



December 2025

St. Patrick's RC Primary School

*In **faith** we grow, with **hope** for the future and **love** for one another.*

St. Patrick's Cardiff

www.stpatricks-primary.co.uk

Lucknow Street, Grangetown, Cardiff, CF11 6NA

02920 226237



*"Glory to God in
the highest, and
on earth peace,
good will toward
men."*

A Message from Mrs Jones Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,
As we come to the end of a busy and joyful term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful festive celebrations we've enjoyed together. The children shone brightly in their performances this month, and it was heartwarming to see so many parents at the morning and afternoon shows. Thank you for sending in costumes, practicing lines and songs at home and of course joining us on the day. Thanks to your generosity, we raised an incredible £779 in ticket donations. This will be invested in new reading books for the children in the spring term, further enriching their learning. The pupils loved their visit from Santa and were thoroughly entertained by the Christmas pantomime Jack Frost. We also enjoyed Christmas lunch, Christmas jumper day, and class parties, all adding to the festive spirit.

In the new year, essential works will begin to repair the school roof, including the soffits and fascia. Scaffolding will be in place around the building during the spring term. Please be assured this will not affect school operations, everything will continue as normal.

I would like to that this opportunity to wish all our families a peaceful and happy Christmas period, filled with love and togetherness. We look forward to welcoming everyone back safe and well in January. Please note Monday 5th January is an Inset Day (school closed to pupils). School reopens on Tuesday 6th January at 8:45am for an 8:55am start. Finally a heartfelt thank you to our school community for your support throughout 2025, and to our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment.

Warm regards,
Mrs Jones



Christmas Masses @ St. Patrick's Church

You are all warmly invited to attend any of the Services at St. Patrick's Church over the Christmas period. Whether you are a frequent attender or new to the parish community we would love you to join us.



	SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER MASS 10.00AM	
	MONDAY 22nd DECEMBER MASS 9.00AM	
	TUESDAY NO MASS	
	WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER CAROLS AT 6.00PM THE FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS 6.30PM	
	THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY MASS 10.00AM	
	FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER ST STEPHEN'S DAY MASS 11.00AM	
	ALL WELCOME	



Prayer of the Month

Lord Jesus, bring light, hope, joy,
and peace. Bless our families,
friends, and hearts as we wait for
You.

Amen





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A VERY SUCCESSFULLY ESTYN INSPECTION: INTERIM VISIT FOR ST. PAT'S!

You can read the outcome of our recent interim visit from ESTYN by clicking [HERE!](#)

Interim visits are a new, supportive check-in for Welsh schools a between full inspections, designed to review progress, offer professional insights, and help leaders refine their improvement plans. The visit focuses on supporting self-evaluation, identifying strengths, and considering next steps for learner outcomes.

How St. Patrick's ensure that younger pupils have effective opportunities to become independent learners through play and exploration:

- Since the core inspection, leaders have reshaped the curriculum to prioritise play, exploration, and independence.
- Younger pupils spend extended periods in well-organised 'zones' where they choose activities, solve problems and increase independence in their learning.
- Pupils [have effective opportunities] to initiate play and develop skills through hands-on experiences that encourage creativity and independence.
- The learning environment is inviting and well-resourced.
- The school's outdoor provision allows pupils plenty of opportunities to explore, take managed risks and develop skills effectively, such as their physical skills.
- Teachers ensure there is a useful balance between adult-led learning and pupil-initiated play.
- Adults extend pupils' learning thoughtfully by linking experiences helps many pupils to make strong progress.
- Younger pupils engage in a wide range of purposeful learning activities. These experiences build pupils' literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills while developing their confidence in managing tasks independently.

How St. Patrick's have strengthened provision across the school to ensure that pupils develop their engagement with, and enjoyment of, independent reading:

- Leaders have embedded a range of strategies across the school that support pupils to engage in effective independent and guided reading sessions.
- Pupils have purposeful opportunities to read every day, which has developed many pupils' confidence and reading skills.
- Teachers develop pupils' reading skills effectively.
- Pupils engage with texts independently and apply comprehension skills confidently across the curriculum.
- Classroom environments promote independent learning and reading effectively.
- Clearly defined reading areas offer a wide range of texts, including Welsh-language books and novels. This choice has
- The school promotes a strong reading culture. Effective provision and well planned initiatives foster positive attitudes and create a culture where many pupils value and enjoy reading.



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After School Club 2026 (Childcare Provision)



St. Patrick's RC Primary

We are exploring the possibility of offering afterschool child care between 3:00pm and 5:45pm, Monday to Friday. We are currently liaising with local providers to set this up in the new year. To help us demonstrate demand for this service, we are seeking expressions of interest from parents. Sessions are expected to cost between £7-£9 per afternoon, depending on the provider. If this is something you would be interested in, please **CLICK HERE to show your interest.** Completing this form does not commit you to taking a place/ secure a place for you in after school provision.

Online Booking system

Apx £7-£9 per session

3pm-5.35pm daily

Interested? Click here!





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School News

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Christmas Performances 2025

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for our Christmas concerts this year.

To our staff, thank you for your hard work, dedication, and creativity in preparing such wonderful performances.

To our pupils, well done! You performed brilliantly, showcasing your talent, enthusiasm, and commitment. We are so proud of you.

To our parents and guardians, thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Your presence made the concerts even more special.

This year's concerts were a true celebration of our school community, filled with music, joy, and festive spirit. We are delighted to have shared these memorable moments together.



Mary's Journey

Reception & Y1R



All about a baby



Year 1-2



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Year 3-4

The Cardiff Express



Journey to Bethlehem -
Gateway to the World



Year 4-5



Year 5-6

Carols by Candlelight





December 2025

Attendance

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Nurture
Miss Pearce
88%

Reception
Miss
McDonald
93%

Reception
Mrs Evans
94%

Year 1R
Miss Rehman
85%

Whole School
Attendance
92%

Year 1-2CC
Mrs Crilly &
Mrs Callaghan
94%

Year 1-2B
Miss Bohlin
89%

Year 3-4T
Miss
Townsend
95%

Year 3-4H
Miss Head
92%

School Starts:
8.55am
Doors Open:
8.45am

Year 4-5E
Mr Ellis
91%

Year 4-5N
Miss Newson
95%

Year 5-6OH
Mr O'Hagan
92%

Year 5-6SM
Miss Sullivan &
Mrs Maddocks
92%



Attendance & Punctuality

For all the children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and be at school **on time** every day the school is open, unless the reason is unavoidable. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning.

