# Ysgol Gynradd Gwyrosydd Primary School

*Working together to unlock our potential*

# Gwyrosydd News

**NOVEMBER 2026**

## Headteacher's Welcome

Annwyl Parents & Carers,

## Welcome to November

Thank you for your support during our Harvest celebrations. It was wonderful to come together at St Alban's Church and celebrate as a school community.

There is plenty in store over the next few weeks as we look ahead to Christmas. You'll find the key dates inside — we look forward to sharing a busy and exciting few weeks with you.

We're also pleased to share our new school priorities, setting out the next steps as we continue to grow and be the best we can be. Please take a few minutes to complete our online parent questionnaire. Your views help us understand what is working well and where we can improve.

We have already made so much progress, and I look forward to seeing Gwyrosydd go from strength to strength over the coming months. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes,

**Mrs Edwards**
**Headteacher**

## Our CALON Values

- **C** – Community
- **A** – Aspiration
- **L** – Loyalty
- **O** – Ownership
- **N** – Never Give Up



## We remember

A time for reflection, kindness and peace.

# Curriculum Corner

**Practical skills. Big discoveries.**



YEAR 6

## Skills for the future

Our Year 6 pupils have been busy in the workshop creating wooden toy cars! They showed fantastic carpentry skills, using a variety of tools and exploring practical, vocational skills that could inspire a future career.



YEAR 4

## Time to become the clock!

To understand the clock, Year 4 became the clock! In two teams, children used their bodies as the hands to show different times. The first team to make the correct time scored a point. A lively way to learn — with plenty of competitive spirit!



YEAR 2/3

## Cymraeg at Caffi Calon

Year 2/3 enjoyed putting their Welsh to the test in Caffi Calon, using their language skills in a real-life setting. Da iawn!



NURSERY

## Autumn detectives

Nursery have been out on autumn walks, finding conkers and exploring the changing colours around them. So much to notice, discover and talk about!

# Curriculum Corner

## Explore. Create. Celebrate.



### CWTSH CALON

## Harvest discoveries

A fantastic Harvest week in Cwtsh Calon! We explored animals, fruits and vegetables, made handprint corn on the cobs and enjoyed splatting and digging for corn during Attention Autism. The Regulation Station brought more sensory fun with the swing, spinners and ball pit. A week full of exploring, creating and smiles!



### RECEPTION / YEAR 1

## Sounds, numbers & outdoor learning

We have been working hard on the sounds b, h, f and ff, and comparing numbers using more and less than. Outdoor maths and sensory circuits have kept us busy and active!



### STF FORD

## Learning out and about

STF Ford enjoyed a trip to Tesco to pick up fruit and cooking ingredients — a great opportunity for learning beyond the classroom.



### STF KITCHIN

## Sparkling discoveries

We have been sorting objects by temperature, exploring hot and cold, playing a firework phonics game and geting creative with salt firework crafts.

### CRIW CYMRAEG

## Celebrating our Welsh pride!

We were blown away by your fantastic posters, bursting with Welsh pride! We hope you enjoyed your delicious Welsh cakes. A huge thank you to our wonderful Criw Cymraeg and Mrs Owen for organising the event and helping us celebrate our Welsh language and culture. Da iawn, bawb!



# Gwyrosydd – Our Year in Review

Working together to unlock our potential

## What we celebrate at Gwyrosydd

- **Our CALON Values**
  Community, Aspiration, Loyalty, Ownership, Never give up – at the heart of all we do.
- **Inclusive and Nurturing Classrooms**
  Calm, supportive environments where everyone feels safe, valued and ready to learn.
- **Our Pods Working as Teams**
  Collaborative teams delivering tailored support.
- **A Personalised Curriculum**
  Learning that reflects individual needs, interests and aspirations.
- **Four Purposeful Pupil Voice Groups**
  Empowering pupils to express their views and help shape school life.
- **Growing Independence**
  Building confidence and life skills for the future.
- **Wellbeing, Belonging and Inclusion**
  Supporting every individual to feel safe and thrive.
- **Strong Partnerships**
  Working closely with families and our community.
- **Celebrating Progress**
  Recognising every achievement, big or small.

