



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

# Headteacher Termly Report to Parents Spring Term 2026 Mr. M.S. Thompson

## Foreword

This term is flying by! The children have been amazing and achieved fantastic things as always. As I write, lighter nights and mornings are appearing and spring is certainly on the way. I'm sure you'll enjoy seeing the wonderful things the children have been doing through the AoLe reports. Enjoy!

## Dates for your diary

4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 residential visit to Llangrannog

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

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

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

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Bonnet parade

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

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – INSET day. School closed to pupils but open to staff.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April – pupils start back after the Easter holidays

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Burlais Book Day

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## **Area reports (6 areas of the new curriculum), Pastoral & EAL report**

### **AOLE Report to Governors** **Spring Term 2026** **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 are in the process of celebrating St David's Day with an 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. For Dydd Santes Dwynwyn the children coloured in special daffodil hearts – they were yellow and they practised writing their names all by themselves ready to take them home to someone they love. For Valentine's Day the children made cards and wrote inside them 'Dw i'n cari ti' with printed heart pictures. To celebrate Chinese New Year the children used black paint on red paper and had a go at painting Chinese numbers, and finally for St David's Day the children made a Welsh flag using green paint and red handprints. They also had a go at painting a Welsh Dragon using only red paint. What a busy term!

#### **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

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

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.

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.

## 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. The children have learnt how to co construct a Success Criteria after watching the class teacher completing the challenge and creating a WAGOLL.

Using a WAGOLL they have also created their own Water Cycle using different resources e.g. card, tissue paper, glitter and cotton wool, whilst being able to explain each step in the cycle.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The children do lots of singing with actions/gestures on a daily basis. This includes Ffalala Welsh songs and they have also learnt a song about The Water Cycle. They have been introduced to body percussion and conducted their own rainstorm using different parts of their bodies to make different sounds. 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. They also made music to 'rain rain go away' using body percussion. 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 and sponges to paint.

## 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, exploring each musical piece and identifying the animal it represents.

They have also begun learning about the four families of the orchestra. The children investigated how string instruments produce sound through vibrations, identified different stringed instruments, and ordered them from highest to lowest pitch. They were given an orchestra map, which they have started to colour to create a key for the different instrument families. This will be revisited as the children are introduced to the remaining families.

Finally, the children created a gradient sunset using watercolours and selected an animal silhouette to place at the centre of their artwork.

In our PE sessions this term, we have been working on a dance topic as part of our Expressive Arts. We have been using the music from the Carnival of the Animals to also inspire our movement. We have been learning about dancing in unison and canon and choosing different animals from the music to inspire our dances. We have been taking it in turns to perform our routines to the rest of the class and the children have been encouraging their classmates with what parts of the dance worked really well and how we can make little improvements to make our routines even better. In the following session, we're recapping the suggestions from last time before we start so that we can create an even better routine each

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

time. The children have created some fantastic routines and worked really well dancing with a partner and practised team work when making decisions while dancing in a small group. In the second half of the term, we will be learning about Welsh folk dancing and dragon dances for Chinese New Year. We will be watching videos of different Chinese dances and then practising how to move like a Chinese Dragon before learning a routine as well as the Jac y Do folk dance ready for St David's day.

### 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.

On their trip to Swansea Waterfront Museum, Year 3 were lucky to have a workshop with local author and illustrator Thomas Docherty. He told the class all about being an illustrator and showed them how pictures can convey a whole story. He also showed the children the Robin Goch, the first aeroplane built in Wales, and the children had a go at designing their own aeroplanes using items found in the home.

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.



### Year 4

This term the children have been focussing on sea shanties. They learnt about the purpose of sea shanties and what the movements represented. During their PE sessions they learnt the actions to the Wellerman song and then worked in small groups to create a series of actions, with 4 movements in phrases of 8. They continued to work on their dances and performed them to the rest of the class. They also had the opportunity to learn and perform a Jewish dance for Religion Day.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*



In art lessons, the children learnt about creating tones and shades without using black or white paint. They then learnt about complementary colours and created some lovely art using what they had learnt.

## 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, the pupils discussed ways in which plastic could be reused in beneficial ways. The pupils then brought in plastic bottles and planned, designed and created reusable pots and jellyfish with these bottles.

In our P.E. lessons the children have been thinking about how a soldier would move and stand. We have then created a dance to show these. We have created a dance with 8 soldier shapes and movements; we then created lots of different linking movements to put them all together and have showcased them to the class.

## Year 6

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 filled the wheel in using the primary and secondary colours. It was created in the pointillism style. The children have 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. They also created a PowerPoint to collate all the information they learnt about Picasso and his art styles, whilst adding their own cut out features to it.

## AOLE Working Group

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The AOLE group for Expressive Arts have finished the revamp of the upstairs learning lounge. The theme chosen by the group was Space, and it certainly looks amazing. Using the models made by the children in a competition run last term, the learning lounge has had a new lease of life and all the children agree that it looks amazing. Our next project is another whole school competition that will be announced shortly and there are talks about having a Burlais Has Talent competition in the summer term. Our group has some fantastic ideas and is working hard to raise the profile of Expressive Arts across the school.

## Digital Competence Leader Report – Spring 2026 Mr. M. Wotherspoon

### Reception

Again, this term, the children 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. The children 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 used JIT to draw their friend and write 'Dyma \_\_\_\_\_' to introduce their friend.

### Year 1

As part of the topic 'Splish, Splash, Splosh' the Year 1 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 they were then able to interpret the data by answering questions and discussing their findings. The pupils continue to use the Teach Monster and Numbots apps to develop their literacy and numeracy skills, pupils are developing their independence skills by learning to log into their individual accounts. When completing their independent challenges pupils have been

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

developing competence to take photos of their work using the iPads and uploading to their Class Dojo portfolios.

## Year 2

So far this term we have continued to use the class laptops and iPads to help us improve our literacy and numeracy skills through using 'NumBots', and interactive games such as 'Topmarks-Hit the Button'. Last week we enjoyed using 'Wordwall' to help us learn the names of each continent, as part of our learning for our new topic 'Take a Walk on the Wild Side'. Pupils also learnt how to stay safe online, when using AI, in particular. The pupils learnt about the different things voice assistants can do, and thinking about which things help people, and which could upset someone.

## 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 J2 Office to word process documents and used J2 Data to create a database about alien top trumps. They used J2 Create to write an explanation about friction after their investigation. They also used J2 Create 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'.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

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 developed their understanding of citizenship by taking part in Safer Internet Day. They explored the potential dangers of the internet and learned effective strategies for avoiding and managing these risks. The children were particularly enthusiastic during the Blooket games, which allowed them to test and showcase their knowledge of online safety. They also enjoyed a drama activity where they acted out scenarios related to staying safe online. In addition, pupils learned about the importance of using secure passwords and even created their own.

Year 4 pupils have also been working collaboratively through shared documents, including a joint PowerPoint presentation on Welsh pirates. They produced their own explanatory PowerPoints on the Water Cycle too, making use of features such as layout, fonts, and images. The pupils practised their communication skills by sending emails of thanks to the Urdd following their residential visit to Cardiff. They have carried out a variety of research tasks linked to our new topic, looking into Welsh pirates, Swansea's Copperopolis, and different Jewish celebrations.

