



Ysgol Heol Y Mynydd

Mountain Lane Primary School

Cylchlythyr – Newsletter – 18.09.25



'Inspiring and inclusive learning experiences are at the heart of our safe, happy, caring school'

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share that Miss Turley and her partner welcomed baby Poppy into the world on Sunday 13th September, both Mum and Poppy are doing well and we hope to see them soon. Congratulations – Llongyfarchiadau to you both. Here is baby Poppy looking very comfortable in her car seat on her first journey home!



During Monday's Whole School Assembly, we learned about the life and work of Betty Campbell. Pupils found out that Betty, who became the first black female Headteacher in Wales, had always wanted to be a teacher. She was told however, that due to the colour of her skin and because she was a woman, that this would never happen. The story told us that despite these obstacles, she worked hard, had a growth mindset and fulfilled her dream of becoming a teacher, eventually becoming a Headteacher in a school in Cardiff. Pupils also learned that there is a statue to commemorate her life and work in Cardiff City Centre #Grit, #Community.

During the assembly we also introduced our new pattern of the fortnight (Patrwm y Pythefnos) which is as follows:

Hwyl Fawr

Goodbye (literal translation: Big Fun)

Wela i di... / Wela i chi

See you...

...yfory

...tomorrow

...yn y bore

...in the morning

...wythnos nesa

...next week

...y p'nawn 'ma

...this afternoon

...Dydd Mercher

...Wednesday

..cyn amser mynd adref

...before going home time

Use Wela i di ... to a friend / one person.

Use Wela i chi to show respect (when talking to an adult / somebody older than you / group of people).

As you will be aware, one of the recommendations from our recent Estyn Inspection was to 'Ensure that all pupils develop effective Welsh language skills.' One way in which we are planning to do this is to continue to introduce a range of language patterns throughout the year which pupils can learn and use incidentally throughout the school day.

We will be sharing each of the language patterns, via this newsletter, on a fortnightly basis and ask that parents support us in meeting this recommendation by encouraging pupils to use the patterns at home and whilst out in the community – diolch yn fawr #Community #Grit.

Progression Step 1 (Nursery and Reception) news and events:

This week in Nursery, the children used mirrors to explore their faces, identifying and naming different facial features. They enjoyed comparing their own faces with those of their friends and Ollie Owl, talking about the similarities and differences they noticed.

The children had lots of fun creating their own faces using a variety of collage materials, food in the Caffi Snac, dough and natural resources collected from outdoors. They were also introduced to the Magic Board, where they had the opportunity to draw different faces and make marks.



What another exciting week it has been for our Reception pupils!

Following on from last week, when the children practised mark-making to create various facial features, this week they have had the opportunity to draw their own self-portraits. They have truly been little artists, and it has been lovely to see the pride they have taken in showcasing their finished pieces of art.

Outdoors, the children have been exploring a variety of loose parts to create wonderful body collages. During our enhanced activities, they have been using natural resources, such as conkers, acorns and leaves, to create faces and explore different feelings and emotions.

The story of The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas has also captured the children's imaginations. The pupils particularly enjoyed contributing to our Sparkle Time planning for the very first time, brainstorming exciting activities that they would like to explore together next week!

In addition, the children visited our Drawing Club for the first time, where they had lots of fun creating their very own colourful Colour Monsters. They even came up with their own passwords and codes, adding an extra element of creativity and excitement to their learning.

In our mathematics sessions, the children have been learning to make and compare amounts, using the words 'more', 'less' and 'the same as'.



Progression Step 2 (Year 1, 2 & 3) news and events:

Blwyddyn 1 are enjoying their exciting new topic of 'Y Goedwig Swynol' (The Enchanted Woodland). We have written some wishes on a wish jar sheet – we thought about a learning target and let our imaginations run wild with a magical wish! We had lots of fun designing ourselves as fairies and elves, and practiced writing our names with the correct letter formation. After listening to the story of 'Freddie and the Fairy' by Julia Donaldson, we did an iPad activity where we sequenced the pictures from the story in order. We also wrote some sentences to accompany a selection of illustrations.

