basis.

When accessing the school site, please ensure that you keep safe by adhering to the designated safe route. Pedestrians are not permitted to use the driveway, car parks and grassed areas.

Thank you for your co-operation, setting a good example to your children and ensuring that everyone is safe.



## Breakfast Club

There are spaces available in our Breakfast Club. Please contact the school office for further information.



Reminder – Vehicular access onto the school site is not permitted for parents/carers dropping off at Breakfast Club.

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Thank you for your continued support.

## Year 6

**Year 6** have had a busy couple of weeks. Some of our boys represented the school along with some Year 5 pupils in a tournament that was held on 17<sup>th</sup> November. They played brilliantly and were overall runners up.



We had a talk on anti-social behaviour from PC Matt. He talked to the children about how to behave in the community and how to help others out.



Lots of friends and family came to our engagement day last week. The children loved sharing their work on their Theme Park Project and enjoyed showing off their model rides. They also appreciated working together to create a stop motion animation. The feedback was great! Thank you all for your support.

## 7JH and 8JW/ NH

The children in classes 7JH and 8JW/NH thoroughly enjoyed their 'hook day' to their topic 'Senses'. An external company, 'Splat messy play' set up a wonderful sensory session in the school hall. There were a variety of different materials and resources set up for the children to explore using all their senses. We invited the children's parents in to enjoy this engaging and exciting session with their children. Lots of fun and exploring was had by everyone. A successful and fun start to our new topic.

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### **Transportation to horse riding sessions- update**

A huge thanks to everyone that has donated so far. If you would still like to donate then our Go Fund Me page-



### **Fantastic news!!**

The wonderful 'Bridgend Round Table' have very kindly donated an amazing £1,000 to our horse-riding transport fund.

Bridgend Round Table have been active in the area for more than 50 years. They have an active FB page which is mostly used during Christmas time. This is when the BRT bring Father Christmas in his sleigh to many areas of the town, including Brackla. By doing so they hope to bring joy to the children and grownups everywhere, but also to fundraise towards great causes in our local area.

BRT meet throughout the year and always welcome new members who are interested in being part of a great team, having fun and supporting our local communities.

We look forward to meeting some of the members after half term, so that we can thank them in person. We are so touched by your donation. It will make such a difference! Diolch eto to the wonderful 'Bridgend Round Table'.

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**Please find below a list of useful contact details.**

**Childline - 0800 1111** - Information and advice to guide and support you about anything that is on your mind.

**Child Exploitation and Online Protection** - <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/> Protection advice if worried about online abuse or want to report.

**ChatHealth - 07520 615718** - Text service to the School Nurse Service.

**Early Help** - Offers services to support children, young adults and their families. 01656 815420 or email [earlyhelp@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelp@bridgend.gov.uk)

**MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)** - A single point of contact for all safeguarding concerns about vulnerable children: on 01656 642320, adults on 01656 642477 or email [mashcentra@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:mashcentra@bridgend.gov.uk)

**NSPCC - 0808 800 5000** - Supports and protects children and helps prevent any type of abuse.

**Police.uk - 999 for emergencies or 101 for non-emergencies** - Use to report an emergency or to seek advice/services for those affected by crime.

**Samaritans** - Call **116123** for free or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) Support for whatever you are going through.

**Young Minds** - Text **YM to 85258** or visit [youngminds.org.uk](http://youngminds.org.uk) Free 24/7 text support for young people experiencing mental health/wellbeing issues.

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## Future Events for Your Diary: Am eich Dyddiadur

### INSET Days

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

### Disco Dates

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### **Other Events**

Breakfast with Santa for Nursery, Reception,

Observation Classes 7 and 8 and Year 1

**12<sup>th</sup> December (Letter to follow)**

### **Christmas Concerts**

Observation classes

14<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 pm

Reception

14<sup>th</sup> December 10:30 am and 15<sup>th</sup> December 9:30 am

Year 1

14<sup>th</sup> December 9:30 am and 15<sup>th</sup> December 10:30 am

Year 2

12<sup>th</sup> December 10:30 am and 13<sup>th</sup> December 9:30 am

Year 3

12<sup>th</sup> December 9:30 am and 13<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 pm

Year 4

12<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 pm and 14<sup>th</sup> December 11:30 am

Year 5/6

19<sup>th</sup> December at 6:00 pm being held at Archbishop McGrath Comprehensive School

*(All events are subject to change but we will endeavour to inform parents accordingly)*



## **This School Year**

### **2023/24 Term dates**

#### **Autumn Term**

**Start:** Monday 4 September 2023 **INSET DAY**

**Half Term:** Monday 30 October 2023 – Friday 3 November 2023

**End:** Friday 22 December 2023 **INSET DAY**

#### **Spring Term**

**Start:** Monday 8 January 2024

**Half-term:** Monday 12 February 2024 – Friday 16 February 2024

**End:** Friday 22 March 2024

#### **Summer Term**

**Start:** Monday 8 April 2024

**Half-term:** Monday 27 May 2024 – Friday 31 May 2024

**End:** Monday 22 July 2024 **INSET DAY**