

Dear Families,

I am delighted to present the Annual Report to Parents for the academic year 2023 - 2024. As Chair of Governors, I am always pleased to celebrate our learners' achievements and the hard work and dedication shown by everyone who is proud to call themselves a member of Team Ty'n y Wern. I hope that our Annual Report gives you an insight into the work we do at the school.

The last academic year was incredibly challenging year for the school due to the sudden loss of our dear friend and colleague, Mr Glyn Williams. Mr Williams had spent over 14 years working at Ty'n y Wern and was such a dedicated member of staff. He has left a very large hole in the hearts of all that were fortunate enough to know him. The way in which the school has carried on to ensure that each child has received the education and support that they so deserve during such tragedy is testament to the strength of team. The outpouring of love and support shown by the school community was so gratefully welcomed and for this I cannot thank you enough.

As always, 2023/24 was an incredibly busy year at Ty'n y Wern. The school was delighted to be awarded the Heart of the Community award in recognition of all its hard work in supporting families and the wider community. It also received its 14th Welsh History Initiative for Schools award for the Spring Terms' project on Historical Welsh Landmarks. Another great achievement this year was successfully realising the schools ambition to get all children riding a bike and the purchasing of a class set of bikes that will be used to support led bike rides and the schools new bike bus initiative.

We are so lucky to have such a special little school in our community and I hope that you are as proud of it as I am. Please don't ever hesitate to reach out should you have any questions for the Governing Body.

Diolch ym fawr,

Mrs Zoe Grist
Chair of Governors

Governing Body Details

Chair of Governors:

Mrs Zoe Grist
Tŷn y Wern Primary School
Heol yr Ysgol
Trefthomas
CF83 8FL

Clerk to the Governing body:

Mrs Elizabeth Everson
Education Achievement Service
Tredomen Gateway
Ystrad Mynach
CF82 7EH

Headteacher:

Mrs Sophie Goodliffe

Parent Governors:

Mrs Leanne Margery
Mrs Catherine Broughall
Mrs Emma Williams
Mrs Sophie Roberts

Community Governors:

Mrs Lisa Rawlings (Vice Chair of Governors)

LA Appointed Governors:

Mr Lee Tuckwell
Cllr Jill Winslade
Mr Kevin Ingram

Teacher Representative:

Ms Rebecca Rees

Staff Representative:

Mrs Maria Fear

The Organisation of our Work

We are the body responsible for the education, welfare and wellbeing of Ty'n y Wern Primary School. This is achieved via the professional services of the Headteacher and the staff, with whom we have regular, formal and informal discussions. We receive, for example, regular reports relating to the progress pupils are making, the quality of teaching and the health and safety aspects of school life.

Our meetings sometimes begin with a presentation by members of staff or pupils on curriculum updates and various other initiatives undertaken at the school. Each governor is associated with a curriculum link area. We are involved in the continued development of the curriculum. Governors are committed to whole school self-evaluation. We watch lessons and conduct learning walks with the senior leadership team. We also support the school on informal and formal occasions in its calendar of events.

The full Governing Body meet every term and, as necessary, the following committees hold their meetings:-

- Finance & Premises Committee
- Staff Disciplinary & Dismissal, Grievance & Redundancy Committee & Appeals
- Pupil Discipline & Exclusion Committee
- Complaints Committee
- Pay review & HT Performance Management Committee & Appeals
- Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher Appointments
- Appointments Committee for Teaching & Support Staff
- Headteacher & Staff Capability Committee & Appeals

The committees discuss the detail of matters pertinent to their purpose, and report back to the full Governing Body at the next available full meeting for ratification of proposals or recommendations. To assist us in our work we have the opportunity to participate in a specialised programme of governor training, organised by the Education Achievement Service (EAS). The support and advice we regularly receive is greatly appreciated. Many aspects of the school are discussed, including national and local issues. During full Governing Body meetings the Headteacher's Report details various activities and information about the school. The Headteacher also produces reports on matters of concern thought to be relevant.

