



Northop Hall C.P School Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2022-2023

Meeting Time and Date: 5:30p.m Thursday 7th December 2023

Venue: Year - 5 classroom, at the school.

Questions relating to the Report:

Unless there are special circumstances, we propose offering again this year the possibility of a meeting with the governors. Should you wish to raise a question regarding the report, it should be presented in writing prior to the meeting. Questions should be put into an envelope and marked 'Governors' Report to Parents Question', and handed into the school office by Tuesday, 5th December, 2023

Name and addresses of Clerk and Chairperson:

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the chair of the School Governors, it is with great pleasure that I introduce the Statutory Annual Governors' Report to Parents for the school year 2022-2023. Alongside the written report, the governing body must present the findings to the parents and carers. We will now revert offering such a meeting as in pre-COVID years and this year we will be doing this on the evening of Thursday 7th December 2023. As usual we have decided that unless at least 5% of parents declare they will attend, the meeting will not be held. Please email the school office if you wish to attend the meeting.

As for every school, we continue to see the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic continuing to impact on both staff and pupils. We notice an increase in sickness absence amongst the pupils, both in duration and in frequency. Considerable credit is due to all of the staff in helping the children to cope with these effects and for the positive attitude in the whole school. We are incredibly proud of our pupils at Northop Hall and they are a credit to you.

We do need to note that we are seeing the countrywide reduction in pupil numbers. This year we have a roll of 167 compared with 191 in September 2022. We are keeping a close watch on the trend to ensure that we plan accordingly.

We are very proud that our school achieved the "Whole School Approach to Nurture" award in July 2023. We are the first school in Flintshire to gain this award and every congratulation is due to Mrs Harrison and the team; Well Done!!

In the classroom, much emphasis is being given to improving Welsh oracy, in line with the recommendations of ESTYN. We have an enriched learning environment where our pupils are both improving their Welsh oracy but also developing a deeper cultural appreciation of our country's heritage. At the same time our pupils are spreading their wings in wider European language and culture with our French project. This will see both a visit from our French partner school and a visit by our school to them in France. A truly exciting and challenging time!



In addition, much attention is being given to encourage the children to understand and use numeracy in everyday life across all aspects of the curriculum.

In line with the ESTYN recommendations, a more interactive approach to assessing pupil learning is being used. Two way questioning, constructive self-assessment, peer assessment are all contributing to a much more productive means of assessing and progressing learning

This year has seen two important additions to the school buildings. Firstly our long awaited classroom extension has been completed and is in full use, primarily as the year 4 classroom. This does make a tremendous improvement in the environment in which we teach our children. The standard of teaching does, as ever, remain very high, but obviating the need to tussle with overcrowding inevitably has a beneficial effect. Well done all those involved in getting this achieved.

Our perimeter fencing has been improved in line with recommendations following our Estyn inspection in May 2022 to improve the health and safety of all school users.

We all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Headteacher, Mrs Lynne Harrison, and the entire dedicated team of staff for all of the hard work that they have put in to ensure the quality of teaching and learning in the school. The Governing Body add our thanks for all this continuing hard work.

Finally, I'd like to thank Governors for their volunteering throughout the past year. I welcome the new Governors who have come on board this year already, and look forward to their input over the next years as the school goes from strength to strength.

As always, we have started the report this year with the school's mission vision. It summarises the tenet of how the staff and governors want this school to perform and operate successfully for the children:

“Believe, persevere, succeed” (“Credwch, Dyfalbarhwch, Llyddwch”)



which truly reflects the schools' ethos.

Thank you all for your continued support of the school.

