



## Friday/Dydd Gwener 17 May 2024

### Reminders

DATES FOR THE SUMMER TERM CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE – PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE A FEW CHANGES TO DATES ORIGINALLY SHARED ON OUR PARENT CALENDAR.

May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Druidston class assembly time 10:30 | May 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Half term.

### Parent meeting to support development of our outdoor learning provision – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 3.30pm

Back in the autumn term, I consulted with you in connection with developing the outdoor learning provision that the school offers to our children. Together with your ideas, there has been a lot of ‘behind the scenes’ research going on and I would like to share this with you and gather some more ideas and offers of support for a ‘Ground Force’ day that will take place later this summer term. The meeting will be held in the main hall at 3.30pm on Monday 20th May. If you, or you know of someone who will be keen to support this development, please share this message with them so that they can attend. The more support that we can have, the better. As Helen Keller said ‘Alone we can do so little: together we can do so much.’ Provision for childcare during the meeting will be available should you need it, though I am more than happy for the children to attend to share their ideas too! Diolch. Mrs Priestley

### Summer uniform

As we head into summer term, we are seeing more pupils beginning to wear non-uniform items of clothing. Please find below a reminder of the expected uniform that is to be worn for the remainder of the term:

- White polo shirt
- Grey trousers/shorts
- Navy/white gingham dress
- Navy skirt/trousers
- Black/navy shoes
- PE – Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms, white polo shirt and trainers.

If you need support in getting uniform, please contact your child’s class teacher. We have lots of spare uniform in school.

### Walk to school day – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

This year walk to school week is running between 20th – 24th May. Parking even a little way from the school reduces congestion and air pollution at the school gates and improves road safety. We shared in assembly today that a special guest will be joining us on our walk to school next week. Why not come and join us as we walk to school together next Thursday. We will meet at 8.20am in Tesco car park and walk together.

### DOJO

Reminder that Mrs Prevel and Mrs Priestley do not monitor the Dojo app. Should you wish to contact either of them, please contact [admin.maryimmaculate@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:admin.maryimmaculate@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) and they will get back to you at their earliest convenience.



## Sneak peak into our learning for next week!

### Dosbarth Amroth

Next week, we will forward to practising for our school sports after half term. Please can your child wear their PE kit everyday next week.

### Dosbarth Little Haven

Next week, we will be concluding work on our story ‘Someone Swallowed Stanley’ by writing a diary entry in the first person.

### Dosbarth Newgale

Next week, we are going to be beginning our new RE topic ‘choices’. To start us off we will be exploring our food choices and how much sugar can be found in different popular drinks.

### Dosbarth Druidston

Next week, we are excited to be presenting our assembly to you! We have been working hard to prepare!

### Dosbarth Whitesands

Next week, we cannot wait to take part and watch our friends in Mary Immaculate Got Talent!

### Dosbarth Abereiddy

Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming Year 5 and 6 children from St Teilos for a football and rounders morning!

### Week beginning 20 May 2024

Dydd Llun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming for Y2 from Dosbarth Little Haven</li> <li>• <del>Clwb Cymraeg Y3-4 (only booked pupils)</del> – cancelled for this week</li> <li>• Outdoor Working Party meetings – 3.30pm, main hall. Childcare facilities will be available.</li> </ul>
Dydd Mawrth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Morris in to deliver music lessons</li> <li>• Girls cricket festival</li> <li>• Year 5 and 6 football festival with St Teilos</li> </ul>
Dydd Mercher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dosbarth Druidston class assembly</li> <li>• Swansea City Primary Stars PE sessions</li> <li>• Y3-6 Multi-sports (only booked pupils)</li> <li>• Y1 Nature Nurturers (only booked pupils)</li> <li>• Healthy Minds Club Y5-6 (only booked pupils)</li> </ul>
Dydd Iau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk to school day. Meet in Tesco at 8.20am</li> <li>• Mary Immaculate’s Got Talent!</li> <li>• Chatterbooks Club Y3-4 (only booked pupils)</li> <li>• Expressive Arts Club Y2 (only booked pupils)</li> <li>• Netball Y5-6 (only booked pupils)</li> </ul>
Dydd Gwener	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last day of this half term</li> </ul>

## Class attendance - Summer 2024

Each week, the class with the best attendance wins our attendance trophy!

