

Llanfair Primary School

October 2025 Newsletter



Dates for the Diary

Mon 29th September	Individual photographs
Wednesday 8th October	Yr Wyddfa (Mrs Shewell) Class assembly @ 9.15am
Friday 10th October	MacMillan Coffee Morning
W/C Monday 13th October	Parents meetings
Monday 27th Oct	HALF TERM
Tuesday 11th Nov	Remembrance service
Monday 10 th -14 th Nov	Anti bullying week
W/C 1st Dec	End of extra curricular clubs
Friday 5th Dec	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day (pupils can wear Christmas jumpers to school for the remainder of the term)
W/C 8th Dec	Christmas concerts
Wed 10th Dec	Human Rights day
Thurs 18th Dec	Christmas parties
Fri 19th Dec	End of Autumn term

* anything extra that has been added to the original dates for the diary which was sent at the start of term

SSCE CYMRU
SUPPORTING SERVICE CHILDREN
IN EDUCATION IN WALES
CEFNOGI PLANT MILWYR MEWN
ADDYSG YNG NGHYMRU

TYSTYSGRIF CYFLAWNIAD
CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

MAE HYN I DYSTIO FOD
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Llanfair Primary School

wedi llwyddo i cyflawni statws ARIAN Ysgolion sy'n Cefnogi'r
Lluoedd Arfog Cymru
have successfully achieved Armed Forces Friendly Schools Cymru
SILVER status

Dyfarwyd/Awarded: Awst/August 2025

MILLIE TAYLOR
Rheolwr Rhaglen SSCE Cymru
SSCE Cymru Programme Manager

We are delighted to share that the school has been awarded the Silver Supporting Service Children in Education Award. This prestigious recognition highlights our ongoing commitment to supporting service children and their families.

A special congratulations goes to Miss A. Jones for her enthusiasm and dedication in leading this work. Only a small number of schools have achieved the Silver Award and we are extremely proud that Llanfair is among them.



Parent consultations will take place the week commencing **Monday 13th October**. Further information will be provided including how to book in the next few weeks.

Car Park etiquette

We kindly ask that you follow these guidelines to ensure the safety of all our pupils and road users:

Morning:

- No cars should be left unattended in the drop-off zone.
- Please drive down to the furthest point of the drop-off zone so that cars can pull up behind.
- Only nursery parents should accompany pupils on the school premises.
- Please leave the drop-off zone as soon as your child is on the pedestrian path and it is safe to do so by indicating that you intend to move into the lane for moving traffic.
- At all times, follow the arrows which demarcate the one-way system.
- Please be respectful of all road users.

Afternoon:

- Reception to Year 2 parents, please vacate the school grounds immediately after collection unless waiting for siblings.
- **Years 3 to 6 parents must not arrive in the car park before 3:25pm. This has been raised by a number of parents and arriving earlier causes unnecessary congestion and safety concerns while younger pupils are leaving.**
- At all times, follow the arrows which demarcate the one-way system.
- If parking up the lane adjacent to the school, please do not block the road or private resident driveways.

We are very fortunate to have a car park and we must follow the rules set out for everyone's safety. Thank you for your help in this matter. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Mrs Shewell (Yr Wyddfa) Class assembly—08.10.23

Mrs Shewell and the pupils of Yr Wyddafa will be leading a class assembly on **Wednesday 8th October at 9.15am**. Parents/ guardians are welcome to join us for this assembly. Following the assembly, there will be a chance to stay and take part in some activities with your children in the classroom. We hope that you are able to join us for this event.

If attending, please arrive after 9am so that you can use the spaces in the drop off zone to park.

Parent questionnaire

I will be sending out a short questionnaire to parents next week via Google Forms to gauge your views on a range of school issues. Please take the time to fill in the questionnaire. I will report on the results in the next newsletter to keep you all informed.

If you submit a questionnaire, you will be automatically entered into a draw to win a prize. Last year nearly all parents responded which was fantastic. Let's see if this year, we can get all parents to respond.

Your responses really do help us to identify strengths and areas to focus on for the forthcoming year.

Update on Afternoon Breaks

Following feedback and discussions, we wanted to clarify the recent changes to our afternoon break routines.

After careful consideration, we found that the set afternoon break was not supporting our pupils' learning effectively—particularly for our younger learners in the Foundation Phase. These pupils have constant access to both indoor and outdoor environments as part of their daily learning. Interrupting their play-based or focused activities for a formal break was proving disruptive and not conducive to their development.

For our older pupils in years 3-6, the unstructured afternoon break was leading to frequent issues—ranging from minor injuries to friendship disputes—that extended beyond the intended 10 minutes, affecting valuable learning time. Teachers also had to stop lessons mid-flow, even when pupils were fully engaged.

Instead, we've introduced a more flexible and purposeful approach:

Foundation Phase: Children will continue learning through both structured and play-based activities, with free access to both indoor and outdoor spaces.

Years 3–6: Pupils will have a teacher-led 'brain break' at an appropriate time in the afternoon. This may include outdoor activities like a walk, games or exercise sessions. When indoors, activities may involve yoga, movement videos or short workouts.

While these breaks may look different, they still provide time to recharge and socialise—just in a more structured, supportive environment. This approach allows us to make the most of learning time while promoting health, well-being and an active lifestyle.

We appreciate your support and understanding as we continue to adapt and improve our provision.

Parent forum

Last year, I felt that the parent forum was a success and would like to continue to meet with representatives from each class every term to discuss provision within school, answer any questions that may have been raised through Whats App class groups and discuss upcoming ideas/ initiatives. The forum would meet once per term in the early evening to focus on provision within school and how this can be developed. The meetings would last approximately one hour.

