

NEWSLETTER

CYLCHLYTHYR



JULY

GORFFENNAF



Work Together - Play Together - Succeed Together
Gweithio, chwarae a llwyddo gyda'n gilydd

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE



We can hardly believe we have reached the end of another school year. The time seems to have flown by, and as we reflect on the last twelve months, we are filled with immense pride in all that our children have achieved.

It has been wonderful to watch every child flourish and grow in so many different ways. From developing confidence and resilience to making excellent academic progress, the children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, determination and positivity. Our staff have grown incredibly fond of all the pupils and are so proud of everything they have accomplished throughout the year.

It is difficult to pinpoint the highlights of such a memorable year. There have been so many special moments, from the hard work and dedication shown in classrooms every day, to exciting trips, unforgettable experiences, residential visits, talent shows and fantastic sporting achievements. Of course, our Colour Run was another standout event that brought our school community together in such a positive way.

However, none of this would be possible without the support of our families and wider school community. Thank you for working alongside us, supporting the school and placing your trust in us to care for the most precious people in your lives. Your encouragement, partnership and commitment make a tremendous difference, and we are incredibly grateful.

This time of year is always one of reflection. It is an opportunity to look back on the wonderful memories we have created this year, the friendships and relationships that have been built, and the successes we have celebrated together. It is also a time to look forward with excitement to the opportunities and experiences that next year will bring – after a well-deserved summer break!

This is a particularly special moment for our Year 6 pupils. They leave us with many cherished memories and will always remain an important part of our school family. While it is difficult to say goodbye, they are ready for the next stage of their journey, and we are confident they will continue to thrive and achieve great things in the years ahead. Good luck year 6!

Finally, I would like to personally thank all of you for making my first year as Headteacher such a memorable and rewarding one. It has been a privilege to be part of so many special moments and to work alongside such wonderful children, families and staff.

I wish you all a fantastic summer. Enjoy spending quality time with your families, make lots of happy memories, and most importantly, stay safe. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, when the children will no doubt seem a little taller, a little older, and ready for another exciting year ahead.

Best wishes,

Kelly Watkins



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ATTENDANCE LEAGUE

RND	95.7%
RSH	96.2%
REB	95.5%
1CZ	94%
1DB	95.4%
1NR	94%
2BM	96.1%
2KS	92.9%
2JF	93.4%
3KC	95.4%
3TL	95.7%
3RP	94.2%
4RT	95.6%
4TP	95.5%
4MW	94.5%
5EL	94.8%
5LD	95.3%
5SJ	93.3%
6MR	95.8%
6PM	94.6%
6MM	92%

Attendance in school is extremely important to ensure that children achieve their full potential. Our school target for this year is to have attendance of at least 96% across the school.

For the first half of the Summer Term, the figures for each class are in the table. Congratulations to **RSH** who are currently top of the table!

Your Child's Attendance	National Guidelines
100% - 95%	Optimum chance to achieve well. Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
94.99% - 90%	Satisfactory, although your child may have to spend time catching up with work they have missed.
Below 90%	Cause for concern: - 1. Your child may be at risk of underachieving. 2. Your child may need extra support from you to help catch up with missed work. Your child may be missing out on a broad and balanced education.

Please help us to achieve our overall target of 96% this year!

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

	Term Starts	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Tuesday 1st September 2026	Monday 26th October 2026	Friday 30th October 2026	Friday 18th December 2026
Spring	Monday 4th January 2027	Monday 8th February 2027	Friday 12th February 2027	Friday 19th March 2027
Summer	Monday 5th April 2027	Monday 31st May 2027	Friday 4th June 2027	Tuesday 20th July 2027



INSET DAYS



Tuesday 1st September	INSET - School closed to pupils
Wednesday 2nd September	INSET - School closed to pupils
Friday 23rd October	INSET - School closed to pupils
Monday 4th January	INSET - School closed to pupils
Friday 19th March	INSET - School closed to pupils
Monday 14th June	INSET - School closed to pupils