Class	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Dosbarth Amroth	96.10%	89.40%	88.40%	90.90%	89.60%
Dosbarth Little Haven	96.10%	90.10%	86.50%	84.70%	84.50%
Dosbarth Newgale	92.90%	98.10%	95.60%	90.00%	91.40%
Dosbarth Druidston	97.20%	97.50%	96.10%	90.20%	94.60%
Dosbarth Whitesands	90.50%	94.90%	85.50%	91.90%	89.20%
Dosbarth Abereddy	92.00%	90.50%	95.10%	94.10%	90.30%

## Meaningful May 2024

MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY

1 Do something kind for someone you really care about

THURSDAY

2 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do

FRIDAY

3 Take a step towards an important goal, however small

SATURDAY

4 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together

SUNDAY

5 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why

6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful

7 Make a list of what matters most to you and why

8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today

9 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today

10 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times

11 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder

12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you

13 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture

14 Get outside and notice the beauty in nature

15 Do something to contribute to your local community

16 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better

17 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful

18 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about

19 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful

20 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable

21 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger

22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about

23 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of

24 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today

25 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why

26 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful

27 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others

28 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight

29 Today do something to care for the natural world

30 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost

31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



# Caught Moments

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

Eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

To receive a 'caught moment' at Mary Immaculate School is very special. This means you have been caught living out our virtues. Each week we will be taking time to celebrate how are children are living out our virtues – and rewarding them with a hot-chocolate treat!



Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future

<p>Miss Williams caught <b>Tianna Hounsome</b> being compassionate and loving towards others throughout the school week.</p>	<p>Mrs Kerrison caught <b>Olivia Reynolds</b> being compassionate and loving to her classmates.</p>
<p>Miss Edwards caught <b>George Clift</b> being eloquent and wise by sharing his ideas so well with others.</p>	<p>Mrs Sims caught <b>Evie Avery</b> being compassionate and loving towards the younger children at playtime.</p>
<p>Mrs Tweedie caught <b>Izabela Iorgulescu</b> being intentional and prophetic, in our class, leading by example and keeping our learning environment safe.</p>	<p>Mrs Joseph caught <b>Theo Williams</b> being eloquent when talking in front of the class.</p>

# Seren yr wythnos

*Well done to all our learners who have been chosen as our merit winners. What stars we have for this week and last week!*

## Dosbarth Amroth

**Freddie Forbes** for participating enthusiastically and for always giving 100% in his Bucket sessions. A role model for all. Da iawn, keep it up Freddie.

## Dosbarth Druidston

**Rhys Phillips** for being a good role model for our class, participating readily in all areas of learning, collaborating well with others and showing enthusiasm and patience during our assembly practices!

## Dosbarth Little Haven

**Jamie Lovell** for making a huge effort in all of his learning, especially writing his name and using his words clearly when talking. We are very proud of you Jamie!

## Dosbarth Whitesands

**Fearne Thomas** for always giving 100% in all areas of the curriculum. She produces work that she can be proud of and has produced a fantastic letter in response to Mr Lewis.

## Dosbarth Newgale

**Marnie Kerrison** for never failing to give her all, towards all areas of her learning. She always gives 100% and is a true role model to others.

## Dosbarth Abereiddy

**Eleanor Allbon** for being a delight to teach all year! Eleanor is kind, self-motivated, resilient, hard-working and a role-model for all. Da iawn Eleanor!