To demonstrate their data and computational thinking abilities, the pupils created detailed databases about the Titanic's crew members and passengers. They also enjoyed strengthening their coding skills by programming Micro:bits to display their names and phrases a pirate might say.

## Year 5

In Year 5 this term, pupils discussed the importance of balancing game and screen time and the mental, physical and social effects technology can have. They sorted apps into 'downtime' and 'anytime' apps, considering the pros and cons of each. Pupils have developed independence in typing while word-processing their holiday recounts. They grew confident in typing, changing text, font, colour and size, inserting pictures, using spell check and the dictate tool. They then used these skills to write an email to their class teacher with ideas for

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

our Plastic Planet topic, discussing appropriate email language and features. Pupils also strengthened their independence by organising files on their HWB accounts. For Plastic Planet, pupils used Microsoft Excel to create a database, inputting information about plastic items and their environmental impact. Year 5 also researched plastic pollution, littering and differences in infrastructure around the world, learning to identify reliable and unreliable websites and sources. Throughout the term, pupils have used iPads and laptops to support their topic work and develop their times tables and mental maths through suitable games and apps.

## Year 6

The pupils have taken part in an online safety session that focused on finding a healthy balance with screen time. They also built on their skills in using email by learning how to send attachments and set up automatic signatures. This year, the pupils have developed their ability to collaborate on Office files, sharing documents with classmates and teachers. They explored how to create databases and used this knowledge to build a database about the planets in our solar system.

In addition, they learned how to construct spreadsheets using formulae and applied this to work out people's weights on different planets. The pupils' word-processing skills have improved through using programs such as Word and Adobe, which they put into practice when typing their English information texts. They also created multimedia presentations combining sound, images, text and video, using tools like PowerPoint and Adobe.

## 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 have secured funding to support the Foundation phase with 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.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Humanities AoLE report Spring 2026 Mr G. Thomas

### Nursery

This term, Nursery pupils have been exploring the world around them through a range of stories and celebrations. Pupils enjoyed learning about Dydd Santes Dwynwen, Chinese New Year and St David's Day, using stories, songs and creative activities to begin understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs**. These experiences helped pupils develop as ethical, informed citizens who are beginning to recognise and celebrate difference.

The children also learned about the changing seasons, focusing on Winter and early Spring. They explored ice through simple investigations, asking questions such as "Why is everything white and glittery?" and listened to The Little Snowflake to learn about the life cycle of a snowflake. They talked about keeping warm outdoors and how animals cope with cold weather, supporting enquiry, exploration and investigation to **inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present**.

As part of Religion Day, pupils listened to the story of Noah's Ark and joined in simple discussions about helping and caring for others. During Collective Worship, they heard stories about friendship, sharing, being polite and helping people—important foundations for becoming healthy, confident individuals who build positive relationships.

The children also learned about birds in winter. They explored books about migration, talked about how cold weather affects local birds and made their own bird feeders to take home, beginning to understand that **our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions**.

### Reception

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Throughout the Spring term, Reception pupils explored a range of stories, celebrations and special places, helping them to develop an early understanding of themselves, others and the world around them.

To mark Dydd Santes Dwynwen, children listened to the story and shared their thoughts and feelings through discussion and simple responses. They explored themes of kindness, friendship and caring for others, supporting their development as healthy, confident individuals who are beginning to recognise and express emotions.

Pupils also enjoyed listening to the story of Noah's Ark, joining in with songs and actions to help them remember key events. Through repetition, music and movement, children began to retell parts of the story and explore ideas about caring for animals and the natural world. These experiences supported **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present.**

For St David's Day, pupils learned about Saint David and took part in a range of Welsh-themed activities. Through stories, symbols and creative work, children developed a growing awareness of Wales and their own sense of belonging, helping them to begin their journey as ethical, informed citizens of Wales.

The children showed great interest in listening to The Fairytale of Pennard Castle, which sparked curiosity about castles and the past. Through discussion and imaginative play, pupils began to understand that **events and human experiences are represented in different ways.** After reading The Lady in the Lake, children talked about special places that were important to them, drawing pictures and attempting early writing where appropriate.

As part of Burlais Religious Day, pupils explored religious symbols from Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hinduism. Through discussion and creative activities, they learned that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs,** encouraging respect and curiosity about different cultures from an early age.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*



## Year 1

This term in Year 1, pupils have been learning through the topic 'Splish, Splash, Splosh', with a strong focus on understanding the importance of water and how we use it in our everyday lives. Through pupil voice and EPIC planning, the children decided they wanted to find out where water comes from and why it is so important.

As part of this learning, pupils explored the water cycle, creating and labelling their own diagrams using scientific vocabulary such as evaporation, condensation and precipitation. They learned how rain is formed and applied this understanding through an investigation, creating a rain gauge and measuring rainfall in non-standard units over the course of a week. This practical learning helped pupils understand that our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions, while also encouraging **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present.**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Pupils watched a range of videos exploring why water is essential and how it should be cared for. They discussed ways to save water at home and in school and took part in a special Water Day, where they designed and built systems to transport water across the quad. These activities supported pupils in becoming ambitious, capable learners who enjoy problem-solving and applying learning in real-life contexts.

Weekly circle time sessions provided opportunities for pupils to reflect on New Year positive changes, revisit the Rights of the Child and their class charter, and learn about being Ready, Respectful and Safe in school. Pupils also listened to stories linked to Chinese New Year, continued their learning about Rainforest Rangers, and explored how these ideas link to caring for others and the environment. These discussions supported the understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

Through morning class assemblies, pupils learned about respect, world religions, celebrating differences and how to be a kind friend. They also took part in Show Racism the Red Card, creating songs and speeches about equality. These experiences supported pupils in developing as ethical, informed citizens who are beginning to understand fairness, kindness and responsibility.



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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Year 2

Year 2 pupils explored the topic 'Take a Walk on the Wild Side'. Both classes began by discussing what they wanted to learn, and through these conversations it became clear that pupils were unsure about the countries that make up the United Kingdom. As a result, pupils learned the names and positions of the four countries and can now confidently locate and label the UK on maps. They also learned a song to help them remember the seven continents, supporting geographical knowledge in an engaging and memorable way.

Pupils extended their learning by exploring the landscapes and climate zones of Africa. They learned about the different environments found across the continent and the animals that live within these climates. This supported the understanding that **our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions**, while encouraging **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present**.

After learning about African animals, pupils asked thoughtful questions about whether animals have rights, who protects them, and where they are safest. This led to a focus on the Big Five animals and the importance of National Parks. Pupils began exploring why these protected areas are needed, where they are located, and their history. As many pupils have never seen animals such as elephants, lions or rhinoceroses in real life, a visit to Manor Wildlife Park was organised to deepen understanding through first-hand experience. These discussions supported pupils in developing as ethical, informed citizens, considering responsibility and care for living things.

In History and RVE, pupils learned about St Dwynwen, celebrating Dydd Santes Dwynwen by creating comic strips based on her story and making cards to take home. Pupils also prepared to celebrate Chinese New Year, reading the animal zodiac story, sequencing the race and researching which animal represents their birth year. Working with talk partners, they discussed animal characteristics and made links to their own personalities.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Pupils also took part in St David's Day and Mothering Sunday activities. Through comparing the Christian celebration of Easter with other religious celebrations around the world, pupils developed an understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs**, supporting their growth as ambitious, capable learners who are curious about the wider world.

