



Magor Messenger

'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'



Welcome to the July edition of our Magor Messenger!

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy term here at Magor Primary! As we look forward to our summer holidays, we sadly say farewell to our brilliant Year 6 pupils. We have loved every moment watching you grow throughout your Magor School journey and we know you will continue to make us proud in your new schools. We will miss you all!

We would also like to take this opportunity to say farewell and thank you to the members of staff that will be leaving our school this term. We wish Mrs Chivers every happiness in her retirement and Mrs Talbot the best of luck in her new role at another school. Both will be sadly missed by us all but we know we will stay in touch. We would also like to thank Miss Graham for her valuable contribution to our school this term and wish her every success on her next adventure. Mr Richard Waller will also be stepping down as our Chair of Governors this term. We would like to thank him for all his time and hard work supporting our school this year. We are pleased to share with you that Mrs Claire Dowd will be stepping into the role.

As we both come to an end of our Acting Headteacher journey and return to the role of Assistant Headteachers, we would like to take the time to thank you, the children and our staff for all your support and kindness over the last 18 months. We look forward to supporting Mr. Dixon-Gough as he begins *his* Magor School journey - exciting times ahead for our fantastic school!

On staff training day, we will send out drop off and pick up arrangements in time for the children returning to school on Tuesday 3rd September.

We hope that you enjoy the upcoming break!

Mrs Gordon and Miss Welsh

A Note On Uniform

At Magor Primary School, we take pride in our uniform as it is our shared identity; it promotes our sense of belonging. Over the last few weeks we have noticed a number of children not wearing the suggested school uniform. This is particularly evident on PE days. We politely request that you send your child to school in the suggested clothing as stated on our school website; [Uniform Information | Magor CIW Primary School](#). If you would like to take advantage of our pre-loved uniform, this can be found in the school foyer. Please note that jewellery such as hooped earrings and necklaces are not permitted at any time for health and safety reasons. We recommend that you keep bobbles, hair bows etc to simple hair ties as we are finding these are often becoming lost and causing upset. Please ensure all coats, uniform and PE kit are labelled. Following a recent sort out we found over 150 unnamed pieces of clothing in our lost property boxes.

Parent Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for the position of parent governor. If you would like to be part of our governing body, here is some information about what this very important role involves:

[School Governors - Could you be a School Governor? \(google.com\)](#)

Grants for Parents / Carers

The Welsh Government is offering support to eligible learners with Free School Meals and the Schools Essential Grant. Please refer to our information sheet on Get Help with School Costs which provides primary schools with key content and assets for sharing with parents / carers across their channels – now available in community languages. <https://hwb.gov.wales/news/articles/62b05033-c9a6-4401-89fe-23077704cff>

We will also continue to provide milk and cereal products for those parents that need it. They will be available just inside the Nursery main door for you to take as needed.

Progression Step 1

Nursery

We have been enjoying watching our strawberries grow from tiny plants into a lovely strawberry bush. Over the weeks the children have been carefully caring for the plant and their hard work has paid off with some juicy red strawberries. We have used this to our advantage and have been working really hard with our observational drawings and using our watercolour art skills. We have fantastic artists in Nursery...Da iawn everyone.



Dosbarth Mrs John

Reception have been exploring the history of transport this half term. They have enjoyed discovering what the first boats, bikes, cars and flight looked like. We have had fun making cars with wheels that turn, boats that float, and finding out how hot air balloons work! opportunities to explore their creative side also included exploring artists from the periods of some of these firsts eg. designing their own wall paper pattern inspired by William Morris and trying their hand at cubism. Along with other Reception children in our cluster, they thoroughly enjoyed their bus trip to Caldicot Castle, as a finale to our cluster writing project on the subject of diversity. Reception, you have come such a long way this year! I am proud of you all! Have a lovely summer break!



Progression Step 2

Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys

We have loved learning about things from the past. It has allowed us to share memories with the older generation and in particular we have loved looking at old toys from the past. We have also been busy following and making algorithms for movement and designing creatures. Our skills have improved no end using J2E on Hwb, following instructions and learning to save our work. We have enjoyed Pedestrian Training learning to cross the road safely which is especially important as the Summer holidays are upon us. Da iawn, Dosbarth Mrs Jeffreys - you have been a pleasure to teach!



