



# Magor Messenger

*'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'*



## *Welcome to the December edition of our Magor Messenger!*

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly exciting and rewarding half term at Magor CiW Primary. Our pupils have enjoyed a wide range of authentic learning experiences that have brought the curriculum to life. Highlights include visits to the local garden centre, a trip to the pantomime, and a cross-country meet where our children showed great determination and team spirit. We were also thrilled to visit Caldicot School to hear from author Danny Robins, which inspired many budding writers among us.

In addition, we welcomed several visitors who enriched our learning: the Be Internet Legends team helped pupils understand online safety, Race Equality First led important discussions on diversity and inclusion, and a local doctor shared insights into health and wellbeing. Behind the scenes, our staff have been working hard to refine how we provide feedback to pupils, ensuring that every child receives clear next steps and the right level of challenge to help them thrive.

We are also excited to share that we have been developing a new school website, which we hope to launch early in the new year. This will provide an even better platform for communication and celebrating achievements.

Looking ahead, next term we will continue to develop our curriculum to ensure it remains relevant, engaging, and ambitious for every pupil.

Thank you for your continued support. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a joyful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Warmest regards,

Anthony Dixon-Gough

## Progression Step 1

### Nursery

Nursery have had a very festive couple of weeks. We started off the Christmas celebrations by visiting the Chapel to look at the lovely Nativity scenes and to listen to the very special Christmas story. We were then all lucky to have our first ever Christmas trip out as one large Nursery family. We visited 'The Willows Garden Centre' in Usk, where we walked through the enchanted forest, went on a magical ride on an imaginative train to get to Santa, and then finished in seeing the man himself. He confirmed that we were all on the good list and gave us a special gold coin to spend in the toy shop. Adults and children had an amazing time!

Year 6 children joined us to help make our Christingles, and we celebrated the service the day after in St Mary's Church with Reverend Sarah leading the service.

Nursery held their first Nativity and sang beautifully to their grown-ups. Nursery team and parents were very proud of them all! We finished each performance off with their 'Christmas Winter Market' and raised lots of money which will go towards our Nursery Summer trip.



### **Dosbarth Mrs John**

Our class has been learning about all things that sparkle and shine ... including celebrations and a bit about space, as well as getting into the spirit of Christmas! They have enjoyed their violin lessons with Gwent Music, learning how to correctly hold and pluck their instrument and play along to some tunes. Their trip to the panto was a big success ... and the children were fully on board with all the 'he's behind you!', boos and cheers! They were so well behaved too. It was so lovely to see such a big turnout for our Christingle service .... Thank you to all those who came and supported us. Thank you also, to all those who came to watch the Reception Nativity and take part in our Magor Mini Market ... the children were so excited to perform for you all and were absolute stars on the day. They enjoyed pricing up their decorations and selling them too!

Thinking ahead to next term, we are hoping to start our Muddy Monday Forest School Sessions, so we would appreciate it if you could ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat and wellies with them (please let us know if you don't have wellies, we may be able to help with some of our spares). The children can wear outdoor PE kit on these days please.



### **Progression Step 2**

#### **Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys**

We have really enjoyed our topic Splendid Skies, learning about different types of weather, cloud formation and being weather reporters in front of a green screen. We have enjoyed answering the question 'How do we know there is wind?' by designing windsocks and streamers that show movement. We made a snowstorm in a jar and are enjoying lots of weather themed craft activities. A highlight of our term has been going to Magor Baptist Chapel to sing at the coffee morning. We have been learning to sew in

order to make Christmas tree decorations to sell at our Christmas concert and enjoyed performing for our parents and carers in the school hall.



### Dosbarth Mrs Johnson

This half term our topic has been Push and Pull. We have been exploring forces in many different activities including magnets, rolling and travelling and use of ramps. We have really enjoyed discussing and comparing our findings with each other.

We have also been finding out about mechanisms; we have explored everyday use of levers and sliders and have applied this learning to design and create our own Christmas cards with moving parts.

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Forest School sessions, they have explored and taken part in many activities in our poly tunnel and Forest school area.

In Humanities we have been looking at celebrations across different faiths. The children have all made a Diyah lamp and are looking forward to bringing these home!

We have worked hard to prepare for our Christmas concerts and have really enjoyed performing in front of our parents, family and carers.



### Dosbarth Mrs Clarke / Mrs James

This half term has been an exciting journey into our topic **Predators**. Pupils explored dietary needs, constructed food chains, researched aquatic species and discovered the fascinating world of carnivorous plants, alongside many other engaging activities. Our WOW Day was a particular highlight, with children enthusiastically dressing as animals and explorers.