School Information

Term Dates 2023/24

Autumn Term Starts: Friday 1st September
Autumn Term Ends: Friday 22nd December
Autumn Half Term Holiday: Monday 30th October

Spring Term Starts: Monday 8th January
Spring Term Ends: Friday 22nd March
Spring Half Term Holiday: Monday 12th February

Summer Term Starts: Monday 8th April
Summer Term Ends: Friday 19th July
Summer Half Term Holiday: Monday 27th May

INSET Days 2023/24

Friday 6th October
Monday 3rd June
Tuesday 4th June
Wednesday 5th June
Thursday 6th June
Friday 7th June

Session Times			
Department	Start Time	End Time	Lunchtime
Nursery (am)	9am	11.30am	Not applicable
Nursery (pm)	12.30pm	3pm	Not applicable
Foundation Phase	9am (Doors open from 8.50am)	3.15pm	12pm - 1pm
Key Stage 2	9am (Doors open from 8.50am)	3.25pm	12.20pm - 1.20pm

School Status

Ty'n y Wern is an English Medium School.

Welsh Language

Welsh is taught as a second language to all our pupils. The school has a very active Criw Cymraeg who lead assemblies, organise events and promote the use of the Welsh language across the school. The school is currently working towards it's silver Cymraeg Campus award.

Attendance

Regular attendance is extremely important to our learners and we strive to work closely with parents to ensure that their child attends punctually and regularly. We have a school attendance team who work closely with external agencies such as the Education Welfare Officer to support our learners in attending school. Attendance is monitored closely by the school and the Governing body.

Our school attendance for 2023/24 was;

Total pupil attendance: 89.94%

Authorised absences: 7.3%

Unauthorised absences: 2.72%

Pupils entitled to free school meals: 87.68%

Persistent absenteeism (attendance below 85%)

Attendance will remain a priority on the 2024/25 school development plan and will be monitored closely in order to ensure all pupils receive the opportunities that they deserve.

Additional Learning Needs

Ty'n y Wern is a very inclusive school providing support for pupils with a range of additional learning and physical needs. The school hosts two Nurture learning resource bases for the local authority. Classrooms reflect the needs of pupils and many interventions are provided to ensure that all pupils reach their full potential, Sadly, our ALNCO Mr Glyn Williams passed away suddenly during this academic year.

Healthy Eating and Drinking

In 2023/24 the children of Ty'n y Wern were encouraged to remain healthy through a range of activities and events;

- The Active Journeys Crew continued to build on their work having won the Gold Award through continuation of School Street events and Bling my ride. They also introduced our very first Bike Bus with the support of Hamish from Sustrans which has gone from strength to strength.
- A range of after school clubs ranging from Football to Gymnastics were offered after school and were well attended.
- School successfully took part in many sporting competitions including tennis, bowls, XCountry, football and cricket tournaments.
- School used the Tesco grant scheme to pay for every child to learn to ride a bike.
- School liaised with local companies to provide cricket, tennis, gymnastics and football workshops for pupils.
- 48 children took part in the Caerphilly 2K race supported by 8 members of staff.
- Years 4, 5 and 6 had three weeks of intensive swimming lessons.
- School council provided guidance for Healthy Snacks.
- Weekly RSE lessons support pupils understanding of healthy relationships.
- Dosbarth Magpies and Puffins visited the local allotments every week.
- 30 Year 6 pupils attended the annual residential trip to the Urdd Camp at Llangrannog.
- School hosted it's second Cluster Sports event which was enjoyed by all schools across the cluster.
- The weather was kind and allowed both the infant and junior department to enjoy successful sports days.



Welfare Facilities

Both the Infant and Junior departments have suitable toileting facilities. Both departments have separate toilets for girls and boys which are of an appropriate height for the age of the children. Both departments also have a single disabled toilet. Situated between both departments are the staff toilets which are separated for male and female use.

During 2023/24 new facilities were created for the sole purpose of changing pupils with toileting difficulties. A previously unused storage area was renovated to create a small room which now houses a paediatric height adjustable changing bed, storage and hand washing facilities. This room provided a far more comfortable and dignified experience for staff and pupils.