## Important School information – April 2024

### **Getting to know us**

You may be new to Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School, or perhaps have not yet met all our staff team. Over the coming days, we hope you'll get to know your child/ren's class teachers and support staff. Members of our staff team are out on the playground daily during drop-off and pick-up, so please do pop to chat with us should you require any assistance, information, or support. We have an open-door policy, meaning that we endeavour to always be available to speak with you to discuss any questions, queries, or concerns.

### **Ensuring we know you and your child**

It is vitally important that we hold the most up to date information on you and your child so that we can keep your child safe and contact you in the case of an emergency. It is important that we know how your child is getting home from school (including permission to walk home for learners in Y4, 5 and 6), so please make sure you have let your child's class teacher know via dojo if they are allowed to walk home unaccompanied. Please contact the school office if there are any changes to collection arrangements for your child or any other change to details that you have previously supplied us with.

### **Staying in touch**

Communication between home and school is vitally important to ensure your child can excel and thrive at school. You can contact your child's class teacher directly and receive school and class-based updates and information through the Class dojo app, which can be downloaded for free onto your smartphone (app store) or accessed through their website. Class dojo allows you to see the rewards your child receives in real time and offers other great features.

- **School and Class stories** will be used to publish news, events, and important notices - all of which can be translated via the app.
- There is also a **school calendar** which will send you notifications of up-coming events in school.
- Most importantly you will still be able to stay in direct contact with your child's class teacher via **Class dojo messaging**.

Please remember that teachers may not have the opportunity to check messages during the day, as they are teaching, and will not routinely check messages after 4pm. If your message is urgent, please call the school office. Mrs Evans, Mrs Priestley and I have access to class messaging, but do not monitor these inboxes, so please contact us through the school office in the usual way if you need to speak with us. Should you not receive a personal invitation, please use the following link to join.

<https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=school&schoolID=4f0e09053b7c029066dc955c>

Whole school correspondence and notifications will come through the 'parentmail' email system, so please share with us any changes to your email address, so that you do not miss important information.

### **Asymmetric Week**

The asymmetric week, implemented in September 2023 following a consultation, has been created for staff to focus on training to further drive standards and achievement forward. On a Friday, the school day finishes at 12.20pm. Learners can be collected at 12.20pm with a take-away style lunch – please contact Mrs Evans at the school office if you wish to collect your child at this time. All learners can remain in school to eat lunch on-site and should be collected between 12.50pm - 1.00pm, at their normal exit points, please. We do have a provision for learners on site after lunch if parents need this. Please contact the school office to book a space for your child in our Friday afternoon supervision, which finishes at 3pm. Spaces must be booked in advance.

### **School timings**

School session times are below. Please arrive promptly as doors and gates will close at the start of the school day.

Year groups	Monday-Tuesday AM		Fri PM	
	Gates Open	School Day	School Day (learners stay for lunch)	Pick-up
Amroth (Reception learners), and Little Haven	8.30am	8.50am-3.15pm	8.50am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Newgale, Druidston, Whitesands and Abereddy	8.30am	8.45am-3.20pm	8.45am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Amroth (Nursery AM)	8.30am	8.50am-11.50am	8.50am-11.50am	



Amroth (Nursery PM)	12.45pm-3.15pm (10h entitlement over 4 days)		
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### Healthy Schools

As part of the healthy school agenda, we encourage all pupils to eat a healthy snack of fruit/vegetables at breaktime (please, no nuts or nut-based products to protect vulnerable learners). All learners are encouraged to bring a bottle of water into school, which they can access throughout the day. As usual, please remember to label any items from home.

### Universal Free School Meals – Now free for all learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6!

All full-time learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6 will receive a free school meal each day, saving nearly £15 per week (per child), through the Universal Free School Meals policy of Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru’s Co-operation Agreement. Parents do not need to register or complete an application form. Pupils will order all school meals as usual during morning registration. Checking what is for lunch is easy! You can now ask Alexa what is on the Primary School menu with the [Pembrokeshire Council Alexa Skill](#), or you can access the menu for the year ahead using the following link: [Primary Schools Menu - Pembrokeshire County Council](#). We’ve included some answers to frequently asked questions at the bottom of this letter.