### Year 3

This term, Year 3 pupils began their new topic 'Big Wide World' by exploring transport through time. They compared photographs of transport from the past and present, identifying what had changed and discussing reasons for these changes. Pupils learned about key events in the history of transport and created a timeline to show how transport has developed over time, supporting the understanding that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways**.

Pupils then compared different forms of transport from the past and present, discussing why changes have occurred and how transport has shaped the way people live and travel. They carried out a transport survey within the local area to collect data on the types of transport used today. Using this information, pupils created bar charts and analysed the results, applying numeracy skills in a meaningful context. This work encouraged **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present**, while supporting pupils to develop as ambitious, capable learners.

Year 3 pupils further developed their understanding through an educational visit to Swansea Museum, the Waterfront Museum and the Tramshed Museum. During the visit, they learned about the Mumbles Railway, discovered the story of the Robin Goch and were excited to step onto part of an original Mumbles Railway carriage. These experiences helped pupils make strong links between local history and national developments in transport.

As part of their RVE learning, pupils began exploring important journeys in different religions. They learned about the pilgrimage to St David's and were introduced to Hajj, developing an understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs**. These discussions supported pupils in becoming ethical, informed

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

citizens who are beginning to appreciate the significance of journeys and traditions within different cultures.



## Year 4

During the term, Year 4 pupils developed a deeper understanding of culture, identity and citizenship through a wide range of engaging Humanities experiences. Pupils began by exploring New Year traditions in Wales, with a particular focus on Hen Galan. They compared these traditions with New Year celebrations from other cultures around the world, helping them to broaden their global awareness and understand how traditions can differ across societies. Pupils also reflected on personal and collective responsibility by discussing resolutions they could make to positively impact themselves, their families, the school community, the local area and the wider world. Through thoughtful discussion, they identified practical steps they could take, supporting their development as ethical, informed citizens.

In preparation for their residential visit to Cardiff, which included a visit to the Senedd, pupils learned about the role of the Welsh Government and the purpose and design of the Senedd building. This learning supported their understanding of democracy and decision-making in Wales. During the visit, pupils impressed staff with their prior knowledge and ability to ask thoughtful, informed questions, demonstrating strong engagement and curiosity about how Wales is governed.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Linked to the topic Ship Ahoy, pupils learned about the Welsh pirate Barti Ddu. They applied their literacy skills by creating detailed fact files, carefully selecting and organising information. Numeracy skills were also embedded as pupils identified significant dates, calculated Barti Ddu's age at death and worked out how long ago he lived. Pupils further developed their Digital Competence Framework skills by creating PowerPoint presentations, using animations and transitions to enhance their work. As part of this topic, pupils visited the Waterfront Museum, where they took part in an interactive session with a pirate character and learned to distinguish between historical fact and fictional portrayals. Through studying Swansea Marina, pupils compared historical and modern images to explore how places change over time, supporting the understanding that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.** Ethical understanding was further developed through discussions about social class, using the Titanic as a case study. Pupils examined the different experiences of passengers and considered issues of fairness, inequality and opportunity, encouraging thoughtful reflection on past and present societies.

Pupils also studied Swansea's Copperopolis, where they developed enquiry skills by generating their own research questions and independently finding answers. This work supported **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present**, while building confidence in research and critical thinking.

As part of Show Racism the Red Card, pupils learned about the life of Lloyd 'Kid' Davis, an American boxer who settled in Swansea. Through research and presentations, pupils explored his achievements and reflected on themes of equality, diversity and respect, reinforcing that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

Through the celebration of St David's Day, pupils compared the national days of the four countries within the United Kingdom, strengthening their understanding of national identity and cultural traditions. As part of Burlais Religion Day, pupils studied Judaism, learning about key symbols, artefacts, places of worship and celebrations. Their learning continued through

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

exploration of Ramadan and Eid, the significance of water in different religions and the Christian celebration of Easter, supporting pupils as ambitious, capable learners who are curious about the world and respectful of difference.

## Year 5

This term, pupils have been learning through the topic Plastic Planet, which has encouraged them to think carefully about environmental responsibility and the impact of human actions on the world around them. Pupils began by discussing what they already knew about plastic and recycling and identifying what they wanted to find out. They then explored the history of plastic, researching why it was invented and how its use has changed over time, helping them to understand how human innovation has shaped modern life.

Learning then moved closer to home, with pupils focusing on their school and local area. As a class, they discussed what Burlais already does to help the environment and explored what Swansea does to support sustainability. Pupils shared ideas about how they could make a positive difference as a school community and were keen to take action. This led to a local litter pick in the nearby park and around the school grounds. Following this, pupils designed and displayed recycling and anti-littering posters around the school, showing that **informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.**

Pupils then developed their geographical understanding by mapping the oceans of the world and investigating how plastic pollution affects them. They identified living organisms found in the oceans and discussed how human littering impacts marine life, supporting the understanding that our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions. Pupils will continue this learning by exploring how different countries manage waste, particularly those without strong infrastructure, and by researching local and global companies that support recycling and sustainability.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Alongside this, pupils explored a range of celebrations, beginning with New Year. They wrote resolutions for home and school and discussed why people set goals at the start of a new year. Pupils will also celebrate Chinese New Year, comparing the two celebrations and identifying similarities and differences, supporting the understanding that **human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

As part of Burlais Religion Day, pupils worked collaboratively on a class research project about Islam. They shared prior knowledge and personal experiences of Islamic celebrations and showed enthusiasm and respect for different beliefs. Later in the term, this learning will be enriched through a visit to a local mosque.

Finally, pupils worked hard to create entries for the Show Racism the Red Card competition. Through dance and writing, they expressed powerful messages about equality and the impact of racism, supporting their development as ethical, informed citizens who understand the importance of fairness and respect.

## Year 6

This term, Year 6 pupils have been learning through the topic The Brave New World, which focused on key breakthroughs in human history and how they have shaped the world we live in today. Pupils studied a range of significant historical events, including the Space Race of the 1960s, World War II, and more recent developments such as electric vehicles and the ongoing global response to climate change. Through this work, pupils developed an understanding that **events and human experiences are complex, and are perceived, interpreted and represented in different ways.**

Space exploration formed a central part of the topic. Pupils explored the moon landing, the work of NASA, and the importance of space exploration over time. They used numeracy skills to create timelines of the Space Race and applied digital skills across science and technology

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

by creating databases to compare planet sizes, distances from the sun and mean diameters. This supported **enquiry, exploration and investigation to inspire curiosity about the world, its past and present**, while developing pupils as ambitious, capable learners.

Pupils also followed recent NASA developments through Newsround, making meaningful links between historical learning and current events. This helped pupils understand how past discoveries continue to influence present and future innovation.

As part of Burlais Religion Day, pupils studied a range of religious festivals and beliefs, including Humanism, developing respect for different worldviews. They also undertook learning linked to equality and human rights, taking part in the Show Racism the Red Card initiative. Through discussion, reflection and creative work, pupils explored the impact of discrimination and the importance of fairness and respect. These experiences supported pupils in developing as ethical, informed citizens who are increasingly aware of global challenges and the role they can play in shaping a better future.

