



"Working Together, Learning Forever"

Headteacher Termly Report Spring Term 2025 Mr. M.S. Thompson

Foreword

This term has flown by! The children have been amazing and achieved fantastic things as always. Our Estyn inspection report has truly put the school on the map and it recognises the wonderful learning community Burlais is. I'm sure you'll also enjoy seeing the wonderful things the children have been doing through the AoLe reports. Enjoy!

Dates for your diary

W/c 24th March – individual meetings with teachers for parents.

Friday 28th March – Burlais Book Day

Thursday 10th April – Easter Bonnet parade at 9.15am for parents

Thursday 10th April – last day in school before the Easter holidays (non-uniform day for pupils, voluntary contribution of £1 for Cariatad Pet Therapy)

Friday 11th April – INSET day (school closed for pupils but open for staff)

Monday 28th April – school starts back after the Easter holidays

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AOLE Report to Governors
Spring Term 2025
Expressive Arts
Mr. M. Bowen

Across the School

Once again it has been a busy term with regards to Expressive Arts and the work covered has been of the highest quality. We have celebrated St David's Day with an excellent Eisteddfod full of wonderful artwork, joyous singing and the Chairing of the Bard. If you have visited the school recently, you would have heard lots of tip tapping happening, as there has been lots of Dawnsio Gwerin going on across all year groups and all the children have thoroughly enjoyed. Da iawn chi!

Nursery

Nursery have been exploring lots over the course of this spring term.

They read about the story of 'The Little Snowflake' and explored the life cycle of a snowflake after Jack Frost painted their outdoor area with the most beautiful, glittery frost. They were able to make marks using their warm fingers which melted it all as they touched it – the children were fascinated! They also created Magical Winter Pictures using white crayon and blue watery paint and made pictures of snowmen, snowflakes and their families.

Dwynwen went Missing!!! Their take home toy, Dwynwen the Dragon went missing! They children worked together to try and get him back. They decided they needed a beautiful picture as a reward. They worked together to make a colourful collage heart and included a photograph of Dwynwen. The boys who found him were thrilled with their picture. Mrs Williams has displayed it in her classroom!

Other activities carried out in nursery include making a Welsh flag using green and red handprints, Dydd Santes Dwynwen cards and celebrating Chinese New Year painting Chinese numbers in black paint on red card.

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Reception

Through our topic 'Traditional Tales' the children read the story of 'The Fairies of Pennard Castle' and they thoroughly enjoyed their sand art session and used the sand to create Pennard Castle. During our 'Muddy Monday' session, the children collected natural materials to make nature paintbrushes. They then used their nature paintbrushes to paint a giant beanstalk for our work on Jack and the Beanstalk.

To celebrate Dydd Santes Dwynwen, the children made love hearts to give to the person that they cared about. I think Mr Thompson may have received one or two!

In the enhanced provision the children have explored different ways of painting including using scrapers, marbles, straws and their hands and fingers.

For St David's Day the children enjoyed singing and performing to a selection of Welsh songs including Aderyn Melyn and Lliwiau Enfys. They also created their own sheep and after looking at different landmarks, we made the Mumbles Lighthouse using paper mâché. During our music sessions, the children have listened to different types of harp music and have used the Music Chrome app to change the tempo of the music. In their poetry work, the children used a selection of musical instruments to perform a limerick that they had learned.



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Year 1

The topic this term is 'Splish, Splash, Splosh' so the children participated in an EPIC session at the very beginning to discuss the topic which gave the children opportunities to share what they would be interested to learn. From this they created a topic front cover and drew images of things that they thought fitted well with the topic e.g. water, taps, showers, beaches etc. As part of their independent challenges around the classroom the children have worked on their cutting and sticking skills, painting and colouring skills and followed a Success Criteria and WAGOLs to complete these creative challenges e.g. Creating images using 3D shapes, Eid al Fitr gift boxes and Valentines Cards.

They have used a WAGOLL to create a Water Cycle image using a variety of different resources whilst talking about its process.

Children have access to a range of materials and art resources daily including: chalks, paints, crayons, felt pens and they have explored using different size paintbrushes.

The children learnt the Water Cycle Song and created actions to this and we repeated this over a couple of weeks. There are many other songs with actions that we use daily including Bore da, Ffalala songs and Hwyl Fawr.

As a whole class the children listened to rain sounds and storms online, then created a rainstorm using body percussion. They learnt how different parts of the body made different sounds and how to control the volume from low to high to create that rainstorm effect.

Year 2

This term, Year 2's topic is Take a Walk on the Wild Side with a focus on music. The children have listened to Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saens. The children listened to each musical piece of music and tried to identify which animal was represented.

The children have also started learning about the four families of the orchestra. They explored how stringed instruments make sound because of vibrations, identified stringed instruments and named and ordered them from high pitch to low pitch. The children have been given an orchestra map which they have started to colour to create a key for the different families. This will be revisited when the children are introduced to the other families. Finally, the children have created a gradient sunset using water colours. They have also chosen an animal silhouette to place in the centre of their painting.

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Year 3

This term, Year 3 have focused on music and learnt about call and response songs. They listened to a range of call and response songs such as 'Che Che Kule' and learnt about the origins of these songs. They took part in performing the response to these songs. Then they used xylophones to play the response in the song 'Hill an Gully'. They then explored the different notes to see if they could find the correct notes to play the tune to the call. They performed the song as a class.



The children have also started looking at the work of artist Peter Thorpe. At first, they discussed his use of stippling, blending and dabbing. The children will use these skills to imitate his work in their sketch books before moving onto a best, final piece on black paper. Finally, the children used their creative skills to take part in the 'Show Racism the Red Card' competition. They designed robots or superheroes that would help to promote kindness and stop racism.

Year 4

This term, our topic is Ship Ahoy! The children have had the opportunity to sing along to sea shanties, have danced along to sea shanties and have performed body percussion along to The Wellerman song. They also listened to and gave their opinions of Welsh music.



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In art lessons, the children have learnt how to make tones and shades of colours without using black or white paint. They mixed their own secondary and tertiary colours. Next, they explored complementary colours and learnt that these are colours which are opposite each other on the colour wheel. They completed a picture of a fish using complementary colours. Then the children used two complementary colours, blue and orange, chalk pastels to create a sunset scene. They were then tasked with creating a silhouette collage of an island, a palm tree and a pirate ship, which they then added to the sunset.



The children will be undertaking a drama activity linked to Internet Safety day. They will discuss different scenarios and act them out. For Welsh week, the children will be learning about the Welsh artist Dan Llewelyn Hall and will be one of his pieces using different mediums. Later on this term, the children will also be creating boats using junk modelling, focusing carefully on joining the pieces together and checking that the aesthetic look is top quality.

Year 5

The children started the term with a new topic 'Plastic Planet'. The children created a topic front cover in their books using different textured paper to collage an outline of planet Earth. They also took part in a discussion of plastic items that we have and included some drawing of these on their covers. Next, we looked at using recycled plastic bottle lids to create a piece of artwork. As a class they all contributed their individual designs to create a giant plastic bottle which is now being used on display in classrooms.

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As Chinese New Year was approaching, the children learnt about the history of the Chinese dragon and its importance in history. They then used oil pastels to draw and colour a Chinese dragon head in their Expressive Art books. Next, the children were introduced to Taiko drumming. They learned 3 different drumming beats and worked as a class to perfect a performance that incorporated all three beats. The children's next project was to create a collage using mixed media art. This is when a variety of art techniques are used together to create a piece of art. The children had paint, mixed materials and craft bits to create their collages. Lastly, the children looked closely at our Welsh national anthem taking note of the translated lyrics and discussed the meaning behind the words. They talked about the power it has, and the feeling people experience singing and hearing our anthem being sung.

Year 6

This term, the children had the opportunity to draw using chalk pastels to make a solar system picture. The children looked at the work of Georges Seurat, who created the style of pointillism, and they learnt about optical mixing. They were given a colour wheel and, using primary colour paints and a cocktail stick, they filled in the red, yellow and blue parts of the wheel. They then had to make purple, green and orange by adding dots of primary colours. Optical mixing meant that the dots of primary colours became secondary colours from a distance. The children studied the work of Picasso and gave their opinions on his work. They undertook 3 activities; they drew faces in the style of Picasso and used cut out features to also make a variety of faces.

AOLE Working Group

The AOLE group for Expressive Arts have decided that they want to link up with the LLC group to revamp our upstairs Learning Lounge. We have chosen the theme of space and

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have set a competition for the whole school to design 3D sculptures that can go on display in the learning lounge. So far we have had some excellent entries and we cannot wait to judge them and display them. The response has been truly amazing.