Unauthorised absences are those which the school and the Governing Body, following Government guidelines, do not consider reasonable and for which no 'leave' has been given. This type of absence can lead to the Local Authority (Educational Welfare Service) using sanctions and / or legal proceedings including **fixed penalty notices and fines**.

Unauthorised absence includes:

- **Pupils persistently arriving late to school i.e. more than 10 sessions per half term**
- Parents / carers keeping children off school unnecessarily e.g. because they had a late night or for non-infectious illness or injury that would not affect their ability to learn
- Absences which have never been properly explained
- Shopping trips
- Looking after other children or children accompanying siblings or parents to medical appointments
- Their own or family birthdays
- Day trips
- **Holidays in term time**

We never take such action lightly and would far rather work with parents/carers to improve attendance without having to resort to enforcement action. Attendance is regarded as highly important and we will use our powers if this is found to be the only way of getting a child to attend school.

Please ensure your
child is in class ready
to begin learning at
8:55 a.m.



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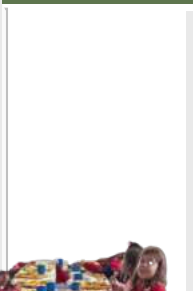


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Christmas Lunch

On Thursday 11th December we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, filling the hall with festive cheer. The decorations sparkled, Christmas music played, and the atmosphere was full of joy.

Thank you to the kitchen staff who prepared a delicious meal for the children and for all the meals they provide throughout the year.



Reception



Christmas Parties

The children had a fantastic time celebrating in the hall with Just Dance Christmas party music filling the air. They enjoyed plenty of party food, including crisps, drinks, and cake, while dressed up in their festive party clothes. It was a joyful way to end the term together.

Year 1-2B



Year 1-2C



Party Food
Discos
Dancing
Songs
Party Clothes





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Stay and Play Reception

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Our Stay and Play sessions take place on the third Monday of every month, and they are always a highlight in our Reception calendar. These sessions offer a special opportunity for parents, families and carers to come into the classroom and spend meaningful time with the children in their learning environment!



We really value our Stay and Play sessions because they strengthen our relationships with families and allow us to share joyful moments together.

**JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT
STAY AND PLAY SESSION
ON MONDAY 19TH
JANUARY!**



School Improvement Plan 2025-26

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We're pleased to share with you our School Improvement Plan for this academic year. This plan outlines the key areas we're focusing on to strengthen our school and enhance the learning experience for all our pupils. To help us make the most of these priorities, we'd really value your input. Please take a few minutes to complete the [questionnaire](#) linked below. Your feedback will help us understand what's working well and how we can improve further.

School Improvement Priorities 2025-26



Strengthen provision across the school to



Deepen staff understanding of progress within mathematics in order to raise standards of numeracy across the school.



To develop pupils as confident, independent learners who make informed choices about their learning, to ensure that they develop the necessary skills to support their work and progress.



Strengthen provision across the school to improve pupils Welsh oracy skills and their understanding of the culture and heritage of Wales.

Parent Questionnaire
- Your voice matters!





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December 2025

SPOTLIGHT ON Priority 3: We are independent learners

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applying literacy
numeracy and
digital skills



Creative
Problem
solvers

What does Independence Look like at St. Pat's?

Independent learning helps children grow into confident, curious, and capable learners. When pupils are encouraged to take ownership of their learning – by making choices, solving problems, and exploring ideas – they develop resilience and a genuine love of learning that lasts far beyond the classroom. It nurtures key skills such as self-motivation, responsibility, and critical thinking, all of which are essential for success in later life. Most importantly, independent learning empowers children to believe in themselves and recognise that they can achieve great things through their own effort and determination.



making choices



collaborating

building confidence





St. Patrick's RC Primary

December 2025

Pupil Influence Groups 2025-26

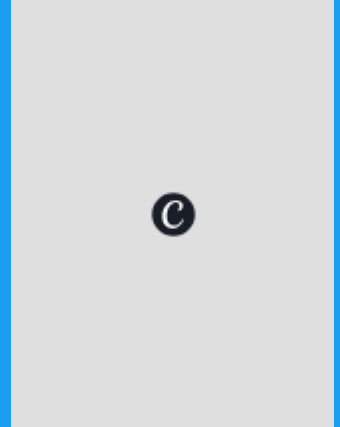
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SPOTLIGHT ON...



UNITED KINGDOM

unicef



Rights
Respecting
Schools

We are delighted to introduce our new UNICEF Children's Rights Respecting Ambassadors for the 2025/2026 school year! These dedicated pupils from Year 5 and Year 6, have been chosen for their kindness, leadership and passion for making sure every child's rights are respected and celebrated across our school community.

As ambassadors, they work together to promote children's rights, support our school's UNICEF Rights Respecting journey and help ensure every Pupils voice is heard. We are so proud of them, and have already witnessed the positive impact they have had on our school this term.



Huge Congratulations To
Vethara who has been
voted First Minister of our
school and her Deputy
Fatima.

Action Plan-Autumn Term

Project	Actions & Descriptions	Resources
Term 1: Leadership and management	Share UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools vision with staff and Pupils at the start of term. Appoint pupils to the group. Appoint a first minister and deputy minister. To present a staff inset. Sharing goals and aims for achieving Silver accreditation (K. Gahagan)	UNICEF Rights Respecting Our Team Silver Award Staff inset
Introduction to UNICEF rights respecting school	To introduce the concept of UNICEF. To understand how we will implement this in our school. To discuss visits to other schools. To think about articles from the convention to focus on. To create an action plan for the year. To make resources to focus on Silver accreditation. Create a google classroom platform	UNICEF Child Rights UNICEF Rights Respecting
Introductory assemblies	Plan and deliver introductory assemblies on Children's rights and the UNICEF	UNICEF Rights Respecting
Article of the week	Weekly articles to present to the whole school. This can be attached to JPP/CST and Celebration assemblies	Article of the week photo book Plan weekly date

So far....

Assemblies :
World Children's day.
Show Racism the red card
CST Human dignity
First Minister elections
Outright nationwide workshop
Class Reps programme





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Prayer & Liturgy

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Hymn of the

MONTH [Click Here](#) to Listen

Advent Song

1 Light the Advent candle, one:
Now the waiting has begun;
we have started on our way,
time to think of Christmas day.
Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.

