



Magor Messenger

'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'



Welcome to the February edition of our Magor Messenger!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our February addition of the Magor Messenger! It has been a short but busy half term for staff and pupils!

As you can see from our class paragraphs below, pupils have been busy taking a lot of learning outdoors.

As an EAS Partner School, our staff have been busy developing teachers and leaders of the future through delivering training for teaching students, mentoring Newly Qualified Teachers and Middle Leaders and assessing those wishing to become Headteachers. We have also been involved in delivering training on areas of the curriculum to other schools. We are delighted that we can contribute to the future of Education.

Welsh Government recently made changes to the policy on attendance guidance, now known as 'Belonging, Engaging and Participating' guidance. A key change to this is that learners with less than 90% attendance will be classed as persistent absentees.

You may also be aware of the current financial pressures facing schools. Monmouthshire Local Authority held engagement opportunities for residents to contribute to the budget consultation. Can I urge you to click on the link below for the recordings and reply to the survey. www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/budget-2024-2025.

Have a lovely half term.

Mrs Hamer

Community Fridge / Reducing Food Waste

There is a community fridge located in the Baptist Chapel in order to reduce food waste. It is open every Friday between 10am and 12pm every week for anyone that wishes to use it and help prevent food waste from going to landfill.

Progression Step 1

Nursery

Nursery have been busy bees! We've been inspired by our story 'Penguin Huddle' to investigate ice, freezing, melting and the effects of including natural or plastic objects in our ice capsules. We continued our number fun into a celebration of 'number day' and are now working on a musical capsule coming next.



Dosbarth Mrs John

Reception have been learning about Wonderful Wales, things Wales is famous for and a little more about their locality. They enjoyed an opportunity to go out and about, thanks to our willing volunteers, to find out a bit more about Magor using their senses. We had a focus on Music and we have had fun exploring different kinds of music and are starting to compose our own pieces! Reception have also thoroughly been enjoying their muddy Mondays, especially the chance to have a go at using some simple tools eg. palm drills, hammers and hacksaws! The highlight of our sessions was cooking popcorn on our campfire.



Progression Step 2

Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys

We have enjoyed a trip to St. Mary's Church looking at Christian symbols and the children have been really engaged with this topic. We have loved problem solving to help rescue Simba the lion cub in our Commando Joe activity sessions this term and have tried hard to work as a team! In Expressive Arts we have worked on understanding beats, musical notation and had a go at our own compositions using ChromeMusic lab and other resources. We would like to say goodbye and thank you to Miss Tuckwell our 2nd Year student who has enjoyed a successful placement with us.



Dosbarth Mrs Johnson

We have been finding out all about Castles and important landmarks in Wales. We have compared these to another country. We have been listening to music from Wales, giving our opinions and preferences. In P.E. we have been exploring traditional Welsh dance, we have thoroughly enjoyed watching and performing these in groups and have used some of the steps to create our own dances.

Our Expressive Arts focus this term is music, so we have been busy exploring and creating music to accompany poems that we have enjoyed reading.

We completed the NSPCC challenge and after a visit from Buddy the Alien we are now the proud owners of a new toy plant that we have named Bloppy.

Dosbarth Mrs Clarke

Year 2 have really enjoyed our topic 'Wonderful Wales' this half term. We have researched facts about Wales. We have had great fun learning a Welsh Folk Dance. We have learnt all about Myths and Legends and enjoyed stories including, 'The Red and White Dragon'. We have written our first draft of our own dragon story for the Eisteddfod on Friday 1st at 11.00am. The children found lots of facts about the features of Castles and identified the local landmarks. We all had fun during our science lessons listening to different sounds and identifying them. The animal sounds were our favourite!

Our Expressive Arts focus this term is music, so we have been busy exploring and creating music to accompany poems that we have enjoyed reading. Part of our homework was making musical instruments. We made our own band and recorded one of our favourite songs! We also completed the NSPCC maths challenge which included counting and measuring all the doors in school!