Digital Competence Leader Report – Spring 2025 **Mr. M. Wotherspoon**

Nursery

The pupils have enjoyed accessing the CTouch during class time exploring numbers through Top Marks games and using CBeebies 'My First Festivals' to find out about Chinese New Year and St David's Day. They have used various apps on the iPads which are available throughout the week to develop their basic digital skills. During our Welly Wednesday sessions, the pupils in Dosbarth Meithrin *Bore* have taken photographs on our 'Spring Walk', and they started to use 'Google Lens' to discover factual information about the new plants and bugs in the garden.

Reception

This term pupils have thoroughly enjoyed using different coding apps on the iPad and C-Touch. They have particularly enjoyed the BeeBot app.

They are becoming more confident when using the iPad to take photos of their Enhanced Provision challenges.

Pupils have been learning all about how to stay safe on the internet and read the story 'Troll Stinks'. They discussed with their talk partners everything that they had learned. They also sent an email to the other Reception class to highlight all the important online safety information they learned.

Children developed their producing skills by using JIT to draw their friend and write 'Dyma _____' to introduce their friend.

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As part of our topic 'Splish, Splash, Splosh' the pupils were introduced to the coding app Tynker Junior and the Undersea Odyssey. They thoroughly enjoyed inputting the code and making changes when their code was unsuccessful showing perseverance, critical thinking skills and planning their routes throughout each level. After gathering numerical data using a rain gauge the pupils transferred their findings onto a block graph using J2Data as well as interpreting the data and discussing their findings.

During Internet Safety Day the pupils listened to the story of Digi Duck and Samira's Story, and they discussed ways to stay safe online with particular focus on the sharing of personal information and taking, posting and sending of photographs.

Pupils also used JIT Paint to create their own water scenes learning to resize the paintbrush, insert, resize and delete images as well as saving their work to edit later on.

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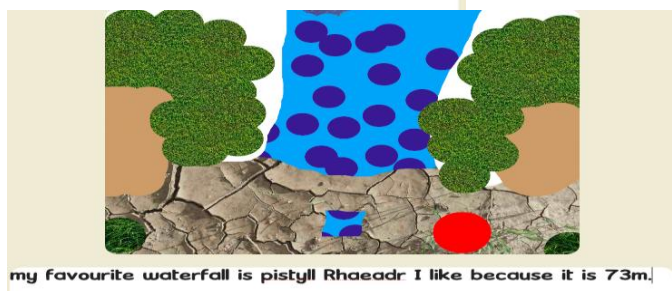
Year 2

As part of our topic 'Take a Walk on the Wild Side', pupils learnt about waterfalls in Wales and Africa. They used JIT (mix) to draw and write about our favourite waterfalls in South Wales. Having learnt how to use the paint, write and save tools in the Autumn Term. Many pupils were able to complete this independently.

The pupils also took part in Safer Internet Day. In our class assembly we learnt about scams and making choices online. Pupils then listened to 'Samira's Story', and they thought about how Samira might be feeling at different times. They discussed what is meant by personal information and learnt what is safe and not safe to share when online. Finally, we made posters of things we need to remember to keep us safe when online.



my favort watertfall is henrhyd falls because it is big



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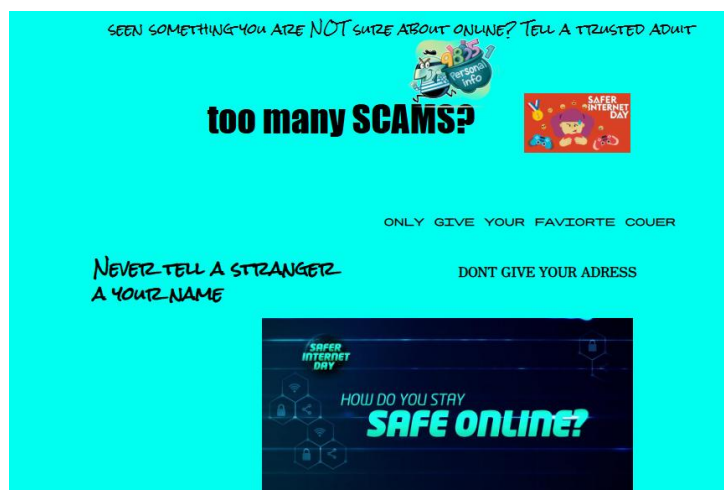
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Year 3

In Year 3, the pupils learnt about Safer Internet Day by finding out about staying safe from scams. They wrote definitions of words associated with scams and then followed a J2e live lesson to create a poster about staying safe from scams.



The pupils have used a variety of tools on J2e for different purposes. They have used J2Office to word process documents and used J2Data to create a database about alien top trumps. They used J2Create to write an explanation about friction after their investigation. They also used J2Create to create 'Proud to be Welsh' posters for independent missions during Welsh week.

Year 3 also enjoyed using Adobe AI to generate images of dragons from their dragon descriptions after reading our class novel 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons'.

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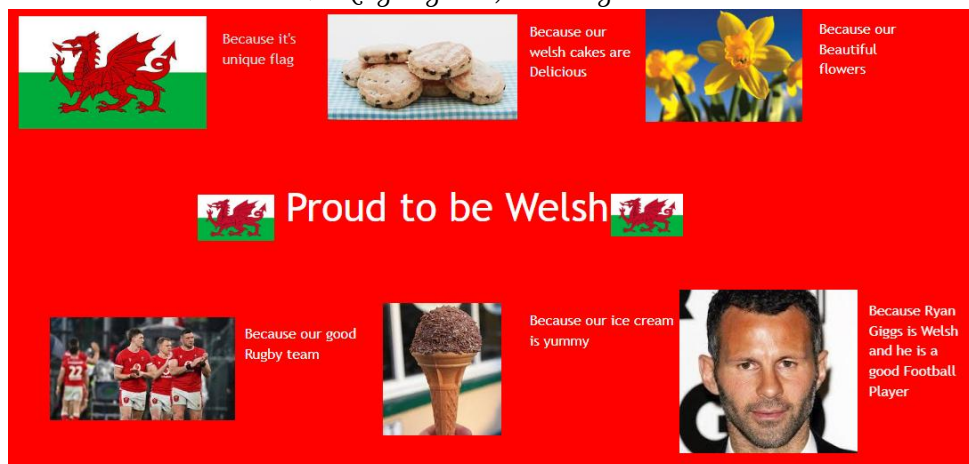
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The pupils have gained confidence in logging on to TTRS, Epic, Splash Learn and also using Kiddle to search for information independently.

Year 4

In Year 4, pupils have learned about citizenship by participating in Safer Internet Day. They recognised the dangers of the internet and how to avoid and overcome these risks. Pupils engaged particularly well in Blooket games where they could test and demonstrate their understanding of internet safety. They also enjoyed taking part in a drama lesson, acting out different scenarios related to staying safe online.

The pupils have been interacting and collaborating with one another by working on shared documents, such as creating a shared PowerPoint on Welsh Pirates. They also created explanatory PowerPoints on the Water Cycle, using a range of features like orientation, font, and pictures. Our pupils have also sent emails. They have taken part in lots of researching lessons which are linked to our new topic. Pupils have researched about Welsh Pirates and The Swansea Copperopolis.

Demonstrating their data and computational thinking skills, the pupils created excellent databases on crew members and passengers of the Titanic. They enjoyed developing their coding skills by programming a Micro:bit to display their names and different sayings that a pirate might say.

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Year 5

To begin our Spring term, Year 5 looked at the importance of balancing game and screen time and the effects this has on us both mentally and physically. Our children looked at various apps, how they benefit us, and then decided whether they were down time apps or anytime apps. For Safer Internet Day, Year 5 learnt about phishing and scamming, identifying ways to keep their personal details safe online and who to trust. The pupils looked at various emails and text messages and discussed the key signs of whether they were scammers or actual companies. The pupils then accessed Interland games to reinforce their learning. Our pupils have regularly practised their typing skills this term. They have word processed their literacy work about their Christmas holidays, ensuring they are changing the text size, font and colour, inserting and moving pictures and sharing with a friend. Also, the pupils have regularly been accessing 'typing games' to practise the speed and accuracy of their typing skills. Furthermore, pupils have undertaken lots of research tasks for our new topic, Plastic Planet, ensuring they are using reliable websites and using information with suitable vocabulary that they can understand.

During our laptop sessions, pupils have developed their coding skills by accessing games on both Minecraft and Hour of Code with links to our topic. Pupils built vehicles and equipment to clear the ocean's rubbish on Minecraft and helped to save the sharks on Hour of Code, by coding the sharks around the ocean.