2 Light the Advent candle, two:
Think of humble shepherds, who
filled with wonder at the sight
of the child of Christmas night.

3 Light the Advent candle, three:
Think of heavenly harmony:
angels singing "Peace on earth"
at the blessed Savior's birth.

4 Light the Advent candle, four:
Think of joy forevermore:
Christ Child in a stable born,
gift of love that Christmas morn.
5 Light the Christmas candles, now:
Sing of donkey, sheep, and cow;
birthday candles for the King,
let the alleluias ring.

Advent Mass at St. Patrick's Grangetown



On Sunday, we were blessed to celebrate a beautiful Advent Family Mass with Archbishop Mark. It was a truly special occasion, bringing our school and parish community together in prayer and reflection as we prepare for Christmas.

We were delighted to see so many families join us for this meaningful celebration. The children participated reverently, and their presence helped make the Mass a joyful and faith-filled experience for everyone.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this wonderful event – your involvement made it a memorable part of our Advent journey.

ADVENT PROMISE PRAYERS

Our children have been busy preparing for Advent by creating their Advent Promise Prayers, reflecting on the four themes of this special season. Each group has worked thoughtfully to write promises and prayers that will guide us in living out these values:

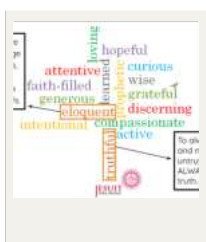
- Reception, Nurture & Year 1/2 – Hope (Purple)
- Year 3/4 – Joy (Pink)
- Year 4/5 – Peace (Purple)
- Year 5/6 – Love (Purple)

These beautiful prayers are now displayed around the school, reminding us all to share hope, joy, peace, and love as we prepare for Christmas. The children have shown great creativity and understanding, and we are very proud of their efforts.



LITTLE DISCIPLES

Our little disciples have enjoyed changing our prayer tables in readiness for Advent, thoughtfully preparing a special space as we begin this season of waiting and hope.



JPP RESPONSE

As part of our ongoing work on the Jesuit Pupil Profile (JPP), the children have been reflecting on what it means to be Learned and Wise. They explored how learning helps us grow in knowledge and understanding, and how wisdom guides us to make good choices and use our gifts for the benefit of others. Each class completed their own JPP responses, sharing thoughtful ideas about how they can live out these qualities in school and at home. Their reflections show a deep awareness of how faith and learning go hand in hand.

RED BRANCH 2: PROPECHY AND PROMISE

RED Branch 2: Prophecy and Promise



In our examination of Prophecy and Promise, we will concentrate on the significant figure of John the Baptist. John serves as a vital herald in the narrative of prophecy, announcing the arrival of Jesus. His life and message encapsulate themes of preparation and anticipation, resonating profoundly with the essence of Advent.

As we explore his story, we will highlight how his call to repentance and the baptism of Jesus signify the realization of ancient prophecies. Through interactive activities, students will discover John's distinctive role in preparing the way for the Messiah, emphasizing the promises made and fulfilled throughout biblical history.

Our goal is to enhance children's understanding of how John the Baptist's life illustrates the realization of God's promises. By examining his steadfast faith and commitment, students will gain valuable insights into the significance of spiritual readiness and the hope that accompanies divine promises.

We invite families to join us in reflecting on John the Baptist's message by weaving related themes into their Advent traditions, such as lighting a candle for prophecy or sharing stories about his life. This collective focus will deepen our community's appreciation for the prophetic promises that form the foundation of the Christmas narrative.

4/5N

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTORY

In our Religious Education lessons this half term, the children will be learning about Prophecy and Promise. They will explore how God's promises were revealed through the words of the prophets and how these promises were fulfilled in the birth of Jesus, the long-awaited Messiah.

Through the Gospel of St Matthew, pupils will discover how Joseph listened and trusted in God's message delivered by the angel, showing courage and faith. The children will also begin to learn about the celebration of the Mass, focusing on the Liturgy of the Word and how Catholics listen and respond to Scripture in prayer and worship.

As we move towards Advent, pupils will reflect on how we can prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ with hope and faith. Families are encouraged to share this season of waiting together — praying, listening, and watching for the signs of God's promises in our world today. ✨

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AMBASSADORS

This term, the Catholic Social Teaching Ambassadors are working with joyful enthusiasm and a deep sense of purpose on their new posters. They are passionately illustrating the inspiring message that "We are all made in the image of God". The students feel a profound sense of pride and shared responsibility as they visually promote the beautiful Catholic principle of human dignity and the value of diversity within their community.



The Mini Vinnies have successfully completed another project. Thanks to their hard work and determination they made 70 Christmas cards. These were given to Mrs German and Mrs Hamsworth who are members of SVP of St. Patrick's Church who will then organise their distribution to the sick and elderly of the Parish.

MINNIE VINNES

ADVENT FUNDARISER

SOME CHILDREN FROM DIFFERENT YEAR GROUPS VISITED CARDIFF FOODBANK AT GRANGETOWN BAPTIST CHURCH TO LEARN WHY WE'RE DOING OUR REVERSE ADVENT DONATION. THEY FOUND OUT WHAT THE FOODBANK DOES, WHAT THEY PROVIDE, AND HOW PEOPLE CAN GET HELP.

IF SOMEONE NEEDS SUPPORT, THEY CAN GET A FOODBANK VOUCHER OR REFERRAL CODE FROM A LOCAL SUPPORT SERVICE (LIKE CITIZENS ADVICE, HEALTH VISITOR OR HOUSING SUPPORT). WITH THAT VOUCHER OR CODE, THEY CAN VISIT A CARDIFF FOODBANK DISTRIBUTION CENTRE — INCLUDING GRANGETOWN — TO COLLECT A PARCEL OF FOOD AND ESSENTIALS. [OBJ]

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW CARDIFF FOODBANK WORKS HERE:
[HTTPS://CARDIFF.FOODBANK.ORG.UK/ABOUT-US/WHAT-WE-DO/HOW-FOODBANKS-WORK](https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/how-foodbanks-work) [OBJ]