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 1st September	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Wednesday 2nd September	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Thursday 3rd September	We welcome year 1 to year 6 pupils back to school. Staggered start for Reception on Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th and Monday 7th (pupils have received their individual start dates)
Monday 7th September to Friday 11th September	Staggered start for Nursery (pupils have received their individual start dates)
Wednesday 9th September	Meet the teacher presentations 3:45pm and repeated 4:15pm Opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to receive key information for the year ahead. This will be repeated at 4:15pm to give time to visit a second teacher to help accommodate siblings. A copy of the information will also be sent out to parents following the meeting.
Thursday 17th September	Year 6 visit to Bethesda Church
Friday 18th September	Year 5 visit to Bethesda Church
Friday 18th September	2pm Phonics and Reading workshop for parents in Nursery to Year 2. In Hall 1 from 2pm to 2:45pm with teachers, then practise techniques in class with your child/children until 3:10pm.
Monday 21st September	Year 4 visit to Bethesda Church
Tuesday 22nd September	Year 3 trip to Caerleon
Wednesday 23rd September 3:30pm-5pm	Whitchurch Primary Community Celebration event; more details to follow. Celebration of the Whitchurch Primary School community involving music, food and sports plus a Macmillan cake stall. We look forward to seeing you there!
Tuesday 29th September	PTA Christmas Card deadline.
Monday 5th October	Harvest Festival and food bank collections
Tuesday 6th October	Grandparents Days: 9:10am -10am Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 10:10am-11am Years 3 and 4 2:45pm - 3:30pm Years 5 and 6
Friday 16th October	Show Racism the Red Card - all pupils invited to wear red to school
Wednesday 21st October	Individual and siblings photograph day
19th, 20th 21st October	Parents Evenings online Nursery to Year 6
Friday 23rd October	INSET day (school closed to pupils)

MAP OF CLASSROOMS



2026 - 2027



Offices & Halls

- 1- Main school office
- 2 - Headteacher's Office
- 3 - Deputy Headteacher's Office
- 4 - Hall 2
- 5 - Staffroom
- 6 - Hall 1
- 7 - Dining Hall
- 8 - Kitchen

Foundation Phase

- 9 - Nursery
- 10 - Reception
- 11 - Reception
- 12 - Reception
- 13 - 1CZ
- 14 - 1BC
- 15 - 1KH
- 16 - 2JF
- 17 - 2SB
- 20 - 2BM

Key Stage 2

- 21 - 3TL
- 23 - 3RP
- 24 - 3KC
- 25 - ALNCO Room
- 26 - 4TP
- 27 - 4SH
- 28 - 4JP
- 29 - Professional Learning Suite
- 30 - Music Room
- 34 - 5EL
- 35 - 5LD
- 36 - 5SJ
- 37 - 6MM
- 39 - 6MR
- 40 - 6MB



FOND



FAREWELLS

At the end of this academic year, we will be saying a fond farewell to two highly valued members of our school community: Mrs Rhian Trotman, who is retiring, and Miss Lydia Davies, who is leaving teaching to pursue pastures new.

Both Rhian and Lydia have devoted many years to supporting children and families, not only at Whitchurch Primary School but also in the schools that later came together to form Whitchurch Primary. Lydia began her career at Eglwys Wen Primary School, while Rhian was a respected member of staff at Eglwys Newydd Primary School.

Throughout their careers, they have made a lasting impact on generations of young people and have played an important role in the development of our school community.

As long-standing members of staff, they have consistently demonstrated care, kindness and dedication in everything they do. Their professionalism and passion for helping children learn and flourish have enriched the lives of many pupils and families over the years.

They will be greatly missed by colleagues, children and parents alike. We thank Rhian and Lydia for their outstanding service and wish them many happy, healthy and fulfilling years ahead as they begin this exciting new chapter.

FOND FAREWELLS



Mrs Catherine Watkins, our Assistant Headteacher, is also leaving Whitchurch Primary School after 12 years of service to our school and the wider Whitchurch community. Catherine has secured a promoted leadership position at a school in Rhondda Cynon Taf, a well-deserved opportunity that reflects her expertise, commitment and passion for education.

During her time at Whitchurch, Catherine has supported school improvement and staff development, ensuring the very best outcomes for our pupils. Beyond her role within school, she has also made a significant contribution across the Central South Consortium, where, over the past three years, she has supported newly qualified and early career teachers as they established themselves in the profession. On behalf of the entire Whitchurch Primary community, we thank Catherine for her contribution and wish her every success and happiness in her new role.

We will also be saying goodbye to Miss Naomi Richards, who has secured a promotion at another Cardiff school. We are incredibly proud of Naomi's achievement and congratulate her on this well-deserved opportunity. We thank her for all she has brought to Whitchurch Primary School and wish her every success in the next stage of her career.

