



## Friday/Dydd Gwener 3 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.

Bank Holiday: 6 May | May 10<sup>th</sup>: School photos | May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Druidston class assembly time 10:30 | May 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> Half term.

### Welsh Place Name Research

As part of understanding and developing our Welsh 'cynefin,' our Criw Cymraeg will be taking part in a 'GIF' making workshop next week, creating GIFs for place names in Pembrokeshire. We are inviting all of our learners to explore and research the different meanings behind the names of place names in Pembrokeshire and share their learning with others in our school community. It is their choice of how they would like to share their learning, it could be a picture, a poster, a written story, video recording etc. Pob lwc – we look forward to exploring your findings!

### Gif workshop

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, the Criw Cymraeg took part in a workshop, along with Neyland school. We had to choose a local landmark and create a GIF, using a website called 'Kleki.' We were really pleased with what we had made and look forward to sharing our creations with our school community. Diolch i Catrin Phillips for giving us the opportunity! (Isla J & Izabela – Dosbarth Whitesands)

### The John Burns Charity Reading Dog

As a school we are trying to re-introduce a reading dog, to support reading and pupil well-being. Unfortunately, there are no reading dogs currently available for our school. Mrs Tweedie has spoken to The John Burns charity, and they have asked whether there is anybody in the school community that would be interested in training with their dog, to become our school reading dog. Pembrokeshire training is due to start mid-May. If this is something you would be interested in, or you know of someone who would be interested, please contact Amber via email, at The John Burns charity [amber@johnburnsfoundation.org](mailto:amber@johnburnsfoundation.org)

### Netball

On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, the netballers from year 5 and 6 played in the finals of a girls' netball tournament. We walked over to Haverfordwest High at 11:15 and we played three matches. Some girls couldn't play due to numbers, but they came along to support the team and help them. The first game we played we won 2-1, the second game we won 5-1, and the final game was remarkably close, but we lost 0-1.

Mrs. Joseph and Miss Haggart came with us and gave us a treat for our efforts and for our teamwork, so we had a choice of Beachys or Greggs. We are so grateful to participate and we really enjoyed going.

Seren and Evie B

### Curriculum letters

Please click on the appropriate class link below to see the learning experiences that your child will be having this term.

[Dosbarth Amroth – Mrs Kerrison](#)

[Dosbarth Little Haven – Mrs Joseph](#)

[Dosbarth Newgale – Miss Edwards](#)

[Dosbarth Druidston – Mrs Sims](#)

[Dosbarth Whitesands – Miss Lewis/Mrs Tweedie](#)

[Dossbarth Abereiddy – Miss Williams](#)

### 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.

### Week beginning 6 May 2024





|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Dydd Llun    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BANK HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL</li> </ul>   |
| Dydd Mawrth  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Morris in to deliver music lessons</li> </ul>  |
| Dydd Mercher | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>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> <li>Abereiddy Marine biology field trip to Dale</li> <li>Year 4 Community Club event</li> </ul> |
| Dydd Gwener  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School photos</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 |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Dosbarth Amroth       | 96.10% | 89.40% | 88.40% |
| Dosbarth Little Haven | 96.10% | 90.10% | 86.50% |
| Dosbarth Newgale      | 92.90% | 98.10% | 95.60% |
| Dosbarth Druidston    | 97.20% | 97.50% | 96.10% |
| Dosbarth Whitesands   | 90.50% | 94.90% | 85.50% |
| Dosbarth Abereidly    | 92.00% | 90.50% | 95.10% |

**Meaningful May 2024**

| MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  | SUNDAY  |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
|   |  | 1 Do something kind for someone you really care about     | 2 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do               | 3 Take a step towards an important goal, however small        | 4 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together                           | 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 celebrate how are children are living out our virtues – rewarding them with a hot-chocolate treat!



Faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future

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

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Mrs Joseph caught <b>Emily Thomas</b> being generous with her time, and <b>compassionate</b> and <b>loving</b> in her actions by giving up her playtime to support a younger child.</p> | <p>Miss Williams caught <b>Alessandro Berettoni</b> being <b>attentive</b>, <b>wise</b> and <b>hopeful</b>, whilst taking a leading role when working collaboratively.</p> |
| <p>Mrs Kerrison caught <b>Henry Carruthers, Landon Bartlett, Hari Freeman, Tommy Sinclair</b> being <b>compassionate</b> to another learner in our class.</p>                              | <p>Mrs Sims caught <b>Roman Domin</b> being curious and attentive in preparing for our class assembly this week.</p>   |
| <p>Mrs Tweedie caught <b>Landon Aldridge</b> being intentional and prophetic in our classroom. He takes such pride in our learning environment, and leads by example.</p>                  |  |

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and prophetic in the example they set to others.

# 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

**Amelia Robbins** for her enthusiasm across her learning. Amelia enjoyed sharing her knowledge of minibeast with the class. Amelia has also settled in very well into our class.

## Dosbarth Druidston

**Isla Chalmers** for her positive attitude and enthusiasm towards all tasks and working well with her new classmates! Dal ati!!

## Dosbarth Little Haven

**Penny Bevans** for being kind and caring to a new pupil to our class. A lovely example to her peers on being considerate to others.  
Da iawn!

## Dosbarth Whitesands

**Sofia Sheible-Scimone** for being a fantastic role model in the class. She has an excellent attitude to her learning and takes great pride in her work. She is a supportive friend and an absolute joy to teach.

## Dosbarth Newgale

**Stefan Volocaru** for sharing his ideas during our Picture News assembly so confidently this week, remembering our Voice 21 strategies.

## Dosbarth Abereiddy

**Jonathan Lovell** for persevering and encouraging others during our learning this week, especially when exploring ratio and scale drawing. Da iawn!



# TAKEHOME



## In the news this week

A new study from the Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, using evidence found in northwestern Italy, has found that Neanderthals (an extinct relative of humans) organised their living areas in a similar way to people today. It was thought that Neanderthals' lives weren't as sophisticated as this or as similar to those of modern humans. The researchers looked at sites of both Neanderthals and Homo sapiens and compared how things like tools and animal bones were positioned in the living area. They found Neanderthals organised their items depending on the different tasks and activities they were doing.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your response to the new research findings about Neanderthals' lives.
- How is your home organised? Do you have different areas for different activities?
- Think about how organised or tidy people at your home or school are. Is everyone the same?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



© Picture News 2024

## Reflection



From the past, we can learn from mistakes, the consequences of actions and how they impacted the world. We can be inspired by positive outcomes and help change the course of the future.

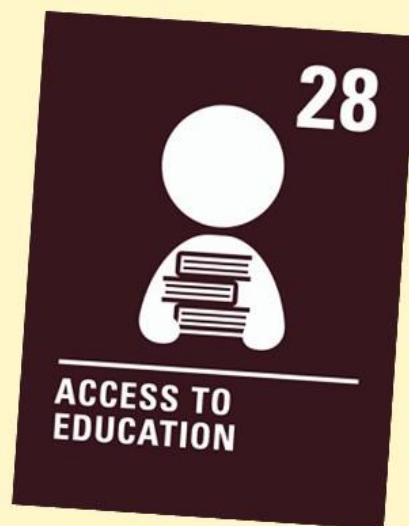




# UN Rights of a Child



We all have the right to an education that helps us to learn about the world around us and its rich history. Governments must ensure that education is available for every child.



© Picture News 2024



## 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 Abereiddy  | 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) |                |                                      |         |

### **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.

| <b>Autumn and Spring term Uniform</b>  | <b>Summer Term Uniform</b>  |
|--|---|
| <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 and supervision until the start of the school day. 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.