



Magor Messenger

'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'



Welcome to the April edition of our Magor Messenger!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and productive term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our achievements and share some updates with you.

Firstly, we were thrilled to announce the publication of our Estyn report. This report highlights the many outstanding aspects of our school, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication shown by our staff and students.

Many of our staff have been given the opportunity to visit other educational settings, engage with leaders, and develop their own practices. These experiences have been invaluable in continuing our curriculum development and enhancing the levels of challenge across the school. We are committed to providing the best possible education for our students, and these professional development opportunities are a key part of that commitment.

In addition, we have made great strides in our journey to become a truly anti-racist organisation. We have initiated meetings with a pupil steering group, who will provide us with valuable insights and advice based on their own lived experiences. This is an important step in ensuring that our school is a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

As we look forward to the next term, I thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. On behalf of all of the staff, I wish you all a very happy Easter and I look forward to seeing you when we return on the 28th April.

Anthony Dixon-Gough

Anti-Racism and Diversity

As you may be aware, diversity and anti-racism is a key feature of our School Development Plan. We recognise the importance of empowering all our children to celebrate their unique identities while learning to appreciate and respect the differences of others. Two of our senior leaders have been attending anti-racism professional learning (Action Research). This has helped us to develop our tools and strategies to challenge racism and build an inclusive school community. One of our recent actions has been creating a Steering Group, to help us work collaboratively with our children to:

- Diversify our curriculum to better reflect the lived experiences of children from the global majority.
- Create inclusive and inspiring learning environments.
- Challenge stereotypes and break down barriers.
- Foster a community that celebrates difference and tackles racism.
- Give children the opportunity to have their voices heard and actively contribute to shaping our school's journey towards a more inclusive future.

We truly believe that the voices of our children are integral in driving meaningful change within our school community and therefore the wider world. We aim to develop how we celebrate diversity and ensure that our school environment is one where every child feels seen, heard, and empowered. We are committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space for all children.

We have started work on reviewing and developing our learning environments to ensure that they are more representative and inclusive. We have also booked workshops with 'No Boundaries' for our PS3 pupils after Easter.

School Social Media Account

To better align with our educational values and ensure a safer, more inclusive online space for our school community, we have decided to transition our social media activity from X (formerly Twitter) to **Blue Sky**. Please download the app and follow 'Magor Primary' to see up to date information and class activities. This will be a one-way communication, and all enquiries should still be directed to the school office.

PTFA Thanks

A huge thank you to our PTFA for their on-going support. Thank you particularly this half term for organising the World Book Day book distribution through which every child was able to choose a free book to choose and take home! Thank you also to those parents who donated books.

Personalised Assessments Year 2 - Year 6

Last half term, your child underwent short, online personalised assessments for Numeracy (Procedural and Reasoning) and Reading. The purpose of the Welsh Government personalised assessments is to help all children progress through understanding what they can do, the things they cannot do, and their next steps. Using your child's Hwb login, you can find information to help you understand the feedback they have been given on these assessments.

For more information about personalised assessments visit: hwb.gov.wales/personalised-assessments-for-parents-and-carers

Progression Step 1

Nursery

On our return to Nursery this term we embraced Wales and celebrated with different activities such as observational drawings and paintings of our emblem 'the daffodil'. Throughout the Welsh week we have sampled 'Welsh rarebit', 'Welsh leek' soup and to end our celebrations we had a Welsh tea party with Bara Brith and Welsh cakes. The children all enjoyed a cup of Welsh brew in a china teacup. The year 6 children came to us on 'World Book Day' and read the children's favourite books. It was lovely to see the older children interacting and embracing their story reading skills...the Nursery loved sharing their stories. They were all then lucky enough to choose a book that the PTFA had provided for them. The children have also written their very own collaborative story by sharing their ideas and their artwork...they are now all mini authors!

We had a lovely 'Mother's Day' service at Magor church led by Rev Sarah where the children sang to their Mummies and gave them some special gifts that they worked hard on. To finish spring term, we have been busy involving ourselves in Easter activities and creating their very own Easter Garden and remembering the importance of Easter. We are continuing our learning through fun interactive activities, and we are all making great progress with our numbers, name writing and sounds! Da iawn Nursery!



Dosbarth Mrs John

Dosbarth Mrs John have absolutely loved their Dangerous Dinosaurs topic this half term! We were greeted, to much excitement, by giant T-rex footprints on the classroom floor when we came back from half term. We had a fabulous trip to Cardiff National Museum for a Sounds of the Dinosaurs workshop, and we got to see the dinosaur and Woolly Mammoth skeletons while we were there too... they were "awesome"! We have enjoyed being paleontologists; making fizzing volcanoes; learning about all the different types of dinosaurs and whether they were herbivores, carnivores or omnivores... which also led us onto thinking about healthy eating for ourselves. We have also been learning about the Easter story and Easter customs: we have made a floral cross; Easter gardens; Easter pictures; tasted hot cross buns and done an egg hunt. Wishing you all a restful Easter from Dosbarth John!



