



"United we, Empower, Nurture and Challenge."
"Wrth uno mae'n ein arfogi i feithrin a herio."

Welcome to Blackwood Primary School's End of Term Newsletter

Croeso i Becyn Cychwyn Meithrinfa Ysgol Gyn-
radd Coed Duon

- INSET Thursday 2nd September 2021
- INSET Friday 3rd September 2021
- **First day back - Monday 6th September 2021**
- New Times of the school day - 8:55am till 3:00pm
- Nursery AM - 8:55am till 11:15pm
- Nursery PM - 12:40pm till 3:00pm

16.07.2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are all aware, today is the end of our Summer Term. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful families for their ongoing support this year. We have been through such a challenging time together and I think we can agree, our children have coped with the challenges and changes beautifully. They are all superstars, who have shone brightly throughout this challenging time.

This week the children have enjoyed their activities week, taking part in sporting events on the field, dancing in the disco and their class parties. It has been lovely to hear their joy and laughter echoing around the school.

We feel very emotional about our Year 6 children leaving us today and want them to know how proud we are of each and every one of them, as they take their next steps in education, moving up to 'Big School'. They have been through so much this year and they have coped with everything that has been asked of them. We wish them every success in their future adventures.

Pob Lwc Year 6!

Emotions are also running high, as we wish a fond farewell and happy retirement to Miss Sims, who has been with Blackwood Primary for 36 years and has even taught some of our parents! We will miss you very much and are so grateful for all you have done for the school, our children and families over the years.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer!

Kind regards,

Mrs Davies

Headteacher

Blackwood Primary School

September Arrangements

We will move to our new times of the school day in September. These are 8:55am—3:00pm , with all children arriving and leaving together. There will no longer be staggered drop off or collection times. Gates will open at 8:45am and close at 8:55am.

All gates will be open and staff will be on the gates and situated on the yard to assist children in walking independently to their classes. Parents will not be permitted onsite at the start of the day. We have reviewed these procedures with safety in mind, and although restrictions are relaxing, we as a school will still operate within our year group bubbles initially in September. As part of this parents are requested to meet their children at the end of the day, in their designated zones which will help us support the contact tracing elements that we are still supporting.

Reception pupils will continue to use their gate in the Apollo Way car park at the start and end of the day.

Nursery parents will queue at the main pedestrian gate at the start and end of their sessions.

At the end of the day, parents of children in Year 1 to 6 will need to wait for their child to be released to them at marked designated zones. The zones will be confirmed in September.

There will be no breakfast club or extra-curricular clubs on return to school, however, this will be reviewed during the Autumn Term.

INSET Days

Thursday 2nd September 2021

Friday 3rd September 2021

Friday 26th November 2021

Friday 29th April 2022

Friday 27th May 2022

Friday 24th June 2022

Monday 27th June 2022

Nursery / Meithrin

We have had such a fantastic term! We have been very busy in our Nursery garden



and we were very excited to harvest our potatoes, radishes and lettuce. Our sunflowers have grown so much and they are now taller than us! Mrs Evans says that we have all got

'green fingers!' We have had a new water play area installed and we have loved pouring, emptying and measuring water in different containers and seeing which items float or sink. Our new risers have settled really well and they enjoyed their 'Bee Discovery' activities learning all about why bees are so important. We have loved being outside and exploring the forestry area in school, looking for signs of summer. We've had a great last week enjoying a disco, sports day and a teddy bear's picnic!

We are so excited to be going to Reception next year and can't wait to extend our learning even further!



Thanks to all our Nursery families for all their support over the year. Have a great summer and we'll see you in September!

Reception / Derbyn

What an exciting term! We have been like Healthy Hywel, Ambitious Alys, Ethical Elis and Enterprising Elen as we set up our 'Busy Bees



Garden Centre' enterprise. We have designed amazing products and we have made them to order so we haven't wasted any resources. We used so many skills in designing, making and tallying the orders. We are so grateful to our families, for their support to achieve this Authentic Learning Goal! We have enjoyed our

activities week with Taekwondo, disco, sports and a picnic in the forest. We wish all our families a



safe and happy Summer and wish our learners well as they move to Year 1. They are all looking forward to the new challenges ahead.

We are so proud of all our achievements. Da iawn a phob lwc i bawb!

Year 1/Blwydden 1



Wow! We have been busy bees this term. We loved watching our butterflies grow and letting them fly away. We looked at

their different life stages and talked about what would happen. We were sad when they flew away but we all sang 'If I were a Butterfly' to send them on their way! We have been learning all about Noah's Ark and have enjoyed learning traditional songs. We have grown our own cress and looked at the needs of a plant. It was so exciting to find out what a plant needs to grow. We have loved exploring our

forest area and

doing lots of activities outdoors!

