Ysgol Gynradd **Gwyrosydd** Primary School

Working together to unlock our potential

Gwyrosydd News

September 2026

Annwyl Parents & Carers,

What a Successful Start to the New School Year!

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school and see our classrooms and corridors filled with smiles, laughter and enthusiasm for the year ahead. I have been delighted to see how well the children have settled into their new classes and embraced their learning. Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support in helping us make such a positive start to the year.

It was also wonderful to welcome so many of you to our Meet the Teacher evenings at the beginning of term. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to explore the children's learning environments and see the care and thought our staff put into creating welcoming, inspiring spaces. Strong partnerships between home and school are so important, and I look forward to sharing our successes with you throughout the year.

Our values are more than words – They are the heart of our school.

Community – We care for each other, include everyone and show empathy whilst we work together to make our school a happy and safe place.

Aspiration – We believe in ourselves, aim high and work hard to achieve our goals

Loyalty – We are loyal to our values. We are honest, kind, respectful and always do what is right.

Ownership – We take responsibility for our actions, our learning and our choices. We are proud of our work and try to improve everyday.

Never Give Up – We are resilient; we keep trying, even when things are hard. We learn from mistakes and always aim to be the best that we can be.

Our Values

Our school values continue to be at the heart of everything we do, guiding the way we learn, treat others and contribute to our community.

Every day, I see our children shining their *Calon* in so many different ways, whether through kindness, respect, perseverance or helping others.

These values are not just for the classroom; they are tools our children can carry with them wherever they go, at school, at home and out in the wider community. It is wonderful to see them putting these values into practice in their everyday lives and making a positive difference to those around them.

I am incredibly proud of the way our children demonstrate their Calon and show what it truly means to be part of our school community.

Curriculum Corner

It's been a busy and exciting start to the year, full of fun, learning, and memorable experiences for everyone!

Pod Berlau Mân (Nursery/Reception/Year 1) Over the past few weeks, the children in Pod Perlau Mân have been busy exploring our exciting *Shimmer and Glow* topic! They have investigated shiny and reflective objects, discovered the difference between things that shimmer and things that glow, and created beautiful, colourful collages using different materials. They have also enjoyed exploring movement with colourful ribbons in PE. Alongside this, the children have been developing their early phonics, reading, writing and number skills through fun, practical activities. Our story *When the Cookie Crumbled* has encouraged lovely discussions about celebrating our differences and recognising how special we all are. It has been wonderful to see the children's curiosity, creativity and confidence shine through their learning!





Pod Lili Dlos (Year 2/3) Year 2/3 have had a busy few weeks! They have been developing their collaboration skills, sharing opinions, redesigning menus and becoming confident Welsh speakers during Slot Drilio. Outdoors, they have enjoyed hunting for minibeasts and building their very own hedgehog haven! Our landscape gardeners have also been transforming the Secret Garden path using crushed cockle shells kindly donated by Selwyns Seafoods. Along the way, we have been celebrating perseverance, teamwork and independence. Da iawn, pawb!

Pod Calon Hapus (STF) The children have enjoyed exploring our school grounds and going on autumn walks to collect natural treasures, including a visit to our Secret Garden! They have been developing their maths skills by counting from larger amounts, matching quantities to numbers, subtracting and finding numbers out of order. In STF Ford, the children have also been busy identifying animal sounds, colour sorting, completing animal jigsaws and developing their digital skills by creating animal scenes on JIT. Lots of hands-on learning and autumn adventures!



We can't wait to see what the rest of the term brings!

Curriculum Corner

Learning, Growing and Shining Continues in Pod Aur Y Byd and Pod Llawn Daioni!

Pod Aur Y Byd (Year 4)

Pod Aur Y Byd have been immersed in all things Victorian! They travelled back in time during their visit to St Fagans, where they experienced an 1880s Victorian school lesson. Their behaviour was fantastic as they experienced the strict rules and unusual punishments of a Victorian classroom – including finding out what happened if you didn't sit up straight or listen carefully!

The children have also been busy with their autumn growing project and are thrilled to see their radishes flourishing, while their cauliflower, pak choi, basil and garlic chives have begun to germinate. 🌱 It's wonderful to see their patience and care rewarded and to discover that growing our own food can happen throughout the year!





Pod Llawn Daioni (Year 5/6)

Year 5/6 have been fully immersed in our Tudor topic and have been enjoying exploring all things Tudor! They have been developing their creativity and patience by carefully embroidering their own Tudor roses, while also using their communication and digital skills to create and record their very own podcasts. It has been fantastic to see the children working together, sharing ideas and taking pride in their finished work.

Their maths challenge work has been exceptional. The children have shown real determination and perseverance, regularly challenging themselves and looking for ways to take their learning even further. It has been wonderful to see so many pupils going above and beyond and demonstrating such a positive attitude towards their learning.

Our Year 6 pupils also had an exciting opportunity to experience their transition day at Bishop Vaughan. They enjoyed getting a taste of life at secondary school and beginning to build their confidence for the next stage of their journey. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work and the enthusiasm they continue to show!