Progression Step 2

Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys

We started this term with a great trip to Dean Heritage Centre where we all got the chance to dress up as Victorian children following a history-based topic last term. We even got to write on slates and find out about what happened if you didn't listen to the teacher! We loved the Gruffalo trail and exploring the museum artefacts.

This term we have really enjoyed learning about 'Our Wonderful World'. It has given us the opportunity to look at continents and different countries. We have used our globes to find the Equator and think about hot and cold countries. The role play area has become a Travel Agents and a plane and we have even made our own passports!



Dosbarth Mrs Johnson

This half term we have been studying the coastline of the United Kingdom. We have thoroughly enjoyed exploring electricity to find out how to make a lightbulb work, creating circuits and exploring the use of switches and motors. We have used iPads, Chromebooks, globes and Atlases to find out about our World. We have looked at the equator and different climates. We thoroughly enjoyed finding out about different species of penguins that live in Antarctica and can't wait to explore this further during our next trip!

We have had great fun finding out all about the town of Whitby, the seaside town in North Yorkshire. We have written fact files and information booklets all about the tourist attractions there! We have explored all of the physical and human features there and the effect of the environment on these.



Dosbarth Mrs Clarke and Mrs James

We have all really enjoyed our project 'Street Detectives' this half term. We started by exploring our local area. We were lucky enough to visit 'Village Treats' where Leanne told us all about the history of the shop and how many visitors she has in a week. We asked some interesting questions, and Mrs Clarke bought us some sweets! Next, we visited 'Donnie's' coffee shop and 'The Post Office'. We discussed how local shops support the community. Our last visit was to 'David James Estate Agents'. We were very excited to hear all about selling houses and took lots of photos! To end our project, we made a model of Magor Village including all the places we visited. Thank you to all the local businesses who were very kind and let us visit!



Dosbarth Mrs Morgan and Miss Welsh

We have really enjoyed our topic of 'Tremors' in which the children have been learning all about natural disasters. The children have explored volcanoes and earthquakes and other natural disasters which led to poetry writing. We have particularly enjoyed watching a time lapse about what it would have looked like when Vesuvius erupted, destroying Pompeii. We also used musical instruments to represent the sound of a volcano erupting. We have also been writing newspaper reports and persuasive letters and have been learning about Holy Week in RVE.



Progression Step 3

Dosbarth Miss Burgis

We have thoroughly enjoyed exploring mountains through our 'Earth's Mighty Giants' topic. The children have used their geographical skills to identify and locate mountains in their local area and around Wales on a map. As a class we have worked collaboratively to create and deliver group presentations on impressive mountains around the world. The children have explored the lifestyle of the Adi tribe, how mountains are formed and the process of evaporation through a range of investigations. A highlight of the half term was having a special visit from Frankie Johns who answered our exciting questions and shared his experience of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Additionally, the children had fun during a visit from Welsh Water where they applied their new knowledge of the water cycle during a 'Source to Sea' workshop where they supplied a fictional town with water, drawing upon their teamwork, mathematics, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. In literacy we have been busy applying our descriptive language to poetry. The children thoroughly enjoyed inputting their descriptions into AI to test its effectiveness in creating a detailed image of their description. Finally, we have developed our computational thinking skills by using code to create our own mini animations.



Dosbarth Mrs Phillips

We have all enjoyed our topic 'Road Trip USA!' We began by fastening our seatbelts as we flew across the Atlantic Ocean and explored the wonders of the United States of America. We went on a class treasure hunt to find our boarding passes and then used maps and globes to locate the different states. We have learned all about the physical and man-made landmarks, such as Niagara Falls, Grand Canyon, Statue of Liberty and Golden Gate Bridge. We have researched information about American Icons, USA food, Route 66, New York and the history of the Native Americans, focusing on the Iroquois tribe. We enjoyed our live link with Carly, who told us all about life in Atlanta, Georgia and have loved watching videos from a USA family, showing us similarities and differences to our life in Wales. We have been keeping fit with Gateway Rugby and swimming lessons, taken part in a workshop with Welsh Water to learn about the water process and have really enjoyed developing our Coding skills this term. It was lovely to join Undy school pupils at St. Mary's church for the Commonwealth Service where we took an active part in the ceremony.



