



YSGOL GYNRADD AMEITHRIN STRYD SIORS

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Dydd Gwener 11 Ebrill 2025

Annwyl Parents/Carers

As we reach the end of the spring term, it's a great time to reflect on what a fantastic few months it's been. We've been fortunate to enjoy some beautiful weather, which has meant we've been able to use the school field for the first time this academic year. The reopening of the back pathway has also made a big difference—thank you for all the lovely comments we've received about it.

Our demountable is nearly finished, and we're excited that the yard will be fully accessible when the children return for the summer term. A big thank you to our governors who visited the school this week and carried out learning walks, with a focus on pupils' attitudes to learning and well-being. And of course, a huge thank you to the PTA for organising and running yesterday's chocolate raffle—it certainly brought a lot of excitement to the hall!

PONTYPOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

On Tuesday evening, we were invited by Pontypool Community Council, along with other schools, to present how we have used the grant they provided. Mrs Forest-Jones was incredibly proud of the children, who not only did a fantastic job presenting but also put the entire presentation together. Mrs Jones received so many wonderful comments from people about how well they shared the information. A huge well done!



DWR CYMRU

On Wednesday, Years 2-6 participated in an assembly with Dwr Cymru, where they explored the water cycle, how water is transported to treatment centres, cleaned, and then reused. They also learned about the importance of water conservation. Following this, Year 5 took part in a workshop related to their Mother Nature topic, focusing on water usage and ways to conserve it. They discovered which household appliances use the most and least water and were given tips on how to reduce their water consumption.

YEAR 3 VISIT THE COAST



This week, Year 3 enjoyed their Coastal School trip to Rest Bay—a fantastic opportunity for the children to immerse themselves in outdoor learning and explore the natural environment. During their visit, they went rock pooling and were thrilled to discover a starfish, along with other fascinating sea creatures. They also took part in a fun and informative session all about turtles, played Turtle Minecraft, and even created their own turtles in the sand. It was a wonderful day, full of hands-on learning and seaside adventures!

FOOTBALL CELEBRATION DAY

A brilliant time was had at the Football Celebration! Over the course of six matches against schools from across Torfaen, our team showed incredible improvement, teamwork, and outstanding sportsmanship. We came away with four wins and two losses, just missing out on a spot in the final.

Our attackers impressed with some fantastic goals and created plenty of scoring chances, while our midfielders worked tirelessly—pushing forward and tracking back throughout every game. Our defenders stood strong, making vital tackles, and our goalkeepers were outstanding, pulling off some truly spectacular saves.

We're so proud of everyone who took part—your effort, determination, and team spirit were a joy to watch. Congratulations to Coed Eva, who were worthy winners, and a big thank you to Torfaen Sports Development for inviting us. It was a fantastic day all round!



MRS DONOGHUE RETIRES

After more than 40 years of incredible service, Mrs Donoghue is retiring. Her journey at George Street Primary began 43 years ago as a relief cleaner, before starting her permanent role in 1985. In 1997, she became the school caretaker—a role she has carried out with dedication, pride, and a tireless commitment to making George Street the best-kept and cleanest school in Torfaen!



But Mrs Donoghue's impact goes far beyond her caretaking duties. She's been our unofficial 'traffic warden,' run after-school clubs, supported teachers with displays, ordered equipment for pupils, and so much more—all because she cares deeply about the school and its community. Her generosity, hard work and warmth have touched the lives of everyone who's passed through our doors.



On behalf of the staff, governing body, children, and families, I want to wish my wonderful mum a very happy retirement. You will be truly missed at school, but it's time to put your feet up and enjoy the next chapter—you've more than earned it!

Mrs Donoghue is now handing over the keys to the front door to Mr Roque, our new Site Manager. Over the past few weeks, Mr Roque has been visiting the school and working closely alongside Mrs Donoghue, so the children will already recognise his friendly face around the building. After Easter, he will begin his full-time role, and I'm confident that our families will welcome him with the same respect, smiles, and warmth that make our school community so special.



100% ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR

13 children were awarded 100% attendance certificates today. A huge well done to these children for attending school everyday since September.

Willow Pearce has been randomly selected to win the £15 100% attendance prize.

SOCIAL MEDIA PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Parents should be aware of the age restrictions and the potential risks associated with their children's social media use and should have open conversations with them about online safety.

Every Child Matters, Every Day Counts

Age Restrictions for Specific Platforms:

- Facebook: 13+
- Instagram: 13+
- TikTok: 13+
- Snapchat: 13+
- WhatsApp: 16+

Alternative Resources:

The UK Safer Internet Centre offers guidance and resources for parents on social media safety.

DYDDIADUR

| April 2025 | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday 28 th April | Children back at school |
| Monday 28 th April | Bluebell Group 1 visit to Pontypool Park – more info from class teacher to follow |
| Tuesday 29 th April | Bluebell Group 2 visit to Pontypool Park – more info from class teacher to follow |
| Wednesday 30 th April | Year 6 Coastal School trip (Miss Thomas' class). A packed lunch is needed |

| May 2025 | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 1 st May | Sunflower Group 1 visit to Pontypool Park – more info from class teacher to follow |
| Friday 2 nd May | Sunflower Group 2 visit to Pontypool Park – more info from class teacher to follow |
| Monday 5 th May | May bank holiday – school closed |
| Wednesday 7 th May | Year 6 to visit West Mon for West Mon Wednesday activities |
| Wednesday 14 th May | Year 1 Dental Epidemiology Programme |
| Thursday 15 th May | Year 5 meeting with West Mon staff at George Street (parents invited to attend straight after school) |
| Friday 16 th May | Year 2 cultural event at school (children only) |
| Wednesday 21 st May | Year 6 to visit West Mon for West Mon Wednesday activities |
| Friday 23 rd May | INSET DAY – school closed to children |
| Monday 26 th May | HALF TERM (1 week) |

Enjoy the two week easter holiday. We will welcome children back to school on Monday 28th April.

Cofion gorau

K. Manley



K. Manley

