

# High Street Primary School

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Reach for the Stars, by Learning  
and Growing Together

Friday 9th February 2024



## WORKER OF THE WEEK!

**Nursery am:** Lucy Mills  
**Nursery pm:** Christopher Pycroft  
**Reception:** Riley Edwards  
**Year 1:** Gwen Vernon-Jones  
**Year 2:** Anaya Uphill  
**Year 3:** Macie-Rose Riley  
**Year 4:** Leo Burston  
**Year 5:** Malachi Fahiya  
**Year 6:** Emmie Andrews  
**Y Bont:** Saphie Pilcher-Taylor

Please discuss the following with your children. We will be exploring these themes further in our first week back following half term.

### THE BIG QUESTION!

Are you an enterprising, creative contributor? Can you apply your skills and knowledge to situations and products?

### CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Children have the right to an education that develops their personality and abilities and encourages them to respect others.

Children have a responsibility to make the most of their education and encourage others to develop their abilities.

### BRAWDDEG CYMRAEG YR WYTHNOS

Your child will be learning this phrase in school this week. Please encourage their use of the Welsh Language by practicing with them at home.

Mae'n amser chwarae.  
It's playtime.

### DIARY DATES:

- HALF TERM NEXT WEEK:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. Children return Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.
- YEAR 2 CLASSROOM MOVE:** Building work to continue to at least 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024.
- PARENT MEETINGS:** Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Further information to follow.
- EASTER HALF TERM:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. INSET DAY 8<sup>th</sup> April so children return to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

### HEADLINES

- Clubs continue after half term.
- Please ensure you check your **children's hair for NITS**. We have had constant issues with repeated cases. For guidance see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

### REMINDERS:

- Only a natural fruit snack and not a processed snack for break please. No soft drinks, energy drinks or Prime. These will be removed from children and returned home. This does not include those children where there are existing arrangements regarding snack. **PLEASE ENSURE GRAPES ARE CUT INTO SMALLER PIECES.**

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Like all schools in the Vale, we are focused on improving attendance. As a school we are introducing the following graduated response to low attendance, a significant factor in children not achieving their potential.

### **Attendance at school is significantly important. Low attendance impacts:**

- friendships and development of social skills between children
- a sense of belonging for children amongst their peers and within the school community
- learning – gaps in the development of basic reading, writing and numeracy skills
- consistent progress and achievements
- the development of knowledge, skills, understanding and life skills and memories from missed learning experiences and opportunities.

## **PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY – PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW**

Parents are responsible for children arriving at school on time and attending on a regular basis. Please help us in ensuring the best outcomes for your children. If your child is going to be absent, please leave a voice message or phone school at the earliest opportunity on the first day of absence. This call **must** be repeated each day your child is absent until they return to school. Early communication will ensure a text or call is not made to you from school regarding the absence.

### **Please consider:**

- School starts at **8.50am** for all mainstream children and **8.40am** for children in Y Bont.
- If a child is late for school, attending after the registers close at 9.15am, they are marked as unauthorised on the register.
- If a reason is not given for absence via a phone call to the office or letter, a child is marked as unauthorised. As a school, we will involve the school nurse with regard to continued absences linked to illness.
- Holidays or breaks taken during the school term, will be marked as unauthorised.

Our school day consistently starts with phonics, spelling, reading or number skills and concepts – the building blocks to a good foundation in learning. A child who is late everyday misses this learning.

As a school we can appreciate illness and family issues as a factor in low attendance so would like to make you aware that we are always here to support your family to ensure attendance is consistent. If you would like to discuss this further, please see our contact details above.

## **MONITORING ATTENDANCE**

Our expectation is for every child to achieve at **least 90% attendance every week**. We monitor attendance on a daily basis. Our graduated response to absence is described below:

### **Stage 1:**

#### **First day response to absence:**

- Where not provided, parents will be contacted via text and/or phone call and a reason for absence requested.

### **Stage 2:**

#### **Attendance Awareness letter sent home:**

- Activated where a child's attendance drops below 90%.
- At this point you will be invited in to discuss your child's attendance, reasons for absence and a way forward to enable improvement.

### **Fixed Penalty Warning:**

This will be triggered by:

- 10 sessions (a total of 5 days) unauthorised sessions in a half term.
- 10 sessions (a total of 5 days) of late arrival after the registers have closed at 9.15am.
- 10 sessions (a total of 5 days) of unauthorised holidays.

### **Stage 3:**

#### **No improvement with attendance following FPN warning, Fixed Penalty Fine (FPN) is issued:**

- A referral is made to the local authority with regard to a Fixed Penalty Fine being issued.