## What we've achieved in the last year at Gwyrosydd

We are proud of the progress we have made, including:

- Continued embedding our CALON values across our school community.
- Developing our curriculum with a focus on high-quality, engaging learning for all.
- Enhancing our pedagogical approaches, including focused group teaching and enhanced learning experiences using authentic hooks to challenge all learners.
- Developing the 3 Enablers: enabling adults to challenge learners effectively, creating engaging and safe learning environments, and embedding experiences rooted in Cynefin (belonging) to inspire engagement.
- Strengthening pupil voice through four purposeful groups.
- Promoting greater independence in learning and daily life.
- Building strong relationships with families and our community.
- Providing enriching experiences beyond the classroom.
- Continuing to prioritise wellbeing, safeguarding and inclusion.

**We are proud of what we have achieved together!**

## What we need to improve

We are always looking for ways to make Gwyrosydd even better. Our key priorities are:

- **Making Sure Everyone Has a Voice**
  Continue to give pupils, parents and staff a meaningful say in our school improvement.
- **Strengthening Monitoring and Assessment**
  Improve tracking and celebrate progress, including attendance, to identify needs early.
- **Developing Leadership and Teaching Excellence**
  Grow leadership at all levels and share outstanding practice.
- **Raising Aspirations and Strengthening Learning**
  Ensure high challenge in reading, mathematics and across the curriculum.
- **Creating Environments That Inspire**
  Develop engaging, language-rich spaces for independence and curiosity.
- **Supporting Every Pupil to Thrive**
  Respond to evolving needs, develop inclusive practice and empower pupil voice.
- **Preparing Pupils for Life**
  Further develop RSE, strengthen attendance and build skills for the future.

Community · Aspiration · Loyalty · Ownership · Never give up

**Gwyrosydd...**

*A school where everyone belongs*

# Gwyrosydd

Working together to unlock our potential

## Our CALON Values

Community · Aspiration · Loyalty · Ownership · Never give up

## This year 2026 – 2027 we aim to:

### 1 Vision & Leadership

Embed **distributive leadership** so that leaders at all levels take ownership of improvement and secure high-quality outcomes and progress for every pupil.

### 2 Strengthen Reading for Understanding

Ensure every pupil can read confidently, understand what they read and make strong progress across the curriculum.

### 3 Embed High-Quality Learning for All

Create consistent, engaging and **challenging** learning experiences – indoors and outdoors – that support independence, wellbeing and progress.

**Together, we will continue to make a difference at Gwyrosydd**

# Priorities for Pupils

Our Voice. Our Learning. Our Future.

**Together, we make our school amazing!**

Gwyrosydd Primary

CALON Values

## 1 Our Voice, Our School – We Make a Difference!

We want every pupil to have a **voice** and feel that they are listened to. Through our pupil voice groups, we will share ideas, make decisions and work **together** to make our school even better.

We will embrace change, take on responsiblities and understand that we can all make a **difference**.

## 2 Reading for Life – Discover, Explore and Enjoy!

We want everyone to develop a **love of reading!** We will explore exciting books, discover new authors, share stories and develop our reading skills.

We will become **confident** readers who can understand, discuss and use what we read to help us learn.

## 3 Learn, Explore, Challenge – Be the Best You Can Be!

We want to become **confident, independent** learners who love to explore, investigate and take on **challenges.**

Through outdoor learning, missions and play-based experiences, we will develop new skills, work together and learn through discovery.

We will set ourselves targets, reflect on our learning, celebrate our **achievements** and always challenge ourselves to be the best we can be.

## Our CALON Values

- **C – Community**: We belong, we support, we care.
- **A – Aspiration**: We dream big, we aim high.
- **L – Loyalty**: We are proud, we stick together.
- **O – Ownership**: We take responsibility, we do our best.
- **N – Never Give Up**: We keep going, we persevere.