This term, year 5 have communicated through email to their class teachers, providing ideas for our new topic. We have looked at using various tools on email as well as using appropriate language, depending on the recipient. The children have also been developing independence in keeping their OneDrive files and documents named and organised.

Finally, pupils have engaged in our new topic by creating databases relating to plastic items and their properties. Our pupils created databases and inserted the relevant information into the database, sorting them alphabetically. Pupils then created PowerPoints and Adobe Sparks with their findings and learnings from so far this term.

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Year 6

Pupils have completed an internet safety lesson focussing on balancing screen time. They have further developed their understanding of sending e-mails with attachments and automatic signatures with pupils independently exploring the more advanced tools in Outlook. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Safer Internet Day which focussed on the importance of avoiding scams online.

Pupils have continued to learn how to collaborate on office files and share them with other pupils or teachers. Pupils are able to add comments to their partner's digital work when peer assessing on PowerPoint, Word and Excel.

Pupils have reinforced their skills about how to create databases and applied this skill to create a database of the planets in our solar system. They were able to sort their data and create questions based on the data. Pupils have also created very impressive spreadsheets with formulae and applied this skill to calculate the weights of different people on various planets.

Pupils have continued to learn about the more advance tools when word processing using software such as Word and Adobe. They have used AI features on Adobe to create images and really enjoyed using immersive reader tools to improve their writing on Word and PowerPoint. Finally, they have also created superb multimedia presentations with sound, images, text and video using PowerPoint and Adobe which are displayed digitally 'on loop' on our Learning Lounge screens.

Pupil Voice:

- The Science & Technology Senedd are continuing dedicate time to developing Digital Competence across the school.
- We are considering how Microbits can be used more in our school, and if we are able to support the Foundation phase with their new coding equipment.
- We have discussed our plans for the year ahead and how we can develop digital competence in Science and Technology using Microbits. Another Microbit sharing day with Y3 is being planned.
- Senedd members and other Y6 pupils have worked with STF2, Year 4, and Year 5 when using Microbits by going into their lessons to support.

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Health and Well Being Governor Report

Miss C. Rowe

Nursery

Our topic this term is 'Let's Explore'

Our New Classroom – This term has been busy with new friends joining the Afternoon Nursery Class (*Dosbarth Meithrin Prynawn*). They have settled in really well and enjoy exploring their new learning space.

Independence – Everyday the children in *Dosbarth Meithrin* are working on building their independence. They are learning to find their own coats, put them on and zip them up! Some of them can do it all by ourselves already! Mrs Richards and Miss Taylor help the children to build their confidence in taking their shoes and socks off for gym, and to put them back on at the end of the session. **Movement** – The children are learning new skills and building their confidence every week in Gym with their teachers. This term they have been finding out about travelling across different equipment safely.

Listening and Following the Actions – In gym the children listen to the music and move their bodies to the songs. They have to listen to the instructions and follow the actions they are told to do. This is so much fun!

The Outdoors – The children love playing in our outdoor area. The children enjoy running up and down, building friendships and playing together, riding the bikes and scooters and singing traditional action songs/rhymes with a teacher.

Fine Motor Skills – The children enjoy threading beads, pushing pegs into the peg boards, completing jigsaws, making patterns with the compare bears, snipping with a scissors on the tuff tray and using pens, pencils on the Writing Table.

This term, we have celebrated living in Wales, St David's Day, Chinese New Year, Dydd Sante Dwynwen and Valentine's Day.

Reception

This term, the children have taken part in class assemblies about our rights and values. The children take part in daily check ins and are able to communicate whether they are happy or sad and are able to give to give a reason why. They have even been practising doing check ins in Welsh! The children learnt about internet safety and how to stay safe online. Through PE lessons, the children have learnt different dances and explored different ways of moving.

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We have also been reading lots of different Fairytales and the children have enjoyed talking about the different characters and writing about how the characters are feeling.



Year 1

Throughout the term the pupils have taken part in a number of circle time activities to develop an understanding of how to keep their minds and their bodies healthy, happy and safe.

At the start of the term the pupils discussed the new year and looked at positive changes. The pupils discussed what things they needed to do to have a healthy and happy and positive mind and what changes they could make.

The pupils looked at the Pantasarus video and discussed the important message behind the song.

During internet safety week the pupils learnt a number of lessons on how to keep safe online. They watched the Digi duck online story and discussed the importance of being kind when sharing online. They also listened to the story about Samira and how some people can try and trick (scam) you online.

The children also listened to the story 'The Rainbow Fish' and discussed what it means to be a good friend and how sharing and being kind is important. They also used the book to explore the ideas that everyone is different, and everyone is unique and made a giant Rainbow Fish for the 'Show Racism the Red card' competition.

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This term Year 1 have been focusing on circuit training during their PE lessons. They have developed an understanding of why it is important to warm up and cool down when doing physical exercise as well as the effects on their bodies. Through their circuit training they have learnt how to complete shuttle runs, hop and jump along a given path, balance and move bean bags carefully over a distance as well as how to move a ball along a pathway. The pupils have also enjoyed taking their learning outside and using a variety of resources such as hoops bikes and scooters to develop their gross motor skills.

The pupils enjoyed finding out about the work of the NSPCC and took part in a variety of activities to raise money to support them, including a minute circuit of physical activities.

Year 2

This term, the children have been taking part in workshops with the Spectrum Project, which the children have really enjoyed. These have included an introduction to gender stereotyping, recognising emotions and safety zones and they have allowed opportunity for some fantastic discussions within the classes.

Year 2 have continued to have our class assemblies with a focus on our School Value of the month, which was 'Love' and the Right of the month, 'we have the right to be the best that we can be'. The children had a go at making their own comics as they retold the story of Santes Dwywnwen in comic strip form. The children have also been learning about different family set ups and what makes us different but equal, where we all made an entry for the Show Racism the Red Card competition.

In PE this term the children have been focusing on dance. They have been learning about dancing in unison and in cannon and creating their own dances inspired by different animals from the Carnival of the Animals music they have been leaning about in Expressive Arts. The children created a sequence of movements which they practised together before performing in front of their peers and giving feedback which then helped them to improve before performing a final time. They have also been learning about traditional dances and have learnt a Chinese Dragon dance to celebrate Chine New Year and a traditional Welsh folk dance for St. David's Day.

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Year 3

To start 2024, Year 3 made some New Year's resolutions. They made promises for school and home and a wish for their family and the world.

The value of love was introduced through a variety of circle times and the children discussed the right to be the best they can be (Article 29 UNCRC).

As part of the value of love and to learn about Welsh culture, the pupils enjoyed learning about the story of Santes Dwynwen.

In PE, Year 3 have been focusing on gymnastics. They have practised different ways of travelling by thinking of pathways, levels and movements. They created sequences in pairs to show different ways of travelling. They then put these into action using the apparatus. They practised balancing, travelling and jumping on a range of apparatus such as benches, beams and wall bars.



Year 3 were very lucky to have the Spectrum Project come in to our school to lead sessions about Healthy and unhealthy relationships, Safe adults and safe places and Family relationships. The pupils took part in lots of activities to help them understand these important topics and learnt lots.

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Year 4

This term, the P.E. has been linked with Expressive Arts, the pupils have been focussing on the dance side of it. They have had the opportunity to learn and practise dances to sea-shanties. They have also undertaken pirate related games which link to our Ship Ahoy topic. In other areas of Health and Well-Being the children have been looking at what makes a good friend. They have looked at the kind things that they have done for their friends and sent out lots of positivity. The children used a piece of string and made a friendship web that showed everyone how our friendships are all interlinked.

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The children also carried out a Kindness Carousel where every child had a piece of paper with their name on it and it was passed amongst their peers and they wrote something that they admired about them on the sheet. It was a lovely activity to do and all the pupils thoroughly enjoyed knowing what the others thought of them.

Year 5

Year 5 started the year thinking about our New Year's resolutions. The pupils looked at how they can help others in school and loved ones at home. The children are going to look back at their resolutions in July and see if they were kept!

As part of our topic, 'Plastic Planet' the pupils have been looking at their local area, they undertook a litter pick in the park and the school car park. They identified that the bins are not good for recycling and are going to try to speak to someone in the council.

The children have undertaken lots of different circle time activities, their favourite one was fortunately/unfortunately and they are still adding to this twisted tale.