Thank you for all of your support with the danceathon. We



raised money and

got fit, just like Ethical Elis and Healthy Hwyl! We had so much fun dancing all day. We have used our fundraising to develop our outdoor area, which the children have loved. We have shown fantastic sporting skills when practising for sports day.

We wish all of our Year One Family a very happy and safe Summer and we know you are all so ready for Year Two!

Year 2/Blwydden 2

We are nearly at the end of another school year, and what a year it has been! You have all worked so hard



during these challenging times and we are incredibly proud of you all!

Our most recent topic was Move and Grow, in this topic we planted herbs, plants and flowers and learnt what they need to grow and how we can use them in our cooking. We used our mathematical skills to measure and compare growth. In May, we did 'No Mow May' to encourage the wildlife. Our new flower beds look amazing, Thank You Mrs Davies.



We were also lucky enough to have a Cherry Blossom Tree from the Sakura project donates, which we also planted. We

had great fun drawing the tree and what we think it will look like in the future. We also made mini trees out of clay and tissue paper.

You're all amazing. You are Ambitious, Healthy, Ethical and Enterprising children who are ready for Year 3!

Year 3/Blwydden 3

Year 4/Blwydden 4



Wow! What a busy but fantastic term! We started this term with a visit from *Sirhowy Valley Bee Company* to help

kick start our 'Bringing the Bees to Blackwood' goal. We did not realise how valuable the bees are to our local environment and have worked hard to think of ways to save the bees in our community.

In literacy, we have been learning about the life cycle of plants through explanation texts and we understand the important part bees play in this process. In maths, we have been consolidating our number skills using bee maths problems and continue using our mathletics support tool which we love! We have compared organisms, completed life cycles and are beginning to plant lavender ready to attract the bees over the summer.



In technology, we have been programming Beebots to travel from flower to flower and we have

been improving our ICT skills on our new Chromebooks.

We wish all of Year 3 a safe and wonderful Summer with their families and wish all our children the best for Year 4!

What a busy few weeks! Our learning goal was to develop an area in the school grounds to help attract insects. We have been learning about pollinators and have

created our very own garden, hoping to encourage creatures like bees, wasps, beetles, butterflies and moths! We designed the garden and researched the best flowers to attract the insects. We have planted seeds and are looking forward to seeing lots of visitors. We have also been like Healthy Hywel, having lots of fun participating in sports week. The week started off with an enjoyable taster session with Tae



Kwondo Pete! We've been designing our own kits and medals for the Olympics and have had fun doing different sports related activities. Our Sports day was very

different this year but we took part and had a lot of fun with the different events! From the Year 4 staff, we would like to wish our wonderful children all the very best of luck for going into Year 5 in September. Thank you very much for your support this year and hope all of our families have a very safe, healthy and happy summer break!

Year 5/Blwydden 5



We have had a fantastic Summer term in Year 5 and the children have been working hard on their end goal of writing and performing a sea shanty. They wrote all

the lyrics themselves and made instruments from recycled materials.

Please check out the video on our Twitter page @YearFiveBPS, if you haven't seen it yet. The children felt strongly, that they wanted to put the message 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' across in their sea shanty, following all the work that they have been doing on climate change. Due to unforeseen circumstances, our last week of Year 5 has been through Teams but we have made the best of it and had lots of fun activities such as virtual sports day, cooking challenges, a disco and a range of quizzes.

We have loved teaching the children in Year 5 and wish them all the best as they move into Year 6.

Wishing all our families a happy and healthy Summer.

Year 6/Blwydden 6



For our final term in Blackwood Primary School, we decided on the theme of 'The Grand Finale!' We celebrated lots of events including Euro 2020 and Wimbledon, calculating the cost of flights, tickets, hotels and attractions in London. We were so lucky to be able to enjoy additional activities due to regular visits from Karen at Dragons Rugby and Mr Lush from Caerphilly Music Service, who taught us how to play the ukulele. We ended the term with some amazing parties! We had a Leavers disco, where we enjoyed a delicious buffet and dancing. Our Hawaiian day was incredible! We had a Tiki bar, face painting, photo booth and lots of sports activities. At the end of the day we had a slip and slide and left school soaking wet! A huge thanks to the PTFA, for their contribution towards the parties. Unfortunately, we were unable to visit Blackwood Comprehensive but we had visits from Mrs Davies and the KS3 team, who answered all of our questions and put our minds at ease.

Good Luck Year 6 - we know that you will be fantastic in the Comprehensive!

Development of School Site



More outdoor shelters built around the school



Forest Schools area has been developed



Outdoor Classroom



Pathway to access improved Forest School area