



Ysgol Heol Y Mynydd

Mountain Lane Primary School

Cylchlythyr – Newsletter – 11.09.25



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

Dear Parents and Carers,

After our first full week back to school, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some information about the topics that each year group will be studying during the autumn term and also what some year groups have been busy doing this week. Please see details below for each Progression Step.

During Monday's Assembly, Miss McGee shared the story of 'The Empty Pot'. The story encouraged the children to think about their actions when nobody is watching them and whether these actions would always make their friends and families feel proud of them.

During other assemblies since the beginning of term, staff have had the opportunity to remind pupils of our Core Values – Kindness, Community, Respect, Grit and Creativity. Pupils have also been reminded of our School Rules as follows:

- Be Kind and show Respect
- Try your best – show Grit
- Keep yourself and others safe

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

This term's topic in Nursery is Ollie Owl and friends. During the term pupils will be meeting new friends and learning to play together. Our Nursery pupils will be finding out about Ollie Owl's woodland friends and will be exploring the season of autumn. After half term pupils will be developing their understanding of toys through practical exploration and developing an understanding of how different toys, that they may have experienced in their lifetime, move and work.

As part of the Nursery uniform, the children are to come into school wearing black, plain jogging bottoms, shorts or Summer dresses if the weather allows. Please can Nursery parents be aware of this as they start the new school year.

If any families have any spare/old black jogging bottoms ages 3-4, 4 and 5-6, we would be very grateful for any donations – diolch in advance.

This term's topic in Reception is Marvellous Me. During the first half of the term, pupils will be exploring similarities and differences between themselves and others and learning how to stay fit and healthy. Pupils will also be exploring their senses and learning to name different parts of their bodies.



We are so very proud of all the children in Reception who have now completed their first full week in school! It has been a truly special experience to witness the beginning of their journey in full-time education. Their excitement to explore, play, and learn alongside their friends has been wonderful to see. And, of course, a key highlight has been enjoying their lunch in school every day!

As you are aware, our topic this half term is called 'Marvellous Me'. This week, the children have had fun observing their facial features and have started exploring mark-making patterns and shapes of the various parts of their faces. This learning experience prepares them for creating their own self-portraits next week, which we are all looking forward to!

In our 'Magic Maths' area, the children have been hard at work developing their counting skills. They have been carefully counting a variety of objects, using one-to-one correspondence.



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

Pupils in Year 1 will be studying Y Goedwig Swynol (The Enchanted Woodland) this term. During the term, the pupils will be learning about woodland animals and changes which occur during the autumn. The pupils will study trees and the environment, will read the story of the Gruffalo and take part in activities which link to this well-known text.

We have had a fabulous start to Year 2! The children have been busy getting used to their new classrooms, routines and expectations, and we are so proud of how well they have settled in.

We have also had a very exciting delivery... a mysterious suitcase! The children used their inference skills to examine the items inside and make predictions about who they thought it could belong to. We soon discovered that it belonged to Paddington Bear! Aunt Lucy has asked us to look after Paddington and help teach him all about the UK. The children have already been busy working in groups to plan where they would like to take Paddington and thinking about the things we could make and do to teach him about our country.

In Literacy, we have been revisiting some important skills, including putting words into alphabetical order, using capital letters and remembering our full stops. In Maths, we have begun our work on place value, exploring the value of digits in two-digit numbers and building on our understanding of tens and ones.

We have also been thinking about our school community. After reading *Our Class is a Family*, we looked beyond our classroom and considered all the different people who help to make our school such a special place. We thought about the different roles people have and how each person contributes to our school community. The children created a fishbone diagram to show all the different people and their important jobs.

It has been a busy and exciting first full week, and we can't wait to see where our Year 2 adventures take us!



In Year 3, pupils will be studying 'Wanderlust'. Pupils will learn about explorers, pirates and the history of travel. In Science and Technology, they will learn about forces with some practical 'hands on' activities linked to floating and sinking and air resistance. Pupils will engage with extended writing tasks linked to pirates and in Health and Wellbeing, will be involved in learning skills during hockey and rugby sessions. Pupils will also be taking part in music sessions lead by First Experiences (Theatre Clwyd).

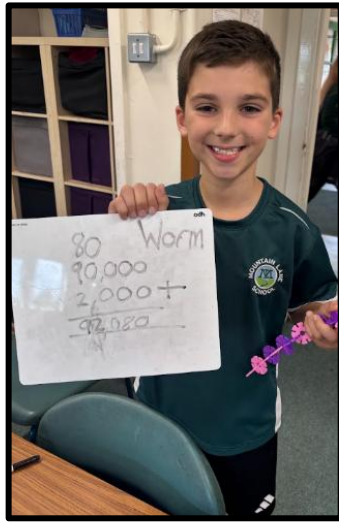
Progression Step 3 (Year 4, 5 & 6) news and events:

The children in Blwyddyn 4 have made a good start to the new academic year. We've completed our pupil planning activities, giving the children the opportunity to share their own ideas, interests and questions about our current topic, 'Cynefin' (Belonging).