Finally, we will be saying farewell to Miss Merize van der Westhuizen and Miss Ellie Griffiths, who will be continuing their teaching journeys elsewhere from September. We are grateful for the enthusiasm, hard work and positivity they have shown during their time at Whitchurch. Both have been valued members of our team, and we wish them all the very best as they embark on their next adventures.

OUR WONDERFUL SUPPORT STAFF



Mrs Stephanie Capper will be leaving us for pastures new. Steph has been a valued and dedicated member of our team, making a positive difference to the lives of so many pupils during her time at the school. Her kindness, commitment and support have been greatly appreciated by both staff and children alike. She will be missed enormously by everyone in our school community. We wish Steph every happiness and success as she embarks on her exciting new adventure.

A huge thank you to Mrs Helen Hose, who, for many years, has been a highly valued member of our team and a wonderful source of support for countless pupils. Helen's caring nature, dedication and unwavering commitment have helped so many children flourish during their time at our school. We wish Helen all the very best for her future plans and hope she enjoys every moment of the next chapter.

We would also like to say goodbye to Mr Lewis Watkins, who has been an excellent support to our Year 6 team. Lewis has worked hard to help our pupils achieve their best and has made a lasting impact on the children and colleagues he has worked alongside. We will miss him greatly and would like to thank him for all he has contributed to our school. We wish Lewis every success and happiness for the future.

Miss Martha Hurford will be leaving us to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. Martha has provided fantastic support to our Year 1 pupils and staff, and her enthusiasm, dedication and positive attitude have made her a valued member of the team. In September, she will begin her PGCE, taking the next exciting step in her career. We are incredibly proud of her achievements and wish her the very best of luck as she begins her teaching journey.

Finally, we would like to thank Miss Kirsty Murphy for all of her support within the Year 3 team. Her hard work, care and commitment have been greatly appreciated by pupils and staff alike. We are grateful for everything she has done during her time with us and wish her every success and happiness for the future.

MESSAGE FROM THE PTA

The Friends of Whitchurch Primary would like to say a huge thank you to all our families for your incredible support over the last year.

What a year it's been! From our annual Halloween Disco and Christmas Fayre to ending the year on the biggest high with our very first Colour Fest, which raised an amazing £3,300!

Every penny raised goes straight back into benefiting all the children at our school.

This year, we've been asked to fund a new wellbeing classroom, which will begin to take shape early in the new term.

We've also been delighted to fund:

- A whole-school Christmas pantomime
- A contribution towards STEM Week in June Board games and activities for our Breakfast Club children
- A brand-new speaker for the Bike Bus, so they can ride to school in style!

None of this would be possible without your support, so thank you for helping us provide these wonderful opportunities for our children.

As a PTA, we're now a very small team with just six members. In a few weeks, our fantastic Treasurer, Sarah Slade, will be stepping down as her son starts high school. Sarah has been an invaluable member of the team for many years, and she will be greatly missed. We can't thank her enough for everything she has done for the school and our community.

If you'd like to find out more about what the PTA does or are interested in getting involved, we'd love to hear from you. Please email us at friendsofwp@gmail.com or join us at our AGM on **Thursday 24th September 2026** at The Fox & Hounds from 6.30pm. This would be a great opportunity to meet any potential new members.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer, and we can't wait to see you in the new school year for many more fantastic events!

COLOUR FEST





☀️ FAREWELL YEAR 6 ☀️

A memorable final trip for our Year 6 leavers, who spent the morning paddle boarding across the reservoir, learning new skills and sharing plenty of laughter before enjoying a group swim! What a wonderful way to end the year before moving on to the next big adventure!

