



"Working Together, Learning Forever"

26th February 2026

Dear parent/carer,

Very sad news

It is with a very heavy heart that I announce the sad death of Mrs. Karen Pridmore, a former teacher of the Specialist Teaching Facilities in Cwmbwrla and Burlais Primaries. Karen was an amazing teacher, person and colleague who made such a difference to pupils, their families and the whole community. She had been ill for several years and due to this, retired in 2023. I'm sure you will join me in passing on our condolences to her family and our deepest sympathies. She will always have a special place in this community and our hearts. I'm sure those of you who were fortunate to know her will miss her immensely.

Staffing updates

Mr. Matthew Wotherspoon has been successful in being appointed Deputy Headteacher of Pengelli Primary School and will leave us at Easter. I am sure you will join me in congratulating him on this promotion. He will be sadly missed by all at Burlais as he has given tremendous service to the school, pupils and community. Mr. M. Hussain will be covering his class for the rest of this academic year.

Burlais Book Day

With so much going on in such a short period, and so you do not feel too pressured, we have decided to celebrate World Book Day Friday 24th April and not on the scheduled National Day of March 5th. The children can dress as characters from books or just wear their pyjamas/night clothes as if settling down for a bedtime story. Again, please do not feel the need to buy anything new for this.

Mr M. Thompson B.A. (Educ) Hons, N.P.Q.H.

Headteacher

Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher

Gerddi Alexander

Cwmbwrla

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Red Nose Day

The children have asked to support the Red Nose charity again this year. This will take place on Friday 20th March. The children can wear something red/non-school uniform on this day with a voluntary contribution of £1 for the charity. As with all events, please do not feel pressured into buying anything new.

Easter Bonnet parade arrangements Thursday 26th March

As in previous years, the children have the chance to make Easter Bonnets at home and bring them into school for a parade for parents/carers on Thursday 26th March at 9.15 am. Parents/Carers will enter via the gate to the Infant yard at the side of the main office. The main gates to the Junior yard and Fern Street will be closed once the children are in school. Parents/carers will also exit via this gate. In the event of rain, the event will be cancelled, and the children will parade in school without parents/carers present. You will be notified via text by 8:30 am if we must cancel on the day.

For safety purposes, parents/carers will only be allowed on the infant yard and in the demarcated area. **Please do not take any photographs/videos whilst on school premises.**

Parents/carers will be welcomed to the event by Mr. Thompson. The children will be led around the outside of the school on the Infant yard by staff for you to watch. The children will walk around to the Junior yard and re-enter the building via the Breakfast Club door and return to class. Junior classes who have pupils to parade will join with Infants classes.

Mother's Day stall with gifts to buy, run by the PTFA

This will take place on the 11th and 12th March. Pupils can buy something for Mother's Day. Items will range from £1 to £5.

Parent/carers consultation meetings with teachers.

These will take place during the week commencing 16th March. Your child's class teacher will contact you this week with an appointment date and time. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to come in and see first-hand how your child is doing and what can be done to support them.

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Key dates

4th, 5th & 6th March – Y5 residential visit to Llangrannog

11th and 12th March – Mother's Day stall with gifts to buy, run by the PTFA

W/C Monday 16th March -parent/carer consultation meetings with teachers. Your child's class teacher will contact you with an appointment date and time

Friday 20th March – Red Nose Day - wear something red and voluntary contribution of £1 for the charity

Thursday 26th March – Easter Bonnet parade

Friday 27th March – Last day of term before the Easter holidays. Non-uniform day (no cost)

Monday 13th April – INSET day. School closed to pupils but open to staff.

Tuesday 14th April – pupils start back after the Easter holidays

Friday 24th April – Burlais Book Day

Mr. M. S. Thompson
Headteacher

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