### **Humanities Senedd Group:**

This term, the Humanities Senedd group has continued to work collaboratively to strengthen the provision of Humanities across the school. Their key actions include:

- **Prayer Room Review** – Monitoring and reviewing the use of the prayer room in the upstairs Learning Lounge. This is being used by a small number of pupils to pray and celebrate their religion, as well as being used by few pupils as a quiet space to regulate their emotions.
- **Burlais Religion Day** – The Humanities Senedd group planned for a Burlais Religion Day on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February. This was a huge success and the excellent coverage across the school is evident throughout the report.
- **Celebration of work** – The Humanities Senedd group discussed an area in the prayer room to celebrate work throughout the school. They have also started to collate work from the Burlais Religion Day and will display this work on the Humanities display in the school hall.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

- **Collective Worship** – Pupils have discussed the importance of all classes undertaking an element of collective worship every day. This could be the saying of the school prayer or Lord's Prayer in assembly, in class, in the school hall.

## 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 through their topic 'Let's Explore' such as:

**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** - 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.

**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

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of fine motor and funky fingers activities in order 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 \_\_\_\_\_'.

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

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Reading

The children continue to follow the RWI reading scheme or Oxford Reading Tree depending on their reading ability. They also have 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 stories.

They continue to participate in daily story time at the end of each day as well as topic related books such as 'Once upon a raindrop' to begin our weekly activities. 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

At the start of the Spring term the children wrote an 'All About Me' 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 importance of water, where it comes from and why we need it.

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. 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 using their Fred Talking skills from their RWI lessons.

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;

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

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 been learning high frequency words in their challenges, which include to practising their spelling words using a variety of resources e.g. sand, chalkboards, paint and cotton buds, colouring pencils, crayons etc.

## 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. The whole year group also met at the beginning of the term to discuss their ideas for the new topic 'Splish, Splash, Splosh'. Pupils had the opportunity to express their opinions during class assemblies and participate in circle time sessions also, 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 to help remember the scientific vocabulary when describing each step of the cycle.

## Welsh

Year 1 have daily Slot Drillio sessions where the children listen to Welsh stories, play games and sing many of the Ffalala songs with actions. They sing numbers, days of the week, the weather song and colours. Each day our Helpwr Heddiw ask and answer simple questions to and from the rest of the class which include: Pwy wyt ti? Syt wyt ti'n teimlo? Pam? Ble wyt ti'n byw? Faint ydy dy oed di? Beth wyt ti'n hoffi? Beth wyt ti ddim yn hoffi? Sut mae'r tywydd heddiw?

Pupils have really enjoyed using the Tric a Chlic scheme to learn new Welsh sounds and sentence patterns focusing on Melyn and Glas vocabulary. When learning about the weather cycle the pupils focused on asking and answering the question 'Sut mae'r tywydd yn Abertawe?' Pupils demonstrated that their daily slot drillio sessions have had a positive impact on their understanding of the Welsh language.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## 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

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 understanding of the story to produce a simple comic strip, with pictures, sentences and speech bubbles. The children thoroughly enjoyed this creative writing task.

The children have continued to learn new words each week for a weekly spelling test. The children are introduced to their new words in class on a Friday and are given opportunities throughout the week to practice in class as well as at home.

### Welsh:

This term we have been learning to discuss and write our plans in the present and future tense, building upon our learning from last term.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

We also thoroughly enjoyed learning about Santes Dwynwen and made our own cards for our family.

We have enjoyed singing Welsh language patterns through 'Ffa-la-la'. The children have really enjoyed participating with actions, singing along and learning new sentence patterns. We 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 Oracy

Year 3 have used speaking and listening at the start of every lesson to discuss and share ideas. They have worked with their talk partners to practice sentence stems for each lesson and support each other. They have given feedback at the end of each week to their talk partners to tell them what went well and what they could improve for their next talk partner.

### Reading

Year 3 take part in Read Write Inc sessions four times a week to develop their phonic knowledge. The children have regularly signed into their Epic Books accounts to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts.

The children have explored a range of information text examples to help them pick out the features of this text. They read lots of information about Mumbles Railway to gather facts to write their own information page. They also read explanation texts to identify the features before writing their own explanation text.

### 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

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

about Mumbles Railway. 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.

### **Welsh**

Year 3 take part in daily slot drilio lessons to play games, practice sentence patterns, singing songs, learn the Welsh alphabet and read a variety of texts.

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! Year 3 have also started to read our new Welsh texts 'Mets Maesllan'.

### **Year 4 Writing**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

Year 4 have been learning about metaphors, similes, alliteration, prepositions and have been growing their vocabulary by learning about different words for blue. They have used these in their writing and demonstrated their creative writing skills by writing fantastic setting descriptions of a desert island, skillfully including them to bring their scenes to life. During Religion Day, the children created lovely acrostic poems about Judaism.

They will be learning to write detailed explanations of the water cycle using the appropriate vocabulary. The children will be looking at persuasive writing, this will be on a subject linked to our topic that the children will choose.

### 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 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 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 concentrating on past-tense patterns and vocabulary this term, building on their understanding of first-person patterns from last term. They have enjoyed practising these structures during the daily slot drilio sessions, especially through a range of engaging

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

games. The children will soon be writing a book review of their class novel, Kensuke's Kingdom, as well as a Welsh Babs a Benja book, using the sentence patterns and vocabulary they have been learning. They have explored different books in both Welsh and English to support their understanding of how to construct an effective book review.

The children have particularly enjoyed the Slot Drilio sessions, where they have been using the past tense to share their weekend news with a partner, played wordwall games and have been learning the Welsh alphabet. They have also enjoyed singing songs using Falala.

## Year 5 Writing

Year 5 started the year thinking about New year's Resolutions and completed a recount of our holiday. We have focussed on improving our handwriting and presentation of work, using paragraphs, indenting and they have concentrated on a lot of grammar and have been applying this in their writing. 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 'The Last Bear' 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.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Welsh

During spring term, our pupils are focussing on talking in third person. Our pupils have 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.

We have celebrated Dydd Santes Dwynwen by reading and summarising the story of Dwynwen. The pupils also learnt about Dydd Santes Dwynwen from Reverend Ian in our school assembly. Our pupils then learnt about the meaning and symbols of love spoons and designed their own.

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 will be learning about Ailgylchu yn Abertawe (recycling in Swansea) in our Welsh lessons. Pupils will sort items into the correct bins and bags using Welsh labels, create posters in Welsh to encourage people to recycle and use 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, reading a variety of books, 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 Reading

The pupils have had 20 minutes of daily reading during ERIC (Everyone Reading in Class) sessions, and they have enjoyed listening to the class novel The Ten Riddles of Eartha Quicksmith at the end of each day, with pupils having their own copy of the text which allows

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

for pupils to read character parts. They have also focused on reading behaviours, such as prediction strategies, making connections, and using inference.

## Writing

The pupils have produced an information text on the theme of technology in the classroom. They have focused on grammar skills including using semicolons, double commas and writing both compound and complex sentences. Weekly spelling tests and lessons have supported their understanding of a range of spelling rules and strategies.

## Speaking and Listening

The pupils have strengthened their speaking and listening skills by regularly asking and answering questions during lessons. They activate prior knowledge by preparing two questions for a partner at the start of each session before feeding back to the class. This skill has been developed further through group tasks, where each member is assigned a role in the group. Pupils have also written scripts as part of story-writing lessons and performed them to their peers.