Community Focused Schools

In 2023/24 the school was delighted to have been awarded the 'Heart of the Community' award in recognition of all the work undertaken to support its' wider community. Some of the work undertaken in this academic year was;

- All staff updated their Dementia Friendly status
- Several themed afternoon teas were hosted for local OAPs
- We held our very first Sing and Smile session for local OAPs
- A range of Adult Learning Wales courses were held in our Bistro
- Tots Play ran weekly sessions for babies
- School continued to provide access to uniform recycling, football boots and school shoes, school coats, dressing up costumes and Christmas jumpers.
- A community pantry, lending libraries for books and toys were constantly replenished and widely available in the Bistro.
- Staff supported parents in accessing the support of outside agencies to provide financial, housing and mental health support.
- Staff applied for several grants in order to be able to subsidise the cost of school trips and events.



Our Curriculum

In 2023/24 we continued to refine our Curriculum which is underpinned by the Four Purposes. Our school emblem for the Purposes is Bryn the Red Kite. The red kite, being the national bird of Wales has overcome adversity to increase in numbers in recent years. In light of curriculum changes we also worked with the School Council to update our school motto. Pupils felt that the previous motto 'Kind Hands and Clever Minds make our school' was no longer appropriate and after much deliberation decided on 'Together we reach new heights' which represents everyone pushing themselves to try their best both socially and academically, regardless of their starting points and doing so 'together' reflects the inclusive, nurturing and supportive ethos of our school.

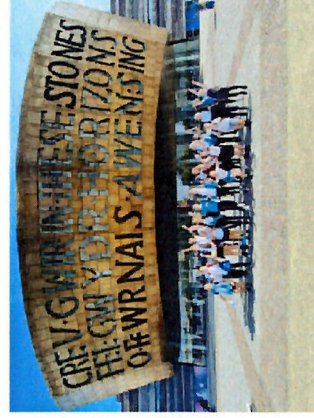
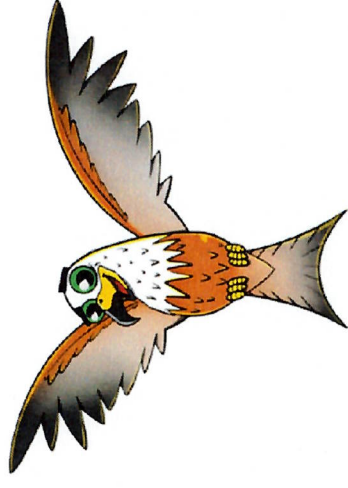
Each term our Curriculum has a content driver which is the subject which helps to drive each topic;

Autumn Term - Health and Wellbeing

Spring Term - Humanities

Summer Term - Science and Technology

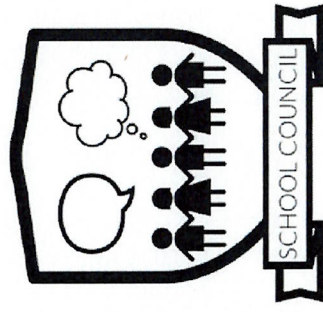
The other AOLEs are interwoven into the topics to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum which meets the needs of our school community. School uses the Jigsaw schemes to support the delivery of Religious and Spiritual Education and Relationships and Sexuality Education. It is really important to us as a school that we provide our pupils with as many exciting and stimulating experiences as possible to enhance learning and develop their love of learning.



