

NEWSLETTER

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Colwyn Bay, LL29 6DD

Dear Parents / Annwyl Rieni

This newsletter marks the halfway point through the Autumn term. I have been thoroughly impressed with the teaching and learning that I have seen taking place across the school and even after just a few short weeks feel very settled having enjoyed getting to know the staff, pupils and yourselves. I am very much looking forward to the next half term and my first Ysgol Pen-y-Bryn Christmas!

This week the school has had continued success with the Armed Forces Friendly Schools initiative by achieving gold status and being one of only three schools in Wales to do so. Congratulations to Mrs Hayward and all the staff who have supported along the way to achieving this, the highest recognition.

As you will recall from the beginning of term I highlighted the importance of school attendance. Having monitored this closely I feel it important to pass on to you that this half term we have recorded a staggering number of requests for pupil absence for term time holidays, currently standing at 405 days of school due to be missed. I would ask that whenever possible holidays are please taken during school holidays.

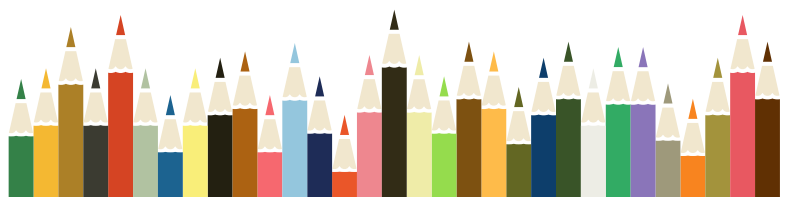
With that in mind I hope you all have a relaxing half term break and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 6th November.

Yours sincerely / Yn gywir,
Mr Richard Monteiro



Classroom Call

Blwyddyn Tri have celebrated the end of the first half-term in the juniors with a day full of Rainforest themed activities. Pupils completed eight different tasks over the course of a day, working in teams covering many areas of learning including expressive arts, science, literacy and numeracy. Many of the tasks focused on the tribes indigenous to South America, following from the pupil-led planning at the beginning of our Roar-some Rainforest topic where pupils asked to learn more about the people who call rainforests their home. As part of our immersion day, pupils became master builders when they built Lego models of indigenous settlements using reference photos for inspiration. They got to grips with a new artistic technique, print making. Pupils took inspiration from tribal patterns



Other News

Halloween Disco

Thank you to the Friends of the School for organising yesterday's Halloween Disco. The disco raised an amazing £671.23. There was a great turnout, some brilliant costumes worn and lots of fun had. Well done to Cariad in 1SM for winning the 'guess the weight of the pumpkin' competition. The pumpkin weighed 8.45kg! Thank you to Natalie and the kitchen staff for all your work on the night.

Christmas Performances

Please find attached to this week's newsletter Christmas performance dates and times for next half term.

New Dinner Menu

Please see attached information on the 2023-24 dinner menu.

Learning 2Bee

Please see attached information on their after-school club and job vacancy.

Friends Meeting

Monday 6th November, 7pm at Pen-y-Bryn Pub for a QUICK meeting... Making a plan for the Christmas Fair (see attached flyer) and any funding requests. All welcome to join and meet some friendly faces!

before carving their own designs into polystyrene sheets. Afterwards, they rolled printing ink onto their designs before transferring this onto a piece of cartridge paper. The results were so amazing! Next, pupils had to put their detective hats on when looking at images of tribal artefacts and giving their best guesses as to what they were and what they were used for.

After half term, we will be looking at the risks posed to the Amazon rainforest. To kick-start this part of our learning, pupils listened to a recording of the Great Kapok Tree, a well-known tale warning of the dangers of taking our natural world for granted. Having listened to the tale, pupils were able to express what they had learnt in which ever way they felt most comfortable, some making posters, with others creating detailed illustrations.

It was certainly a busy day, jam-packed with learning opportunities, allowing pupils to be independent, confident learners. Da iawn pawb!



Attendance for last week

Attendance (1 day = 20% ½ day = 10%)

	100%	90%	80%	70% or less
Number of pupils	384	9	27	25

We are aiming for all our pupils to achieve an average of **97%** attendance a year (6 days absence).

Dates for
your
diary

27th Oct
School
closes

6th Nov
School
opens

15th Nov
Year 6
Danger
Point

1st Dec
Christmas
Fair 3.30 -
5.30 pm

Christ
Fair 3.
5.30