## Welsh

Pupils are encouraged to use incidental Welsh throughout the day and are using Welsh phrases when peer-assessing. We complete a daily check in about the weather, weekend plans, and our feelings. The pupils have revisited key language patterns using Word Wall activities and Learn-Welsh.net games during lessons and have taken part in daily slot drillio sessions. They have further developed their oracy and writing skills while learning about New Year's resolutions. Their reading comprehension work has focused on 3<sup>rd</sup> person structures, which they then applied when writing 3<sup>rd</sup> person sentence patterns. Pupils have also taken part in whole class reading of Welsh texts.

## Pupil Voice

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

In our next LLC Senedd Meeting, the pupils will plan Burlais Book Day to think of ideas and activities they would like to take part in for the day.

## Mathematics and Numeracy Coordinators Report – Spring 2026 Mrs. Karen Meredith Williams

### Nursery

Throughout this term, Nursery pupils have made strong progress in developing their early understanding of number and foundational mathematical concepts. The children explored numbers through a variety of practical, outdoor and sensory activities, including mark-making with chalk, frost and water. They also matched numerals to number cards and used manipulatives such as **Numicon** to support their understanding of different number representations, including the concepts of *one more* and *one less*.

This learning aligns with:

### **WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

Pupils engaged regularly in counting activities and "remembered fact" games, practising rote counting forwards and backwards in both English and Welsh. They also developed their **subitising skills to 5**, showing growing confidence in recognising small quantities without the need to count.

In geometry, pupils made progress in recognising and describing **2D shapes**. They took part in activities such as "What Shape Am I?" and used a range of shapes creatively to construct pictures, supporting both recognition and the practical application of shape knowledge.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

This learning relates to:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

As part of their early algebraic thinking, pupils explored patterns in colour, shape and sound. They demonstrated increasing ability to recognise, continue and create simple repeating patterns.

This aligns with:

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., repeating patterns and early sequencing)

The children also enjoyed using ICT-based maths activities on **Topmarks**, which reinforced key mathematical ideas in an engaging and interactive way.

**Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

As part of their **Chinese New Year** celebrations, pupils explored **ordinal numbers**, practising ordering numbers from 1 to 5. This meaningful cross-curricular experience allowed pupils to apply their numeracy skills within a cultural context while developing early sequencing and ordering skills.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

This work aligns with:

**WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**  
(e.g., ordering, comparing and discussing number information)

### **Reception**

This term, the pupils in Reception have developed a secure understanding of numbers 1–10. They have represented and composed these numbers using a variety of concrete resources and pictorial methods, supporting their fluency and confidence with early number concepts. Pupils have also explored one more and one less within this number range, applying their knowledge through practical activities and guided tasks.

This aligns with:

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

In relation to the Geometry What Matters statement, the children progressed to exploring 2D shapes and were able to sort shapes based on their different properties. This supported both their recognition skills and their ability to describe similarities and differences between shapes.

This links with:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

The pupils then extended their learning to comparing mass. Using balancing scales, they explored the weight of a range of classroom objects and learned how to identify and achieve

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

balance. They further developed their measurement skills by comparing capacity using different containers, learning and using the correct mathematical vocabulary associated with capacity.

This also reflects:

**WM3: Geometry & Measurement What Matters** (measurement and comparison of quantities)

During the second half of the term, the pupils began to explore odd and even numbers and engaged in doubling activities using a range of concrete resources. These tasks enabled them to build foundational number relationships through hands-on exploration.

This again supports:

**WM1: Number system – comparing and representing relationships**

## Numeracy Across the Curriculum

Throughout the term, pupils applied their mathematical knowledge across different areas of learning. Using Numicon, the children printed, painted, and created artwork, strengthening their understanding of number representation in creative contexts.

As part of their *Traditional Tales* topic, the pupils used Jack's magic beans from *Jack and the Beanstalk* to support their recognition of odd and even numbers. They also used a variety of shape-based Lego bricks to design and construct a bridge for the goats in *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, combining problem-solving with shape recognition and spatial reasoning.

This further reinforces:

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

### **WM3: Geometry – shape, space, and position**

Towards the end of the topic, the pupils will further develop their data-handling skills by creating a class table and graph on JiT to show which Fairytale is their favourite, enabling them to represent and interpret simple data.

This links with:

### **WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**



## **Year 1**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

This term, Year 1 have had a strong focus on developing their addition and subtraction skills. Pupils have represented both operations using the part-whole model, enabling them to break numbers down and understand the relationship between parts and wholes. They have also represented problems through drawing pictures and writing number sentences, supporting their ability to visualise and explain their thinking.

This work is closely aligned with:

### **WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

The children explored adding two amounts together as well as adding more to an initial amount. They developed their problem-solving skills through creating their own word problems and choosing their own methods to represent and solve them. Pupils deepened their understanding of number bonds and made clear links between addition and subtraction, for example recognising that if  $7 + 2 = 9$ , then  $9 - 2 = 7$ . They also used number lines to calculate subtraction problems and applied the law of commutativity in addition.

This also reflects:

### **WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., recognising related facts, using number sentences)

Throughout the term, pupils greatly enjoyed using a variety of Topmarks mathematics games and the Numbots app to reinforce key skills in an engaging and interactive way.

### **Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

Pupils applied their mathematical knowledge in meaningful, real-life contexts. They developed their measuring skills using non-standard units when they measured rainfall over the course of a week. As a class, they created a graph on J.I.T to represent their findings and then

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

analysed the data by answering a range of interpretive questions.

This supports:

**WM4: Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed inferences and decisions**

The pupils also took part in Number Day to raise money for the NSPCC. They enjoyed participating in a whole-school competition by dressing up in costumes related to numbers. Pupils extended their learning outdoors through minute-long physical circuits and engaged in a range of number-based activities both outside and in the classroom.

These experiences additionally reinforce:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

(e.g., non-standard measurement, spatial challenges outdoors)

**Year 2**

This term, Year 2 have focused on developing their skills in addition and subtraction. Pupils have represented both operations using the part-whole model, base-10 equipment, and ten frames, all of which have supported the reinforcement and further development of their partitioning skills. They have explored number bonds to 10, 20, and 100, and have used this knowledge to identify related addition and subtraction facts with increasing confidence.

These activities directly link with:

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The pupils have also worked on adding by making 10, adding to the next 10, and adding across 10 in order to strengthen their understanding of place value. Building on this knowledge, the pupils will move on to subtracting across 10, subtracting from a multiple of 10, and using inequality symbols to compare number sentences.

This learning also supports:

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., recognising related facts, understanding the structure of number sentences)

Throughout the term, pupils have thoroughly enjoyed using a range of Topmarks mathematics games as well as engaging with the Numbots app to consolidate their understanding in an interactive and motivating way.

**Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

Pupils have applied their mathematical knowledge across a range of meaningful cross-curricular contexts. As part of their topic work, they created tally charts and block graphs to represent the class's favourite African animals using the J2 Data programme, helping to develop their skills in data collection and interpretation. This is closely aligned with:

**WM4: Statistics represent data, probability models chance, and both support informed inferences and decisions**

The children also sorted human and physical features of Africa and completed a Venn diagram to categorise animals as herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores. These tasks strengthened their sorting and classifying skills while linking closely to their geographical and scientific learning.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

During NSPCC Day, the pupils took part in a variety of outdoor mathematical activities, including hunts to identify 2D and 3D shapes and number-based challenges that required them to complete calculations to create the greatest possible total. They will also apply their knowledge of money by using coins to purchase hot chocolate, calculating the cost of their chosen toppings and determining the correct amount of change. These practical activities support:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

**WM1: The number system...** (money, calculation, comparing amounts)

### Year 3

Year 3 began the year by developing their understanding of multiplication and division. Pupils learned about equal groups and created arrays using a range of resources to represent multiplication. They used these arrays to support their learning of the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables. Alongside this, pupils practised division through sharing and grouping, and they used the  $\div$  symbol to represent these processes in number sentences.

