

Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 06th March 2024

Advanced Notice

7 th March	-	World Book Day – Please see below
8 th March	-	Design to Smile for N-Y2
11 th March	-	Yr 6 Parental consultations
13 th March	-	Yr 4 and yr6 Easter experience at St Athan Church
13 th March	-	Year 3 Parental Consultations
14 th March	-	Rags 2 Riches collection
15 th March	-	IT Workshop for Year 6 led by Cardiff Met University
15 th March	-	Red Nose Day
20 th March	-	Cardiff Met workshop for year 6 in school
21 st March	-	Year 4 and 5 Trip to St Fagan's
22 nd April	-	Year 6 crucial Crew
29 th April	-	Inset Day – School Closed
26 th June	-	Inset Day school closed
24 th June	-	Sports day
25 th June	-	Back up sports day
11 th July	-	Yr6 leavers Assembly
12 th July	-	Summer Fair- Parents Welcome

Important information

Cultural week

From 8th April all classes will be celebrating our very own cultural week. A sharing event for all parents has been planned for Monday 15th April at 2:30pm. It would be great to see you at the school for staff and children to be able to share their work with you.

Event sheet for summer term

We are working on a summer event sheet, which will provide a list of dates for the diary for summer term. We took on board feedback from families regarding the improvement of communication and providing dates well ahead of time.

School Trends Uniform

You are able to access ordering of our school uniform through the School Trends website. Just go ahead and search for our school. <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/> However, if you require additional items we have some stock in school, held at the office.

Values Education

We have been working on our Values Education for some time at St Athan but I understand its been a while since we shared the information for parents/carers. Please see attached a copy of our leaflet, that provides all the information required. We at St Athan understand that these values are vitally important not just when our children are at school but in all aspects of life. I am sure you will all agree.

PARENT PAY

From April 8th our school will no longer be able to accept cash, instead we will be moving all our payments to parent pay, this is a secure system that will allow you to make all future payments to the school for trips, activities and uniform.

If you do not already have your sign in details please see Mrs James in the office.

Please note pupils can only have one parent pay account, for any further details please see Mrs James.

Eco

Just like everyone at home school has had to start sorting out rubbish in the same way for it to be collected. Every class has been given their own food bin, then Eco's are responsible for collecting and taking it to the yard every morning play time, just like at home this bin is only for food.

Eco's have been working really hard at securing another platinum flag this year. We are really happy to see the number of healthy snacks being eaten at school, this is not only healthy for the children but also supports their hard work and maintains their flag.

"Crisps are crunchy and should be for lunchy"



RED NOSE DAY

This year we will be celebrating red nose day, any donations are welcome. This year the focus is on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, for example lack of food or homelessness. We invite the children to wear red to school, we will paint their noses red in school but if there are any concerns with allergies to face paint **you must** let the class teach know prior to red nose day.

Note for yr6 parents

A reminder for parents who are offered a place at the comp of their choice, please don't forget to confirm your place. For those parents/carers who did not receive a confirmation email first check your spam folder failing that please check the Portal on the Vales school admissions website.

Attendance – *Miss School Miss Out!*

Last week's attendance stands at 89%. Well done to Year 2 and year 4 with an attendance of 91.0 % each. A big thank you to those families that have completed the attendance questionnaires. We have had 41 responses, (97%) feedback that families are happy that we share enough information regarding attendance, with 1 family indicating that not enough information is shared, but no further suggestions were offered, we are always happy to take suggestions to improve.

World Book Day

This Thursday 7th March is World Book Day. We will be celebrating with a variety of different book-based activities throughout the day.

To save parents spending out any additional costs with costumes etc, we will not be asking the children to dress up this year. We will engage in many fun activities throughout the day and the children are invited to bring in their favourite book to add to our celebrations.