A HUGE THANK YOU TO IAN AND THE CARDIFF FOODBANK TEAM FOR WELCOMING US! 🍷🛒🌟





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RSE Autumn Term Curriculum

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Autumn Term 2025

	Education in Virtue	Religious understanding of the human communities	Me, myself and my health	Emotional Wellbeing
Rec Mc D Rec E Y1 C	Learning about being respectful of themselves. Appreciative for blessings – life, families, home, teachers and friends. Talking and learning about being obedient to God and respectful of parents, teachers and those in rightful authority.	Understanding ways of expressing gratitude to God, such as morning and night prayers.	That we are all created as unique individuals and all have individual gifts, talents and abilities. Learning what constitutes a healthy life-style, including physical activity, dental health and healthy eating.	Talking about words to describe our feelings and having a basic understanding that feelings and actions are two different things.
Y1-2BT Y2BH Y3W Y3/4DH	Becoming well-formed in conscience, and knowing right from wrong. Being obedient to God and respectful of parents, teachers and those in rightful authority.	Knowing we are all made to be God's children: He has created us to know, love and serve Him in this life and forever. We are created as a unity of body, mind and spirit: who we are matters, and what we do matters.	Understanding that girls and boys have been created by God to be both similar and different – these differences are physical, emotional and spiritual.	Using a language to describe our feelings and attitudes. Showing a basic understanding that feelings and actions are two different things, and that our good actions.
Y4/5E Y5S	Being respectful and open, able to identify other people and respect them for who they are. Being appreciative for the many blessings by which God's love sustains them every moment of their lives.	Knowing that we are created individually by God who is Love, designed in His own image and likeness: we are 'very good' and have an innate dignity, as have all individual human beings.	Understanding that similarities and differences between people arise as they grow and choose, and that by living and working together ('teamwork') we create community. How to make good choices that have an impact on their health.	Deepen their understanding of the range and intensity of their feelings; that 'feelings' are not good guides for action, and also what helps emotional well-being.
Y5-6OH Y6MP	Showing they are loyal and able to develop and sustain friendships. Forgiving and allowing reconciliation in relationships. Learning how to be honest, committed to living truthfully and with integrity..	Understanding that God implants in us the desire to be loved and to love and 'to make a difference': each of us has a specific purpose. Knowing the importance of a nightly examination of conscience.	How to make good choices that have an impact on their health: rest and sleep, exercise, personal hygiene, avoiding the overuse of electronic entertainment,	Learning that emotions change as they grow up. To deepen their understanding of the range and intensity of their feelings and that 'feelings' are not good guides for action.



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Catholic Life & Mission

By Mrs Ursell,



@St.PatsCardiff

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Christmas Carol Choir



We are delighted to share that our school choir performed at the local Morrisons this Christmas, raising money for both our Book Fund and Marie Curie.

The children sang beautifully throughout the afternoon, filling the store with festive cheer. Their talent and enthusiasm shone through every song, and they truly made us proud.

A huge thank you to Mrs McDonald and Mrs Ursell for leading the choir, and to everyone who supported the event. Together, we helped raise funds for two wonderful causes while celebrating the joy of the season.



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) CHRISTMAS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

BILLS

2 Kids Eat Free on Boxing day 2025

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

COCONUT TREE

Kids eat FREE from Fri 19th Dec - Sun 6th Jan 2026

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARSTONS PUBS

from 29th Dec - Jan 9th 2026 in selected locations

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays



SUPPORT OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD CEFNOGAETH DROS Y NADOLIG

If Christmas is a hard time for you, it's important to remember
that you are not alone.

Os mae Nadolig yn amser anodd i ti, mae'n bwysig cofio
nad wyt ti ar ben dy hun.

MIND

0300 102 1234

Hopeline 24/7

0800 068 41 41

Text: 88247

Samaritans

116 123

Childline

0800 1111

Shout

Text 'SHOUT' to 85258

Cardiff Food Bank

02920 484120

info@cardiff.foodbank.org.uk

CALL 24/7

0800 132 737

call@helpline.wales

Safer Wales

02920 220 033

Beyond Blue

1300 22 4636



November 2025

Curriculum News

By Mrs Perrett, Deputy Headteacher



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Please click on the photograph to find our Parent Overviews for your child's Autumn term topic. Our driver for this term is Humanities. We have had lots of exciting trips and experiences planned throughout this topic.

5/6OH & 5/6SM

4/5E & 4/5NS

Autumn Term 2025 Topic Overview - Wales @ War
Year 5 and 6
Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Hodgson & Mr O'Hagan

Overview
During the Autumn term, pupils will explore how World War II affected Wales, with a particular focus on Cardiff's role and experiences. They will investigate the lives of evacuees, the impact of the Blitz, and the contributions of Welsh people to the war effort. Through historical enquiry and creative activities, pupils will develop a deeper understanding of resilience, community, and the importance of remembering the past.

Literacy, Language & Communication
Genre Focus 1: Recounts
• Diaries/newspaper reports/TV/Radio
• Effective introductions - who, what, where, why, when
• Writing in the past tense
• Using specific vocabulary
• Writing in the first/third person
• Evaluating and publishing

Genre Focus 2: Instructions
• Write in sequenced steps
• Use a range of time connectives
• Write in present tense
• Use imperative verbs
• Quantities and measurements clearly stated

Numeracy & Mathematics
Place Value
• Use a range of representations to develop and secure my understanding that the value of a digit is related to its position.
• Read, round and interpret numbers, using figures and words up to at least one million.
• Use a range of representations to extend my understanding of the number system to include negative values, decimals and fractions.
• Apply my understanding of number value to round and approximate appropriately.
• Accurately state integers, decimals and fractional quantities on a number line.

Addition & Subtraction
• Use the four arithmetic operations confidently, efficiently and accurately with integers and decimals.
• Add and subtract numbers using whole numbers and decimals.

Religious Education & Spiritual Development
Autumn 1: Creation & Covenant - Explore the Church's teaching of the Second account of the creation. St. John's gospel identifies that in Jesus, we have a new creation and beginning: And the Nicene Creed and how it represents Catholic beliefs. Understand the term Stewardship and the key messages from Pope Francis' in Laudato Si.
Autumn 2: Prophecy & Promise - Explore some of the stories of the women in the Old Testament. St. Luke's gospel focuses on the story of the Annunciation and the importance of Mary saying 'yes' to be the mother of Jesus.



Autumn Term 2025 Topic Overview - Gateway to the World
Year 4 & 5
Mr Ellis & Miss Newson

Overview
We will explore and compare different locations around the world through the eyes of different writers. We will look at explorers with links to Wales such as Captain Scott (card Eddgar Evans) and the American journey, Prince Philip in the 12th century. We will study and compare physical features, how the place have changed over time and some of the traditions of these locations. We will also share these studies with parents through a showcase market of work products.