The aims of the Parent Forum are:

- To share and discuss school policies and procedures.
- To gauge parents' opinions on the educational provision that the school provides.
- To gather parents' ideas on how the school could continue to develop in the future.
- To further enhance the ways in which parents can support their children's learning.



We would very much like representation from each of the year groups throughout school. If you would like to be involved in the Parent Forum, please indicate through return of email by **Friday 24th October 2025**. We will arrange a meeting for after the half term period.

Healthy snacks in primary schools

There is a legal duty for local authorities and schools to **promote healthy eating in schools**. The Welsh Government and Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes recommend a whole-school approach.

Food brought into school for personal consumption can be subject to restrictions at the discretion of the local authority or governing body of a school. Almost all primary schools in Wales specify **only fruit and vegetables for snack during break times**.

Schools should create an environment and culture where it is **normal and easy for children to eat healthily**. School staff, along with parents/carers, are vitally important in the development of healthy eating habits for life, through **consistent messages and role modelling**.

Fruit and vegetables should be the only snack at break times in primary schools because:

- they are a good source of **fibre, vitamins and minerals**;
- they are naturally low in calories, helping to **maintain a healthy weight**;
- eating a variety of fruit and vegetables can help to **prevent a range of health issues** such as bowel problems, cardiovascular disease and some cancers; and,
- consumption of fruit and vegetables is below recommended levels, of at least **5 portions per day**.

Some primary schools also specify that fruit and vegetables at break time must be fresh.

September 2021



At Llanfair Primary School, we are committed to promoting a healthy balanced lifestyle and we believe it is vital to teach our pupils about the significance of eating healthily.

As outlined by the Welsh Government above, it is essential that **healthy snacks**, specifically fruit and vegetables, are the only items consumed during break times.

To support our commitment to healthy eating, I kindly request your cooperation in ensuring that your child brings only **healthy snacks** to school.

Together, we can instill positive habits that will benefit our children in the long run.

Llanfair



School Improvement Plan

2025-2026

1

Raising Standards in Mathematics

- We will use the Concrete–Pictorial–Abstract (CPA) approach so children build a strong understanding of maths through hands-on resources, pictures and then numbers.
- Maths will be linked to real-life situations, outdoor learning, and other subjects.
- Parents will be offered a workshop to help support maths learning at home.

2

Improving Teaching and Learning (Pedagogy & Reading)

- Teachers will make lessons more active, with children involved in learning within the first few minutes.
- We'll move away from "hands up" and use strategies that get every child thinking and contributing.
- Reading will continue to be a big focus, with extra work on higher order skills such as inference and analysis (not just decoding).
- Staff will share good practice and continue training to make learning engaging and challenging for all.

3

Embedding Cynefin, Identity & Diversity

- Cynefin means a sense of place and belonging. We want children to explore their identity and heritage, while also learning about other cultures and perspectives.
- Lessons and projects will celebrate diversity, fairness and inclusion, helping children feel proud of themselves and respectful of others.

Stronger links will be made with our community, local organisations, and cultural groups.

4

Strengthening Self-Evaluation & Monitoring

- Teachers and leaders will continue to review teaching and learning regularly, making sure high standards are maintained.
- A new digital platform will be used to collect evidence and share good practice.
- Governors will take a more active role in first-hand monitoring of school life.

Enjoy, Learn, Achieve – Mwynhau, Dysgu, Llwyddiant

MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT
COLLI'R YSGOL COLLI ALLAN

We need you to.....

Send your child to school on time every day.

Do not book holidays in term time.

Keep school informed of your contact details.

If your child cannot attend school, parents **MUST** contact the school on the morning of the absence

Did you know.....

- Your child's school expect them to attend everyday.
- That an attendance of 90% is 127 hours of lost learning.
- Attendance below 90% could result in a referral to the inclusion service, a fixed penalty notice or an Education Supervision Order.

Vale Of Glamorgan Inclusion Service Newsletter

We understand that sometimes getting your children up and out on time every morning can be difficult, particularly if your child doesn't want to go to school for some reason.

We know that children who miss even small amounts of education can fall behind quickly and can miss out on so much. Being in school, on time, increases learning and social

Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN)

An FPN can be issued for 10 unauthorised sessions per term. This is the equivalent to 5 school days.

Schools can now request an FPN for holidays taken during term time

Take an interest in your child's education, ask them what they did in school, celebrate their successes and listen to their worries.

If you can't help them, speak to the school and let them know of any difficulties.

If your child is absent get in touch with school. Staff will work with you to help improve the situation. It's better to contact school first so that staff can make sure steps are taken to help you.

Please scan the QR code for further information



Unauthorised absences.

Unauthorised absences are codes..

There are **175 days** non school days in a year. Please try and book medical appointments in those days or outside of school hours

Please ensure your child arrives on time to start school!

Nut and sesame seed allergy

A reminder to parents that we have a child in the school who has a severe nut and seed allergy. It is important that there is strict avoidance to this food in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. We are asking for your help to provide the pupils with a safe school environment. To reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you do not send any peanut or nut based products to school with your child or any **nuts** and **seeded bread**.

If your child has eaten peanuts/nuts before coming to school, please be sure your child's hands and face have been thoroughly washed before entering the school.



Harvest support

This year the school will be supporting the Vale of Glamorgan Food bank. This year we are hoping to be a **Champion School** once again by only donating certain food items that are in short supply.

If you are in a position where you are able to support the Foodbank please consider donating some of these items:

- Corned Beef
- Tinned soup
- UHT milk



We are accepting donations straight away and the school will be taking the items collected to the foodbank on Friday 24th October. Therefore, all donations need to be received before Friday 24th October.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

The staff and I would like to thank you for your continued support during this very busy period at the start of the academic year and as always if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Mr R Jones and Mrs J Shewell