Safeguarding

In order to ensure all of our policies and procedures are followed for safeguarding, please can we ask that all parents / carers report to the office if they require an appointment / discussion with a staff member. For our children who attend our breakfast club, Mrs Manley is at the door for these requests to be arranged which will assist parents / carers with getting these messages to staff. Thank you for your continued support.

Breakfast Club vacancy

A vacancy will become available within our Breakfast Club after Easter. The application process will be through the Local Authority www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk and we welcome those of our school community who are interested to apply. The details for this vacancy have now been passed to the Local Authority, please check the website for details for when the vacancy becomes live.

Year 6 parents were invited to attend our St David's Day celebrations to witness the chairing of the Bard. This was a hugely popular event, despite the awful weather, we thank every parent who was able to attend and support year 6 on this occasion.

What's been happening this week in school...

Nursery

Nursery had a brilliant open day for St David's Day and all the children looked fantastic! Many thanks for all the mums, dads and other family members who came to spend the day with us, sing some songs and enjoy a fresh Welsh cake! We have a new daily structure in nursery that now sees us spend time teaching phonics, numbers and high frequency words with the children. We'll send some sheets home if you would like to reinforce this at home also. Even though spring is here, please can children still bring a coat to school for outside play. Many thanks.



Reception

This week reception has had lots of fun in our new improved outdoor area! We have been playing in the water with problem solving activities such as how to move water from one place to another. In maths we have been comparing height and length, we have been measuring items with blocks to find out who is the tallest or the shortest in the class.

A big well done to everyone who entered the St Davids Day competition last week, you all did a fantastic job with the handwriting, art and home school tasks.

Polite reminder- children should not bring toys into school in case they get damaged or lost.





Year 1

We have been busy working on our computer skills by learning how to log onto purple mash by ourselves and have been using a paint programme to create a very special card.

This week in maths we have been working on our subtraction skills and have been finding the difference between two numbers.



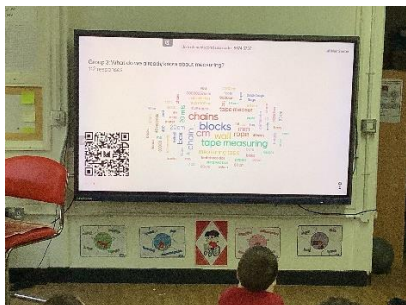
Year 2

This week in year 2, we had a fantastic start to our Cynefin topic, we were sent a CCTV video of a dragon landing in our yard! We had to use adjectives to describe him and answer questions using mentimeter.

We also had to clean our toys because when Mr. Whitelock put the fire out, they were covered in foam from the extinguishers. It was very exciting!

We have also recapped our knowledge on measuring, working in groups to put everything we know into a word cloud. We then put our knowledge into practice by measuring items (in centimetres) outside.

We have had so much fun!

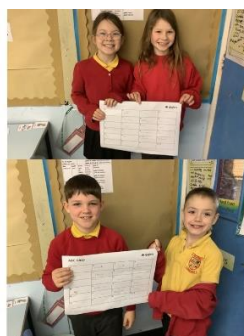


Year 3

Last week, we celebrated St David's Day, all the children worked hard for their Art, Handwriting and Welshness Recipes. Also, a huge well done to all the children for entering the D&T competition.



The children have been doing lots of oracy work this week on our literacy lessons about the Welsh mythical creature called, the Bwbach. We started the week using an ABC grid to identify all of the important information from the story and yesterday we had a fun game called ping pong where we worked in pairs to bounce facts back and forth. In ICT this week we have been collecting data from the class and creating a spreadsheet which we turned into a bar graph. Da lawn Year 3!



Year 4

What a fantastic week in year 4. At the end of last week, we had our GarageBand session where we added strings to our composition to make it sound even better - our songs all sounding brilliant!

Additionally, on Friday we celebrated St David's Day and explored a range of Welsh activities in different year groups.