Our Focus
We will introduce our topic through an immersion day where the children will carry out activities such as orienteering using 8 compass points and coordinates, looking at different cultures and identifying physical geographical features of the world. We will also immerse ourselves in the Seven Wonders of the World in a 3D virtual reality dome experience. We will also take part in other visits and experiences throughout the term.

Literacy, Language & Communication
Genre Focus 1: Recount
• Skill-reading
• Paragraphs
• Past tense
• Time connectives
• Specific vocabulary
Genre Focus 2: Explanation
• Writing effective introductions and conclusions
• Sequencing
• Cause and effect sentences, using connectives such as because, so, therefore
• Present tense
• Organising writing using subheadings
• Using technical/subject-related vocabulary

Numeracy & Mathematics
Place Value
• Use a range of resources and models (eg, base 10 blocks, place value charts, counters) to understand that a digit's value depends on its position (eg, in 345, the 3 is 'hundreds', not just '3').
• Read, write and interpret numbers in both figures (345) and words (three hundred and thirty-five) for up to 4 and 5 digit numbers.
• Accurately place integers on a number line.
• Apply understanding of place value to round numbers (eg, to the nearest 10, 100, 1000).
• Learn to use rounding to approximate and check if answers make sense.

Addition & Subtraction
• Use the four arithmetic operations confidently, efficiently and accurately with integers and decimals, and I can combine these using additive, subtractive and commutative laws where appropriate.
• Add and subtract numbers using whole numbers.

Statistics
• Demonstrate an understanding of the idea of input, application of a rule (including inverse operations) and output, using a function machine or other appropriate methods, and apply this idea to solve problems.

Multiplication
• Recall my 3, 4 and 6 times table.
• Explore single multiplicative relationships that in order to discuss the properties of numbers, including factors, multiples.

Arcs, Length & Perimeter
• Measure the length of a line and the perimeter of a 2D shape using appropriate units.

3/4T & 3/4H

1/2CC & 1/2B

Autumn Term 2025 Topic Overview
All Aboard the Cardiff Express
Year 3/4T and Year 3/4H
Miss Townsend and Miss Head

Overview
In this thrilling topic, pupils will become transport engineers, designing and building train stations to colourful maps and intricate transport networks. They'll explore how our capital city connects to the rest of Wales—and beyond in major UK cities like London, Birmingham, and Manchester. They'll investigate the exciting Cardiff Coastal tram project, a bold new plan to link Cardiff Central to Cardiff Bay with a modern tramway by 2028. Pupils will ask: why are trains returning? How will they change the way we move? They'll explore how this project fits into Cardiff's vision for a greener, fairer, and better-connected city. Using real-world data, pupils will discover how nearly 2 billion vehicle miles were travelled on Cardiff's roads in 2024. They'll explore how people commute by train, car, bus, bike, or on foot—and turn this information into bar charts, pictograms, and persuasive posters to share their findings. They'll also explore sustainability and climate change, learning how transport choices affect our environment. With transport making up 35% of Cardiff's carbon emissions, pupils will consider how new solutions like trams, electric trains, and active travel can help build a cleaner, healthier future.

Literacy, Language & Communication
Genre Focus: Persuasion
• Persuading local council to promote more Public Transport in the local area due to Carbon Emission.
• Capital letters, full stops and question marks.
• Connectives, such as 'because', 'if', 'then' etc.
• Adding detail to explain points and giving reasons for opinions.
• Present tense.
Genre Focus: Recount
• Diary writing/TV or Radio report on the new Tram in Cardiff.
• Paragraphs
• Past tense
• Specific vocabulary
• First/third person
• Powerful adjectives and verbs and Editing & publishing

Numeracy & Mathematics
This Autumn, children will be developing their understanding of numbers up to 1,000, focusing on place value and using this to support addition and subtraction. They will begin to explore multiplication as repeated addition and division as sharing or grouping, using practical methods and early times tables (2, 5, and 10) in statistics. They will collect and organise simple data using charts and diagrams, and start to interpret what the data shows. Algebraic thinking will be introduced through recognising patterns, using simple rules, and solving problems with missing numbers. These skills will be taught through hands-on activities and real-life contexts to help children build strong foundations in maths.

Religious Education
In this unit of study, Year 3 revisited the first Creation story from Genesis, exploring the poetic language used to describe how the world was formed. Pupils encountered the belief that human beings are made 'in the image of God' (Genesis 1:27) and discussed what this might mean. They made connections between the first Creation story, the belief in the equality of all people, and the Catholic Social Teaching principle of human dignity. Pupils also explored stewardship, linking Genesis 1:26-31 with actions people can take today, such as outlined in Pope Francis' Laudato Si (LS 88). In the second half of the term, the focus will be Prophecy and Promise. Pupils are exploring Joseph's trust in God and learning about the messages brought by the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, linking these to the prophecies of Isaiah. They are considering how the themes of Advent and Christmas represent hope and faith.

Autumn Term 2025 - Parent Overview - Seize the Season
Year 1, Rec McD & Rec E: Miss Rahman, Miss McDonald & Mrs Evans

Overview
Our Seize the Season theme will take full advantage of the outdoors and will ensure that the children have a sense of 'Cynfari' and make links with our local community. Alongside our teacher instilled learning the children will be provided with opportunities to develop their own learning in response to their environment and current events that are happening in and around them.

Literacy, Language & Communication
Skills: Fine motor control activities. Forming letters correctly using cursive writing. Writing for a purpose. Using punctuation - Capital letters, full stops, finger spaces. Retelling events. Writing familiar words and phrases. Responding to what I hear, read and see.
Grammar: Report: This is me, I am special. How I have changed? Write a report about their Family Tree. Who they are?
Recount: Write about their trip to Pumphkin Patch.
Narrative: Write about your own 'Stickman' adventure.

Numeracy & Mathematics
Number: Match, sort and compare: Describe quantities, make estimates and comparisons. Counting sequence of numbers in different ways.
Place value: Notice, recognise and write numbers. Count sets reliably.
Geometry: Measure and pattern: Make estimates and comparisons with measures, such as 'shorter than', 'heavier than', recognise, copy, extend and generalise patterns and sequences around me.
2D shapes: Explore, compare, and use the general language of shapes through investigative play.
Position and direction: Explore movements and directions and begin to use mathematical language to describe position.

Religious Education & Spiritual Development - Reception
Branch One: Creation and Covenant
• To understand that God created the world and everything in it.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
Branch Two: Prophecy and Promise
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.