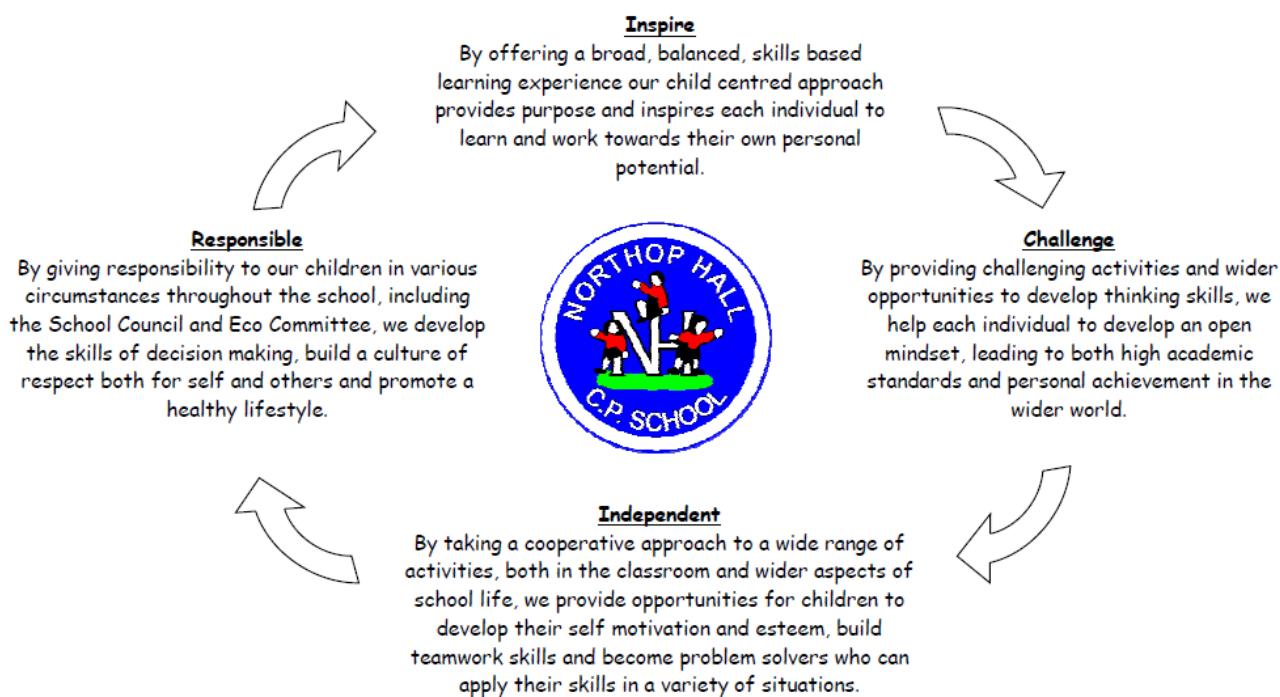
Diolch yn fawr; a ddymuniadau gorau,

Michael Hughes, Chair of Governors.



Northop Hall CP School:

A happy environment where children are inspired and challenged, enabling them to develop into independent and responsible lifelong learners.



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Whole school approach to nurture

Nurture principles are well embedded in curriculum planning, delivery and wider work of the school. Northop Hall school were recently presented with the award for a **“Whole School Nurturing Approach”**.

This is in recognition of their commitment to the principles of nurture, which have a positive impact on the way pupils and staff approach their work. We are very proud to be the first school in Flintshire to achieve this award.

Pupils have timetabled sessions to support specific academic/social/emotional needs. When pupils experience any sort of challenge it is dealt with in a calm, consistent and low-key manner.

There is a warm, calm, inclusive and friendly welcome throughout the school from both staff and pupils.



Curriculum Organisation and Teaching

At Ysgol Northop Hall we support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that both adults and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. Through our teaching, we seek to equip children with the skills, independence, knowledge and understanding necessary for them to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We aim to provide a rich and varied learning environment that supports children in developing their skills and abilities in a range of ways, to enable them to achieve their full potential. With our current pupil numbers, we have seven single year group classes and one mixed Nursery/Reception class, each with dedicated teaching and support staff. Classes range from our part time Nursery pupils to the eldest Year 6 pupils.

As a school we are committed to a mastery approach to learning, where we encourage pupils to develop appropriate skills and a deep understanding of a subject, rather than being able to memorise key procedures or resort to rote learning. The school fully utilises and embeds the Literacy and Numeracy framework into teaching, alongside the Digital Competency Framework. We are now fully up and running with the New Curriculum for Wales, which is now statutory, and we continue to be reflective and on a continuous cycle of improvement. Our Estyn Inspection in May 2022 reported; “The school is developing a stimulating and purposeful curriculum, focused on supporting pupils to become inquisitive, independent learners. The ‘inquiry’ approach to learning ensures that pupils develop a solid body of knowledge that they then use to help them decide what and how to learn next. This results in high levels of engagement.”

