



January Newsletter 2025



Woodpeckers

Cnocell y Coed

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! Thank you so much for your kind cards and gifts during the last week of term. We hope you had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed spending time with your family and friends. We certainly did and now we are looking forward to starting off the new year with lots of fun learning experiences for the children. Please remember to keep a look out on our class page on the school website and Seesaw for further updates. We will be launching our new inquiry-based topic next week which will enable the children to explore and discover many new learning opportunities! We look forward to sharing more with you as the term progresses.

PE /Forest School/Outdoor Learning

PE will take place for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils every Tuesday. Forest School will take place for Year 2 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon and Dance (Big Stars) will take place for Year 1 pupils on a Wednesday afternoon. We ask that all children come to school on selected days wearing either their PE kit or Forest School clothing, depending on what Year group they are in.

PE clothing- Black jogging pants/legging or shorts (depending on weather conditions), plain white t-shirt, school sweatshirt and trainers.

Forest School Clothing – An old pair of long trousers (suitable to wear in the forest), a t-shirt, a warm sweatshirt/fleece, waterproofs, a warm waterproof coat, a pair of wellies, a hat, scarf and gloves.

Outdoor Learning: We request that all children have a pair of wellies and waterproofs in school during the week so that children can access our outdoor learning areas (including the forest) in all weather conditions. As the weather begins to get colder, we advise that all children bring a hat, scarf, and gloves (**clearly labelled with their name**).

Reading



Reading will continue to play a central part in all our activities this term. From daily, shared reading and group reading to 1-1 sessions. As the 'mechanical' aspect of your child's reading continues to progress, their comprehension is a key skill which needs to be developed further. As you will be aware your child's reading is at a crucial stage. Your support in sustaining their reading habits at home by asking them to make predictions, talk about what they have read, and answer questions about what they have understood is an integral part of their motivation and development as a reader. The benefits of making this a priority now will make a huge difference to your child in the future. Thank you for all your support with this, please ask if you need further support or guidance and continue to use their reading record books to make any notes. This term we will begin to send home 'tricky words' for children to learn, these are words that cannot be sounded out using phonics. These words are important for children to learn because they are common words that occur frequently in text, but cannot be easily decoded using phonics.

Maths/Numeracy

Your child will develop their number skills as we continue to focus on developing their thinking, reasoning and problem-solving skills. Reasoning involves them thinking and talking more about their Maths, saying and showing how they have worked out a problem, clarifying and refining their ideas. 'Having a go' without fear of a wrong answer and making mistakes are actively encouraged to learn and gain confidence so that they develop a deeper understanding of mathematics. We do this daily with lots of exploration and discussion, together with using manipulatives such as 10s frames and drawing their answers to show what they have understood. You could help your child at home by focussing on using money and telling the time. Ideally, they will begin to recognise all the coins and use these to calculate. You could try setting up a 'toy shop' where they could add two items together up to the value of 10p - 50p then work out the change. Telling the time on an analogue clock is always tricky for young children, especially as we now rely on digital time. Start with o'clock then when confident, half past, followed by quarter to and past.



General Reminders

We ask that you **label** snack pots (containing fruit) and water bottles (containing water) clearly with your child's name along with **all items of clothing**. This will help us to identify belongings and return them to the children should they get misplaced.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to read our Spring term class newsletter, a copy will be put on our class page for future reference. We are very much looking forward to the term ahead. Please do not hesitate to get in touch directly, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child.

Kind regards,

Mrs Latham, Mrs Hinton and Miss Ellis 😊

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