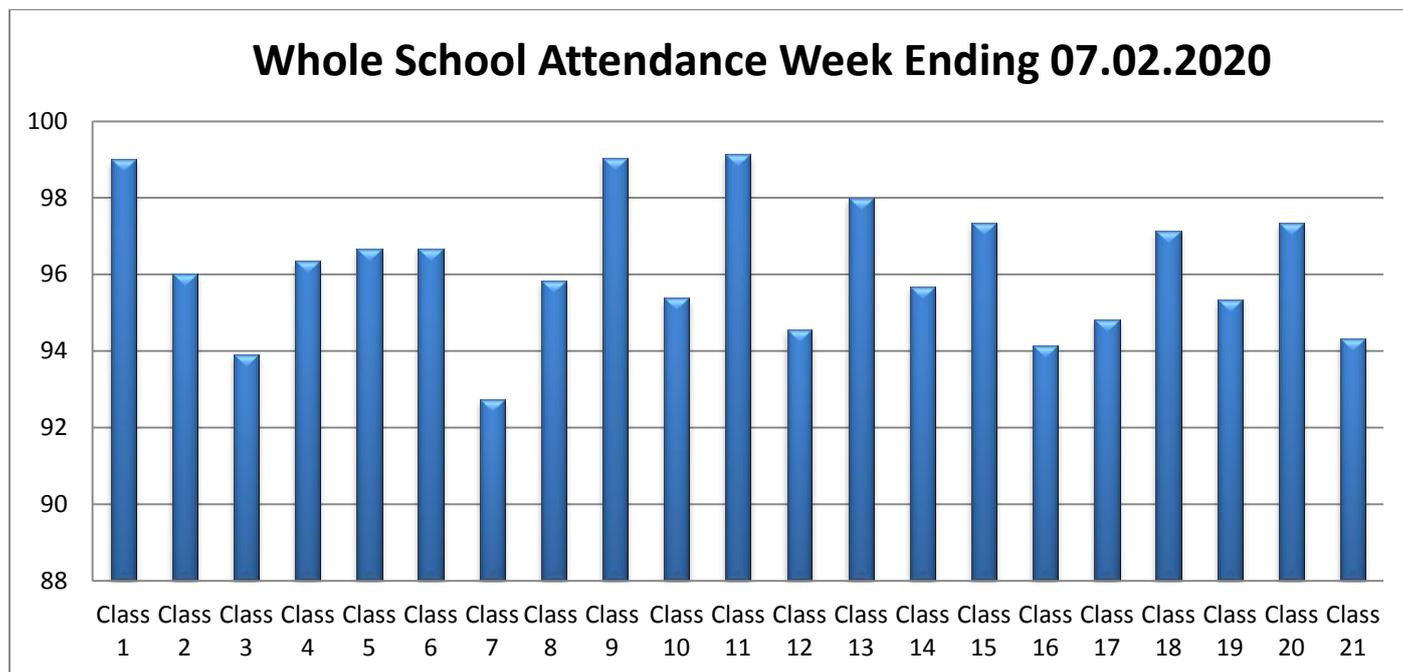




Attendance



Our target for the academic year is 95.7%. Take a look at the graph above to see how your child's class is performing. Mr Hampshire continues to identify pupils who arrive late for school on a daily basis. **If your child is absent from school, please ensure you contact the school office to inform us of the absence.** Any absences that are not reported are recorded as unauthorised on your child's attendance record.

Ty Hafan

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising event for Ty Hafan. The response we had was incredible and together you helped raise £475; an outstanding amount for a coffee afternoon.

Half-Term

A reminder that school closes for the half-term break on Friday 14th February. Pupils return to school on Monday 24th February.

Parent Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy on our school Governing Body for a parent governor. Your child will have brought home a ballot form for you to complete. Please return this to school in the envelope provided by 4pm Friday 14th February 2020 at the latest.

St David's Day

We will be celebrating St David's Day on Friday 6th March when we will be holding our annual Urdd Eisteddfod at school. Pupils are encouraged to wear anything with a Welsh theme for that day. On the reverse of this newsletter you will find information regarding the URDD competition.

National Categorisation

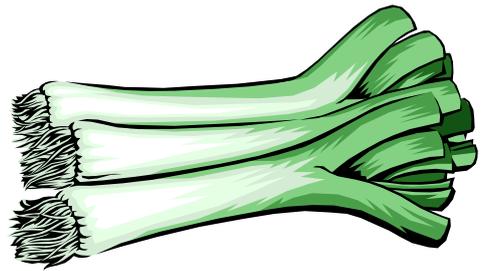
The National School Categorisation system gives the Welsh Government a clear and fair picture of how well a school is performing compared with other schools across Wales and helps them to identify the schools that need the most help, support and guidance to improve.