This learning aligns with:

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., arrays, number sentences, and the structure of multiplication/division)

The children have enjoyed playing a variety of games to practise their times tables, especially online activities such as Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), Hit the Button, [timestables.co.uk](http://timestables.co.uk)

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

and SplashLearn. They also engaged with songs and movement activities through BBC Supermovers to support recall of their multiplication facts. Pupils also participated enthusiastically in NSPCC Number Day, taking part in a range of number-based games and activities.

Later in the term, the pupils began learning about length. They measured in metres, centimetres and millimetres and began converting between these units.

This learning relates to:

**WM3: Geometry and measurement focus on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

### **Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

Year 3 applied their numeracy skills across a range of cross-curricular contexts. As part of their topic work, they created a timeline of key events in the history of transport, drawing on their understanding of ordering and sequencing.

Pupils also created their own alien Top Trumps cards and used these to build a database using J2Data, linking directly to data handling skills. In addition, they applied their measuring skills in a friction investigation by measuring how far a car travelled on different surfaces.

The pupils took part in a transport survey and used the data they collected to produce bar charts on J2e.

This work aligns with:

**WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*



## **Year 4**

Year 4 began the term by strengthening their understanding of multiplication and division. Pupils used practical resources and visual representations to create equal groups and arrays, supporting their work with a range of multiplication facts. They revisited and applied strategies for multiplying and dividing numbers, including recognising division as the inverse of multiplication. Pupils also developed their understanding of multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, applying their place-value knowledge with increasing confidence in problem-solving contexts.

This learning aligns with:

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., arrays, number sentences, inverse operations and the structure of formal and informal calculations)

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The children also took part in a range of activities to develop their times tables recall. They practised regularly using Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) and engaged with online games such as Hit the Button and activities on timestables.co.uk. Movement-based learning through BBC Supermovers further supported their recall and confidence. Pupils participated enthusiastically in **Number Day**, enjoying a variety of mathematical games and problem-solving challenges.

Later in the term, pupils explored **area**, using practical tasks to measure in square units and compare the area of different shapes. Through activities such as designing their own "Area Robots," pupils applied their measurement skills creatively and developed secure understanding of area as a measurable attribute. Learning then progressed to **fractions**, where pupils identified fractions of shapes and quantities, added simple fractions, and explored equivalent fractions. This work prepared pupils well for the introduction of **decimals and percentages**, helping them to understand how these concepts link.

This learning relates to:

**WM3: Geometry and measurement focus on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

### **Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

Year 4 applied their numeracy skills in a variety of cross-curricular contexts. As part of their **Ship Ahoy** topic, they investigated **capacity**, carrying out practical measurements linked to real-life maritime examples. Pupils also developed their data-handling skills by creating

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

**databases linked to Titanic passengers**, using J2Data to record and interpret information.

As part of the '**Show Racism the Red Card**' programme, pupils created a timeline of the life of Lloyd Kid Davies, applying their understanding of sequencing and intervals to represent chronological information accurately.

Throughout the term, pupils also took part in a range of data-handling activities, including interpreting information and presenting results clearly using digital tools.

This work aligns with:

**WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**

## Year 5

Year 5 began the spring term by continuing their work on the four operations, with a particular focus on multiplication and division. Pupils explored a range of written and mental methods to complete these calculations and used **inverse operations** to check the accuracy of their answers. They practised their mental maths skills through regular use of online platforms such as **Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)** and applied their knowledge in problem-solving and reasoning tasks, many of which linked to their topic learning.

This learning aligns with:

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., using inverse operations, choosing efficient methods and recognising calculation structures)

Following this, pupils began learning about **perimeter and area**. They estimated, measured and calculated differences in perimeter, working practically by measuring plastic items in the classroom and using trundle wheels to measure the perimeter of football pitches on the yard. Pupils then developed their understanding of **area**, measuring rectangles, rectilinear shapes and compound shapes.

This learning relates to:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

The pupils have shown strong commitment to improving their recall of multiplication facts, working hard in their weekly times tables tests and practising mental maths at the start of each lesson and during 'target time'.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

To celebrate **NSPCC Number Day**, Year 5 completed number riddles with their talk partners and took part in a **Maths Hunt** around the school, where they searched for items, formulae and mathematical equipment to match statements on their worksheets. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and worked collaboratively to apply their numeracy skills.

## Numeracy Across the Curriculum

Within their **Plastic Planet** topic, pupils applied their numeracy skills to investigate **statistics linked to pollution** in Swansea, Wales and across the world. They researched data about the planet's oceans, compared measurements and interpreted information to support their understanding of environmental issues.

Pupils also applied their measuring skills during **science investigations**, accurately measuring ingredients using different types of scales.

This work aligns with:

**WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**

## Year 6

Year Six have worked on a range of mathematical concepts this term, including **area, perimeter, measure and unit conversion**. Pupils applied their geometry and measurement skills across the curriculum, for example during a **Science & Technology** lesson where they explored a 500kg weight limit for a prospective space shuttle launch. Learners considered which items of equipment could be taken by calculating weights, comparing measures and justifying their decisions.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

This learning aligns with:

**WM3: Geometry focuses on relationships involving shape, space and position, and measurement focuses on quantifying phenomena in the physical world**

Year Six also developed their understanding of **fractions, decimals and percentages**, including multiplying fractions, finding fractions of amounts and applying these skills to solve multi-step word problems. Pupils showed increasing confidence in choosing efficient methods and interpreting complex problems.

This learning aligns with:

**WM1: The number system is used to represent and compare relationships between numbers and quantities**

**WM2: Algebra uses symbol systems to express the structure of mathematical relationships**

(e.g., applying structures, working with fractions and using multi-step methods)

### **Numeracy Across the Curriculum**

Pupils used their numeracy skills across a wide range of curriculum areas. Within **Humanities**, they created timelines linked to the **Space Race of the 1960s**, demonstrating their understanding of chronological order and intervals of time. In **Science & Technology**, learners created **digital databases** comparing planet sizes, distances from the Sun and mean diameters, drawing on their skills in data handling and measurement.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

This work aligns with:

#### **WM4: Statistics represent data and support informed inferences and decisions**

Pupils also developed their logical reasoning and problem-solving abilities by identifying shapes within shapes, including triangles, rectangles and squares—some of which were particularly challenging and required careful thought and perseverance

#### **Pupil Voice**

Pupils played an active role in leading the **NSPCC Number Day** celebration. They were responsible for running the whole-school dressing-up competition, visiting each class to take photographs of the class winners and collaboratively deciding the overall winning entry. This activity supported pupil leadership, decision-making and engagement in whole-school numeracy events.

#### **Pastoral Team** **Miss A. Begum & Ms. S. Couch**

As another busy and rewarding term draws to a close, we are pleased to share an overview of the ongoing work of our pastoral team and the support provided to pupils and families across the school. Our focus remains on promoting wellbeing, building positive relationships, and creating an environment where every child feels understood, supported, and able to thrive.