Dosbarth Mrs Morgan and Miss Welsh

Year 3 have been enjoying their topic of Wonderful Wales! This half term we have had a focus on Expressive Arts, during which we have been listening to lots of different styles of Welsh music and then composing our own! We are writing our own dragon stories and have been reading and listening to a variety of Welsh myths and legends. We have also been reading and writing poems, including Haiku poetry! We have enjoyed finding out more about where we live and our local area.

We have also been enjoying our hockey and gym sessions with Mrs. Cawte and exploring numbers in different contexts on NSPCC Number Day!



Progression Step 3

Dosbarth Miss Burgis

Year 4 have had a wonderful half term discussing goals for the new year and learning all about how the Chinese New Year is celebrated. They have been busy creating and decorating their own red lanterns to symbolise the day whilst also working hard to prepare for their class assembly. As a class they have thoroughly enjoyed studying a range of Welsh Myths and Legends. A particular favourite was 'How the Welsh Flag Came To Be' and students excitedly got into character as the King during a Hot Seating activity. There was lots of great acting to see, da iawn pawb! Year 4 also enjoyed celebrating NSPCC Number Day and worked hard to explore numbers using a range of mathematical resources. Next term, Year 4 look forward to continuing their exploration of music and investigating how sound travels whilst conducting a range of exciting experiments.



Dosbarth Mrs Phillips

Year 5 have enjoyed learning all about Welsh speaking Patagonia in South America and comparing it to Wales. We have been reading Welsh myths and legends in the Mabinogion and writing our own Welsh legends. In Science, we have been investigating Light and Sound and in Expressive Arts we have had lots of fun exploring musical elements and genres and thinking about how music makes us feel! We loved performing the story of St. Dwynwen to our parents in our class worship this term and getting fit in our Gateway Rugby Sessions!



Dosbarth Miss Rourke

Year 5/6 have enjoyed taking part in our topic 'Canu i Gymru', we have been learning all about the different genres of music and how each style of music can affect our moods and emotions. They have also been conducting investigations on how sound travels and they focused on what materials are best at blocking out certain sounds. They all performed great swimming skills in their lessons this term and they have shown how to use specific actions in life saving situations. They have shown great imagination when writing their own Welsh myths and legends tales this term, they also enjoyed following some special tales from the Mabinogion.

Dosbarth Mrs James

Y6 started the term by researching life in Patagonia. They worked collaboratively, each focusing on a different aspect; culture, landscape, sports and wildlife. Each group gave excellent presentations to their classmates- da iawn pawb! Y6 have really enjoyed investigating sound and have been amazed at their findings! Dosbarth Mrs James also performed the story of The Boy Who Cried Wolf to their parents and carers as part of their worship around our school value Truthfulness.



Pupil Leadership Teams Update

Here is an update from some of our Pupil Leadership Teams:

Young Climate Leaders – YCL started the half term with a whole school assembly. They also collected data for The Big Garden Birdwatch. They kept track of all the birds they could see and completed a litter pick around the school grounds.

Senedd Ysgol- School council have completed their January Monthly Matters for the Children's Commissioner for Wales. It was about the Welsh Government's Consultation on the School Calendar. They were asked to carry out a survey on pupils' attitudes towards their summer holidays changing in length. They collected information and have reported their findings by completing an online survey.

WAVE Team - Our WAVE Team delivered an assembly about Truthfulness to the whole school. They used The Boy Who Cried Wolf as a stimulus.

Wellbeing Warriors - Our Warriors have completed a Learning Walk around the school and have listened to learners to get their views on the learning environment. They found out that there were lots of lovely 'Cwtch Cornels' around the school and that children could use these spaces when they needed to for wellbeing and sensory needs.