**Working together to unlock our potential**

**Gweithio gyda'n gilydd i ddatgloi ein potensial**

## Our Plan for Improvement

Our priorities will be brought to life through active pupil involvement. Children will help to shape and drive the work in school by:

- ✓ sharing ideas and feedback through pupil voice groups and surveys
- ✓ taking on leadership roles and responsibilities
- ✓ leading and supporting reading initiatives
- ✓ helping to plan and take part in outdoor learning, missions and play-based experiences
- ✓ setting personal targets, reflecting on progress and celebrating successes
- ✓ working together to make a positive difference for all.

We will implement a focused **School Development Plan (SDP)** to drive our priorities and improve outcomes for all pupils.

Progress will be evaluated through robust **self-evaluation,** with a half-termly review involving a range of stakeholders.

*A full copy of the School Improvement Plan can be accessed upon request through the school office.*




# GWYROSYDD PRIMARY Parents' Evening Week

**Week commencing**
**16 November 2026**

## *Working together for your child's future*

We look forward to welcoming you to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements and talk about their next steps.

## Your voice matters

Please take a few moments to complete our parent/carer questionnaire. Your feedback helps us understand what is working well and where we can improve.

We truly appreciate your time, trust and continued support. By sharing your views and working together, we can make our school even stronger and help every child thrive.

**Complete our parent/carer questionnaire**

https://forms.gle/xbFn57xfcfVrF9Ts6

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Thank you for being part of our school community.

***Working together to unlock our potential***

# GWYROSYDD PRIMARY

## Attendance Matters

*Every day to learn, grow and belong*



**Current attendance**

**87.7%**

**Our whole-school target**

**At least 91%**

***Regular attendance helps children build friendships, grow in confidence and make progress.***

## Why attendance matters

**365 days in a calendar year**

175 non-term days for holidays and appointments where possible.

| 0 days absence | 10 days absence | 19 days absence | 29 days absence | 38 days absence | 47 days absence |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 190 days in school | 180 days in school | 171 days in school | 161 days in school | 152 days in school | 143 days in school |
| 100% attendance | 95% attendance | 90% attendance | 85% attendance | 80% attendance | 75% attendance |

*Based on a 190-day school year; figures are approximate.*

## Every minute counts

| 5 minutes late per day | 10 minutes late per day | 15 minutes late per day | 20 minutes late per day | 25 minutes late per day |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 school days lost per year | 6.5 school days lost per year | 10 school days lost per year | 13 school days lost per year | 19 school days lost per year |

*Approximate learning time lost over a school year.*

- Arrive on time and stay for the full school day.
- Book appointments outside school hours where possible.
- Let school know promptly if your child is absent.

## We're here to help

If attendance or mornings are difficult, please speak to us. Together, we can find practical support.

**Working together to unlock our potential**

# SAFEGUARDING & SITE SAFETY

*Together we keep our school safe*



## Thank you for your continued support

We are really pleased with the progress made since last month's update. Thank you to our families for supporting the new gates, railings and site safety arrangements. Your co-operation is helping to keep our school a safe, welcoming place for children, families and staff.

## Vehicle access

- Vehicle movement on site must be **specifically risk assessed.**
- Vehicle gates remain **closed between 8:30am and 9am.**
- **STF taxis only:** access between **9am and 9:30am**, then **2:30pm and 2:50pm.**
- No moving traffic between **2:50pm and 3:15pm.** Authorised access **resumes after 3:15pm, once all pedestrians have left.**

## Pedestrian access

- Pedestrian gates close at **8:55am** and reopen at **approximately 2:55pm.**
- Please **fully close** the pedestrian gate **behind you.** Do not leave it on the latch.