In Science, we've been learning about different groups of animals and how we can classify them according to their characteristics. In History, we've been exploring the history of our local area, including the many brickworks that once operated in Buckley. In P.E., we've begun developing our skills in both football and netball.

In Maths, we've been developing our number skills, with a particular focus on reading and writing numbers and understanding place value. We've strengthened our learning through lots of practical and engaging activities, including creating monsters using Base 10 equipment, playing online maths games and working collaboratively with our learning partners.





The children in Blwyddyn 5 have enjoyed their first couple of weeks in Upper Juniors! During the first few days they completed some assessment tasks and worked on developing their understanding of our Core Values. The children particularly enjoyed our P.E. session last Thursday, where we focused on #Community and #Grit by carrying out some team building and problem-solving activities.

We have started our topic 'Mor Hyfryd Yw'r Byd' this week, by completing pupil planning activities, this allows the pupils to influence what they will learn about during the topic. We have also started our new class text 'Wild Robot'. The staff have all been extremely impressed with the children's maturity and enthusiasm so far!



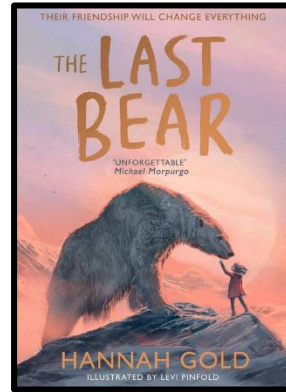
What a fantastic start to the year our Year 6 children have made! We have been so impressed with the positive attitudes, enthusiasm and hard work they have shown as they settle into their new routines.

In Maths, we have begun our work on addition and subtraction, exploring a range of methods and developing our confidence when solving calculations and problems. In Whole Class Reading, we have started reading *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold, which has already sparked some brilliant discussion and predictions.

We have also launched our exciting new topic, 'Frozen Kingdoms', where the children have begun exploring the Arctic and Antarctic tundra regions. We have been researching about their unique landscapes, climates and environments, and we are looking forward to discovering much more as the term continues.

This week, as part of their Whole Class Reading lessons, Blwyddyn 6 have started reading 'The Last Bear' by Hannah Gold, applying their reading VIPER skills to lessons. The pupils have already shown great enthusiasm and interest in the story, which explores the life of a young girl named April who befriends a stranded polar bear on a remote Arctic island. The plot addresses themes of friendship, environmental conservation, and resilience.

The children have enjoyed playing a range of Maths games as part of their lessons warm ups. The games have focused on place value and the four operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.



Whole School News and Events:

Homework – Year 3 to 6

Following a review of our homework policy and procedures, we have decided that staff will no longer set the voluntary homework grids each term. Instead, pupils are expected to continue completing their compulsory reading and times table practice on a weekly basis. They will continue to receive reading books to support their reading practice, whilst Times Tables Rock Stars and other times table games can be used to support times table practice.

In addition, staff will share, via Google Classroom, the spelling patterns and rules each year group will be studying during the term. These will be shared alongside online games and resources that can be used to help pupils develop their understanding and retention. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we do not carry out weekly spelling assessments, as educational research strongly indicates that these do not support children's retention of spelling patterns. Instead, we provide weekly spelling lessons and regularly encourage pupils to use the spellings they have learnt in their written work.

#Community

A big thank you to Mr Freed and his team for their work on the Woodlands area over the summer. They donated their time and resources to create a new entry path which looks fantastic - a massive thank you for your efforts, it is much appreciated! #Community, #Kindness

We have been asked to share the following information regarding All Age Family Church Services at St. Matthew's Church, these will begin on September 20th.



We have been asked to share details of a free bike marking event which has been organised due to an increase in the number of bike thefts in the Buckley area. North Wales police would like to encourage bike security and reduce the risk of bicycles being stolen in our local community.

The event is free and open to local residents. Parents and children are welcome to bring their bikes along to have them security marked.

Buckley precinct Autumn Artisan Market will also be held on the same day:

Date: 26th September

Time: 10:00 – 14:00

Venue: Buckley Precinct, The Precinct Way, Buckley, CH7 2EF

DIGWYDDIAD MARCIO BEICIAU HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU

Peidiwch â'i gwneud yn hawdd i ladron ddwyn eich beic!
Cofrestrwch eich hun fel perchennog y beic yn **RHAD AC AM DDIM** am oes ar Gofrestr Eiddo Cenedlaethol y DU ar www.immobilise.com neu ewch ar:

NORTH WALES POLICE BICYCLE MARKING EVENT

Don't give thieves an easy ride on your bike!
Register your bike's ownership for **FREE** for life on the UK National Property Register at www.immobilise.com or visit us on:

Dyddiad / Date: **26 Medi / September 2026**
Amser / Time: **10:00 - 14:00**
Lleoliad / Location: **Buckley Precinct, The Precinct Way, Buckley, CH7 2EF**

Yn genned Gogledd Cymru'y lle mwyaf diogel i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld yn y DU
Making North Wales the safest place to live, work and visit in the UK

WE DON'T BUY CRIME **HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU NORTH WALES POLICE** **IMMOBILISE PROPERTY CRIME**

Flintshire County Council is currently undertaking its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, which helps them to understand the childcare needs of families across the county and informs future planning and development of childcare services.