In PE, pupils developed their dance skills, working with partners and showcasing creativity through the mirror dance, which was a great success.

This term in RVE pupils have been exploring celebrations across a range of faiths. They have examined the traditions, customs and meanings behind different religious festivals.

Year 3 continued their Pbuzz sessions, culminating in a wonderful school concert where they performed a variety of songs. A special thank you goes to all the Year 2 children who took part in the Frost Fayre—you performed brilliantly in front of such a large audience! Another memorable moment was Year 3's Caffi Cymraeg performance, which they thoroughly enjoyed, especially the chance to share biscuits and Welsh cakes afterwards.

We wish all our parents and carers a joyful festive season—**Nadolig Llawn!**



### Dosbarth Mrs Morgan / Miss Welsh

Dosbarth Mrs Morgan / Miss Welsh have continued to enjoy their Pbuzz sessions, culminating in a concert for the school where they performed a range of songs. The children have enjoyed the topic of Light and Shadow, learning about dark and light, translucent, transparent and opaque materials and how our eyes work. We also learnt about the life of Louis Braille, who is the creator of braille, a code that enables blind and visually impaired people to read and write. As part of this topic, they have also completed dance and literacy lessons around the story of Rama and Sita. In RVE we have talked about journeys in Christianity - such as Baptism and in other faiths such as Bar and Bat Mitvahs in Judaism. This led us nicely to the Christmas story where we reflected on Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.



### Progression Step 3

#### **Dosbarth Miss Burgis**

We have enjoyed a busy and exciting half term exploring our fascinating 'Blue Abyss' topic. We have loved learning about the Oceanic Zones and discovering the amazing creatures that live within them. We created branching databases to help classify sea creatures, explored a variety of deep-sea adaptations, and produced some stunning artwork to demonstrate bioluminescence using glow in the dark paint. It has also been fascinating to learn about the life and achievements of Jacques-Yves Cousteau, who helped invent the first successful scuba diving equipment. Alongside our topic work, we have continued to develop our Welsh skills and even took our learning outdoors, creating personal nature videos to document what we could see and hear around us. As a class, we have thoroughly enjoyed the lead-up to Christmas by writing thoughtful prayers, taking part in Advent workshops, practising for our Christmas performance, and creating beautiful cards for loved ones inspired by the artist Deb McNaughton, who links perfectly to our topic. We look forward to another term full of exciting learning in the New Year. Nadolig Llawen from everyone in Dosbarth Miss Burgis!



#### **Dosbarth Miss Paul**

This term, our children have had a wonderful time exploring our Time Travel topic! We enjoyed learning about different generations by meeting members of Miss Paul's family and discovering how life has changed over time. We also loved our rugby sessions with the Magor Mini Rugby team, where the children built skills, confidence, and teamwork. As part of our learning, the children also took part in a Google Internet Safety presentation, helping them understand how to stay safe and responsible online. Alongside this, we celebrated the festive season with Christmas activities and celebrations that filled the classroom with excitement and joy. It has been a busy, fun-filled term with so many memorable experiences for the children.



### Dosbarth Miss Rourke

We have had a festive half term full of lots of practical activities linked to our topic 'Scream Machine' and Christmas related activities. We explored the world of theme parks, looking at the materials that are used on roller coasters and focusing on the forces that create an impact on the way the rollercoasters move. We even created our own log flume ride and through a designing process created carriages to see if they successfully made it down. We enjoyed looking at performance poetry and used our expression and oracy skills to perform poetry showing the journey of a rollercoaster. The class also performed a fantastic Christmas concert inspired by the story of 'A Christmas Carol'. Many songs were sung, and we saw Mr Grumbles earn his Christmas spirit back. We have also focused on our hockey and gymnastics skills this half term, we focused on our attacking and defence skills, as well as performing movement off vaults and other forms of equipment. Finally, we explored, created and evaluated our expressive art skills by using clay to create Christmas sculptures, we looked at different techniques that could be used and produced some interesting models!



### Dosbarth Mrs James

What a busy time in Year 6! We started the half term by leading the whole school's Act of Remembrance, followed by attending the cenotaph service, in which pupils spoke with respect and pledged never to forget the fallen. We have loved travelling with Darwin on the Beagle through a voyage of discovery, finding out all about the unique creatures on the Galapagos Islands and how they adapted to life on the Equator. We took part in Parliament Week with other schools around the UK, took part in some interesting debates and had a visit from a local town councillor to explain how our area is governed. As we step into Christmas, we are excited to be rehearsing a short concert for our families, sharing our memories of Magor Primary Christmases over the years and had a wonderful time helping Nursery make their Christingles.