### Support for low-income families

Families on low incomes will not be affected by the introduction of universal free school meals. You will still be able to receive free school meals and other essentials, such as help with uniform, sports kit and stationery (PDG Access Grant). This grant not only entitles you to funding to support your child, but also enables the school to access funding to further support them whilst in Mary Immaculate.

If your child is starting school or your circumstances have changed and you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) to access other funding, such as for school essentials. If you are a pupil or parent that receives one of the following benefits, please contact Mrs Evans, at the school office, who can support you in applying:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA). Contribution Based Jobseekers Allowance (CBJSA) does not qualify
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits only, with an annual household Income of under £16,190 \*
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (IR)
- Universal Credit

Please note that if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credits in addition to any of these benefits you will not be eligible for free meals, even if your household income is below £16,190.

### School Uniform

We strongly encourage all learners to wear school uniform daily. We believe that this supports their readiness for learning and builds a sense of pride and belonging to our school.

<u>Autumn and Spring term Uniform</u>	<u>Summer Term Uniform</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navy jumper or Navy Cardigan</li> <li>• White shirt</li> <li>• School tie</li> <li>• Grey trousers</li> <li>• Navy pinafore, Navy Skirt or Navy Trousers</li> <li>• White socks or Navy tights</li> <li>• Black/Navy shoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White polo shirt</li> <li>• Grey trousers/shorts</li> <li>• Navy/white gingham dresses (no white collars please)</li> <li>• Navy skirt/trousers</li> <li>• Black/Navy shoes</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Education</b>	Navy shorts, white polo shirt and trainers.

**School ties and badges are sold through the school office.**

There is no need to purchase uniform with our school logo, and many local retailers sell affordable items without the school logo. Should you wish to purchase a badge or school tie, these are available from our school office at a cost of £4 each. As always, please make sure all items are clearly labelled.

### Attendance

Being in school every day is essential to ensure that learners make the most possible progress, develop friendships and make important memories. When your child walks into school every morning, you can be assured they will be supported personally, emotionally and academically. We’re here to provide them with the social and educational development opportunities to shape their futures and become the best versions of themselves. Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school daily and arrives promptly.

### Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available to all learners from 8am, offering food, drink. Doors close at 8.15am so that we can ensure that all learners attending have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place for your child to attend.

### **Extra-curricular clubs and dates for the term ahead**

Extra curricular clubs are booked termly.

If you have any questions or require any support, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We look forward to working with you to support our wonderful Mary Immaculate children!

Cofion cynnes,  
Mrs L Prevel, Acting Executive Headteacher

### **Universal free school meals FAQs**

#### **Will I need to fill in an application form to get Universal Primary Free School Meals for my child(ren)?**

Parents and carers will not need to fill in an application form. Children will be asked whether they would like to order a meal each day during morning registration.

#### **I am on a low income and my child(ren) currently receive Free School Meals (eFSM) anyway - how will the introduction of the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme affect me?**

Families on low incomes will **not** be affected by the introduction of Universal Primary Free School Meals. You'll still be able to receive free school meals and other school essentials, such as help with school uniform, sports kit, and stationery.

#### **I have a child or another child starting school in September. Will they automatically get free school meals?**

If your child is starting full time nursery, reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in September, they will **automatically** qualify for the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme. However, if you as a parent or guardian are in receipt of a qualifying benefit you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) in order to access other funding, such as School Essentials (PDG Access).

#### **Can schools cater for my child's special dietary requirements?**

Yes, all special dietary requirements can be catered for upon request. Please contact PCC's School Liaison Officer via email [elinor.phlip@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:elinor.phlip@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01437 776168 to discuss your child's special dietary needs.

#### **My child's cashless catering account is in credit. How do I get a refund?**

Please email [cashless.catering@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:cashless.catering@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) to request a refund or alternatively you can request that the credit be transferred to a sibling's account.