Religious Education & Spiritual Development - Year 1
Branch One: Creation and Covenant
• To understand that God created the world and everything in it.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
Branch Two: Prophecy and Promise
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.
• To understand that God created the world in six days.

Health & Wellbeing

Reception & 1R

Autumn Term 2025/26 - Health and Wellbeing Overview
P51
Mr Rees, Mrs Thomas

Overview
This term is all about our physical wellbeing and how we use our bodies. We will be looking to develop not only our physical health but understanding that our decisions have impact on the quality of our lives and others. We will be learning about different parts of the body and how we use our body for movement and exercise. Also, we will be learning about how to be safe near roads and how we can ride safely.

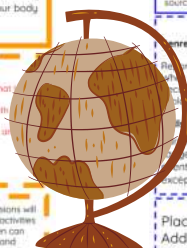
Focus: Wellbeing
Developing physical health and well-being has lifelong benefits.
• Begin to develop an awareness of body movement and direction
• Discover how the body changes dependent upon actions.
• Take part in physical activities using different body parts.

Our decision making impacts on the quality of our lives and the lives of others.
• I can take part in group decisions.
• I have an understanding that things can be safe or unsafe.

Activities:
• Body parts - improve understanding of various parts of the body that support us everyday and through exercise
• Movement - create various ways to use our bodies and how it affects us
• Exercise - develop understanding of how exercise benefits us?
• Safe cycling - introducing key skills and develop confidence to ride a bike
• Road safety - Learn about how to keep safe and how to read and respond to signs that aid us when near roads.

Cross Curricular Skills
L.L.C. reading: I can use context and pictures to help me understand what is being said by my explanations about where body parts are.
L.L.C. Speaking: I can use familiar words and phrases and participate in learning vocabulary when talking about body parts.
L.L.C. Writing: I am beginning to communicate using text, image, sound, and video when explaining understanding of the body.
Numeracy: I can explore movements and directions.
D.C.: I can create simple digital work about being safe around roads.

Wellbeing Missions will be additional activities that all children can participate in and complete alongside their focused lessons.
All activities are based on our wellbeing topic of physical wellbeing.



Autumn Term 2025 - Parent Overview - Seize the Season
Year 1/2 C and Year 2B
Mrs Crilly, Mrs Callaghan and Miss Bohlin

Overview
This term our topic will be 'A Season to Celebrate'. The children will explore how people in Cardiff and across the world, mark special times of the year through festivals and traditions. We will look at Autumn and Harvest in Cardiff. We will link this to our own school or community harvest celebrations. As the nights grow darker, we will learn about sources of light. The festivals that we have to celebrate light especially during our dark nights and finally, the children will learn about Christmas in Cardiff and around the world.

Literacy, Language & Communication
Genres: Report: All About Me. What I like, dislike. What I am good at, what I want to learn to do I aspire to be.
Recount: From our observations, write about our trip to Bute Park.
Exposition: How Christmas is celebrated around the world.
Explanatory text: Explaining letters correctly using cursive writing. Writing for a purpose. Use a range of punctuation - capital letters, full stops, finger spaces. Retelling events using existing or topic related vocabulary. Write using familiar common words and phrases.

Numeracy & Mathematics
Place Value
• Addition
• 2D and 3D Shapes
• Statistics
• Addition and Subtraction
• Place Value
• Length and Height

Creation and Covenant:
In this branch, pupils will learn about the story of Noah, mainly focusing on God's promise, or covenant, with Noah and with all creatures. A promise symbolised by the rainbow. The story of Noah shows that though the people turned away from living good lives (sin), a path back to God was restored through the small hope of Noah and his family. God's promise to Noah is not one way, it depends on Noah (and his family) turning back to God. The Catholic Church recognises the story of Noah's ark prefigures the 'salvation' by baptism, for by it a few, were saved by water.
The Sacrament of Baptism forms the next part of Creation and covenant.

Prophecy and Promise:
During this branch the children will develop an understanding of the Christian belief. This belief is that God showed us the full depth of his love by sending Jesus his Son. We will experience Advent traditions, participate in nativity plays, see the Christmas crib, and learn Christmas carols with the secular traditions that run alongside the Christmas season. Begin to understand the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her importance to Christians. Through the Angel Gabriel, God's messenger, Mary says 'Yes' to being the mother of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Please look on the final page of your parent overviews to see what exciting learning opportunities can take place at home.



Health & Wellbeing Days

By Miss Huntley, Health & Wellbeing Leader



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Health and Wellbeing

So our cooking term comes to an end... and what an incredible journey it has been! It has been a pleasure to have the most amazing little chefs and bakers in the kitchen. The children have learned skills such as measuring, mixing, teamwork, and patience, and their confidence has grown with every recipe. We are so proud of their progress!



Forest School Festivities

This term, the children embraced creativity outdoors by making snowmen decorations and working together to build a Christmas tree using natural materials. These activities encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and a deeper connection with nature.



WOW Tracker – Walking Our Way to Success

The children have been fantastic with the WOW Tracker, which rewards walking, scooting, or cycling to school. Each sustainable journey earns points towards badges, and it's wonderful to see the children wearing them with pride.

Well done to 5/6OH for being the most active. Da iawn pawb! Where will your class be in the leader board next term?



Spanish Adventures

Spanish has been a big part of our wellbeing days, and the children have loved learning through games and songs. This term, we focused on greetings, colours, and families, with activities such as colour-matching games, "I spy", drawing and labelling family trees, and even colour-by-number challenges to make learning creative and fun. To keep practicing over Christmas get your child using Duolingo, which is a fantastic way to build confidence and continue learning at home. I've really enjoyed exploring Spanish and learning alongside the children too.





This month we have been celebrating...

CHRISTMAS!



We have had lots of fun being curious and creative, incorporating Christmas into our learning!



Our trip to see Santa

We had a wonderful trip to The Meadows Wildlife Park to meet Santa and see the animals.