Through our teaching we aim to develop pupils who are:

- Ambitious, capable learners
- Enterprising, creative contributors
- Ethical, informed citizens
- Healthy confident individuals

Moving forward as a school we will aim to do all we can to ensure that our pupils are provided with the best learning experiences and continue to “Believe, Persevere and Succeed”.



Current Governing Body Membership, Ysgol Northop Hall

The governors' meeting held on Tuesday 6th September 2022 confirmed the following governors:

Name	Designation	Date Office Terminates
Lynne Harrison	Head Teacher	From September 2012
Gavin Roberts	Teacher Governor	01/09/2021 – 01/09/2025
Nicky Christiano	School Governor	15/07/2019 - 15/07/2023
Susan Pritchard	LEA Governor	10/05/2019 - 10/05/2023
Jonathan Hodgins	LEA Governor	04/02/2019 - 04/02/2023
John Golledge	Minor Authority Governor	13/04/2021 – 13/04/2025
Suzanne Dinwoodie	Parent Governor	21/09/2021 – 21/09/2025
Katie Peers	Parent Governor	21/09/2021 – 21/09/2025
Michael Hughes	Community Governor	06/10/2020 - 06/10/2024
Marie Goble	Community Governor	22/10/2019 - 22/10/2023
Danielle Carrigan	Community Governor	01/09/2021 – 01/09/2025
Linda Thew	Community Governor	01/09/2022 – 01/09/2026

Changes to Governing body during 2022-2023

- Mrs Linda Thew joined the Governing Body
- Mrs Rachel Price completed her service in the Governing Body
- Mrs Kate Speed stepped down from the Governing Body



Summary of Changes to the School Prospectus since Publication

The names of staff and Governors has been updated within the school prospectus. An up-to-date version can be found on the school website.



Outturn for the last financial year, 2022/2023

Budget Heading	Budget 2022/2023	Expenditure 2022/2023	Diff (+) or (-)
BALANCE FROM 2021/2022	229,023	0	229,023
EMPLOYEES	624,524	794,622	-170,098
PREMISES	56,236	47,919	8,317
TRANSPORT	0	193	-193
SUPPLIES	28,336	33,056	-4,720
ADULT MEALS/LINK COURSE	0	21,837	-21,837
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS	29,290	29,239	51
CAPITAL FINANCING	0	88,487	-88,487
INCOME	0	-159,276	159,276
Total 2022/2023	967,409	856,078	111,331

No gifts were made from the school budget. Charitable donations are made through collections raised into the school fund.

No travel or subsistence allowances were made to any governors this year.



Term Dates and Training Days for 2023-24 academic year

The school adopts Flintshire County Council term dates and some of the suggested Training Day dates. Dates for 2023 - 2024 are as follows:

Term	Begins for pupils	Half Term ends	Half term starts for pupils	Term ends	Training Days (closed to pupils)
Autumn	Monday 4 th September	Friday 27 th October	Monday 6 th November	Friday 22 nd December	Friday 1 st September Friday 22 nd December
Spring	Tuesday 9 th January	Friday 9 th February	Tuesday 20 th February	Friday 22 nd March	Monday 8 th January Monday 19 th February
Summer	Tuesday 9 th April	Friday 24 th May	Monday 3 rd June	Thursday 18 th July	Monday 8 th April Friday 19 th July

The school Day

Nursery	12.40 – 3.15p.m.
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2	8:50 -12.00 noon; 1:00-3:05 pm
Key stage 2	8:45 -12.00 noon; 1:00-3:15 pm



Population and Attendance Summary

Attendance 2022/23

The Governing Body of Ysgol Northop Hall are committed to improving our whole school attendance. The school works closely with an education welfare officer to actively encourage, monitor and promote daily attendance at school. Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their full potential.

Attendance record

The overall attendance figure for academic year 2022/23 was 91.8%

In Wales, the average attendance for this academic year to date is 89.4%.



School Leavers

We recognise that moving between primary to secondary school is an important life transition that can affect children's attainment and wellbeing in the longer term. We have strong links with the local high schools and work collaboratively to support all pupils to make a successful transition between one stage of education to the next.