Throughout the term, the pastoral team has worked closely with pupils experiencing a range of emotional, social, and behavioural needs, while also maintaining strong partnerships with families and outside professionals. We have seen many children grow in confidence, develop their ability to manage emotions, and strengthen their friendships. Our commitment

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

continues to be centred on ensuring that every child feels safe, valued, and ready to learn within a nurturing and inclusive school community.

This term, a number of pupils have benefited from attending KeyCreate sessions. These sessions have provided a nurturing, creative space where children have been able to build confidence, develop social skills, and express themselves in ways that feel safe and meaningful to them. For some pupils who find the expectations of the classroom environment challenging, KeyCreate has offered an opportunity to experience success, develop positive relationships, and engage in learning through a different, more therapeutic approach. The positive impact has been evident in increased engagement and stronger connections with peers and adults.



We are also pleased to share that, following the positive engagement and feedback from our recent family sessions, Reaching Wider has awarded us additional funding to continue this work with another cohort of families. These sessions will provide a welcoming space for parents and carers to access educational support, alongside fun, practical activities designed to strength family relationships and support children's development. We are excited to be able to extend this opportunity to more families within our school community.

Our therapy dog, Teddy, had also continued to play an important role in supporting pupil's emotional wellbeing, Teddy has provided comfort and a calming presence for children experiencing bereavement and those going through other challenging times. His sessions offer a safe, non-judgemental space where pupils feel able to relax and talk. Teddy has also

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*

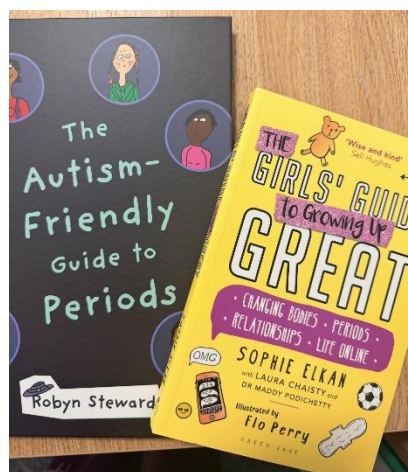


*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

supported children with reading, with many pupils enjoying the opportunity to read stories to him, helping to build confidence, fluency, and positive association with books.



We have also benefitted from a grant received from the City and County of Swansea, which has enabled us to further support pupil's wellbeing across the school. Through this funding, we have been able to provide period products supplied by Hope Education, including starter packs and refill supplies, ensuring pupils can access essential items in a discreet and supportive manner. This grant has also allowed us to purchase educational books suitable for both mainstream learners and pupils with autism.



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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*

[burlais.primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk](mailto:burlais.primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk)

[www.burlaisprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.burlaisprimaryschool.co.uk)



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

We are incredibly proud of the progress made this term and the strength, resilience, and kindness shown by our pupils. It has been a privilege to support children and families, and to see the positive impact of our pastoral work across the school community. We are excited to continue this journey next term, with many new opportunities, projects, and supportive initiatives planned to further nurture wellbeing, confidence, and connection.

## **Science & Technology AOLE Report Spring 2026 By David Webster**

### **Pupil Voice**

Our Senedd Team have audited the resources in school, and we are in the process of organising a themed science & technology day for the school – in the summer term. Let's see what our pupils have been doing within the AOLE:

### **Nursery**

Nursery's topic this term is Let's Explore. This has included:

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 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.

Nursery have enjoyed DCF learning. For example, 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.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

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 – maybe we will start to see some leaves growing soon?

## 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 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*'.

## 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 the same amount of water drops to make sure it was a fair test. They

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

applied the knowledge gained from this activity to design, make and test their umbrellas for Tedi Twt.



## Technology

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



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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Year Two

While we have been learning about Africa, we have been learning about Carnivore, Omnivore and Herbivore and made a Venn diagram to show which animals belong to which group. Year 2 will continue to learn about the 'Big 5'.

For Internet Safety Day we will be learning about AI and voice assistants, thinking about how they can make us feel when using them and what we can do if we're worried about anything we hear or see on the internet.

We will also be learning about branch databases and create our own databases to sort African animals, use Jit to create a fact file on an animal and will be writing an email to Mr Thompson to request money to start our Enterprise project.

In the second half of the term we will be following a recipe, weighing out ingredients and mixing ingredients to make Welsh cakes for St. David's Day.

## 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

Year 4 began their science learning by completing a concept cartoon about forces, using their prior knowledge to answer key questions. We then built on this understanding by learning about pushes and pulls. The children were asked to identify objects in the classroom that move using forces, with the challenge of finding an object that moved using a force in only one direction.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The children also learned about Sir Isaac Newton and gravity. They carried out an investigation where they predicted what would happen if two bottles—one full and one half full—were dropped at the same time.

We also learnt about the water cycle. The children drew and labelled the water cycle in their books before creating their own mini water cycles using plastic bags. These were displayed in the classroom so the children could observe the water cycle in action.

The children then explored magnets, identifying magnetic and non-magnetic objects and discussing what they noticed about the properties of each group. They also learned about the discovery of magnets.

The children will be learning about buoyancy and will use junk modelling to design and create their own boats

## 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 their 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. 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

Our learners in Year Six have undertaken a very physics-based topic; Brave New World. There is a heavy bias toward space, space exploration, the planets of the solar system, and Gravity.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

We have studied Isaac Newton, and his work on gravity. We are going to investigate gravity and have applied our digital skills to produce databases – categorising and organising the planets by gravitational pull and force.

We are attending an exciting trip, to Techniquet, to study space and the solar system. We are so lucky to have the opportunity to follow the current lunar mission from the USA, which has featured heavily on Newsround. Perfect timing, as our topic has included the Space Race of the 1960s... are we going to witness another Space Race? It certainly seems so.

Our digital learning has been very enjoyable in Year Six. I am so proud of the advances we have made in this key area of the curriculum. Not only are we enhancing our science work, with technology, but we are also using our literacy, and numeracy, skills during our DCF work.

We used our online safety day, Internet Safety Day, to study A.I. and how this amazing technology can be used for good, and bad things.

We entered *Show Racism the Red Card*, using the *Next Gen Builders* theme, to design apps, technology or devices to eradicate racism from society by 2030.

## Health and Well Being Governor Report Miss C. Rowe

### Nursery

This term, the Nursery topic is 'Let's Explore'

**Our New Classroom** – This term has been busy with new friends joining our Afternoon Nursery Class (*Dosbarth Meithrin Prynhawen*). The children have settled in really well and have enjoyed exploring their new learning space.

**Independence** – Everyday, the children in *Dosbarth Meithrin* are working on building their independence. The children are learning to find their own coats, put them on and zip them up! Some of the children can do it all by themselves already! Mrs Jones 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 the children have been finding out about travelling across different equipment safely.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

Tel: 01792 652350



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

**Listening and Following the Actions** – In gym, the children listen to the music and move their bodies to the songs. The children 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 the 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.

**Belonging** – This term, the children have celebrated St David's Day, Chinese New Year, Dydd Santes 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. 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. They have discussed the three school rules, 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' and what these mean. Through positive noticing, pupils are developing a strong sense of these rules and their responsibilities.