This term year 5 has worked really hard on their dances, they have been very ambitious and completed 3. The pupils looked at combining out topic from last term and created a dance with soldier moves. They looked at the different ways a soldier would stand, march and fight,

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ready for action. The pupils next dance was for Chinese New Year, and they created a dragon dance, complete with a dragon head and hoops for the body. To complete the trio, they looked at creating an Eastern Warrior dance, this was challenging, but they all rose to the challenge and created some fantastic dances.

Next term the children are going to be honing their throwing and catching skills when they are outdoors working on striking and fielding games.

Year 6

Year 6 have been developing their tennis skills in their outdoor sessions. Pupils have focussed on developing hand eye coordination, throwing and catching, and playing a variety of tennis related games in pairs.

Pupils have also focussed on evasion skills through team games such as Benchball.

Pupils have daily check ins and weekly circle time assemblies to share how they are feeling.

Our weekly assemblies in class are linked to the value of the month and our learning powers.

Pupils complete the daily mile as much as possible to improve their Health and Well-being.

Pupils also took part in the Show Racism the Red Card competition and focussed on creating scripts and performances to convey the effects of racism.

Pupil voice

The children have enjoyed attending two Senedd meetings and have been discussing what they can do to improve their Senedd Group and what they would like to see implemented into the school. They have discussed Red Nose Day and what they would like to do to fundraise.

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**Humanities AoLE report
Spring 2025
Mrs A. Gay & Miss M. Sneade**

Nursery

Nursery plan in the Moment. This term the areas they have explored are:

Dydd Santes Dwynwyn.

Chinese New Year

St David's Day

Seasons – Winter and Spring.

Ice – Why is everything white and glittery? - children looked at the life cycle of a snowflake.

Warming up – how can we stay warm when we are outside exploring?

What happens to the birds in our garden when it gets too cold? - Exploring books about birds, birds migrating, how we can help – making our own bird feeders to hang up at home to help our local birds.

Reception

In Reception the children learnt about Dydd Santes Dwynwen and enjoyed listening to the story. They also listened to the story 'Noah's Ark' and sung some songs to help them remember the story. For St David's Day the children enjoyed learning about Saint David and they completed a variety of Welsh activities to learn about how wonderful Wales is. The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading the Fairytale of Pennard Castle and were really interested to learn about different castles.

After reading the tale of The Lady in the Lake, the children talked about special places and drew and wrote about their special place.

To celebrate Chinese New Year, the children listened to the story and made Chinese Lanterns.

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Year 1

Year 1s topic this term is called 'Splish Splash Splosh' with a focus on the water; where it comes from, how it travels and its uses. The pupils discussed the importance of water and its uses and then learnt about the water cycle and were introduced to the scientific vocabulary 'evaporation, condensation and precipitation'. They learnt how and why rain falls and created a rain gauge to measure the amount of rainfall over the week they used their numeracy skills to measure the amount of water and transferred their findings into a graph using JitData. The pupils watched a video to learn about an eco-village and how they use water sustainably, the pupils then completed a water wastage investigation to develop a greater understanding of the importance of water and using it sustainably. Whilst completing a STEM challenge the pupils learnt about how water travels and created a system to transport water from one end of the quad to another.

The pupils began their circle time activities with learning about making New Year positive changes, they revisited the Rights of the Child and the class charter, listened to the story of Chinese New Year, continued their learning about the Rainforest rangers and how they can use these skills in their everyday lives and learnt about Ramadan & Eid Al Fitr and how this is celebrated.

Pupils also participated in the Show Racism the Red Card competition, they each made their own different and unique fish scale to create a giant rainbow fish including all of the pupils in Year 1 emphasising that we are all different, unique and equal.

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Year 2

Year 2 Spring Term Topic is "Take a Walk on the Wild Side". Both year 2 classes met and discussed what they wanted to learn about. During this discussion it became apparent that the children did not know what countries made up the United Kingdom. Therefore, the children have learnt the names and positions of the countries that make up the UK. They can now locate and label the United Kingdom on individual maps. The children have also learnt a song that helped them to name the 7 continents in the world.

The children learnt about the different landscapes in Wales and looked at video clips and photographs of a variety of waterfalls in Wales. They then went on and researched waterfalls in Africa and made comparisons. This led to the children enquiring about the landscapes and climate zones of Africa and to learn about the human and physical features of Africa, again comparing all of this to Wales' landscapes.

The children have enquired about the animals of Africa and if they have rights, who cares for them and where do they live? Therefore, we will be looking at the big 5 animals of Africa, exploring why National Parks are needed, the children will find out the location of the National parks and their history.

The Year 2 children have learnt about St. Dwynwen and to celebrate Dydd Santes Dwynwen, the children wrote a comic strip. The children have also celebrated the Chinese New Year, where they have sequenced the animal race and researched which animal represents the

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year that they were born. Working in their talking partners, the pupils discussed the characteristics of the animals and if there were any similarities to their own characteristics. The pupils will also participate in St David's Day and Mothering Sunday activities. Applying their knowledge of religions, pupils compared the Christian celebration of Easter to other religious celebrations around the world.

Year 3

Year 3 started their new topic of 'Big Wide World' by looking at photos of the local area in the past and seeing if they could identify where they are. They compared the past and present photos and discussed what had changed and why. The children started looking at different forms of transport that helps people get around our local area and the world. They found out about key events in the history of transport and created a timeline of these. They then compared forms of transport now and in the past and identified changes and discussed reasons why they have changed. They went on a walk in the local area and took part in a transport survey to collect data about the types of transport in our area. They used this data to create a bar chart and analysed the data.

The children have started to learn about important journeys in religions. They started by looking at the pilgrimage to St David's and then looked at Hajj.

Year 4

Year 4 learned about New Year traditions in Wales, in particular, Hen Galan, and compared them to traditions around the world. They were asked about resolutions they could make to create their ideal future for themselves, their families and friends, the school, the local area and the world, and what they could do to achieve these.

As they were attending a residential to Cardiff which included a visit to the Senedd, the children learnt about the Welsh Government and about the Senedd building. The lady who guided the children around the Senedd building was impressed with their knowledge! The topic is Ship Ahoy, so the children learnt about the Welsh pirate Barti Ddu. They were then asked to work with a partner to create a PowerPoint about a Welsh pirate, they could do Barti Ddu, Henry Morgan, Hywel Davies or John Evans. They had to include animations and transitions in their PowerPoints. They visited the Waterfront Museum and visited a pirate! He told them all about pirates, the facts and the fiction.

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Year 4 were asked to complete work on Show Racism the Red Card in the Humanities lesson. The children learnt about an American boxer called Lloyd 'Kid' Davis, who then lived in and raised a family in Swansea and undertook tasks to present information about him. The children learnt about Copperopolis, creating questions and then researching the answers. Over the coming weeks, the children will be learning about National days in the UK, which links with Welsh Week. They will then learn about Titanic and the social classes. The children will also learn about Ramadan and Eid, the significance of water in different religions, and Easter.

Year 5

This term, our topic is Plastic Planet, and the children began by thinking about what they already know about plastic and recycling and what they wanted to find out. The children then began looking at the history of plastic by undertaking research with peers, particularly focusing on why plastic was invented and what it was used for. We then started to focus on our school and the local area. We discussed as a class what we do in Burlais to help the environment and what Swansea does. The pupils then read articles online about Swansea being one of the best counties in Wales for recycling. Following this, the pupils brainstormed ideas for what we could do as a school to help our local area. The children were keen to undertake a local litter pick, so we completed this in our local park and around the school grounds. The pupils then created and displayed a variety of recycling and littering posters around our school.

Next, the pupils looked at statistics and information about recycling and created a shared PowerPoint with their talk partner. The children then began mapping the oceans around the

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world and found out what plastic pollutes them. They identified the living organisms that are found in the oceans and impacted by people's littering in the oceans. We will continue by looking at the infrastructures around the world and how countries without infrastructures deal with their rubbish. The pupils will also be looking at local companies and companies around the world that help with recycling items.

We have looked at a range of celebrations in year 5 this term, starting with the New Year. Pupils wrote resolutions for both home and school and why people set these at the start of each year. We then celebrated Chinese New Year and compared the two celebrations by looking at the similarities and differences. The children then looked at the zodiac animals and their meanings. We will continue to look at a range of celebrations throughout spring term including St David's Day, Ramadan and Easter.

Year 6

This term, we have been focusing on *A BRAVE NEW WORLD*. This topic is themed around history, human achievement and breakthroughs within humanity.

Within history, we have learnt about The Space Race of the 1960s, the political impacts of this historic event and the Moon Landing of 1969. We learnt about Hamilton's influence on NASA's missions, and her groundbreaking flight coding.