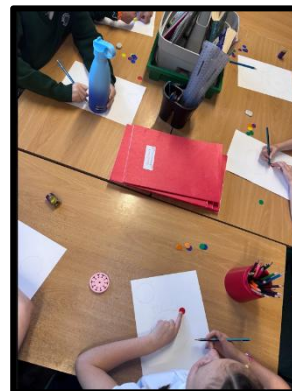
In maths, we have been practising counting forwards and backwards. We worked with a partner to count lots of different kinds of sea creatures in an ocean picture. We also worked in our maths journals to count pictorial representations of objects and practised writing our numbers using the correct number formation.

We have been enjoying exploring all the new areas in our classes, as well as our shared 'Creation Station' and outside in our 'Explorer's Cove'.





This week, Blwyddyn 3 have been busy learning about our topic 'Wanderlust'. In one of our lessons, we looked at the book 'The Dot' which shows children that they all have creativity skills. The children then created their own piece of artwork using only circular shapes. The children showed lovely creative skills, and used their imagination!



Progression Step 3 (Year 4, 5 & 6) news and events:

Blwyddyn 5 spent time on Wednesday learning about Welsh history as part of our Diwrnod Owain Glyndwr Day celebrations. The children found out about the historical importance of Cymru's last Prince of Wales, including his legacy. They used their knowledge to create infographics, which we are sure they will enjoy sharing with you.

In Maths we continue with our work on numbers, this week focusing on column addition. In their numeracy lessons they have been working on developing strategies and using a systematic approach to find totals.

We have continued reading and enjoying our class text, The Wild Robot by Peter Brown. We have learnt more about the island Roz has landed on and its inhabitants, whilst developing our vocabulary, retrieval and summarising skills.

Our topic work this week has focused on the natural wonders of the world, with a particular focus on the Aurora Borealis in our Art lessons. We will be creating some fantastic pieces in the coming weeks using a range of media. We are looking forward to starting French lessons next Friday as part of European Language Day.

Please note, Class 11 will be visiting Buckley Library on Friday 25th September.



This week in Blwyddyn 6, things have really got going with our 'Frozen Kingdoms' topic. After looking a little further into the layers of the Earth (for which we will later explore the unique text 'The Street Beneath Our Feet'), we then created our very own layers of the Earth models out of plasticine. I think you'll agree that they look really effective and the children had great fun working collaboratively with their Learning Partners #Creativity #Community.

We have also explored animals that live in Arctic regions and researched the fascinating adaptations that help them survive the extreme conditions. In Literacy, we have begun developing our spelling skills using a sensory carousel approach, and have started to look at the poem 'The Dreadful Menace', analysing what makes a good poem. In Maths, we've been looking at using bar models to support our work in addition and subtraction, and have been learning to use the inverse operation to check our work.



Whole School News and Events:

Fundraisers for Mountain Lane AGM

The date for our next Fundraisers' AGM is **Thursday 15th October at 3.15 p.m.** If you would like be involved with our Fundraising Team please contact them on fundraisersformountainlane@gmail.com #Community.

European Language Day

We are planning a whole school celebration for European Language Day on Friday 25th September. As part of these celebrations the pupils are invited to come to school dressed to represent a European country. They may choose to wear traditional costumes, national football kits or in the colours of the country's flag.

This is an opportunity for the learners to learn more about the fantastic continent we live on and experience a variety of cultures, helping to make them more ethically informed citizens.

During the day we will be launching our International Language Curriculum through a range of fun activities. For your information Foundation Phase focuses on British Sign Language, Years 3 and 4 on Spanish and Years 5 and 6 on French. If there are any members of the school community who feel they have skills or experience that would support our International Language lessons please contact school via mlmail@hwbcymru.net.