At the start of the term the pupils discussed the new year and looked at positive changes. The pupils discussed what things we need to do to have a healthy and happy and positive mind and what changes they could make. Linked with the value of 'Love' the pupil's listened to the story of Santes Dwynwen and took part in a variety of different challenges throughout the week, including creating a Santes Dwynwen card for someone they love. These activities also developed the pupil's understanding of the Welsh Culture.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

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. The pupils also took part in the Show racism the red card competition creating a poster to celebrate people and communities from diverse backgrounds with the theme 'Words that Matter'.

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 our 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.

## Year 2

The children started this term by thinking about their New Year Goals and what they wanted to work on individually for the rest of the year. They started looking at the value of love when they learnt about St Dwynwen and they celebrated Dydd Santes Dwynwen with a week of activities all about St Dwynwen and how people celebrate. The children took home a card they had created to give to someone they love. The children are continuing to think about how they can show love for Valentine's Day.

The children have been learning more about their new school rules and how they can each be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' in school. They also enjoyed whole class discussions while learning about Show Racism the Red Card and some fantastic questions and answers while sharing with each other. The children also enjoyed learning about the NSPCC number day and doing a day of fun number activities where they finished their day with a Hot Chocolate Café to practise their number skills using money to buy a drink.

In PE, the children are doing a dance topic where they are working on how to give feedback to both encourage and help their friends improve their work. They have been creating their own dances inspired by the music from The Carnival of The Animals. Year 2 are then moving onto learning a Chinese Year Dance before finishing with Welsh folk dancing.

## Year 3

To start 2026, Year 3 made some New Year's resolutions. They made promises for school and home and a wish for their family and the world.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

The pupils introduced the value of love through a variety of circle times and discussed the right to be the best we 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 had a number of sessions about Healthy and unhealthy relationships, Safe adults, safe places and Family relationships. The pupils took part in lots of activities to help them understand these important topics and they learnt lots.

## Year 4

This term the children have been focussing on sea shanties in their PE lessons. They learnt about the purpose of sea shanties and what the movements represented. They learnt the actions to the Wellerman song and then worked in small groups to create a series of actions, with 4 movements in phrases of 8. They continued to work on their dances and performed

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

them to the rest of the class. They also had the opportunity to learn and perform a Jewish dance for Religion Day.



We have discussed the three school rules, 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' and what these mean and how we can use them in our class.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> it was NSPCC number day. The pupils enjoyed finding out about the work of the NSPCC and they undertook lots of fun maths activities. The pupils also took part in the Show racism the red card competition creating work on Swansea's adopted American Boxer Lloyd 'Kid' Davis

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*

[burlais.primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk](mailto:burlais.primary@swansea-edunet.gov.uk)

[www.burlaisprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.burlaisprimaryschool.co.uk)



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## Year 5

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

As part of Year 5's topic, Plastic Planet the learners 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 to think about how they can keep their minds and bodies healthy and safe.

This term Year 5 have worked really hard on their dances, and have been very ambitious. The pupils looked at combining our topic from last term and created a dance with soldier moves. They looked at the different ways a soldier would stand, march and fight, 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 we are going to be honing our throwing and catching skills when we are outdoors working on striking and fielding games.

## Year 6

Year 6 have been developing their tennis skills during outdoor sessions. The pupils have focused on improving hand-eye coordination, practising throwing and catching, and taking part in a range of tennis-related games in pairs.

The pupils have also worked on their evasion skills through team games such as Benchball. The pupils take part in daily check-ins and weekly circle-time assemblies to express how they are feeling. Their weekly class assemblies are linked to the value of the month and the school's rules – Ready, Respectful, Safe. The pupils complete the daily mile as often as possible to support their health and well-being. They also participated in the Show Racism the Red Card competition, creating information pages that highlighted the impact of racism.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## **EAL Governors Report** **Mrs. N. Richards**

Burlais school continues to foster a welcoming, inclusive environment that promotes both the academic and personal growth of all our students.

The number of pupils new to English continues to rise, demonstrating our school's commitment to inclusivity. Since January 2026, we have welcomed 6 new arrivals. We are dedicated to providing ongoing support for learners who are acquiring English as an Additional Language (EAL).

I have proactively conducted admission meetings with their parents, ensuring they feel welcomed and that we gather vital background information. We have successfully provided some children with free school uniforms. Each student's English competency has been thoroughly assessed, and their progress has been promptly updated on the class lists and tracker, which are accessible to all staff on the Burlais One Drive. Comprehensive background information is shared with class teachers, enabling them to meet the individual needs of each student effectively. Our teachers receive continuous advice, support, and guidance, empowering them to ensure that every child can fully engage with the curriculum. I continue to support Stage B learners from Year 2 to Year 6, focusing on developing their basic reading skills, vocabulary, and comprehension. I have reviewed the EAL policy to ensure that all staff are aware of the school's obligations. This policy supports the planning, organisation, teaching, assessment procedures, and the use of resources and strategies to meet the needs of pupils who speak English as an additional language, ultimately aiming to raise pupil achievement.

As a school, we continue to be committed to supporting the parents of our EAL (English as an Additional Language) learners. I work closely with the pastoral team and initiatives such as Better Welcome to Swansea and SCVS to assist families seeking asylum. These partnerships provide essential support by informing parents about available resources, listening to their challenges, and offering advice and guidance. This collaboration has also strengthened our connections with the broader community. We were planning a coffee morning for the early Spring Term to further engage with these families, however due to changes within the staffing structure, this has been postponed until early Summer Term. Additionally, we

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

regularly share the Better Welcome to Swansea newsletter on Class Dojo. This newsletter has continued to be an invaluable resource, providing comprehensive information about organisations and activities that benefit asylum-seeking and refugee families.

I continue to attend termly Primary EAL Network Meetings to stay informed about current EAL issues and best practices. Relevant updates and insights from these meetings are shared with staff as appropriate, ensuring we maintain high standards of support for our EAL learners.

We are continuing with the "Young Interpreters" program, a buddy scheme designed to support new students who are English as an Additional Language (EAL) arrivals. We have check-ins regularly. They have conducted an audit to identify the languages that are spoken in their class. This information will be displayed on each class door. This is the first step of trying to develop a more multilingual environment within the school.

We continue to make significant progress on our journey to becoming a School of Sanctuary. After a successful audit, we were delighted to receive confirmation that we could proceed with our application. Our initial submission has been accepted, and we are now preparing to provide additional evidence by mid-April. Achieving School of Sanctuary status will further demonstrate our commitment to providing a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment for all members of our school community, including those seeking sanctuary.

As a school, we continue to raise awareness and challenge racism. Following the outstanding success of our entries last year, we are proud to announce our participation in the Show Racism the Red Card Expressive Arts Competition 2026. Every year group, from Year 1 to Year 6, has enthusiastically contributed their work, demonstrating our shared values and ongoing dedication to equality. We look forward to building on last year's achievements and inspiring positive change within our school and wider community. Parents have been informed on the school website that we are working towards becoming a School of Sanctuary. They have also received further information via ClassDojo to explain what it means.

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*



*"Working Together, Learning Forever"*

## **Finally..... my thanks**

The staff have gone 'above and beyond' this year 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 2026, onwards and upwards!

**Mark S. Thompson**  
**Headteacher**

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

*Headteacher*

*Mr M Bowen B.Ed. (Hons)*

*Deputy Headteacher*

*Gerddi Alexander*

*Cwmbwrla*

*Swansea*

*SA5 8BN*

*Tel: 01792 652350*