

## Newsletter - Autumn Term 2

As we approach the end of a busy and exciting term, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for the warm welcome we've received as the new Executive Head and Head of School. It has been a joy to see the enthusiasm and kindness that make this community so special. Our pupils have worked incredibly hard and embraced every opportunity to learn and grow, and I couldn't be prouder of their achievements. As we break up for the Christmas holidays, I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved rest.

### Perfect Harmony - Autumn Term Learning

#### Dosbarth Calon



This term in Dosbarth Calon, we have been exploring a wonderful range of fairy tales, including *Little Red Riding Hood*, *The Three Little Pigs*, as well as *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We have also followed the children's interests by enjoying their favourites such as *The Gruffalo* and *Room on the Broom*. A strong focus this term has been on sensory learning, with carefully designed sensory stories that support regulation, communication and participation for our sensory learners. We have also been developing fine motor skills, and it has been lovely to see the children choosing the mark-making area more frequently and working with growing independence and curiosity.

Outdoor learning has played an important part in our week, giving the children the space they need to regulate, move freely and learn in a calm and open environment. Our woodland Gruffalo hunt was a particular highlight, allowing the children to connect their stories to real-world exploration.



The children have also begun integrating their playtime with peers of the same age in the mainstream classes, which has been wonderful to watch. They are communicating, joining in games, and playing both alongside and independently with their peers, showing growing confidence and social development.



## Dosbarth Dafad

### Celebrating with a Smeds and Smoos Party!

Dosbarth Dafad marked the end of their exciting expedition in the most creative way—by holding a special *Smeds and Smoos* celebration! Inspired by the beloved story, the class embraced the theme of celebrating differences and sharing unique ways of life.

The children explored what makes each of us special and how diversity brings colour and joy to our world. To mark the occasion, they arrived at school in bright, colourful clothes and worked together to bake delicious vegan cakes, decorating them with vibrant icing and sprinkles that reflected their individuality and creativity. Later, they showed off their impressive dance moves during lively games of musical statues and musical bumps. This celebration was more than just fun—it was a reminder that when we value and respect our differences, we create something truly wonderful and can live in 'Perfect Harmony'.



## Dosbarth Maes

This half term, Dosbarth Maes have been learning about what living things need to survive as part of their *Perfect Harmony* expedition. The children visited Llanishen Fach Primary School, where they met the school's guinea pigs and chickens. They learned how to care for the animals by providing food, water, shelter, and a clean, safe environment.



The visit helped the pupils understand how to keep living creatures healthy and happy, and it sparked rich discussions back in class about how all living things depend on their environment to thrive. After everything we've learned, we now feel ready—and very excited—to welcome our new school pets after the Christmas break.



Dosbarth Maes had an unforgettable day on their Christmas trip to **Techniquest**, where science, excitement, and a sprinkle of festive magic came together perfectly. From the moment the class arrived, pupils were captivated by the hands-on exhibits. They explored interactive stations, solved puzzles, tested forces, experimented with water, and worked together to uncover the science behind everyday wonders. Laughter, curiosity, and teamwork filled every corner as the children learned through play.

The highlight of the day was a special **Christmas science show** all about "*an elf saving Christmas.*" Pupils were drawn into the story as the mischievous but determined elf faced a series of scientific challenges. With the audience's help—and plenty of dramatic experiments—the elf discovered how forces, light, sound, and even a bit of chemistry could help rescue Christmas just in time!

## Popplewood

Dosbarth Dafad and Dosbarth Calon enjoyed a wonderful Christmas trip to Popplewood soft play, where all of the children thoroughly enjoyed the exciting and festive experience. The children in Dosbarth Dafad were especially delighted to meet the wizard and watch his magical tricks with great excitement.

Dosbarth Calon had an amazing time exploring the new environment and coped really well with the disruption to their usual routine. All of the teachers were extremely proud of how the children embraced the experience, making it a truly memorable trip for everyone involved.



## Dosbarth Catwg



Year 3 have been celebrating diversity this half term by learning all about the different cultures within their classroom. They have learnt about respecting others, including their names, religions, traditions and beliefs. The children started their expedition with a 'cultures day,' where they explored the range of cultures within their class through food, art and dance. We hope to share our findings with another class as part of our summit.

## Dosbarth Bronllwyn

This half term Dosbarth Bronllwyn have been learning about what school was like in the past. The children have interviewed family members including formers pupils of Pentyrch Primary School! We have reflected on what's changed over the years and what we believe makes a school and community thrive. The children are now coming up with their own plans for the future of our school which they look forward to sharing with our new Head of School. Alongside this, Year 4 have been busy with Outdoor Learning, P.Bones music lessons and wowing audiences in 'Cinderella Rockerfella'!