Moving Forward

When school closed in July 2023, 26 pupils said "Goodbye" to Northop Hall C.P. School. They were all looking forward to starting at their new High School come September. The chosen schools were as follows:

13 to Mold Alun High School
8 to Hawarden High School
2 to Connah's Quay High School
1 to Elfed High School Buckley
2 to Argoed High School

The children all got to learn a little of their chosen High Schools when they were visited by a teacher from said High School earlier that term. Towards the end of the summer term the children were all able to visit the High School for themselves spending either a day or two days looking around the school, meeting more staff members: some discovering where their registration class room was (very important!); where the canteen was situated and having a meal there. They were even able to meet up with children from other schools and perhaps forge a friendship with them.

On the last Friday of term, Year 6 pupils attended the "Leavers Service" and there was much Oohing and Aahing when they were shown photos of themselves taken when they were in Nursery Class. They all spoke of their aspirations for the future and Mrs Harrison read a poem she had written for each individual pupil. Each child was presented with a small leaving gift.

At the close of school the children accompanied by their parents/carers went on to their Prom, held at The Mountain Park Hotel.

The Governors take great pleasure in wishing all year 6 pupils a very happy future.



School Improvement Priorities 2022 – 2023

Progress against school improvement policies 2022-2023	
School Improvement Priority	Actions taken
<p>Priority 1: Improve provision for the development of pupils' Welsh language skills and numeracy across the curriculum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeracy framework and Welsh continuum (language patterns) • Staff training linked to numeracy and Welsh • More authentic problem solving opportunities • Work carried out on Welsh language patterns • Virtual Welsh and face to face Welsh lessons • St David's Day celebrations • Teaching of French language running alongside teaching of Welsh language • Link with school in France – we are sharing Welsh phrases with the pupils in France <p>Impact of action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has witnessed noticeable improvements, although there is still room for further enhancements. • Many pupils have a positive attitude to developing their Welsh language skills • Younger children use simple greetings and phrases and older pupils communicate personal information appropriately
<p>Priority 2: Ensure that all teachers provide high-quality verbal feedback to pupils to support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for staff • Focus on the quality of questioning used by adults • Increased focus on the verbal feedback provided during the lesson



<p>them to understand their next steps in learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting pupils to be able to feedback more confidently on their own learning progress• Using assessments to inform future planning• Increased attention given to “pupil voice and feedback” to inform future planning for next steps. <p>Impact of action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Noticeable progress in pupils’ being supported to understand their next steps.• Recognition that there are further techniques, which we can explore in order to determine the most effective strategies.
<p>Priority 3 :Address the site security issue raised during the inspection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvements made to security fencing at front of school have been completed, as recommended during our Estyn Inspection in May 2022• The site security issue has been fully addressed. <p>Impact of action taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The risk of being able to leave the school building and grounds has been reduced.



School Performance 2022-2023

As evidenced in the May 2022 Estyn Report, Northop Hall continues to provide a happy and nurturing learning community, where pupils achieve well and make good progress in their learning from their starting points.

Speaking & Listening

- Most pupils demonstrate good listening skills, take turns to speak and show respect for the views of others
- Many nursery pupils learn to talk purposefully during activities and play sessions. They are keen to show and talk about what they are doing
- From Year 2 onwards, most pupils express their ideas well and speak with enthusiasm about their topics
- Most older pupils are confident and articulate speakers, who share suggestions well and use a good range of vocabulary during discussion

Reading

- Pupils in nursery and reception soon develop an interest in books, enjoy listening to stories and are able to retell them to friends and visitors. They recognise and name a range of sounds and use this knowledge to start to read simple, stage-appropriate texts.
- By Year 2, many pupils read with appropriate accuracy and understanding.
- By Year 6, many pupils have developed a secure range of strategies to read fluently and independently, applying their reading skills effectively to support their learning in other subjects.

Writing

- From a young age, many pupils show enthusiasm for writing when experimenting with mark making
- By Year 2, they write an increasing range of sentences effectively, and develop their ideas creatively and imaginatively
- Older pupils develop a good understanding of the characteristics of different genres. By Year 6, many pupils plan, draft and improve their work to produce high quality, well-structured writing.