We have learnt about other notables, including Albert Einstein, Issac Newton, Alan Turing, Marie Curie, Lionardo Di Vinci, David Attenborough and more modern notable figures including Great Thunberg, Elon Musk and Mr. Beast.

We have discussed climate change, and the impact the changing weather has on humanity.

Within RE, we have learnt about Ramadan and how faiths are celebrated. We have contrasted religions and looked at similar, and different features of faiths.

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Humanities Senedd Group:

The Humanities Senedd group have tidied and placed religious artefacts in the Prayer room and requested a curtain pole to go up. The Senedd believe this will encourage the pupils to be respectful and quiet in the area. The children have also decided to display work from all year groups relating to festivals and celebrations around the world, within this area. This will begin during our next Senedd

LLC Report to Governors – Spring 2025 Miss H. Hill and Mrs S. Young

Nursery

Through their Planning in the Moment ethos, the Nursery children have enjoyed a range of activities this term such as:

English

Talking - My favourite Christmas Holiday memory. Telling stories; stories we already know, and making up brand new ones on our own and with a grown up!

Letter Sounds (*am Nursery*) - finding out new Read, Write, Inc sounds every week and recapping ones we've already learnt. Mrs Jones checked to see what we knew, and she was so impressed with how many of us know the sounds we have practised so far with confidence!

Listening – Listening to and following instructions given to the group and individually. Transitional instructions during class time. Boundary and risk taking instructions during Welly Wednesday. Listening to the stories and following the action songs during gym (*pm*).

Reading – Listening to stories with a grown up, in a group or as a part of the whole class. Finding out new things by reading books, looking on Google on the iPad. Holding a book as a reader. 'Reading' to our friends. Recognising my name when I come into class – check in.

Singing – singing lots of songs throughout the day. Joining in with songs I recognise. Learning new songs about the season. Learning new songs in Welsh – Ffalala.

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My Name – Finding out about my own name. Learning to recognise my name within a group of names.

Emergent writing – lots of opportunities for mark making and emergent writing. Using our check in name cards to support ourselves when we are writing our names/making marks to represent our names.

World Book Day – Listening to stories, thinking about characters, colouring in bookmarks.

Reception

English

The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of fine motor and funky fingers activities to get them ready for writing.

The children take part in daily RWI sessions 4 times a week and are eager to learn new sounds and try and 'Fred Talk' different words.

As part of our topic 'Traditional Tales', we have read lots of different Fairytales which the children have thoroughly enjoyed! Through our new 'Drawing Club' work the children have learnt some new vocabulary to go with each Fairytale and have enjoyed 'adventure Time' where they take the story even further and have had to think about a dilemma...E.G There is a new animal coming over the Troll's bridge. Who is it and how will they get away from the Troll? The children have been trying really hard to write what they think in their books.

The children enjoyed talking about their Christmas holidays and used some Pie Corbett actions to help them tell the rest of the class. They then used some sentence starters to write down what they had done.

As part of their oracy, the children talked about the different characters in the Fairytales and how the characters are feeling.

This term the children have been looking at Birthday Invitations and the different features used to persuade someone to come to a birthday party. They then wrote their own birthday invitations.

Welsh

The children have learnt how to say about their likes and dislikes answer Wyt ti'n hoffi...? The children have been looking to answer in the third person and using Jit, they drew a picture of their friend and wrote 'Dyma _____'.

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Using the Tedi Twt books, the children have been learning about the different foods and have enjoyed playing 'food bingo'. They have also been learning different parts of the body and learning how to say if they are not feeling very well. The children have taken part in weekly Welsh singing lessons and have learned a variety of Welsh songs including Aderyn Melyn, Heno, Heno and Mi Welais Jac y Do'. They have also thoroughly enjoyed singing our 'Ffa La La' songs and are even singing them to themselves whilst they are playing!

Year 1

The children are scheduled a reading day every week and follow the RWI reading scheme or Oxford Reading Tree depending on their reading ability. They also have library cards which gives them the opportunity to take home a book from our school library and then return it for a new one.

They participate in RWI sessions suited to their specific ability which helps them develop their phonics/sounds, blend CVC words by reading. This involves shared reading and then reading with a partner for Ditty stories.

The children also have storytime at the end of each day and the children listen to an adult reading them a story with expressions and gestures throughout. The children are given opportunities throughout the story to answer questions, share thoughts/ideas, repeat parts of the story when necessary, this encourages them to role play.

Pupils have also been introduced to the app Teach Your Monster to Read, they are able to use this in their independent challenges to develop their sound recognition and blending, their log in details have been shared with parents and some children are using this app at home to help them in their reading.

Writing

Children wrote all about themselves at the start of the Spring term independently for their progression writing.

They have learnt the non-negotiables for LLC which are displayed for them to use when writing. They have used these along with a WAGOLL to write sentences about the value of water and why we need water.

The children have learnt about Onomatopoeia poems and created a word mat of words that sound like water, as a whole class. They then used this word mat to write their own poems, some children were able to use their imaginations and create longer poems which adjectives.

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They have learnt to label their diagrams when drawing their front covers, creating a Water Cycle diagram and any pictures they have drawn for our Splish, Splash, Splosh topic that they have labelled.

The children are timetabled once a week to practice their handwriting skills and letter formations, this includes them participating in 'Dough Disco' to improve their fine motor skills; then practising using gross motor movements and the use of sand, whiteboards etc; they then write into their handwriting books using WAGOLL in their books given by adult.

The children have a spelling quiz every Friday so they are encouraged to practise their spelling words using a variety of resources e.g. sand, chalkboards, paint and cotton buds, colouring pencils, crayons etc, within the classroom.

Speaking and Listening

Pupils have had lots of opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills through whole class carpet time, paired and group working using Think, Pair, Share strategies and 'Talk Partners'. Talk Partners are changed weekly and are used in all of our carpet time sessions to encourage whole class participation in discussions. Pupils have the opportunity to express their opinions during class assemblies and participate in circle time sessions, where they are encouraged to develop their good listening skills as well as developing their confidence when speaking in front of others.

Pupils learnt the Water Cycle song and developed actions to enhance their performance. They have also learnt a number of different songs e.g. The Shape Song on youtube where they have created actions themselves, this has been a great hit with them!

Welsh

The children take part in daily Slot Drillio sessions that consist of about 10-12 minutes where the children have been singing many of the Ffalala songs with actions. They sing numbers, days of the week, the weather song and colours. Each day our Helpwr Heddiws ask and answer simple questions to and from the rest of the class which include: Pwy wyt ti, Syt wyt ti a pam, Ble wyt ti'n byw, Faint ydy dy oed di, Beth wyt ti'n hoffi/Beth wyt ti ddim yn hoffi, Syt mae'r tawedd heddiw?

Pupils have really enjoyed using the Tric a Chlic scheme to learn new Welsh sounds and sentence patterns. Pupils complete four activities over two sessions, these include spelling

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new Welsh vocabulary, reading Tric a Chlic Melyn books, building a sentence using the sentence pattern games to help them to write sentences independently and using the Tric a Chlic app.

They children have also been singing many Welsh songs during our singing assemblies following the Ffalala scheme.

Year 2

Speaking and Listening:

There have been lots of opportunities for the children to develop their oracy skills. We started the term by gathering as a year group and discussed our new topic, 'A Walk on the Wild Side'. The children were wonderful at sharing their thoughts and ideas on what they would like to learn about. There have been opportunities weekly to take turns to share news and ideas on a range of topics and develop listening skills.

Reading:

The children have continued to take part in daily RWI sessions, targeted at their personal ability level. Activities have included phonics work (speed sounds), learning tricky words (red words), shared reading and reading with confidence and expression and fluency.

The children also have individual reading books which they take home to practise each week and are listened to 1-1 with an adult in class.

The children all thoroughly enjoy our daily story time and love to spend time in our class book corners, looking at books with their friends and reading for pleasure.

Writing

At the start of the term, the children learnt about waterfalls in both South Wales and Africa. Following discussion and brainstorming we wrote facts about our favourites. They also learnt about the different landscapes in Africa and wrote descriptions of each.

The children watched a PowerPoint about St Dwynwen and discussed the feelings exposed in the story, such as love, hate and sadness. The children used their knowledge and

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understanding of the story to produce a simple comic strip, with pictures, sentences and speech bubbles. The children thoroughly enjoyed this creative writing task. Through our learning about Chinese New Year, we discussed the characteristics of each animal and wrote about the animal for the year we were born.