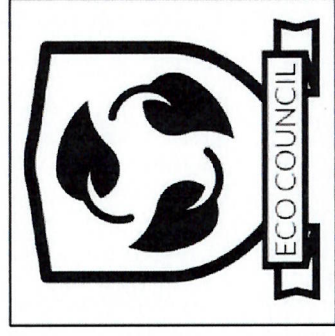
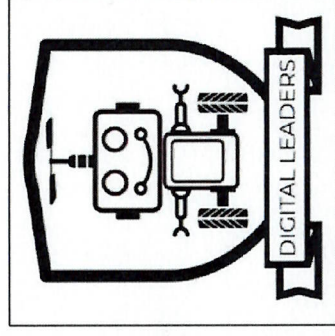
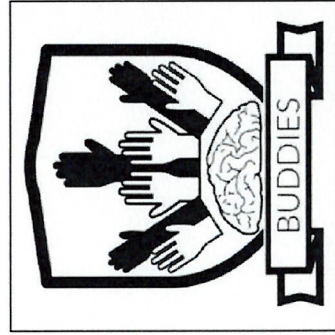
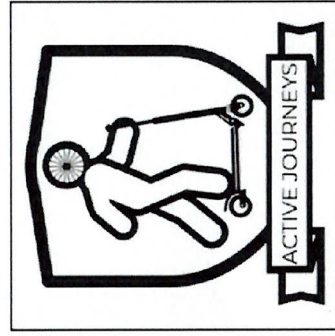
Our Pupil Voice Groups - Ein Llais (Our Voice)

Pupil Voice and allowing the pupils to have ownership over the direction in which the school is moving is very important to us. The school has many pupil voice groups who write annual action plans based on the needs of the school and it's pupils. The outcome of the Happen Survey were used to aid the writing of these development plans. The two Year 6 pupils from each of the pupil voice groups come together to make our School Council. All groups presented their action plans to the Governing Body in 2023/24

Our school council are made up of the Y6 representatives of each Pupil Voice group. They attend events, lead assemblies and feedback as a forum. They also present their action plans to the Governing Body.



The pupil voice groups meet regularly to organise events and to monitor their progress against the targets on their action plans.



In 2023/24 we added Sports Ambassadors to our complement of Pupil Voice groups. This was due to the number of sporting events and activities that we took part in.



In 2024/25 a member of the Governing body will be assigned to each pupil voice group. They will be invited to attend school events and will feedback the progress of each group to the rest of the GB.

School Development Plan

At the start of each year the school writes a comprehensive plan which is designed to support staff in securing improvement in certain areas of the curriculum. Alongside the targets the plan details the steps to success, any training required and any associated costs. The plan is evaluated and reviewed at regular intervals and progress reported back to the Governing Body, termly. Detailed below is a summary of the priorities for 2023/24 and the impact of the work undertaken by the school.

Priority 1 - Health and Wellbeing

To improve standards in attendance

School undertook an attendance review with the local authority and implemented new strategies to support families in being able to get their children to attend school regularly. Unfortunately, attendance percentages still remain lower than those pre Covid.

To implement a Values Based Education

School has successfully implemented VBE across the school which is beginning to have an impact on pupils behaviour and wellbeing.

To strengthen engagement of the wider school community

Due to it's success in this area the school was awarded the Heart of the Community award. Each class provided a community event each term which increased parental engagement and gave parents a greater insight into the work that their children undertook.

Priority 2 - Languages, Literacy and Communication

To improve pupils Oracy skills

All staff attended Oracy training provided by the EAS who supported the school in providing opportunities to improve literacy skills. All classes are using age appropriate sentence stems with increasing confidence.

To raise standards in Welsh Second Language

An effective cluster collaboration ensured a consistent approach to the teaching of Welsh second language. The Criw Cymraeg have been used effectively to support the development of pupils incidental use of Welsh across the school.

Priority 3 - Curriculum

To improve standards in Teaching and Learning Practices through the use of Coaching and Mentoring

Four members of the SLT were trained in the use of Walkthrus which is a comprehensive coaching and mentoring programme. It was used effectively to support teachers in identifying areas to develop within their current practices.

To maximise opportunities for pupils to learn about learning

Pupils have been taught how to reflect on their own learning and with increasing confidence they are now able to say where they are at in their learning and can identify the steps needed to further improve their learning.

If you would like any further information regarding school improvement please ask.