Mathematics

- The school's focus on improving the teaching of mathematics has led to most pupils making strong progress in this aspect of their learning, as they move through the school.
- Effective early language development supports pupils in nursery and reception to grasp mathematical concepts, such as direction, position, number, size and sequence.
- By Year 2, many build on these skills well, for example to develop a secure understanding of place value in two-digit numbers and how to add and subtract numbers. More able pupils use their problem-solving skills successfully.
- As they progress through the school, most pupils develop very strong reasoning and problem-solving skills. In Years 5 and 6, they describe their thinking and reasoning exceptionally well, extending to questioning each other about their calculations and challenging one another to explain how they have reached their conclusions

Welsh Language

- Many pupils have a positive attitude to developing their Welsh language skills
- Younger children use simple greetings and phrases and older pupils communicate personal information appropriately

Technology

- Teachers use a range of technologies well to support pupils and develop pupils' digital skills
- Pupils are able to apply these skills in a range of creative contexts to support their wider learning
- Many pupils use their digital skills well to support independent research and present their findings through multimedia presentations. By Year 6, many pupils create and use databases and spreadsheets successfully, utilising real-life data

Creative & Artistic Skills

- Pupils enjoy using their creative and artistic skills. Examples include, younger pupils' experiment with tuned percussion instruments to create rhythmic music and create simple dance routines, and older pupils use



willow to create imaginative sculptures and learn to handle tools, such as saws and drills safely.

- Outdoor learning provides regular opportunities to develop their problem-solving and physical skills.

Termly topics

- Nearly all pupils take part in planning their termly topics. This contributes to pupils displaying high levels of interest and engagement in their work. They often identify precise lines of inquiry when exploring a topic of interest and are keen to express their opinions about what they are learning.
- From Years 3 to 6, all pupils enjoy presenting their learning to an audience at the end of their inquiry topics. Pupils, from an early age, are encouraged to reflect on their learning and think for themselves.
- By Year 6, many pupils are confident, independent learners, able to plan and carry out tasks with limited support. They persevere well with tasks and seek alternative solutions when their first attempt is not successful. When provided with the opportunity, many pupils respond well to feedback from adults and their peers to improve their work and develop their skills further. This improves their self-confidence and supports their progress as they move through the school.



Additional Learning Needs

“Additional learning needs” is the term used to describe provision of support in school which is additional to, or different from, that provided by the already differentiated curriculum delivered at school. Ysgol Northop Hall follows a graduated approach to support as recommended for the primary phase in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. A range of review meetings are carried out throughout the year and parents are an integral part of the process. Liaison with all outside agencies plays a key role in supporting all pupils as we continually assess and improve our services.

An annual review will be held for all pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs. A delegate from the Local Authority will be invited to attend this meeting.

As a school we provide a number of intervention groups to support pupil’s emotional well-being. Groups where nurture type activities are delivered continue to prove beneficial.

The post of additional learning needs co-ordinator (ALNCo) is shared between Miss N Hughes who oversees the additional needs provision in KS2 and Mrs A Foley who oversees the additional needs provision in the Foundation Phase. The Link governor for ALN is Marie Goble. The Additional Learning Needs policy can be found on the school website.

Over the academic Year 2022-23 meetings to support pupils with additional learning needs have taken place, wherever possible in virtual form. Parents, ALNcos, and professionals from external agencies have participated in these discussions.

A trainee therapy dog started work at Ysgol Northop Hall in October 2021. “Jet” has supported pupils who have challenges or trauma in their lives. His support has proved to be popular with the pupils and they look forward to his weekly visits.

Enhanced visits were organised to the secondary schools for Year 6 pupils with additional needs to support the transition to Year 7.



More Able and Talented (MAT)

More Able and Talented includes learners who are more able across the curriculum as well as those who show talent in one or more specific areas. This could include practical, creative and social fields of human activity. In Ysgol Northop Hall children in every class are challenged. More able and talented learners require opportunities for enrichment and extension that go beyond those provided for the general cohort of learners.

The school supports MAT by identifying pupils as soon as possible and enriching the curriculum in a number of ways, which include: additional classes, special projects, subject educational trips, opportunities to apply practical and creative skills e.g. Performance Arts, community projects, MAT consortium projects, hosting of MAT events in Ysgol Northop Hall, working with pupils in other schools.