## Pupil Leadership Teams:

### WAVE Team

This half term the WAVE team have delivered an assembly about the value of humility. They shared the meaning of the word humble and how we can use this value to support one another in school, listen to different perspectives, and celebrate the achievements of others as well as our own.

### Wellbeing Warriors

Our Wellbeing Warriors have been sharing ideas about how to promote healthier eating and how to encourage more exercise. They have generated some ideas which they will be sharing with their peers after Christmas.

### Ysgol Senedd

This half term school council worked really hard to plan and prepare activities for pupils to take part in on Children in Need Day. They started the week with an assembly introducing and reminding the importance of Children in Need to the school and they thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to encourage and support all of the pupils to take part in their activities, to judge the competitions and to give out certificates and prizes!

They have also been completing the Monthly Matters tasks for the Welsh Government, carrying out surveys and providing feedback from the school.



## **Diary Dates: Confirmed 2025/2026 dates for your calendar:**

### **Spring Term 2026**

**Tuesday 20th January** - Dosbarth Mrs James (Year 6) Class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.  
(Please note that this is a changed date)

**Tuesday 27th January** - Dosbarth Miss Rourke Class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Tuesday 10th February** - Dosbarth Miss Burgis Class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Friday 13th February** - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

#### **HALF TERM - 16th-20th February**

**Tuesday 24th February** - Dosbarth Mrs Clarke / Mrs James class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Friday 27th February** - St. David's Day celebrations - children may come to school dressed in Welsh themed clothing or colours of the Welsh flag.

**Thursday 5th March** - World Book Day - Pupils to wear school uniform - The PTFA will be providing each child with a book of their choice, and the day will be filled with literacy-rich activities!

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Mothering Sunday Service – Nursery and Reception children 9.30am, parents welcome.

**Tuesday 17th March** - Parent Consultation Evening in the school hall. From 3.30pm details, including online dates to follow.

**Wednesday 18th March** - Parent Consultation Evening in the school hall. From 3.30pm details, including online dates to follow.

**Tuesday 24th March** - Dosbarth Mrs Morgan / Miss Welsh class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Easter services at St. Mary's Church - Parents welcome.

Reception to Year 3 at 10.15am,

Year 4 to Year 6 at 11.00am.

## Summer Term 2026

**Tuesday 14th April** - Dosbarth Mrs Johnson class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Tuesday 28th April**- Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Tuesday 12th May** - Dosbarth Mrs John class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Tuesday 19th May** - Dosbarth Miss Paul class assembly. In the school hall from 9.10am.

**Friday 22nd May** - Reports to Parents

**Monday 1st June** - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

**Wednesday 3rd June** - Sports Day - Children to please come into school in the school PE kit. Please bring a hat and water bottle and come into school wearing sunscreen if appropriate.

9.30-10.30am - Dosbarth Mrs John and Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys

10.45-11.45am – Dosbarth Mrs Johnson, Dosbarth Mrs Clarke/Mrs James, Dosbarth Mrs Morgan/Miss Welsh

1.30-3.00pm - Dosbarth Miss Burgis, Dosbarth Miss Paul, Dosbarth Miss Rourke, Dosbarth Mrs James.

**Wednesday 10th June** - Reserve Sports Day in case of poor weather. Timings as above.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June** – Eucharist 9.30am school hall. Years 4 to 6 children. Parents Welcome.

**Wednesday 24th June** - Reception to Year 6 - 'Sharing Our Learning' event, 9.00am-9.40am.

Parents/carers to bring children into their classroom via classroom doors from the yard **at drop off** to look at their child's learning in their classroom if they wish. Parents leave via classroom doors as children go to assembly.

**Tuesday 7th July** - Year 6 Leavers Performance 6.00pm (All pupils to return to school at 5.30pm)

**Thursday 9th July** - Year 6 Leavers Performance 6.00pm (All pupils to return to school at 5.30pm)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July** – Church services at St. Mary's Church - Parents welcome.

Reception to Year 2 at 1.15pm,

Years 3 & 4 at 1.50pm,

Leavers service for Years 5 & 6 at 2.30pm.

**Monday 20th July** - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

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 'Bluesky' for regular class and school updates!**