Dosbarth Miss Rourke

We have really enjoyed our journey through the polar regions with our new half term topic 'Frozen Kingdoms'. We have looked at the geographical features of the polar regions as well as exploring different climate zones around the world. We have also created beautiful artwork based on the Northern Lights and explored the journey that Shackleton made. In our Indoor PE sessions, we have shown some brilliant skill in our gymnastics sessions, everyone used the equipment responsibly to perform vaults, jumps and rolls in a sequence. Year 6 pupils had an amazing experience at PGL for their residential trip and showed amazing commitment and bravery when completing different activities as well as staying away from home for two nights. All pupils also enjoyed their trip to Noah's Ark, and it was great seeing a range of animals and observing their characteristics. The children enjoyed discussing their physical adaptations and linking it to their topic by comparing it to animals that lived in the polar regions.



Dosbarth Mrs James

The highlight of our half term was, without doubt, our three-day residential trip to PGL Liddington. We climbed, zipped, jumped and sang as we enjoyed all of the activities and created some wonderful memories during our final year.



Pupil Leadership Teams:

Senedd Ysgol

Our School Council have planned and taken the lead with this year's Comic Relief campaign. They planned and led a number of activities to help raise money for this worthy cause.

WAVE Team

This half term our WAVE team have been surveying the school about collective worship. Their questionnaire included questions about the type of assembly they enjoy and hymns they particularly like to sing! We will share the information next half term and talk about how we can improve Collective Worship using the data.

Wellbeing Warriors

Our Wellbeing Warriors have taken the lead with the 'Eat Them To Defeat Them' campaign which promotes eating more vegetables in order to improve our diet! They have also come up with some great ideas for promoting healthy snacks in school. Watch this space...

Young Climate Leaders

Our Young Climate Leaders organised the 'Rags to Riches' collection this half term and sent all the kindly donated clothes onto their new journey as well as receiving the funds earned. Thank you to everyone that donated!

Welsh Choir/ Côr Cymraeg

Congratulations to our Cor Cymraeg for reaching the regional round of the Urdd Eisteddfod—a historic first for the school! This achievement reflects the students' dedication, as they have worked tirelessly in rehearsals and fully immersed themselves in the Welsh language, showing incredible passion and commitment. Their hard work is truly inspiring, and this milestone is just the beginning of many more to come!

Diary Dates: Confirmed **2024/2025** dates for your calendar:

Friday 11th April - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils).

Monday 14th April to Friday 25th April - Easter Holidays (School & Nursery closed)

Summer Term Dates

Friday 2nd May - Break the Rules Day (PTFA school event)

Saturday 3rd May - Nursery and Stepping stones Open Morning 10.00am - 12pm

Monday 5th May - Magor School PTFA stall at the Magor May Fayre (Bank Holiday – School & Nursery Closed)

Tuesday 6th May - Dosbarth Mrs Johnson Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Tuesday 13th May - Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Tuesday 20th May - Dosbarth Mrs John Class Assembly, 9.15am in the School Hall, parents and carers welcome.

Tuesday 20th May - Nursery trip at Caldicot Castle (No Nursery session this day)

Wednesday 21st May - Friday 23rd May - Wonderlicious Bar Sales (PTFA event)

Friday 23rd May - Annual Written Reports out to parents and carers

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May - **HALF TERM WEEK (School & Nursery closed)**

Monday 2nd June - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils).

Friday 6th June - Ice Cream Fridays starts (PTFA event)

Tuesday 17th June - Nursery Sports Fiesta (morning session only - times to follow)

Wednesday 18th 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 Gordon/Clarke, Dosbarth Mrs Morgan/Welsh

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

Monday 23rd June - Reserve Sports Day; timings as above.

Tuesday 24th June - Parent / Teacher consultations - Face to Face. (Online dates to follow)

Wednesday 25th June - Parent / Teacher consultations - Face to Face. (Online dates to follow)

Wednesday 2nd July - 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. Parents leave via classroom doors as children go to assembly.

Nursery will hold their 'Sharing learning event' at 3.20pm - 4pm for all Nursery children. This time will be for both morning and afternoon children.

Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th July - Year 6 Leavers Performance 6pm (All pupil to return to school at 5.30)

Wednesday 9th July - Y6 Leavers Service St. Woolos Cathedral (Pupils and staff only)

Thursday 10th July - Nursery Graduation / Celebration - more details to follow closer to the day.

Monday 14th July - Year 6 pupils Caldicot School transition day (please see correspondence from Caldicot School re arrangements).

Thursday 17th July - Magor School PTFA End of Term Fun Day.

Friday 18th July – Last day of the school year for all pupils.

Monday 21st July - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

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

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

Thursday 23rd October - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

Friday 24th October - Training Day (School & Nursery closed to all pupils)

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

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

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!

Next Messenger Date: May 2025