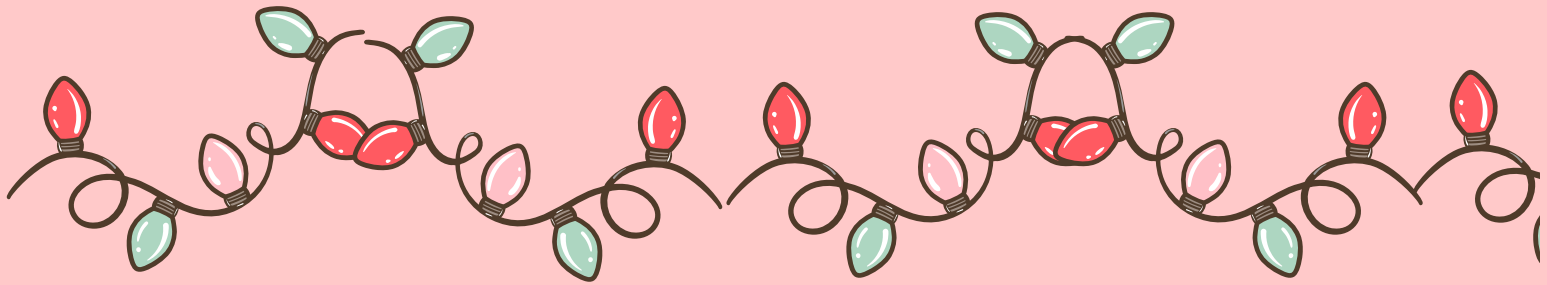
A big thank you to the mums and big sister who joined us on the trip – we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



December 2023

Our December Learning Journal, Reception & Y1R

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Preparing for Christmas...



This month, the children have been busy preparing for Christmas by decorating the classroom and practising for their performance. They have also loved setting up our class Nativity and learning more about the Christmas story!



Our trip to The Meadows Wildlife Park



We had the best time at Meadows Wildlife Park! The children were thrilled to meet Santa and loved discovering all the different animals around the park!





y1-2

Our trip to The Meadows Wildlife Park

We had a magical time on our trip. The children got to meet Santa, complete some Christmas activities, spent time with the guinea pigs and rabbits.



Year 3-4 enjoyed celebrating their Star in the Jar reward with a fun and cosy afternoon. Pupils came to school in their pyjamas and relaxed together while watching a movie. They also enjoyed a special treat of hot chocolate topped with cream. It was a lovely way to recognise their hard work and positive behaviour, and everyone had a fantastic time.



y3-4





December 2025

Our December Learning Journal, PS3

By Miss Sullivan, Mrs Maddocks, Mr O Hagan, Miss Newson & Mr Ellis



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Y4-5



Writing our Christmas list to Sion Corn yn Gymraeg!

Fun and games for Y4&5 at the Turnbull Cricket Tournament



OUR LEARNING JOURNEY



New Welsh book have been added to our class libraries



Y5-6

Chippy Tea!

Our pupils really enjoyed a delicious chippy tea before the carol concert. A lovely way to start the festive evening!

Precision and problem-solving with Kapla





Keeping Your Child Safe Online This Christmas

As the festive season approaches, many children will be receiving new devices or games. This is a great opportunity to review age ratings and set up parental controls. Talk to children about safe gaming practices, including who they play with and how to handle inappropriate content. Remind them that online friends are not always who they seem.

Screen time limits

Setting screen time limits for children is essential for their overall well-being. By reducing excessive screen use, parents can help protect their child's eyesight, encourage physical activity, and improve sleep quality—especially by limiting screens before bedtime. It also promotes social interaction, creativity, while reducing the risk of behavioral issues linked to too much screen exposure.

Three easy tips to set limits at home:

1. Create tech-free zones – Keep bedrooms and mealtimes screen-free to encourage family interaction and better sleep.
2. Set a daily time cap – Use built-in parental controls or apps to limit screen time to age-appropriate levels.
3. Model healthy habits – Children learn by example, so show balanced screen use yourself.

App of the month

www.santatracker.google.com

An interactive holiday app featuring a Santa tracker, festive mini-games, quizzes, and countdowns.



Welsh Language & Culture

By Miss Newson, and Miss Bohlin, Welsh leaders



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Phrases of the Month:

Beth wyt ti eisiau
wneud?

What do you want to do?



Nadolig Llawn

CRIW CYMRAEG

Croeso to our new members of Criw Cymraeg! It's been a busy month, we've been leading playground games and also planned a Mari Llwyd assembly.





St. Patrick's RC Primary

November 2025

Celebrating Achievements

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Celebration Assembly

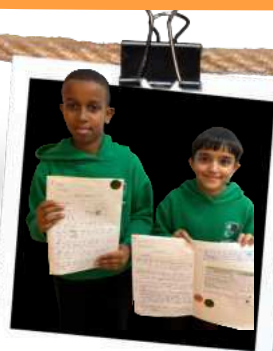
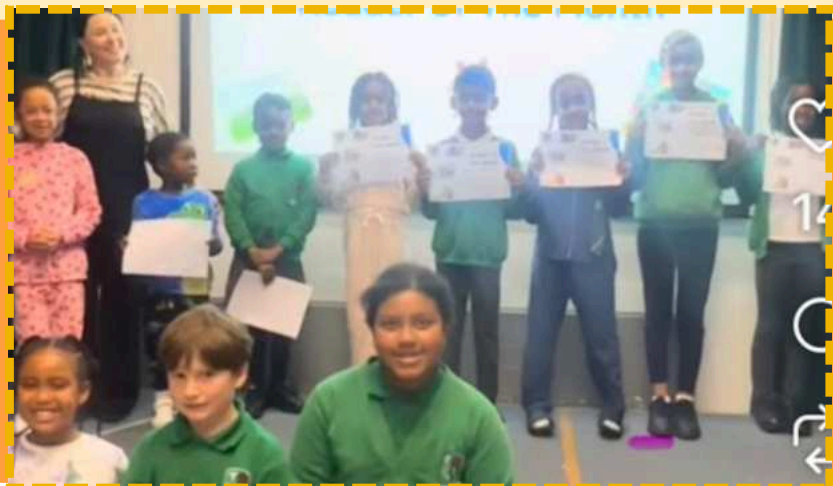
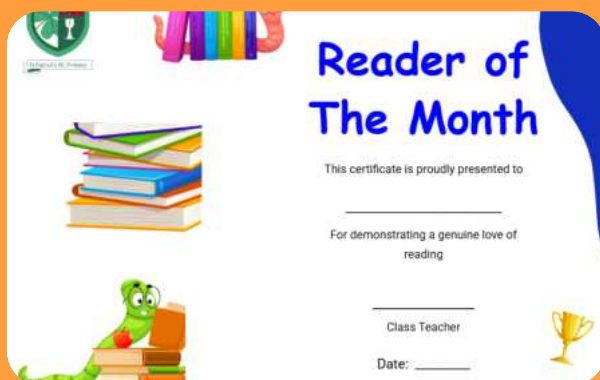


We have been celebrating our pupils' achievements in literacy, numeracy, Welsh and Catholic virtues throughout October.