To ensure they gather meaningful feedback from as many families as possible, they have asked us to share the below link to their survey:

<https://ymateb.gov.wales/s/PN47J5/>

Please see below other events in the Local #Community:

Clwb Cwtsh is an initiative by Mudiad Meithrin. Clwb Cwtsh is a short, free and informal Welsh language taster programme designed for complete beginners. It focuses on supporting parents/carers to use basic Welsh with young children at home. Parents-to-be and extended family members are also welcome to join.

Sessions are fun and relaxed, using songs and games to learn words and phrases. The course will include 8 sessions with a half-term break. A choice of online and face-to-face sessions is available, in either North or South Wales dialect.

If you are interested in these sessions, please use the contact details below:

Gwenlli Aled Owen
Rheolwr Clwb Cwtsh / Clwb Cwtsh Manager
Mudiad Meithrin

clwbcwtsh@meithrin.cymru
www.meithrin.cymru/clwbcwtsh



UNITED KINGDOM TAEKWON-DO COUNCIL

FITNESS & SELF DEFENCE CLASSES

TAEKWON-DO

FOR KIDS (5YRS+), YOUTHS & ADULTS

UKTC TAEKWON-DO

TAEKWON-DO - the worlds most popular martial art taught by the UK's leading Taekwon-Do organisation. Look for all ages (5 years+).

ACTIVE TIGERS for boys and girls aged 5-8 years is the fun and safe Martial Arts training programme that will help improve their fitness, self confidence, self discipline, coordination, flexibility, and teach them effective self defence skills.

Buckley	Buckley Leisure Centre	Monday 7:00-8:00pm
Buckley	Buckley Leisure Centre	Friday 7:15-8:15pm
Higher Kinnerton	Kinnerton Village Hall	Saturday 9.45-10.45am
Mold	Mold Leisure Centre	Saturday 11.30am-12.30pm

All instructors are fully qualified and insured to teach and have also completed an Enhanced Disclosure/DBS check.

Limited spaces available. Book your **FREE TRIAL LESSON** online now at

WWW.UKTC.CO.UK
or phone 01786 845060

FREE TRIAL LESSON

LITTLE TIGER CUBS CLASSES FOR 3-5 YEAR OLDS OVERLEAF

THE FUN MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING SYSTEM FOR CHILDREN 3-5 YEARS OLD

Little Tiger Cubs

Learn Through Play Have Fun

- Improve Balance & Co-ordination
- Develop Flexibility & Learn Respect
- Increase Self Confidence & Learn Basic Self Defence

Buckley
Buckley Leisure Centre
Friday 6.30 - 7.15pm

All instructors are fully qualified and insured to teach and have also completed an Enhanced Disclosure/DBS check.

Limited spaces available. Book your **FREE TRIAL LESSON** online now at

WWW.UKTC.CO.UK
or phone 01786 845060

FREE TRIAL LESSON

TAEKWON-DO CLASSES FOR ALL AGES (5 YEARS+) OVERLEAF

HUDÖLE
BUCKLEY TOWN FC
Football For Girls!

For ages 4-8
Our fun-filled girls-only sessions delivered by FAW qualified coaches

Every Thursday
5:30pm - 8:30pm
Buckley Leisure Centre

Book here!

Key Dates for next the Term:

24 th September	Year 4 visit to Buckley Heritage Trail
29 th September	Tempest Photography - Individual and Sibling photos
30 th September	Parents' Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
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
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

Nursery Intake for 2027-28 – 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 do feel free to come along and visit if you have a child due to start school next year, or if you know of any friends or family members currently looking for Nursery provision for next year, we would be extremely grateful if you could pass the information on. Diolch.

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 - Noah W
Class 2 - Noah
Class 3 - Cadie
Class 4 - Ayda
Class - Lenny N
Class 6 - Reuben D
Class 7 - Phoebe
Class 8 - Ada
Class 9 - Heston
Class 10 - Kasi
Class 11 - All of Class 11
Class 12 - Anna-Rose
Class 13 - Toby
Class 14 - Oliver

Attendance and Punctuality.

At the end of this week our attendance level is 96.26% which is an excellent start to the new year.



'Believe, Achieve, Succeed'