Welsh:

Year 2 have enjoyed their weekly Tric a Chlic sessions. They have been learning the Welsh alphabet and new sentence patterns. Each week they undertake a range of activities such as, reading a new story with an adult, playing matching picture and sentence card games, writing simple sentences, asking and answering questions and exploring the Tric a Chlic app on the class iPads.

New to us this term has been singing Welsh language patterns through 'Ffa-la-la'. The children have really enjoyed participating with actions, singing along and learning new sentence patterns.

The children have continued to learn new vocabulary and practise daily learnt questions, answers and simple phrases through slot drilio sessions and incidentally throughout the day. Our confidence has really grown!

Year 3

Year 3 enjoyed a visit to Brynhyfryd library during their first week back after the holidays, where they enjoyed looking at the range of books, sharing them with friends and chose one book to check out and bring back to school.

By visiting the library, bringing in our own novels and regularly using our reading area, we have nurtured a love of reading in Year 3. It has been a pleasure to see children reading for a book during the school day.

The children have regularly signed into their Epic Books accounts to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.

The children have also explored a range of information text examples to help them pick out the features of this text.

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Writing

The children explored the features of information texts and found them in a variety of texts about transport. They then used these features to plan and write their own information page about a chosen method of transport. They followed the success criteria to make sure they included all of the features. They used Kiddle and J2e to copy and paste images and write captions to add to their information page.

The children have also looked at explanation texts to identify the features. They used this knowledge to write their own explanation text about friction following on from their science investigation. They used J2create to write up their explanation and add images.

British Sign Language

The children have enjoyed learning the British sign language for the alphabet, they have learnt to sign their own names and basic greetings. During Number day, the children learnt how to count up to 100 in sign language. After this session the children decided during our EPIC discussion that they would like to learn how to use sign language for: colours, learn a song in sign language, learn basic questions, food and animals in sign language.

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Cymraeg Oracy

On a regular basis the children have been focussing on a variety of sentence patterns that they have been learning or also need to learn to support their third person profiles. Children get the opportunity to ask and answer questions with their talking partners.

Oracy, Reading and Writing

During all lessons this half term the children have been given the opportunity to speak, read and write in preparation for their third person profiles. We have used questionnaire/survey style activities where the children have been able to get up and walk around the classroom to ask and answer questions. To engage the children, they have asked and answered questions about well-known celebrities including Mr Thompson and about themselves. Once the children had gathered their information they were able to write down a series of third person sentences about each person. In other lessons, they also stuck photos of celebrities and used them to write third person sentences. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning Welsh in this way and it was a pleasure to see how these lessons impacted on their ability to speak, read and write simple Welsh phrases and to enjoy as they learn our nation's language! Before February half term the children created a third person profile on a person of their choice. There was a mix of well known footballers, family members and their friends.

Year 4

Writing

Year 4 have demonstrated their creative writing skills by writing fantastic setting descriptions of a desert island, skillfully including metaphors, similes, and alliteration to bring their scenes to life. Their children created a fantastic piece of writing on the explanation of The Water Cycle. During Children's Mental Health Week, the children expressed their thoughts and feelings through lovely acrostic poems about themselves, highlighting their individuality and creativity. The children will be looking at persuasive writing, aiming to convince the people of Swansea to take action against polluting the marina.

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Oracy/Speaking

Throughout the term, Year 4 participated in eight reading behavior lessons, focusing on predicting outcomes and developing questions about their class novel Kensuke's Kingdom. These activities have helped them enhance their speaking and listening skills, as they engage in discussions and share their thoughts with their peers.

Reading

Year 4 have been thoroughly engaged in their literacy lessons this term, with the topic "Ship Ahoy" sparking their imaginations. They have been reading "Kensuke's Kingdom" as a class novel, which has provided a rich context for their learning. The children have shown great enthusiasm and comprehension during their reading sessions. The children have taken part in a reading scavenger hunt linked to the text and have also been reading to develop vocabulary using the Frayer model. The children enjoyed a trip to Brynhyfryd Library where they had the opportunity to explore lots of lovely books and broaden their interest. The children are developing a love for reading in year 4 and the children enjoy taking part in daily reading sessions where they enjoy reading for pleasure.

Welsh

Year 4 have been focusing on past tense this term. They have been enjoying practising the sentence patterns during daily Slot Drillio sessions. The children have written a fantastic recount of their residential trip to Cardiff. The children have been looking at different books in Welsh and English and using the sentence patterns to write a book review.

The children have really enjoyed taking part in Slot Drillio sessions, they have been exploring past tense and telling their partners about their weekend news. The children have enjoyed learning the Welsh alphabet, singing Ffa la la songs and playing Welsh games with their talk partners. We have recently introduced 'Capten Cymraeg' and the children are actively engaged in finding out who the daily secret speaker is. The children are trying very hard with their incidental Welsh and are making lots of progress.

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Year 5

To start the year 5 were lucky to be able to visit Brynhyfryd library. The children loved choosing a book and swapping and sharing them when back at school. The kind Mrs Aldron there was so helpful and made up a box of fiction and non-fiction books for our Plastic Planet topic. We have been working really hard on our reading this year so far and are starting to develop a love for reading.

Writing.

Year 5 started the year thinking about New year's Resolutions and completed a recount of our holiday. To begin our new topic, they completed a word wall of all words we could think of associated with plastic planet, they thought of quite a few! The learners have concentrated on a lot of grammar and have been applying this in their work. The children have a weekly individually tailored spelling test and times tables test. They have also been learning about spelling rules to help their learning.

Reading

In year 5 we have a daily ERIC session as well as daily, weekly and guided reading sessions. We are fostering a love of reading and lots of discussions about the books we have read and helping each other to choose books. They have been enjoying our class novel and other books associated with our topic.

Speaking & Listening

All children are encouraged to participate in discussions and give their opinions. They are encouraged to talk and listen well with their peers and focus on predicting outcomes and developing questions about their topic. The children engage in research activities and regularly feed back to the rest of the class, where pupils are able to snowball their ideas, findings and opinions. These activities have helped them enhance their speaking and listening skills, as they engage in discussions and share their thoughts with their peers.

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Cymraeg

Year 5 started our Spring term by recapping our learning from last term and creating an Adobe Spark about themselves, whilst recording Welsh sentences over the slides. The children included likes, dislikes, variation in sentence patterns, extension of sentences and reasons.

We then started focusing on third person, where pupils used sentence patterns to describe their friend. We have been focusing on using mae e'n/mae hi'n correctly and asking and answering questions with their talk partners. We then moved on to describing celebrities linked to our topic and thought about reasons why they would feel this way.

For Dydd Miwsig Cymraeg, pupils listened to a range of Welsh songs and artists and appraised them. They then completed a variety of sentences patterns about their favourite artists and songs, with reasons why. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this lesson and even asked to play some of the songs again!

For our topic, Plastic Planet, we have been learning about Ailgylchu yn Abertawe (recycling in Swansea) in our Welsh lessons. Pupils have sorted items into the correct bins and bags using Welsh labels, created posters in Welsh to encourage people to recycle and have used a range of topical vocabulary.

During spring term, we have had a big emphasis on slot drillio in year 5 and we have set up Ninja Cymraeg. Our pupils are engaging in daily Welsh activities, from singing Ffa la la songs, to playing games with their talk partners and practicing our vocabulary and pronunciation. Our pupils are working incredibly hard and are using a lot more incidental Welsh throughout the day too!

Year 6 Welsh

Pupils are encouraged to use incidental Welsh throughout the day and are using Welsh comments when peer assessing. We have reinforced language patterns using Word Wall websites during lessons and completed daily slot drilio sessions. We have developed our oracy and writing skills when learning about New Year's resolutions. Our reading comprehension tasks have focussed on third person patterns. We have then written about other people in the third person.

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Spanish

Pupils have had a Spanish lesson prepared by Pentre Hafod comprehensive school. They have focussed on numbers.

Reading

We have had 20 minutes daily reading time during ERIC (*Everyone reading in class*) sessions, and we have read our class novel, *The Ten Riddles of Eartha Quicksmith*, at the end of every day with all pupils having access to a copy of the novel. We have also focussed on reading behaviours I.e. prediction skills. Pupils have taken books home to read and bring back to class to be listened to or to change their book on either a Monday or a Tuesday.

Writing

Pupils have written an information text (technology in the classroom). We have focussed on grammar skills including double commas, compound sentences, and complex sentences. We have weekly spelling tests and have learned about various spelling strategies / rules.