Every week in assembly we introduce a new Welsh or Spanish phrase for the children to use in class and around school.

Readers of the Month



Mrs Jones has been impressed with a range of extended pieces of writing this month!

Da iawn bwab 😊



Take part in a new study about child development in Wales

Who can take part?

Parents and carers of children aged 9-11 years (Years 5 & 6) in a primary school in Wales.

Why take part?

- This research study is about children's abilities to regulate their attention, behaviours and emotions.
- Taking part will help us to better understand children's challenges related to ADHD.
- This will help children with ADHD (particularly girls, who are often missed) get timely support.

What taking part involves?

- Complete an assessment pack that includes questions about your child's development
- Enter a prize draw for a gift voucher.
- To find out more about what taking part involves, please visit our website.

How to take part



To take part: scan this QR code or visit **bit.ly/ADHDbears**

For more information, please contact

Dr Joanna Martin:
martinjm1@cardiff.ac.uk

Wolfson Centre
for Young People's Mental Health
Canolfan Wolfson
ar gyfer lechyd Meddwl Pobl Ifanc

NCMH
National Centre for Mental Health
Canolfan lechyd Meddwl Genedlaethol

Ymchwil Iechyd a Gofal Cymru
Health and Care Research Wales



CARDIFF UNIVERSITY
PRIFYSGOL CAERDYDD





Y5 Football

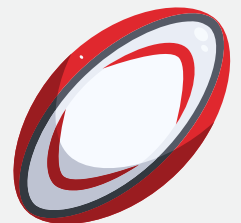


Our Year 5 football team recently played a friendly match against Ysgol Pwll Coch at Leckwith. It was a good opportunity for both teams to enjoy the game and develop their skills. We look forward to arranging another match in the New Year.

Join Canton RFC Minis and Juniors!



Canton RFC is looking for new players to join their Minis and Juniors teams. If you're interested in getting involved, find them on social media or speak to Mr Parsons for more details.



Thank You | Diolch

A big thank you to our friends at Canton RFC for generously raffling off a prize of two tickets to watch Sleeping Beauty for one of our lucky pupils. We really appreciate their support!





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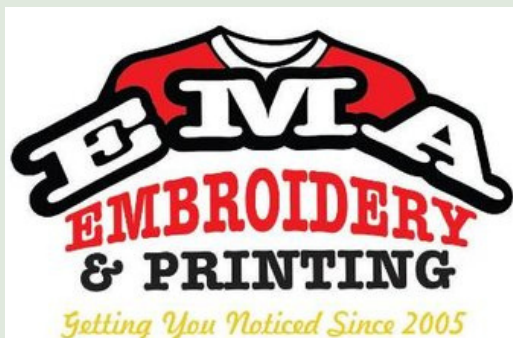
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December 2025

St. Patrick's RC Primary School

In *faith* we grow, with *hope* for the future and *love* for one another



Purchasing Uniform

Please continue to send your child to school in appropriate uniform. Should you need support with purchasing uniform please speak to the Headteacher or Mrs Thomas.

Uniform can be purchased from EMA uniform shop or our School uniform shop where our Eco Council recycle preloved uniform.



- ✓ green polo shirts
- ✓ green round neck jumper
- ✓ green cardigan
- ✓ dark grey shorts
- ✓ dark grey pinafore/ skirt
- ✓ gingham dress (summer term only)

Uniform for Wellbeing Days & P.E.

Please continue to ensure your child comes to school in the correct wellbeing uniform on PE and forest school days.

green hoodie



black shorts



black joggers



round neck t-shirt



black trainers



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Suitable Footwear

Children should come to school in footwear that fully encloses the foot for health and safety reasons. Footwear should be black to meet our school uniform policy. Should you require any support with purchasing suitable footwear, please request to speak with the Headteacher or Mrs Thomas.



- ✓ black foot wear
shoes, boots, trainers
- ✓ black logo or no logo
- ✓ velcro/ laces
- ✓ Fully enclosed

Your child may be provided with black daps/ plimsolls if they do not come to school in suitable footwear.

Unsuitable for school

Certain footwear choices are not suitable for school. Please see examples of footwear that do not meet the expectations of our school uniform policy.



No white soles



St. Patrick's RC Primary

December 2025

School News

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Volunteers Welcome!



We are looking for members of our community to volunteer with us at St. Patrick's! If you enjoy working with children and would like to gain some experience or simply have some time to spare you would be most welcome to meet with Mrs Jones to talk about volunteering. We have volunteer roles for anyone interested in working with children in class, helping Mr Rees with cooking lessons, supporting Mr Parsons with maintenance jobs, the list is endless.

We are looking for people who can volunteer to...

★ Play games
Listen to stories
Share with our
youngest children

★ Paint and
Do Odd Jobs
Weeding

*Work as part of a team
Learn new skills*



★ Cook
with
Children

★ Listen to Children
Read

★ Gardening
and Forest
Schools

*Gain experience
Meet new people*



December 2025

What's Happening in January?

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Dates for your Diary in January



5th January
INSET DAY 4
SCHOOL CLOSED

7th January
Mari Llwyd
Assembly
(Cryw Cymraeg)

8th of January
Falconry Visit
with
Year 4-5

16th January
Youth Service
Wales with Y6

19th January
Stay & Play
Reception

20th January
Year 5 STEM Day
MIHS

28th January
Readers of the
Month
Assembly

29th January
Design to Smile



December 2025

What's Happening in February?

*In **faith** we grow, with **hope** for the future and **love** for one another.*



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Dates for your Diary in February



2nd February
Stay & Read
9am
Reception Parents/
Carers

3rd February
Mixed Netball
Yr5-6
Urdu Competition

9th February
Paned a Pastry
Parents Welsh Morning
Y4-5

10th February
Y3-4T Class Assembly
9.20am

12th February
MIHS School
Production for Y6
pupils

13th February
Y4-5
Poetry Workshop

13th February
Y6
Youth Service Wales
Workshop

16th February
Stay & Play Reception
Parents/ Carers
9am

17th February
Shrove Tuesday

18th February
Ash Wednesday

25th February
Readers of the Month
Assembly

27th February
Y3-4 Trip to Techniquet