The MAT policy is available from the school office.



Behavioural Needs

The school follows the local authority guidelines on providing an inclusive environment. This means that we do have pupils with a wide variety of emotional and behavioural needs within our school community. Pupils with complex behavioural needs have support both from within school and from several external agencies such as educational psychologists, behaviour support and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). The work of the school to support pupils with complex behaviour is monitored by the school inclusion team and the school follows guidance given by external agencies. The school works very hard to adjust the environment to support pupils with complex needs within a mainstream setting. The county admissions team gives authorisation to enable pupils to join our school and pupils cannot be declined places if the school has spare spaces on the role.

If a pupil has a statement of educational need they have the right to request that the Local Authority consider their request for a more specialist educational setting where their needs may be met by a more bespoke environment.



Action taken to strengthen links with the community

We are committed to working closely with the local and wider community. Some of the ways in which we strengthen these links over the past academic year include:

- Inviting parents to attend many events such as Parents' evenings, Harvest and Christmas Concerts, Sports Day, Mothers' Day celebrations and Year 6 leavers service;
- Inviting Grandparents to our Grandparents' afternoon tea in the summer term;
- Hosting a MacMillan Coffee morning for parents, relatives and friends;
- Making donations to the local foodbank;
- Performing songs at the village Remembrance Service;
- Excellent links with PC Woodworth the local Police Community Support officer who visits the school regularly and delivers sessions to pupils such as Cyber Safety, Dangerous Substances, Safe Haven and Antisocial Behaviour;
- John Piper delivered a session on "Don't Touch Tell", which helps to raise awareness of the dangers of substance abuse;
- Working with Rev Jonathan our minister of the Presbyterian Chapel and Rev Martin Batchelor the Vicar of Northop Church;
- Working closely with College Henri Dunant in France as part of our work on developing International Languages within the curriculum;
- Strong links with local primary and secondary schools, we regularly work together on activities which include sports, art, drama and music;
- Our Foundation Pupils made many local visits last academic year in order to explore their immediate surroundings as part of their inquiry "What's on our doorstep";
- We continue to support students from Chester and Bangor universities and from Coleg Cambria-Deeside;
- Pupils have also participated in fund raising activities to support a number of important causes such as the Turkey-Syria earthquake and Children in Need;



- Last year we worked closely with a parent who is employed by Royal Mail. “Lenny the Letter” and Staff from Royal Mail visited the school to collect letters, which pupils had written to the new King. We were delighted to receive a letter back from his Royal Highness.



Sporting and Physical opportunities

Sport, fitness and outdoor activities play a huge part in the life of the school. Members of our senior leadership team have played sport to an extremely high standard themselves so know first-hand the important role sport and recreation plays in physical and emotional well-being. We are proud to offer a wide variety of opportunities to children of all ages and are always looking to partner with outside providers to introduce children to new opportunities and challenges.

We are extremely proud of our Forest School and how it is integral to our curriculum. We have a passionate and dedicated Forest School Leader who ensures that many classes spend time in the Forest School area every week. We witness the positive benefits of Forest School on children's overall education. This includes increasing self-confidence, communication skills, resilience and problem solving. Forest School immerses students in the natural environment, helping to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the world around them. Taking learning outdoors also has a positive impact on children's health and mental well-being, contributing to a more holistic and enriching educational journey.

Every child from Year 1 upwards has two sessions of PE each week. Children in nursery and reception classes continually develop their fine and gross motor skills through a wide range of hands-on activities, thoughtfully designed for both indoor and outdoor environments.

On top of this we offer children the opportunity to take part in sports festivals. Last year these included Rugby, Football, Netball, Table Tennis, gymnastics and indoor and outdoor athletics. We were delighted to celebrate success with the Y3/4 girls who won the Mold and Buckley area Cross Country Trophy.

Last year extra curricular lunch time clubs were provided for pupils, these included Rugby, football and netball.

During the 2022-23 academic year, we collaborated closely with 'Big Stars,' a performing arts company. Our Year 1 class participated in weekly sessions with a dedicated performing arts instructor, engaging in singing, dancing, and



drama. It was fantastic to witness the children embrace this creative opportunity and grow in self-confidence.