## Reception & visitors

**Our reception team is always happy to help.**

- Please do not wait in reception unless signing in as a visitor or attending a planned event or meeting.
- For pre-arranged early collections, use the intercom and wait outside the reception doors. A member of staff will bring your child to you.
- Please do not ask others to open the reception door for you.
- Contact the office by telephone, Dojo or email.

## Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.

**Community** | **Aspiration** | **Loyalty** | **Ownership** | **Never Give Up**

***Working together to unlock our potential***
***Gweithio gyda'n gilydd i ddatgloi ein potensial***

# GWYROSYDD CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Celebrating our **CALON** values

- **C** – Community
- **A** – Aspiration
- **L** – Loyalty
- **O** – Ownership
- **N** – Never Give Up

## Wednesday 9th December
**Y5/6**
1:30pm & 5pm
**Christmas Through The Ages**

## Thursday 10th December
**Rec/Y1**
9:30am & 4:30pm
**Whoops a Daisy Angel**

## Monday 14th December
**Y4**
9:30am & 5pm
**Gwyrosydd's Got Christmas Talent**

## Tuesday 15th December
**Y2/3**
1:30pm & 5pm
**The Christmas Carol Sing a long**

TICKETS

Tickets will be available on

**iPay**

**week beginning 16th November**

Max x3 tickets per family

Surplus tickets will be available from **30th November**

Get your tickets before they are gone!

# DATES FOR THE DIARY
## 2026–2027

### SCHOOL EVENTS & CHRISTMAS

| | |
|---|---|
| W/B 16 November 2026 | **Parent–Teacher Meetings**<br>Bookings now live. |
| 10 December 2026 | **Year 4 Christingle • Caffi Calon**<br>Y4S: 9:30–10:30am<br>Y4M: 10:45–11:45am<br>Invites and further details to follow. |
| 16 December 2026 • 6–7pm | **St Albans Carol Service**<br>Choir singing and readings. |
| 21 December 2026 | **Christmas holidays begin**<br>All pupils return to school on 4 January 2027. |

### CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Wednesday 9 December 2026 • Y5/6 | 1:30pm & 5pm • *Christmas Through the Ages* |
| Thursday 10 December 2026 • Rec/Y1 | 9:30am & 4:30pm • *Whoops a Daisy Angel* |
| Monday 14 December 2026 • Y4 | 9:30am & 5pm • *Gwyrosydd's Got Christmas Talent* |
| Tuesday 15 December 2026 • Y2/3 | 1:30pm & 5pm • *The Christmas Carol Sing Along* |

*Tickets on iPay from W/B 16 November • Maximum 3 per family*
*Surplus tickets available from 30 November.*

### SWANSEA TERM DATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Autumn 2026 | 1 September–18 December<br>Half term: 26–30 October 2026 |
| Spring 2027 | 4 January–19 March<br>Half term: 8–12 February 2027 |
| Summer 2027 | 5 April–20 July<br>Half term: 31 May–4 June 2027 |

*School INSET days are listed separately.*

### SCHOOL INSET DAYS

- 1 September 2026 • 11 September 2026
- 8 December 2026
  School **OPEN** to mainstream pupils.
  STF **CLOSED** for staff training.
- 4 May 2027 — Whole-school INSET
  *School closed to all pupils.*
- 19 July 2027 • 20 July 2027
- One additional staff training day — date to be confirmed.

***Learning together to unlock our potential***
***Dysgu gyda'n gilydd i ddatgloi ein potensial***

### CALON VALUES

**C • Community** **A • Aspiration** **L • Loyalty**
**O • Ownership** **N • Never Give Up**

As we look forward to the busy weeks ahead, I would like to thank all our families for your continued encouragement and support. The partnership between home and school makes such a positive difference to our children, and we are grateful for everything you do.

With Christmas concerts, celebrations and opportunities to come together just around the corner, there is plenty to look forward to. We look forward to sharing these special moments with you and seeing our children learn, grow and shine.

Together, we bring our CALON values to life — learning together to unlock our potential.

Diolch yn Fawr

Mrs Edwards