Dosbarth Mrs Johnson

We have been detectives this half term, exploring and investigating properties of materials (We managed to repair Mrs Johnson's broken umbrella) and travelling back in time to find out how things were different. We have looked at food, clothes, transport and houses. Travelling back to 1666 we have used our detective skills to explore the evidence from The Great fire of London to try and understand how and why it happened.

The highlight of the term was definitely our trip to Noah's Ark Farm and Zoo. We have learnt so much about habitats and have really enjoyed creating our own at home and in the classroom. As part of our topic we have also been carefully watching some caterpillars which have now turned into beautiful butterflies!



Dosbarth Mrs Clarke

We have had a great time this term being Detectives. We have investigated life cycles and how things change. We watched our caterpillars turn into butterflies and we released them to start the whole cycle over again. We investigated materials and made Jelly learning how a solid turns into a liquid. We had a school trip to Noah's Ark Farm/Park Zoo and had a workshop on habitats. It was the best day!

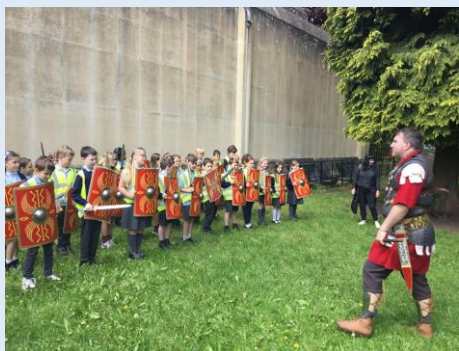
We visited our Forest School making bookmarks, nests and a bug hotel. We are really enjoying learning all about The Great Fire of London 1666. Using our Detective skills to discover how and why the fire started. Have a lovely Summer, you have all been a pleasure to teach!



Dosbarth Mrs Morgan and Miss Graham

Year 3 have enjoyed being detectives finding out about what life was like in Roman times! Following on from our trip to the National Roman Legion Museum in Caerleon we have had fun finding out about what the Romans ate, wore and built! We have researched and discovered lots of different things about the Roman Empire. We have also been filmmakers... writing scripts, acting them out and creating our own digital animations.

We have also had a very sporty few weeks as we have enjoyed Sports Day, cricket sessions .. thanks to All Stars Cricket and swimming! We can't believe this year is nearly over already. What a busy and exciting year we have had!



Progression Step 3

Dosbarth Miss Burgis

Year 4 have thoroughly relished the opportunity to become inspirational vloggers through their film project promoting health and fitness. They enjoyed writing their own scripts, planning the scenes and filming their videos using their knowledge of a range of camera angles. A highlight of the half term was getting messy when learning about the digestive system through an experiment using tights, orange juice, bananas and biscuits. It has been another active half term with Sports Day being a success and exploring a range of sports, particularly enjoying a session developing their cricket skills with All Stars Cricket. Year 4 have challenged and immersed themselves in a range of languages and can sing songs in French, Spanish, Welsh and Ukrainian. Year 4 felt very happy to end the busy year outside decorating and preparing our Forest School and exploring all the Camp Out Day activities.



Dosbarth Mrs Phillips

Year 5 have really enjoyed the sunshine this term as we continue with our topic 'Food for thought'. We have enjoyed exploring the human body and learning all about the workings of our digestive systems. A highlight has been following the EUROs and the team that we were allocated, then learning all about the history of the competition and the countries that have won in the past. Our camp out day was a huge success and we loved developing our own sporty games for our class friends and putting up our tents for the day! We have been very lucky to take part in a Languages through expressive arts workshop with a composer, Tim from Cerdd Iaith. We were so excited to showcase our Spanish singing to our families. Muy bien! What a fantastic year we have had in Year 5!



Dosbarth Miss Rourke

Year 5/6 have had a spectacular final half term! We've had 2 separate performances being practised starting with the Year 6's with their end of year production and then the year 5's Cerdd Iaith MFL performance. A variety of sports have also taken place this term, the class have shown great skill in rugby, athletics, cricket and swimming. Fantastic sportsmanship was shown! All pupils in the class were super excited to take part in our annual 'Camp out day', they created imaginative sports stalls and worked together to put up their tents safely. Finally, the class have shown their great use of DCF skills by making iMovie videos on how to lead a healthy life. They really focused on how to change the camera angle, lighting, speed and filter of their video to create different desired effects. Dosbarth Miss Rourke, what a brilliant year you've had. We hope you continue to grow into the caring individuals that you have shown you can be this year.