Speaking and Listening

Pupils have developed their speaking and listening skills in lessons by asking and answering questions. We activate our prior knowledge with 2 questions for our partner each lesson and then feedback to the class. We have also developed this to larger groups where each member of the group has a role I.e. speaker, scribe, mediator etc. Pupils have also written scripts as part of story writing lessons and performed them.

Pupil Voice

- In our first Senedd meeting of the year, the LLC team joined with the Expressive Arts Senedd and discussed how the upstairs learning lounge could be developed. They voted on a theme and will spend the next few months decorating and organising it in time for a big reveal for Burlais Book Day at the end of Spring term.

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- In the second meeting, the group discussed ideas for Welsh Week celebrations. They decided to hold an Eisteddod again at the end of the week to announce winners of competitions and celebrate St David's Day. They came up with lots of ideas for activities to complete in class and a home competition.

Mathematics and Numeracy Coordinators Report – Spring 2025 **Mr. K. Meredith Williams**

Nursery

The pupils in nursery have developed their understanding of numbers in the number system by exploring what numbers look like, they have taken part in a variety of activities outside and explored mark making using chalk, frost and water, matching them to different cards. They have consolidated their understanding of different representations of numbers using a range of manipulatives including Numicon plates and finding 1 more and 1 less. The pupils have developed an increasing understanding of 2d shapes by playing what shape am I as well as using 2d shapes to create pictures. As part of their Chinese New Year Celebrations the pupils explored ordinal numbers, ordering numbers 1-5. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed consolidating their understanding of mathematics and numeracy by using a range of ICT games on Topmarks.

Reception

This term the pupils in Reception have been exploring numbers 1-10 and have been representing and composing them using a range of concrete resources and also pictorially. They have also looked at one more and one less with these numbers. They then moved on to look at shapes and were able to sort shapes based on their different properties. The pupils then moved on to comparing mass and worked with the weighing scales to compare weights of different objects and work out how to find a balance. They then looked at comparing capacity using different containers and learned the correct vocabulary to describe the capacity. Towards the second half of the term the pupils moved on to odd and even numbers and doubling using a range of concrete resources.

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Numeracy across the curriculum

The pupils have used Numicon to print, paint and create their own pieces of art. Whilst working on their topic of 'Traditional Tales' the pupils used Jack's magic beans from Jack and the Beanstalk to help them recognise odd and even numbers. They also used different shape Lego to help them design a bridge for the goats in the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'. Towards the end of this topic, they will also be also creating a class table and graph on JiT to show which Fairytale was their favourite.

Year 1

This term Year 1 have had a big focus on developing skills in addition and subtraction. They have represented both addition and subtraction using the part whole model as well as representing problems through drawing pictures and writing number sentences. They have explored adding two amounts together as well as adding more to an original amount. They developed their problem-solving skills in a variety of ways, including creating their own word problems and solving problems, choosing their own way to represent these. The pupils have explored number bonds making the link between subtraction and addition. E.g. $7+2=9$, $9-2=7$. As well as using a number line to calculate subtraction problems. They have also developed an understanding of the law of commutativity in terms of addition. They pupils have thoroughly enjoyed using a range of Topmarks mathematics games to support their learning as well as the Numbots app.

Numeracy across the curriculum

The pupils have applied their knowledge of measuring using non-standard units, when they measured the amount of rainfall that fell over a week. They created a whole class graph on J.I.T and developed their skills in analysing data by looking at the graph and answering a range of questions.

NSPCC

The pupils enjoyed taking part in number day to raise money for the NSPCC. They took part in a number of competitions including dressing up in a costume related to numbers as well as guessing how many sweets in a jar. They enjoyed taking their learning outside and completed minute circuits of different exercises as well as playing a variety of number games in class.

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Year 2

This term Year 2 developed their skills in addition and subtraction. They have represented both addition and subtraction using the part whole model, 10 base and ten frames, all used to reinforce and further develop the pupil's partitioning skills. They have explored number bonds to 10, bonds to 20 and 100. They have used this knowledge of bonds to identify related facts for both addition and subtraction calculations. The pupils have added by making 10, added to the next 10 and added across 10, reinforcing their understanding of place value. The pupils will be subtracting across 10, from a 10 and will also use the inequality symbols to compare number sentences. The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed using a range of Topmarks mathematics games to support their learning as well as the Numbots app.

Numeracy across the curriculum

The pupils have enjoyed applying their knowledge of number bonds to solve a variety of word problems – Eggs in a basket and monies in a Chinese New Year envelope. Requiring the pupils to read, identify and extract the important information, use that given information to work out the calculations, resulting in them solving the problems.

The pupils have sorted human and physical land features and completed a Venn diagram of animals into herbivore, carnivore and omnivores.

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NSPCC Day the pupils enjoyed dressing up and participating in a variety of fun mathematically based activities- Crack the Code, Snake and Ladders, Number Bot Trump Cards and guess how many sweets in a jar.

Year 3

Year 3 started the term by looking at multiplication and division. They learnt about equal groups and created arrays using a range of resources to represent multiplications. They then used these arrays to help them learn about the 2, 3-, 4-, 5- and 10-times tables. They also practised division alongside this to share and group and use the \div symbol to represent in number sentences.

The pupils have enjoyed playing lots of different games to practise and learn their times tables, especially online games such as TTRS, Hit the Button, timestables.co.uk and Splash Learn. They have also enjoyed lots of songs and movements to help learn their times tables using BBC Super movers.

The pupils enjoyed taking part in NSPCC Number Day where they took part in a range of games and activities involving number.

The pupils have started to learn about length by measuring in m, cm and mm and starting to convert these measurements.



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Numeracy across the curriculum

Year 3 used their numeracy skills to create a timeline of key events in the history of transport. They also created their own alien top trumps cards and used these to create a database using J2Data. They have also used their measuring skills in a friction investigation to measure how far the car travelled on each surface.

Year 4

Year 4 started off their term by diving deeper into multiplication and division. The pupils have built an understanding of these operations through the Concrete, Pictorial, and Abstract approach. They have identified the connection between multiplication and division, using the inverse to verify their calculations, and applying their previous term's learning. Pupils have tackled multiplication and division problems using both formal and informal methods, using their knowledge of times tables to support their learning. Pupils have recognised the importance of knowing their times tables and have engaged excellently in Times Tables Rockstars.

Additionally, pupils explored area and have enjoyed creating Area Robots. The pupils have been looking at fractions, and have been identifying fractions of shapes, amounts, adding fractions and looking at equivalent fractions. Pupils applied this learning to learn about decimals and percentages and could recognise the relationships.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum

As part of their 'Ship Ahoy' topic, pupils also learned about capacity. The pupils have created databases on Titanic passengers. In the Show Racism the Red Card initiative, our pupils created a timeline of Lloyd Kid Davies. The pupils enjoyed taking part in Number Day, they enjoyed playing a range of different games and taking part in a range of different maths activities.

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Year 5

Year 5 began spring term by continuing to work on the four operations, mainly focusing on multiplication and division. The pupils learnt various methods that can be used to complete these operations, checked their answers using inverse operations, practised their mental maths using online games like TTRS and then applied their skills by completing problem solving and reasoning activities, some of which were related to their current topic. Following this, the pupils began to develop their skills in the geometry what matters statement. They developed their skills of estimating and measuring and found the differences of perimeter and areas. They explored measuring the perimeter of plastic items within our classroom, measured the football pitches outside on the yard with the trundle wheel and then measured the area of rectangles, rectilinear shapes and compound shapes. The pupils applied their skills when they became designers and designed their ideal bedroom, calculating the area of all the items inside, using the squares in their maths books and then moved on to ordering, comparing using mathematical symbols and finding the range of different areas and perimeters.

To continue our work on measure, the pupils began to look at measuring length, weight and volume. We looked at, compared and converted standard units of measurement and measured the length, weight and volume of various items around our classrooms using the correct formulae.

The pupils have been working extremely hard for their weekly times tables tests as well as practising their mental maths at the start of each maths lesson and in their 'target time'. To celebrate NSPCC number day, year 5 enjoyed completing number riddles with their talk partners and took part in a Maths hunt around our school, where pupils needed to find various items, formulae, maths equipment to satisfy the statements on their worksheet. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this activity!

Numeracy Across the Curriculum

The pupils have applied their numeracy skills within our topic Plastic Planet when looking at statistics linked to pollution in Swansea, Wales and worldwide. They have conducted research of our planet's oceans, linked to measure and have compared these. The pupils also applied their measuring skills during our science investigations when measuring the ingredients using

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different scales. The pupils have also used Venn diagrams to compare similarities and differences of the Christian New Year celebrations and Chinese New Year.