Reminder to apply for school places Nursery & Y6 pupils

A reminder to all Nursery and Year 6 parents: it's time to apply for your child's next school place. Parents of Nursery children must apply for a place in Reception, and Year 6 pupils must apply for a place in their school of choice for Year 7. Applications are made via the Swansea Council online portal, which is now open. Please make sure you submit your application by the closing date:

- **Year 7 (Secondary School):** Applications close on **Saturday, 31 October 2026**.
- **Reception (Primary School):** Applications close on **Friday, 15 January 2027**

Harvest Celebrations 2026





We are delighted to invite our parents/carers to join us for our **Harvest services**:

.

Tuesday 20 October
Y2 & Y3 – Harvest Service at St Albans, **2:00pm**
Wednesday 21 October
Y4 – Harvest Service at St Albans, **10:00am**
Thursday 22 October
Y5 & Y6 – Harvest Service at St Albans, **10:00am**
Friday 23 October
STF **Nursery, Reception & Y1** – Harvest Festival/celebration activities in school

The children will be singing songs and taking part in class items, and it's wonderful to be able to work together with our community. A big thank you to our local church – St Albans for hosting these celebrations.

This year, we will be collecting donations for the **Penlan Food Bank** – thank you for helping us support local families in need.

Working Together to Unlock Our Potential

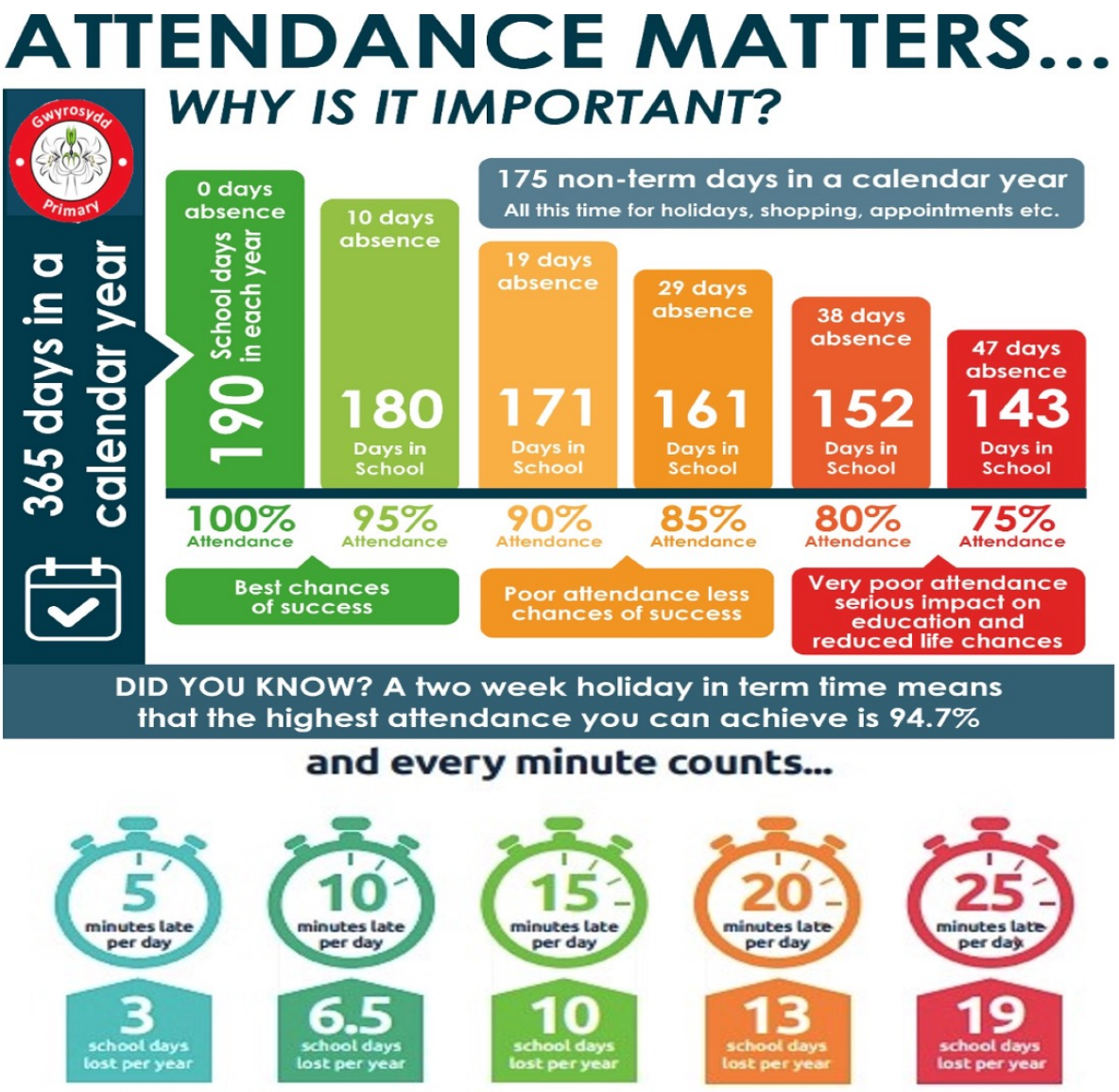
Attendance Matters

We know that **every minute of every school day counts**. Our current attendance is **87.4%** and we know we need to see a significant improvement. **we are aiming for a whole school target of at least 91%**

Regular attendance gives children the best possible opportunity to learn, build friendships and make progress.