I am delighted to inform you that following the process we have been categorised as a 'Green' school. This is testament to the hard work and determination of the dedicated staff at our school, our amazing pupils, school Governors and also the support from our wonderful parents. It really is a whole team effort and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved.

Parent Information Sheet – St David's Day

To help our children celebrate Welsh heritage, this year again we will be holding a number of whole school competitions. Each competition will be judged on a class by class basis and points awarded as follows:

Points: 1 for entering
3 for highly commended
5 for third place
7 for second place
10 for first place



There will be a competition in each of the following areas:

- Art
- Poetry
- Handwriting
- Singing
- Home/School Project – Optional

Most competition entries will be completed in school but, since I would hate for parents to miss out on all the fun, there is an additional competition that the children are invited to complete at home. This year, following our huge success last year, we will be using the Home/School entries to enter the Urdd Eisteddfod. This is a highly successful and popular competition for Primary and Secondary schools in Wales and we will be competing against all other schools firstly from our region, then across the whole of Wales if we are successful. Winning entries will be displayed in Blackwood at an exhibition and then put forward for the Urdd Eisteddfod in Denbighshire during May half-term.

The competition tasks are the same for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6, but will be judged in the Urdd Eisteddfod fairly in year groups (therefore a Year 6 pupil will not be competing against a Year 2 pupil).

There are separate categories for pupils with moderate and severe learning difficulties for competition tasks – 1, 2 and 9.

Respect Share Determined Passionate Successful

The children are asked to use their creative talents to enter ANY of the following tasks; they may also enter more than 1 task if they wish. All competition entries must be based on the theme Summit to Shore

1. 2D Drawing – Work based on the theme using one or more of the following materials – paint, pencil, crayon, pastel or ink. It must not exceed 760x560mm.
2. 2D Creative Work – Work based on the theme using a combination of mediums eg collage, tiles, mosaic etc. It must not exceed 760x560mm.
3. Computer Graphics – Original work based on the theme, created on computer and printed on **photo paper**. It is NOT permitted to use clip art or any similar images. It must not exceed 760x560mm.
4. Photography and Computer Graphics – A combination of photography and computer graphics based on the theme by using a scanner and digital camera to create one finished article in A4 size. (The original photo must be included with the work) and printed on standard photo paper.
5. Photography – One print based on the theme in either black and white, or colour.
6. Photography – A series of 4 prints based on the theme. Either all 4 in black and white, or all 4 in colour.
7. 2D Creative Work Textiles – Creative work based on the theme in any medium or a combination of mediums using a variety of techniques (e.g. knitting, sewing, crocheted etc). It must not exceed 760x560mm.
8. Puppet – One puppet of any variety based on the theme (e.g. finger, hand, string, wood). All string puppets must be presented in a suitable frame. The dimensions of the puppet should not exceed 500mm x 500mm x 500mm.
9. 3D Creative Work – Freestanding work based on the theme in any medium or combination of mediums. The size of each item must not exceed 1000 x 1000 x 1000mm and weigh 7kg or less.
10. Weaving – Based on the theme. The sides of the individual work should not exceed 750mm x 750mm x 750mm.
11. Ceramic/Pottery 3D – all entries must receive at least one biscuit firing in a kiln. Every entry should fit within a box measuring 400mm x 300mm x 300mm.
12. Jewellery – original jewellery in any medium or combination of mediums eg fabric, metal, re-used materials etc.
13. Print work – present work in any medium or combination of mediums excluding fabrics. Screen printing technique or printing using any surface eg lino, wood, plastic, metal and so on is acceptable. The size of each item should not exceed 760 x 560 mm.
14. Printing or decorating on fabric – creative work based on the theme using one technique only eg painting on silk, tie and dye, batik, screen printing, block printing, using a computer etc. The size of each item should not exceed 760 x 560 mm.

Please do not include any English words on the entries. Welsh words may be used if desired to enhance the entry.

It is intended to be fun, as opposed to a serious competition. I very much hope that parents will support their child and our school in this project. I look forward to seeing the results and hope to put as many on display as possible, so as to make St David's Day special at our school. **Please send the entries to school by 9am on Monday 2nd March 2020.**