Year 6

The Year 6 pupils have developed a range of skills across a variety of What Matters statements. In Number and the number system the pupils have a big focus on developing their understanding of division, including division using remainders, remainders as fractions and long division. The pupils have also explored fractions, decimals and percentages.

In the geometry What Matters Statement the pupils have explored coordinates within the 4 quadrants of the Cartesian scale, as well as developing their skills in calculating the area of both regular and irregular 2D shapes, including triangles.

Throughout all mathematical concepts the pupils have been developing their understanding of the five proficiencies and the associated vocabulary so they can understand which area(s) they're working within.

Numeracy Across the Curriculum

The pupils have applied their skills in statistics across the curriculum, where they have explored collecting and representing data in a variety of ways. They have also analysed data, including calculating the mean, median, mode and range. Some pupils have begun to develop their skills further by identifying and investigating anomalies in data.

13.2.25 - KMW attended the cluster Mathematics and Numeracy meeting. Staff discussed and created planning document through the 5 proficiencies for analysing data and will also complete forms for representing data and collecting data. The cluster used the documents that we are currently using

Pupil Voice

- The pupil voice group met to plan the NSPCC number day.
- The pupils presented in assembly to inform the rest of the school about the upcoming events.

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- Throughout the week the pupils were responsible for organising the guess how many sweets in the jar competition.
- On the day the pupils were responsible for running the fancy dress competition.
- Pupils dressed up and took part in a variety of number related activities and raised £195 for the NSPCC.

Science & Technology Spring 2025 Mr. D. Webster

Introduction

The start of the Spring Term has been productive for work within our AOLE. There seems to be plenty of exciting work going on around the school, and I have seen some excellent examples of practical investigation work.

Pupil Voice

Our pupil Senedd Group have decided that they'd like to conduct an audit of the equipment we have in school. They sent a message to staff, and have asked Mr. Thompson for some time to look at the existing science & technology equipment within the science cupboard.

Nursery

Let's Explore:

Winter Weather – What an exciting return to school when we were lucky enough to have a few cold weeks. The ground was so cold and icy and so were all of our toys in the outdoor area. We discovered that if you put your warm hand on the ice cold frost, it will leave a melted handprint shape!

Seasons – Winter; we read books in small groups and looked on Google on the iPads. The life cycle of a snowflake – we found out about the life cycle of a snowflake through a story book. This was a whole class activity that led to some boys and girls making their own magical snowflake pictures using white crayon and watery blue paint.

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DCF – Internet Safety Day – Listening to the stories online and talking about how to stay safe on the internet. We thought about what we should do if we are worried.

New life/plants growing – exploring our outdoor areas – we found our first daffodils and the start of buds growing on the trees/our willow dome.

Reception

In Reception our focus for Science and Technology for the next half term is looking at the basic properties of different materials and how they look and feel. Through our work on 'Traditional Tale' our investigation will be to find out which material would be the best to use for the Three Little Pigs to build their house out of. The children will use the different materials to build a house for each pig and carry out tests to see which house has the best material and why.

In Design and technology, the children looked at different bridges from around the world and using Lego printing, they designed their own bridge. Then using the different blocks in the construction area, the children built these different bridges and tested them to see if they were strong enough and if the animals were able to cross like in the story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'.

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Year One

This term Year 1's topic is Splish, splash, splosh. The pupils have been really enjoying this topic and have developed a range of scientific and technological skills and knowledge.

Design and Technology – The pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking their learning outside and worked together to create a method of transporting water across the quad. They showed excellent collaborative skills to identify and solve the problems that arose and showed amazing resilience and perseverance to complete the task.

The pupils also had an email from Tedi Twt asking them to design and make an umbrella for him. They used their knowledge of waterproof/non-waterproof materials and worked in small groups to create and test their products.

Science

The pupils investigated waterproof and non-waterproof materials. They made predictions and carefully observed what happened and recorded their results. They made sure they counted

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the same amount of water drops to make sure it was a fair test. They applied the knowledge gained from this activity to design, make and test their umbrellas for Tedi Twt. The pupils explored the density of different liquids by using a range of different liquids to create a colourful rainbow in a glass.

Technology

The pupils have been developing their coding skills by using the Tynker junior app on the iPad.

Year Two

Year 2 Spring Term Topic is 'Take A Walk on the Wild Side.' The children have been really enjoying this topic and are keen to satisfy their curiosity and develop their knowledge and understanding about African Animals.

Science

The children have enquired about the animals of Africa and if they have rights, who cares for them and where do they live? Therefore, we will be learning about the big 5 animals in Africa, the children will write facts about their chosen animals, such as height, weight, habitat and diet. The children will look at the life cycle of the animals, what endangered means and an animal's diet, sorting animals into herbivores, carnivores and omnivores categories.

Technology

The children enjoyed the story about Samira which was very effective in helping the children to understand what personal information you can share and which ones you can't or shouldn't share and how to ask for help. The children also enjoyed creating an internet safety poster reminding themselves the do's and don'ts when online.

To celebrate Welsh Week the children will use Jit to 'paint' and design their Welsh Dragon. The children will sort the animals using branch data.

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D&T

We will be using scales to measure ingredients accurately and following a recipe to make their own Welsh cakes during Welsh Week.

Year Three

Year 3 have found out about friction and took part in an investigation to find out how cars move along different surfaces. They made predictions, recorded results and wrote a conclusion. They used this information to write an explanation text about how friction works using J2create to produce it.

The children took part in Safer Internet Day to find out about how to stay safe online and be aware of scams. They have used J2data to create databases using the alien top trump cards they designed. They have also used 'Hour of Code' to create animations using the Dance Party game.

Year Four

Science

Year 4 started their science work by completing a concept cartoon about forces, using their prior knowledge to answer the question. Next, we built on their knowledge by learning about pushes and pulls. They children were asked to find objects in the class that moved using forces. The challenge was to find an object that was moved only by using a force in one direction. The children learnt about Sir Isaac Newton and gravity. The children undertook an investigation, they were asked what they thought would happen if 2 bottles, one full and one half full were dropped at the same time.

Next the children learnt about the Water Cycle. They drew and labelled the water cycle in their books and then created their own mini water cycles using plastic bags. These were displayed in the classroom so that they children could see the water cycle in action.

The children then learnt about magnets, identifying magnetic and non-magnetic objects, identifying what they noticed about the objects in each category. They also learn about the discovery of magnets.

The children will be learning about buoyancy and will be using junk modelling to create boats.

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Year Five

The topic for year 5 this term is Plastic Planet; they started the term's work by looking at plastic items in school, at home and in the local and wider environment. They found out that there is a lot of plastic around us.

The next task was to learn about the three states of matter. They researched them and found out that everything is made of matter. They then moved onto looking at the particles in the states of matter and how they are dispersed in the 3 different states.

Year 5 then moved onto changing states and if they were reversible or irreversible. The next part was the favourite, they carried out different experiments to observe chemical reactions. They had a lot of fun and learnt a lot. Their favourite task was making Oobleck. Looking at the properties of Newtonian, and non-Newtonian fluids. They also tried to make plastic!

Next term we are looking at the periodic table and element recognition and various notables in the field of chemistry such as Faraday and Nobel.

Year Six Science:

This term, Year Six have been learning about physics and some of the major breakthroughs within the field of physics.

We have focussed on Space Exploration, the planets of solar system and the moon landing of 1969.

We have learnt about planet types, gravitational pull and Sir Isaac Newton's work on forces, gravity and we investigated his theory of *Force = Mass x Acceleration, $F = MA$* .

We learnt about Albert Einstein's theories of energy and how the work of past physicists has allowed modern scientists to explore space and astronomy.

D&T:

Our Year Six pupils have used their design thinking and engineering skills to prototype a Mars Rover design and think about how their robot would navigate Mars' terrain, whilst gathering data and taking pictures of the surface of Mars.

We were lucky enough to work with Swansea University again this term. We have built a mutually beneficial relationship with the University Science department and our pupils really enjoyed the workshop they set up for us, in class at Burlais. It was a very rewarding day.

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Computational Thinking:

We have used our digital skills this term to create Microsoft Sway pages on planets of the solar system, created a database of the planets and their gravitational force/pull. We created spreadsheets, manipulating the data to order various planets due to metal(s) and gas levels.

Finally..... my thanks

The staff have gone 'above and beyond' this term to ensure not only are the children safe but are provided with an inspiring education. They have been truly amazing and a real credit to the school. Also, our wider community including our parents have supported us so much. It is humbling to lead such a wonderful team. I look forward to working together during the remainder of the academic year, onwards and upwards!

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