Dosbarth Mrs James

What an amazing final half term for our amazing Year 6 pupils! We enjoyed safe cycling, a Leavers Service at St Woolos Cathedral and, of course, performing on two nights to a packed hall, our show - 'School-O-Vision'. Each and every Y6 pupil rose to the occasion and the level of talent was out of this world! We are so proud of everything they have achieved during their Magor Primary journey and we send with them our love and prayers as they move on.



Pupil Leadership Teams Update

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

Senedd Ysgol - This half term Senedd Ysgol has been working hard to survey pupils and deliver their opinions to the Government on online safety and how children spend time in the Summer holidays.

Criw Cymraeg - This half term, Criw Cymraeg have continued to introduce 'Brawddeg Yr Wythnos' to all year groups and have launched a new display to promote Welsh reading in our school.

WAVE Team - Our WAVE team have delivered another act of worship this half term, taking the lead on an assembly based on the value of responsibility.

Young Climate Leaders – Have taken the lead in encouraging the school to walk to school as part of the Walk to School initiative. They organised a whole school assembly where Councillor Frances Taylor, members of the Magor Action Group on Rail and other important community visitors came to promote the event which also raised money for our school.



Wellbeing Warriors - Our Warriors have been discussing health and Nutrition and have been sharing their ideas for how to promote this across the school. They have also contributed to the updated school policy.

PTFA Thanks

A huge thank you to our PTFA who have worked so hard to raise money for our school. Here is a summary of what they have raised and what some of the money has been spent on:



With recent changes in the Welsh Guidance for attendance, we would like to share the following information with you:

Attendance – Why does it matter?

- Children only get one chance at school. If they do not attend school regularly they may not be able to keep up with schoolwork.
- Setting a good pattern of attendance from an early age will help your child develop resilience. Children who have poor school attendance have less chance of achieving their full potential.
- Research has shown that some young people who regularly miss school for no good reason may be drawn into anti-social behaviour or crime.

Under Welsh Government Guidance, a child with attendance below 90% is now considered a persistent absentee.

School Procedures

- Parents are asked to notify school using the ParentMail app, email, or telephone before 9.30am on the first day of absence giving a clear reason.
- If we have not heard from a parent on the first day of absence, we will contact you.

What Does the Law Say?

- All children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable full-time education. As a parent you are responsible for making sure this happens.
- You are responsible for making sure your child attends regularly.
- If your child fails to attend school regularly – even if they miss school without you knowing – the Local Education Authority may take action against you.

What About Authorised Absences?

- There may be times when your child is too ill to attend school this is to be expected.
- They may also have to go to the doctors or the dentist, but these appointments should be made OUTSIDE school hours wherever possible.
- Pupils may attend sporting events or attend alternative educational provision.

Holidays

- We are committed to upholding the legal requirements for compulsory school attendance, following Welsh Government guidance. (Please note that this differs from English guidance and processes).
- Parents must, in law, apply for permission in advance to withdraw a pupil from school for a holiday. Each request will be considered on an individual basis and may result in an unauthorised absence.
- Exceptional and extenuating circumstances may apply. Please see our term time absence form on our website.

What Happens if My Child Does Not Attend School Regularly?

- The school will send initial letters.
- If attendance does not improve a meeting will be held with parents/carers and the headteacher.
- If attendance does not improve the school will refer the child to the Education Welfare Service. A meeting will be made with the Education Welfare Officer and support will be offered.
- If improvements are not made prosecution proceedings may be started and parents can be fined or imprisoned for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.

Lateness

- Pupils who arrive late for school disrupt the lesson and miss an important part of the school day. It can cause anxiety and children can miss out on vital learning.
- Please ensure that your child is in school on time. Gates open from 8:50-9.00am.

What does a session or a whole day off look like as a percentage?

Attendance	Days missed from school
100%	0
99%	1
97%	5
95%	10
90%	19
85%	28
80%	38
70%	57
60%	76

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

Autumn Term Dates

Monday 2nd September - Training Day (School closed to all pupils)

Friday 11th October – Individual school photographs (sibling photographs on request)

Friday 25th October - Training Day (School closed to all pupils)

Spring Term Dates

Friday 21st February - Training Day (School closed to all pupils)

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

Summer Term Dates

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

Monday 21st July - Training Day (School 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 'X' for regular class and school updates!

Next Messenger Date: October 2024