We were delighted to organise residential visits to Pentrellyncymer (Year 4) and to Nant BH (Year 6). Residential trips hold immense significance for our pupils. During the three-day visit pupils develop independence and self confidence, while partaking in a variety of outdoor adventures such as gorge walking, canoeing, climbing, orienteering, cycling, and caving.

As pioneers of the Flintshire Nurturing Schools programme we look to empower our older students. One of the ways we do this is by encouraging Year 6 children to become Young Leaders, training them to lead fun activities at lunchtimes.



Buildings and Facilities

We continue to use the school budget to maintain and improve the fabric of the building and the school grounds.

During the academic year 2022-23 an extension to one of our existing classrooms was completed. The larger teaching space has been a wonderful and much needed improvement to our learning environment. Pupils and staff are enjoying the space and light in the extended classroom.

New fencing and gates were installed in July 2023 at the front and back of the school. The improvements to the fencing at the front of the school now meet the recommendations made by Estyn during the inspection of May 2021.

Newydd Catering Service installed a new industrial dishwasher, which replaced the original large “steaming” sink in the kitchen.



Welsh Language and culture

Pupils are educated through the medium of English but as a school we actively promote and develop bilingualism. Welsh is taught as a discrete lesson and also taught incidentally throughout the school.

The school has a second-language Welsh speaking teacher in Foundation Phase, and many staff have attended Welsh language courses and have the confidence to teach Welsh to pupils of Primary School age. A member of our Key Stage two team has worked hard to support other colleagues and pupils in the area of Welsh language, building on the skills which she developed during attendance on a Welsh Sabbatical. Last academic year she created and delivered a programme of virtual Welsh lessons for Key Stage pupils.

We celebrate Welsh cultural and historical events through our curriculum, assemblies and annual St David's Day celebrations.

We recognise that very few Northop Hall School pupils speak Welsh at home and that school is an important point of connection with the Welsh language and culture.

The school continues to follow the Welsh language and culture programme known as "Cymraeg Campus".



Disabled Pupils – Arrangements for Admission and Access

Should a child have a Statement of Need or Service Level Agreement then the Local Authority determines whether our school is suitable to cater for that child's specific needs. If it is determined that the school is suitable the child is admitted and welcomed. Their needs are monitored and discussed with the necessary agencies at regular review meetings during the year.

The building is one storey at ground level, with outside ramps to the Foundation rooms that are slightly elevated from the play area. The doors are wide enough to allow wheelchair access, and this includes toilet facilities. The Foundation Phase and the KS2 National Curriculum are made available to all. Our school philosophy is about equal opportunity for everyone, and this ensures that those with any disability will be cared for and included as far as the school is able.



The Pupil Development Grant (PDG)

The purpose of the PDG is to improve outcomes for learners eligible for free school meals (FSM) and for looked after children (LAC). It is intended to overcome the additional barriers that prevent learners from disadvantaged backgrounds achieving their full potential. The Welsh Assembly Government allocates additional funds to all schools in Wales on the basis of the pupils on roll who take free school meals or who are looked after children.

Every school is required to account for its allocation by creating a budget and accounting for it.

The school typically uses the grant for identified staff training, support and resources for small group and one-to-one support and targeted learning programmes. a good example of this is the Gareth Metcalfe Maths initiative being run throughout the school.

Full details of the school's use of PDG is published on the school website.



Action Taken to promote Healthy Eating and Drinking

We continue to try to encourage pupils to make healthy choices over the food they eat and what they drink in the following ways;

- All pupils are asked to bring their own piece of fruit to school for their snack time.
- Pupils are asked to bring in a bottle of water which they can access throughout the day.
- Pupils discuss the importance of a healthy diet as part of their curriculum work in PHSE and science.
- Healthy food is made available at breakfast club and at lunch time.



Staffing updates

Staffing Updates

Miss C Bellis started maternity leave in December 2022. She will return to school in December 2023.

Mrs J Watkins commences a 12 month Welsh sabbatical, from September 2023. Mrs Watkin's teaching and leadership responsibility will be covered by Mrs S Latham.

Departing Staff

Miss H Manson – TA

Mrs C Brine – TA and lunch time supervisor

Joining Staff

Mrs S Randles - Class teacher - maternity cover until December 2023

Mr M Moody - apprentice Sports Coach