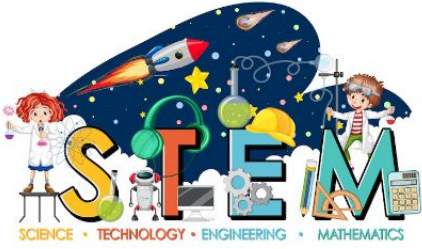


FAREWELL YEAR 6



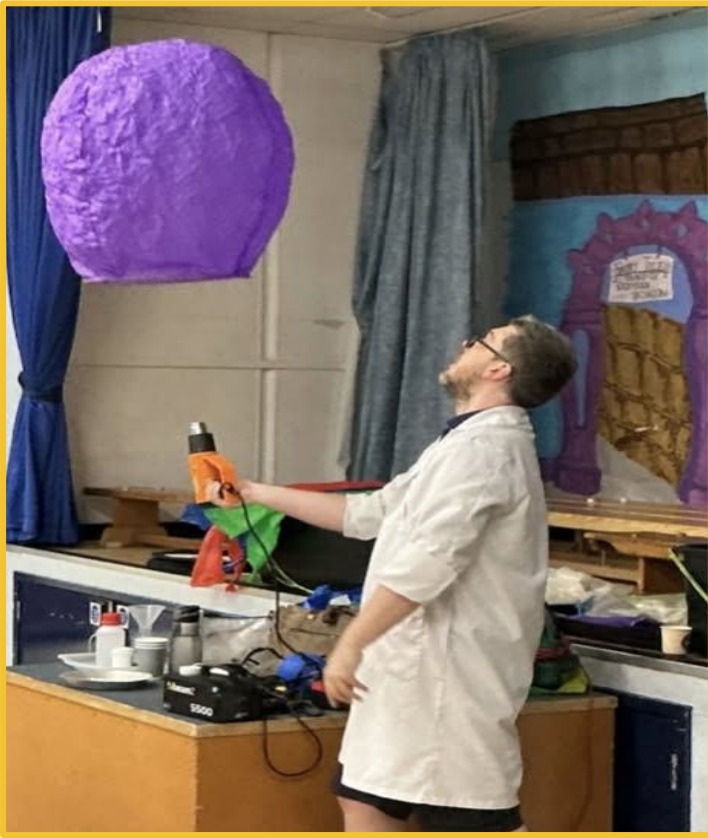
Good luck on your next chapter - keep shining Year 6. We will miss you!





STEM WEEK

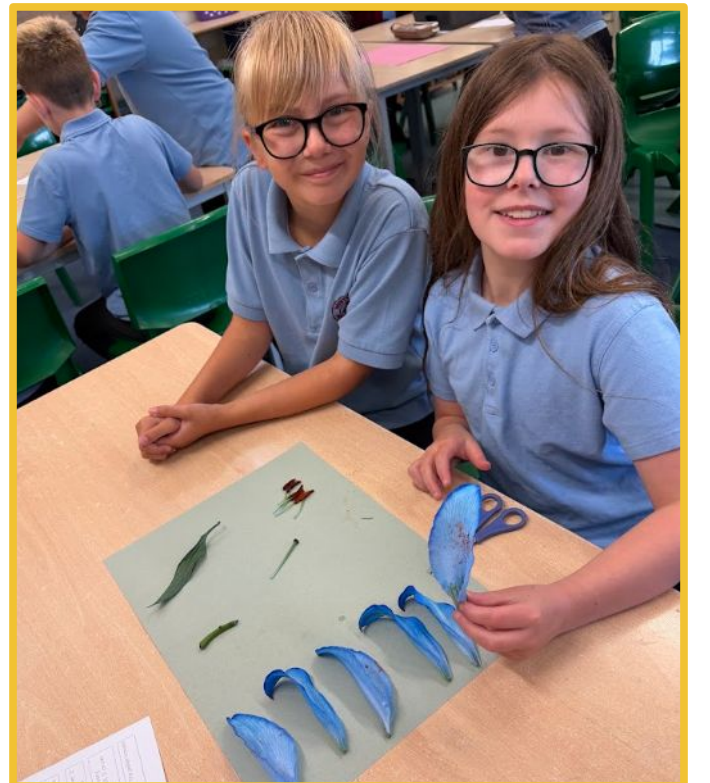
Our whole school came together to celebrate an exciting and inspiring STEM Week, with every class taking part in hands-on activities, experiments, and challenges. A huge thank you to the parents and professionals who generously gave their time to share their expertise and enthusiasm—your involvement made the week even more memorable and meaningful for our students.



STEM WEEK



STEM WEEK



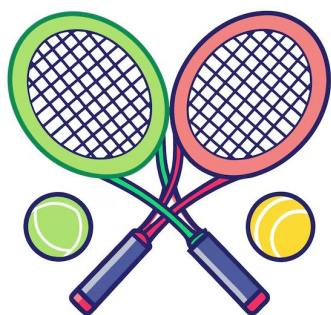
WIMBLEDON



A wonderful day at Wimbledon for some of our tennis enthusiasts.



WIMBLEDON



BREAKTHROUGHT1D

On the 31st of May, some of our Year 3 and Year 5 pupils took part in a charity walk for BreakthroughT1D, a fantastic charity which raises money for Type 1 diabetes. They walked an amazing 5 kilometers around Hailey Park and raised a grand total of £3063! We are so proud of all of our children who took part in such a wonderful event.