Digital Leaders - The digital leaders lead an assembly on Safer Internet Day to the whole school, to share the importance of staying safe and what they need to be aware of when spending time online. They also announced a competition to the school to create an E-Safety avatar to represent the whole school. The competition closes on 29th February, the avatars needed to be created digitally. The winning E-Safety Avatar will be used all around the school and the winner will also receive a prize! We look forward to seeing the winning design and announcing it to the school!





Curriculum Champions - Our Curriculum Champions are taking charge of a very important research project for our school after half term. They will be investigating the question 'How do learners learn?' For this task, they will be reading articles, extracts from books and interviewing pupils and staff to find out what helps pupils learn. They will be sharing their findings during a staff meeting later in the term.

Mobile Phones

This is a reminder that if a pupil is bringing a mobile phone into school, it must be handed in to the school office where it will be kept until the end of the day. This also includes Breakfast Club times. Pupils who attend Breakfast Club will be expected to place their mobile phone in the storage box in the school office after they have had their name marked off the register at the entrance door. This is in order to protect all our pupils in school and we thank you for your support regarding this.

World of Work

We would like our pupils to find out about a range of different careers. We would love for our pupils to hear about a wide variety of future career possibilities and would welcome our local community into school to share their experiences! If you are able to do this, please email the school and we will get back to you to discuss what time you can offer us!

Diary Dates: Confirmed **2023/2024** dates for your calendar:

Spring Term Dates

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February - Half Term

Wednesday 21st February - Mrs Morgan Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Wednesday 28th February - Mrs Clarke Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Friday 1st March - St David's Day and Eisteddfod in school- Pupils can dress in Welsh themed clothing or colours associated with the Welsh flag.

Wednesday 6th March - Mrs Johnson Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - **Pupils to wear school uniform**. PTFA will provide every child with a free book to take home and the day will be filled with literacy-rich activities.

Monday 11th March - Nursery and Reception Mothering Sunday Service, St. Mary's Church at 2.15pm, parents and carers welcome.

Wednesday 13th March - Mrs Jeffreys Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Wednesday 13th March - Nursery April new intake meeting for parents and children at 9.15am.

Tuesday 19th March and Wednesday 20th March - Face to face Parent Consultation Evenings, School Hall.

Wednesday 20th March- Mrs John Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome

Thursday 21st March - Easter church services, parents and carers welcome.

11.15am - Dosbarth Mrs John / Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys.

1.30pm – Dosbarth Mrs Johnson, Dosbarth Mrs Clarke, Dosbarth Mrs Morgan.

2.15 pm Dosbarth Miss Burgis, Dosbarth Mrs Phillips, Dosbarth Mrs James.

Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April - Easter Holidays

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday (School closed)

Tuesday 7th May - **Training Day (School Closed)**

W/C 20th May - Pupils in Y2-Y6 to complete online Welsh Government National Assessments in school (Numeracy and Reading. Further details about these assessments for parents and carers can be found here: [Personalised Assessments - Information for Parents and Carers](#)

Wednesday 22nd May - Reception to Year 6 - 'Sharing Our Learning' event - 9am - 9.45am - parents/carers to bring children into class via classroom doors at drop off to look at their child's learning in their classroom.

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May - Half Term

Summer Term

Monday 3rd June - **Training Day (School Closed)**

Thursday 20th June - Sport's Day: 9.30-10.30am - Dosbarth Mrs John / Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys. 10.45-11.45am. – Dosbarth Mrs Johnson, Dosbarth Mrs Clarke, Dosbarth Mrs Morgan. 1.30-3.00 pm - Dosbarth Miss Burgis, Dosbarth Mrs Phillips, Dosbarth Mrs James.

Thursday 27th June - Reserve Sport's Day if needed (times as above)

Friday 5th July - Reports to parents

Term Dates: [School Times / Terms | Magor CIW Primary School](#)

More dates will be added as the term progresses. You can also check the school website calendar. Don't forget to follow us on 'X' for regular class and school updates!

Next Messenger Date: March 2024