

NEWSLETTER 19.09.25

Pontarddulais Primary Newsletter

Newsletter – Friday 19th September

Attendance

At Pontarddulais Primary, we want every child to have the very best opportunities to succeed, both academically and socially. Regular attendance at school is a key part of ensuring your child thrives.

When children attend school every day, they benefit from:

- Consistent learning, which helps them to keep up with lessons and make steady progress.
- The chance to build strong friendships and develop social skills.
- A sense of routine and belonging, which supports their wellbeing.

On the other hand, low attendance can have a significant impact. When a child's attendance drops below 90%, they are classed as a Persistent Absentee by Welsh Government. This can mean:

- Gaps in learning that are difficult to catch up on.
- Increased anxiety about returning to school.
- Fewer opportunities to take part in enriching activities and experiences.

From the start of term to today, over 13 days, we already have 82 children below 90% and 92 children that have been late coming into school.

We want to work in partnership with you to understand the challenges that may be affecting your child's attendance. In order to do this, we will be sending out an online questionnaire, next week, to all parents who have children below 90% attendance for this academic year (as of 19.9.25) Please complete the questionnaire as honestly as possible. It may be that

your child has had a bug for a couple of days or it may be something that you would like help with. Your responses will help us to identify any support we can offer and work together to improve attendance for your child.

PTFA

Dear Parents and Carers,

Did you know that Pontarddulais Primary PTFA have raised over £7000 since September 2023. We have used this to purchase new books for every class, sports equipment, playground markings, and lots more. This is thanks to teacher, staff and parent volunteers from Pontarddulais Primary School.

We will be holding Pontarddulais Primary PTFA AGM on Thursday 25th September at 3:30pm in the Reception entrance staff room or you can attend [online](#). Where we will be electing members, arranging dates for diaries and discussing how to spend funds raised.

We'd love to invite you to consider joining our PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association). It's a great way to support our school, connect with other families, and help enhance the experiences we offer our children.

It only takes about an hour every few months to get involved—whether that's helping at an event, sharing ideas, or simply lending a hand when you can. Every bit of support makes a big difference!

We hope to see you at the AGM and look forward to welcoming new members.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Genna Fisher

PTFA Chair

Lost Property

We currently have a number of items of clothing in lost property that we would like to return. For the last two weeks, we have displayed all items at the start of the day, in the middle yard and Foundation yard. Next Friday 26th September, we will again display the lost property at the start of the day but following this, due to the large amounts of clothing we have, we will then look to donate them to worthy charities.

Monster Phonics

For those parents that missed the webinar on Monday this week, please use the links below for further information.

This first link is for a recorded webinar

<https://monsterphonics.com/phonics-support-for-parents/>

Secondly, the main page on Monster Phonics website, for parents.

<https://monsterphonics.com/phonics-support-for-parents/>

Traffic on James Street

Just a reminder following heavy traffic on James Street this week at the start of the day, can all parents/carers please be mindful of the parking situation and use of the road at the start and end of the day. We are on a no through road and turning around is extremely difficult if not dangerous for our children walking to school. We would encourage walking, cycling to school but we are aware that not everyone can do this. Please be careful on the roads, everyone.

Diary Dates and upcoming events.

Dates for your diary:

22nd September Y6 Cycle Proficiency

25th September PTFA AGM

2nd October Y6 Parent Information Session for Comp (gym)

10th October Y6 led MacMillan Coffee Morning

15th October Y6 Open evening at Pontarddulais Comp

20th October Parental consultations

24th October Last Day of half term

3rd November. School reopens

21st November Children in Need

26th November. PTFA – Jingle Bell Journey

7th December. Choir Christmas Carol Concert – Hope Chapel

8th December. Nursery Christmas Concert 09:30 & 14:25

8th December. Reception Christmas Concert 13:15

9th December Y1 and Y2 Christmas Concert 09:30

9th December Y4 Christmas Concert 13:15

10th December Y1 and Y2 Christmas Concert 09:30

10th December Y5 and Y6 Christmas Concert 13:30

11th December Y3 Christmas Concert 09:30

11th December Y5 and Y6 Christmas Concert 13:30

19th December. Last Day of Term

Thank you all for your continued support.

Mr G Davies

Headteacher.