This week in maths we have been looking at area and how we can use our times table knowledge to find the area of a shape. In literacy we have been researching Tom Jones and learning lots of facts about him and his career. In topic, we have been discussing what makes us proud of me Welsh and Welsh cakes was a popular answer, therefore, guess what we made... Welsh cakes! Overall, we have had a brilliant week filled with lots of learning.

A reminder that year 4 parental consultations are being held on Thursday 14th. World book day is on Thursday 7th and our class assembly that parents are invited to is on Tuesday 19th.



Year 5

Year 5 had an amazing time on Friday as we celebrated St David's Day. Llongyfarchiadau to all of our competition winners.

Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed creating our own animations with Mrs Harris, drawing beautiful daffodils in our 'Art Masterclass' with Mrs Hauxwell, taking part in a Welsh Quiz and Mrs Broomfield even managed to mention Ireland in her Welsh myth story telling session!

Some children from year 5 were even chosen to be part of the Charing of the Bard ceremony. It was a lovely celebration of our year 6 class and we can't believe it will be us next year!

This week we have started our new text 'Moletown' we have been generating questions about the text, role playing and hot seating to show our inference skills and we are looking forward to creating our own live broadcast from 'Moletown'.

In maths we have been looking at decimals. We have noticed the equivalence between 0.1 and one tenth. We have been able to link this to our previous knowledge of fractions and have been developing our understanding that a mixed number fraction can also be written as a decimal.



Year 6

We ended last week by celebrating St. David's Day and we thoroughly enjoyed moving around the different classes during our carousel of activities which included drawing daffodils, a Welsh quiz, creating an animation and some storytelling from the Mabinogion.



The best part of the day was when the winner of the best dragon poem was announced at 'The Bardic Chair Ceremony' which our parents and carers came along to.



Here is the winning poem, we hope you enjoy it.

The Crimson Creature

The vicious, intimidating, menacing beast,
sits in a desolate cave,
deep in the depths of a forbidden forest.
His mouth, dripping with fresh blood,
from his previous, naive victim.

His carnivorous teeth,
are blood stained and unescapable.
His scarlet jaws,
bloody and torturous.
With a venomous, snake-like tongue,
forked, and sharp.
His penetrating eyes,
are as dark as an onyx abyss,
giving you a malicious and vengeful stare,
glowing luminously in the darkness.
With nostrils that are cavernous,
flaring, and smoke filled,
able to breathe gushes of fire when necessary.
As he sits on his throne of discarded bones,
his head stands stationary, and strong.
With an elongated neck,
which is scaly and moist.
Standing tetanus, colossal and muscular,
His body is the colour of blood,
able to bring out the true demonic beast inside of him.
His gargantuan size makes it hard for him to stalk his prey.
But he doesn't have to.

With a serpentine tail,
that lacerates you in half a second.
His leathery, webbed wings,
make it effortless to fly
in the bitter, winter air.
Silently, he watches his enemies,
trying to steal his precious treasure.
He then swoops down and tears them apart
with one flesh-slicing talon
and continues his day,
like nothing happened.
He is Our Protector,
Our warrior,
Our Crimson Creature

By: Married to A Basketball,

AKA Olivia Price

On Monday we had a fantastic morning at Cardiff Met University at their Fablab workshop. We learnt about laser cutters and we were able to turn a drawing into a wooden badge. It was really interesting using a 3D scanner as we saw our face on the screen in 3D. It was a bit freaky seeing inside our heads!!!! We learnt that there is so much you can do with art, especially when you link it with technology.



Criw Cymraeg

Our Welsh Phrase of the Week this week is: **Diwrnod y llyfr hapus!**- Happy world book day!

Twitter / X

Please can I ask all parents to follow us. It is very easy to do and doesn't cost. This is a great way to see on a daily basis what your children are learning and how they are learning it. @StAthanPrimary
You simply ask to follow us and within 24 hours you will be given access. Give it a try!

Web site: www.stathanprimaryschool.co.uk