We would also like to remind families of the importance of arriving **on time and staying in school for the full day**. We are seeing too many children arriving late or being collected early, which means they are missing valuable learning and interrupting the learning of others. Unless there is an essential reason, please avoid early collections and aim to arrive at school promptly each morning.

It can be surprising how quickly missed minutes add up!



Thank you for your support in helping us improve attendance and ensure that every child is in school, ready to learn and making the most of every opportunity.

Together We Keep Our School Safe & Shining!

We love welcoming our families into school and value the strong sense of community we share. Throughout the year, we organise events, celebrations and opportunities for families to come together and be part of school life. Our safety procedures are not about keeping families out, but about ensuring that our school remains a safe and secure environment for our children, families and staff. We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in helping us achieve this.

Safeguarding & Site Safety

Our new gates and railings are a fantastic addition to the school site and help us to strengthen security and keep everyone safe. We would like to thank families for supporting these arrangements and ask that everyone follows the site safety procedures carefully.

Vehicle access

- **No vehicle movement or traffic on site unless specifically risk assessed.**
- The vehicle gates will remain **closed between 8:30am and 9am**.
- **STF taxis only** can access the site between **9am and 9:30am** then **2:30pm and 2:50pm.**
- No moving traffic allowed onsite between **2:50 and 3:15pm**. Authorised vehicle access will **resume after 3:15pm, once all pedestrians have left the site**.
- If you require vehicle access in exceptional circumstances, please plan ahead, as a risk assessment must be in place before access can be permitted.

Pedestrian access

- Pedestrian gates will close at **8:55am** and reopen **approximately 2:55pm** to ensure the site remains safe for everyone.
- Please ensure the new pedestrian gate is **fully closed behind you**. Do not leave it on the latch, as this compromises the security of the site.

Reception & Visitor Arrangements

Our reception team are always happy to help and support families. To help us keep everyone safe, we kindly ask parents and carers to follow these arrangements:

- Parents and carers who are not signing in as visitors or attending a planned event/meeting are asked not to wait in the reception/foyer area.
- For pre-planned early collections, please use the intercom. A member of staff will admit you through the gate and bring your child to you. **Please wait outside the reception doors**.
- Please do not ask others to open the reception door for you. This helps us maintain a safe and secure school site.
- Messages for school can be sent directly to the office via telephone, Dojo or email.



Working together to unlock our potential

Gweithio gyda'n gilydd i ddatgloi ein potensial

Dates for the Diary

School term and holiday dates 2026 / 2027

Term	Term begins	Mid-term holiday begins	Mid-term holiday ends	Terms ends
Autumn 2026	Tuesday 1 September 2026	Monday 26 October 2026	Friday 30 October 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
Spring 2027	Monday 4 January 2027	Monday 8 February 2027	Friday 12 February 2027	Friday 19 March 2027
Summer 2027	Monday 5 April 2027	Monday 31 May 2027	Friday 04 June 2027	Tuesday 20 July 2027

Dates for the Diary

SUMMER HOLIDAYS	
5/10/26	Fizz Photography Siblings & Individuals
7/10/26	Theatre NaNOg Y5/6
12/10/26	Y5 Residential Borfa
14/10/26	Y6 Residential Llangrannog
20/10/26	Harvest Service at St Albans Y2&Y3 2pm
21/10/26	Harvest Service at St Albans Y4 10am
22/10/26	Harvest Service at St Albans Y5/6 10am
23/10/26	Harvest Festival Nursery/Reception/Y1 (In School)
21/10/26	PTA Autumn Disco quieter disco 3-3:30pm Nursery to Y3 3:30 – 4:15 Y4 –Y6 4:30 - 5:30
HALF TERM HOLIDAYS 26/10/26 – 30/10/26	
W/B 18/11/26	Parent Teacher Interviews – Further detail and booking arrangements will be out soon.
10/12/26	Christingle event Caffi Calon further details to follow
16/12/26	St Albans Carol Service 6-7pm (Choir to sing and Readings)
	Dates for Christmas Concerts to follow

INSET DAYS
1/09/26
11/9/26
8/12/26 **(STF ONLY)**
X4 more days TBC

As we continue through the term, I would like to thank all our families for the encouragement and support you give to our school. It is wonderful to see the strong partnership between home and school and the positive difference this makes to our children.

There is so much to look forward to over the coming weeks, and I am excited to see our children continue to learn, grow and shine in all that they do.

Best wishes,
Mrs A. Edwards
Headteacher