## Dosbarth Garth

This term, Dosbarth Garth have been exploring the theme *Perfect Harmony* by learning about different religions and how they connect. We discovered the similarities and differences between the Christian and Islamic faiths, beginning with an exciting trip to St Catwg's Church. Father Edward welcomed us warmly, guiding us around the church and showing us fascinating artifacts linked to Christianity. He explained the special clothing worn during ceremonies, the celebrations that take place, and traditions we might already be familiar with. Back in class, we continued our journey by carrying out independent research into Islam, comparing its traditions with those of Christianity. To finish, each pupil chose one of the religions to study in more depth, creating a portfolio full of information and insights.

Alongside our learning, we also took part in the Shoe Box Appeal, collecting donations and wrapping up shoe boxes filled with gifts. These were sent to people who are less fortunate, helping to spread kindness and joy at Christmas.

Through our work on *Perfect Harmony*, we have learnt that while religions and cultures may have differences, they also share many similarities. Most importantly, we discovered that everyone is valued, everyone matters, and that respect and kindness help bring people together in harmony.



## Dosbarth Bronhaul

Dosbarth Bronhaul has been taking part in the *Perfect Harmony* exhibition, exploring the story of migration to Cardiff around 100 years ago. The exhibition focuses on how people from different backgrounds arrived in the city and worked together to build strong, supportive communities. The children have researched the experiences of families who moved to Cardiff during this time, looking at the challenges they faced and the ways they contributed to the city's culture and growth. Using what they have learned, the group has created multimedia presentations that include images, audio, and video to tell these stories in an engaging way. The children shared their work with another class, helping everyone understand how diversity and cooperation have shaped Cardiff's history.



Our Year 6 children enjoyed an inspiring trip to Crucial Crew, a safety education programme run with police, fire services, Network Rail and local councils. Through fun, hands-on workshops, they learned vital life skills such as road, rail, fire, water, hygiene and online safety. The experience helped them understand how to make safer choices and prepare for life's challenges – an opportunity they thoroughly enjoyed!

## Foundation Phase

This year, our Foundation Phase children delighted families and staff with their heartwarming and imaginative performance of **Christmas with the Aliens**. The production brought a fresh twist to the traditional nativity story, blending festive cheer with a sprinkle of intergalactic fun!

The play was about a group of curious aliens landing on Earth, puzzled by the excitement and decorations they encountered as they learnt all about Christmas traditions. Every child shone on stage, whether singing, dancing, or delivering their lines with confidence and joy. The audience was captivated by the enthusiasm and teamwork displayed by our youngest learners. Congratulations to our Foundation Phase pupils for giving us a show that was truly **out of this world!**



## Cinderella & Rockerfella



Our KS2 Christmas production of Cinderella and Rockerfella at the village hall was a colourful, magical and energetic celebration of talent. The children shone in an all-singing, all-dancing pantomime that showcased their creativity and confidence. Much of the rehearsal took place during Rock School sessions, where children explored expressive arts including drama, singing, dancing, sign language, props, percussion, and pBuzz. They were encouraged to choose what they enjoyed, try new things, and discover skills they didn't even know they had.

The Pentyrch community played a wonderful role too, with one parent teaching sign language and other volunteers helping backstage with costumes and props. On stage, the children were full of character and clearly having the time of their lives – delighting the audience with a truly showstopping performance.

## Teepee Theatre

Pentyrch Primary was full of laughter as TeePee Theatre performed their hilarious Christmas show, *The Roaming Gnome*, for Dosbarth Dafad, Dosbarth Maes, and Dosbarth Calon.

The lively performance had pupils giggling from start to finish, with plenty of surprises and festive cheer. "It was amazing!" said one excited pupil.

A huge thank you to TeePee Theatre for bringing sparkle, fun, and Christmas spirit to our school!



## Sherman Theatre

Recently, our KS2 pupils enjoyed a trip to the Sherman Theatre to watch *Alice Returns to Wonderland*. The performance offered a fresh take on the classic story, with colourful characters and creative staging that kept everyone engaged.

The children had a great time experiencing live theatre and seeing how a familiar tale can be reimaged in new and exciting ways. It was a lovely opportunity to connect what we learn in school with the world of the arts.

Thank you to the Sherman Theatre for a fantastic show.



## Pentyrch Community

### Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, our head boy and head girl proudly represented Pentyrch Primary School at the local service. They spoke with confidence and respect, sharing words of remembrance before laying a wreath on behalf of our school community.



### Pentyrch Village Christmas Fayre



Pentyrch Primary School pupils added a festive touch to this year's Village Christmas Fayre with their joyful carol singing. Their performance their spread seasonal cheer and merriment.



### St. Catwg Church

We were delighted to take part in the St Catwg Church Carol Concert this year. Our group gave a heartfelt performance of a beautiful poem, adding a reflective and festive touch to the evening. The audience enjoyed the recital words and the effort put in by our pupils, making it a memorable part of the service.



On a beautiful sunny day, the Christmas celebrations continued with KS2 pupils visiting the church to sing carols and share the story of Christmas.