Please see below information about free swimming sessions from Gwella. Sessions in Buckley are on a Saturday from 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. To book a place, please call Buckley Leisure Centre on 01352 704290 or visit www.gwella.wales.



Mountain Lane School

Do you have a child who will have had their 3rd birthday before 1st September 2027?

Would you like to see our Nursery Class and meet the team?

We would be delighted to show you around and answer any questions you have at our drop ins on **Tuesday 6th October** and **Wednesday 18th November 2026** from 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Please complete the Google Form, using the link, to book a place for the drops ins—diolch.

<https://forms.gle/a7ZxJy6EvSVs1rh78>



Believe, Achieve, Succeed



Free Swimming Timetable 2025

For Young People Aged 16 Years And Under

In Flintshire, free junior sessions for young people are available across the five swimming pools in Buckley, Conna's Quay, Flint, Holywell and Mold throughout the year.

BUCKLEY LEISURE CENTRE (Gwella) Call 01352 704290 or visit www.gwella.wales	SAT 11:15 - 2:15pm
CONNAH'S QUAY (Cambrian Aquatic Sports Centre) Call 01244 956595	SAT 11:30am - 1:00pm
JADE JONES PAVILION FLINT (Gwella) Call 01352 704301 or visit www.gwella.wales	SUN 2:00 - 3:30pm
HOLYWELL LEISURE CENTRE (Community Managed) Call 01352 355100 or visit www.holywellleisurecentre.com	SAT 12:00 - 1:00pm
MOLD LEISURE CENTRE (Gwella) Call 01352 704330 or visit www.gwella.wales	SUN 10:45 - 11:45am



Nursery Drop in Sessions

Our Nursery Department will be holding drop-in sessions for parents who wish to come along to visit Mountain Lane and view our lovely Nursery. The dates are as follows:-

Tuesday 6th October: 3.30pm – 4.00pm

Wednesday 18th November: 3.30pm – 4.00pm

Please use the link to book your place: <https://forms.gle/a7ZxJy6EvSVs1rh78>

Key Dates for next the Term:

24 th September	Year 4 visit to Buckley Heritage Trail
25 th September	European Languages Day
29 th September	Tempest Photography - Individual and Sibling photos
30 th September	Parents' Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
6 th October	Nursery Drop-in
15 th October	FFML AGM at 3.15 p.m.
22 nd October	School Closes for Half Term
23 rd October	Staff Training Day
2 nd November	School re-opens after half term
4 th November	Flu Immunisations (for Pupils from Reception to Year 5)
4 th - 6 th November	Year 6 Pupils visit to Glan Llyn
18 th November	Nursery Drop-in
30 th November	Flu Immunisations (for Pupils in Year 6)
8 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 1.30pm - 2.30pm
9 th December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas Concert 9.30am - 10.30am
10 th December	Reception Christmas Concert 9.30am - 10.30am
14 th December	Nursery Christmas Concert 11.00am (Blue) and 2.30pm (Red)
14 th December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Service at St. Matthew's Church 6.00 pm
15 th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Service at St. Matthew's Church 6.00 pm
16 th December	Christmas Craft Day and Christmas Lunch
18 th December	School closes for Christmas break
4 th January	Staff Training Day
5 th January	School re-opens for pupils

Friday Core Value of the Week Award Assembly:

This morning we held our first Core Value of the Week Award Assembly during which one pupil per class was awarded a Core Value of the Week Certificate. The names of those pupils who received a certificate this week can be seen below:

Class 1 - Leonardo
Class 2 - Leo
Class 3 - George
Class 4 - Rosie
Class 5 - Amelia
Class 6 - Cooper
Class 7 - George W
Class 8 - Charlie R
Class 9 - Holly
Class 10 - Tomos
Class 11 - Sophia
Class 12 - Niya
Class 13 - Ashleigh
Class 14 - James

Attendance and Punctuality.

At the end of this week our whole school attendance is 94.20%

Week commencing 07.09.26 was 96.26%

Year to date is: 95.50%



‘Believe, Achieve, Succeed’