Financial Summary

OUTTURN REPORT 2023-2024

OLAS	OUTTURN BUDGET 2023/2024
EMPLOYEES	£
Teachers	672,376.09
Support Staff	306,093.13
Other Staff related costs	209,271.06
Sub Total	1,187,740.28
PREMISES RELAIED	
Building Maintenance	31,377.82
Grounds Maintenance	87.12
Gas	19,942.92
Electricity	9,989.77
Rates	14,081.20
Water	3,298.14
Cleaning Contract	23,734.07
Cleaning Materials	48.91
Refuse Collection	2,543.31
Insurance	6,989.46
S.Units/H. Driers (C. Hygiene	326.66
Fire Fixtures	116.52
Alarms	1,080.08
Sub Total	113,615.98
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	
Computer Costs	2,133.40
Furniture	12,759.08
Postage	59.20
Capitation Stationary	44,089.00
Medical	1,604.54
Licences	609.57
Music Support Services	6,447.68
Telephone Charges	487.42
Photocopying	2,382.28
Transport Hire / Swimming	2,778.30
Uniform Protective clothing	73.63
Activities / Trips	4,449.66
EOTAS	9,620.50
Sub Total	87,494.26
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS	
All Services	26,183.93
SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLANS	
	12,140.93
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,427,175.38

INCOME	
Reimbursement School Meals	11,979.71
Supply Compensation	19,830.00
L.A. Income	27,499.04
Rent	17,226.43
Donations	11,099.92
EIG PDG Funding	149,833.00
Grant Funding	64,773.11
GTC & other training grants	2,315.79
TOTAL INCOME	304,577.00
NET EXPENDITURE	1,122,598.38
TOTAL SURPLUS/CONVENGENCY	174,912.10
TOTAL	1,297,510.48
TOTAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOL	
FUNDING	
Formula Allocation (net of retro. adj)	1,133,404.36
Retrospective Adjustment from prev. yr.	21,278.81
Total Formula Allocation	1,154,683.17
Total Carried Forward from prev. yr.	142,827.31
TOTAL FUNDING	1,297,510.48
BUDGET SHORTEFALL	

The school budget is made up of money received from the Local Authority and a range of grants. The Finance Committee of the Governing body meet regularly with the Headteacher and the school clerk to receive an overview of the schools financial position.

The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 removed the requirement for school Governing Body to hold an annual meeting with parents. Instead, new arrangements have been introduced to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings in any school year with the GB on matters which are of concern to them. If parents wish to use their rights under the Act to hold a meeting, 4 conditions will need to be satisfied:

Parents will need to raise a petition in support of holding a meeting.

The parents of at least 10% of the schools registered pupils will need to sign the petition. If it is a paper petition, then a written signature must be given as well as the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school. If the petition is in electronic format, the signature required is the typed name of the parent plus the name and class of each child who is a registered pupil at the school and the email address of each parent who signs the petition. There were 242 children registered as pupils with this school at the beginning of this academic year (including 23 pupils in the nursery). Exact roll numbers at any time during the year may be obtained from the school office.

1. The meeting must be called to discuss matters which affect the school.

The meeting cannot be called to discuss such matters as the progress of individual pupils, or to make a complaint about a member of the school staff or GB. The petition should contain brief details of the matter(s) to be discussed and the reasons for calling the meeting. This information should be clearly displayed to the top of the petition with parents signatures appearing below.

A maximum of 3 meetings can be held during the school year.

The Law allows parents to use their rights to request up to 3 meetings with the GB during the school year.

There must be at least 25 school days left in the school year.

The Law makes it a condition that at least 25 school days are left in the school year when the petition is received so that the meeting can be held. A 'school day' means a day when the school is open to parents: it does not include weekends, public holidays, school holidays or INSET days. The address for service of a petition requesting a meeting with this school's GB is:

Chair of Governors: Mrs Zoe Grist,
Ty'n y Wern Primary School
Heol yr Ysgol
Trefthomas
Caerphilly
CF83 8FL

tynywernprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

Further advice on how parents may wish to go about requesting a meeting with a GB is available on the Welsh Government's website at;

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/parents-meetings-statutory-guidance/?lang=en>