



Trellech Primary School Newsletter

Week Ending - Friday 8th March 2019

Eisteddfod

Congratulations to all our pupils who took part in an amazing Eisteddfod celebration. Once again the entries in all categories were of an amazing standard. We are very proud to share that our winner of The Bard was Lillie from Year Four (this was the first time a pupil from Year Four has been crowned The Bard). Our Musicians of the Eisteddfod were Hannah and Anya from Year Six, they sang beautifully their own piece. Thankyou to you all for supporting the children in completing their Homework Entries, they were all fabulous. We are very proud to share that the overall winner in Foundation Phase was Oliver (Y1) with his wooden peg Dragon Fly and Harry from KS2 with the new design for a school logo. Llongyfarchiadau to you all.



National Tests (Year Two– Year Six)

As you are aware, all pupils in Wales undertake National Tests in reading, numeracy and reasoning every year from Year 2 to Year 9. This is set to continue but, from this year, the testing process is changing. Welsh Government are moving from paper based tests to online adaptive tests that will be more personalised to pupils' abilities. This year pupils will take their numeracy test on a computer whilst reading and reasoning tests will remain paper based. The intention is that these tests will move online over the next two years. As a school, we welcome this move as it will ensure that all pupils are challenged at an appropriate level for them and no pupil should find the test inaccessible or insufficiently challenging.

The National Tests will take place within primary schools between Tuesday 7th and Tuesday 14th May and we will endeavour to ensure all pupils are well prepared for these assessments.

Year Four Residential to Hilston

Year Four will be visiting Hilston overnight on Monday 25th March. Pupils should have bought home this week a Medical Form, Kit List and Information Letter. Please may we ask that the medical form is returned asap. An information meeting has been arranged for parents on Monday 11th March at 3.45pm in the Year Four Classroom.

Welcome Back...

To Mrs Thomas on a phased return over the next 4 weeks following her knee injury. We welcome her back to the Foundation Phase Team.

Comic Relief

Comic Relief takes place on **Friday 15th March**. School Council have asked children come to school dressed in 'Something Funny'. Donations are welcome, which can be made via ParentPay. School Council will also be selling Red Noses at a cost of £1.25. These can be purchased via ParentPay and they will be distributed upon payment or £1.25 bought to school and sold by our School Council at break time (the correct money would be appreciated).



Relationships and Sexuality Education

This term each class will complete their SRE programme, which we follow as part of the Monmouthshire Healthy Schools Scheme. Personal Development Relationships will be introduced to pupils through a variety of lessons and resources during specific lessons and/ or in Science and PSE where appropriate. If you require a parental information leaflet for further information please contact Mrs Peacock.

Cluster Working

As a school within the Monmouth Cluster we are very proud of the work we do together. Just before half term all staff from across the cluster met to share practice from their specific year group. It was an opportunity to speak with colleagues to share practice across the cluster. It was wonderful to have the time to have these conversations and make links. Many contact details were shared as well as resources and ideas for learning. An invaluable evening, that once again demonstrates the strength of our relationships and work within the Monmouth Cluster.

Gwent Wildlife Quiz

Three teams from Year Five and Six took part in the GWT Wildlife Wizards Quiz this week. Well done to all our participants but a special well done to Harry, Elsie, Sophie and Emma who came out on top in our round. We wait to hear if we have made it through to the next round which takes place later in the term.



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Dates for Academic Year 2018/ 19

Spring Term

Fri 8th March– World Book Day

Fri 15th March– Comic Relief

Mon 25th—Tues 26th March—Y4 Residential to Hilston

Tues 26th March– Monmouthshire Cross Country Final

Friday 5th April– Cluster Netball Tournament, Abergavenny LC

Tues 9th April– Class Photographs

Fri 12th April– End of Term

Summer Term

Mon 29th April—Summer Term Commences

Tues 7th– Tues 14th May: National Tests Window (Y2– Y6)

Weds 15th May: KS2 Assembly (New Date)

Mon 20th– Weds 22nd May—Y5 Residential to Viney Hill

Fri 24th May: KS2 VE Day Party (New Date)

Mon 27th May– Fri 31st May—Half Term

Fri 14th June– Sports Day & Summer Fayre

Tues 11th– Weds 12th June—Parents Evening

Weds 19th– Fri 21st June– Y6 Residential to Gilwern

Fri 28th June– Reserve Sports Day

Mon 1st July– INSET School Closed to pupils

Thurs 4th July– Summer Music Concert

Weds 17th July– Y2 Celebration Assembly

Fri 19th July– Y6 Leavers Assembly & End of Term

Author Visit

This week we welcomed Sam Hay who worked with our year five pupils and our year five friends from Cross Ash Primary. It was a pleasure to work together with Sam on some great literary skills.



Born to Move Pilot Project

We are pleased to share that we have been successful in being one of ten Monmouthshire Schools to be part of the Born to Move Pilot Project. We will be testing the use of a new platform for viewing the BORN TO MOVE Virtual content. We look forward to being part of the new platform for BORN TO MOVE™ Virtual and Activators Award in partnership with Sports Leaders UK. Our twelve activators will receive training and we look forward to hearing about the project as it develops.

Advice for Parents

Please find below some advice shared by the Local Authority.

It's important to note that new challenges are arising on the internet all the time. We have created this guide to raise awareness of the issue and offer advice on helping parents to talk to their children about making safer decisions online. See also our 7 conversation starters guide for more tips on better communication with your child.

Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly), YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.

What parents need to know about MOMO

CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or otherwise inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the Momo challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be inappropriate or offensive to some audiences and that 'viewer discretion is advised' but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing a different video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

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Top Tips for Parents

TELL THEM IT'S NOT REAL

Just like any urban legend or horror story, the concept can be quite frightening and distressing for young people. Whilst this may seem obvious, it's important for you to reassure to your child that Momo is not a real person and cannot directly harm them. Also tell your child to not go openly searching for this content online as it may only cause more distress.

BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task becomes progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you to discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but these honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it's natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around them and it's important to be able to report and block content that you feel is inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it's important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are. They could also contact Childline where a trained counsellor will listen to anything that's worrying them.

The Childline phone number is 0800 1111.

National Online Safety

SOURCES:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55111111>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55111111>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55111111>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com **Twitter - @natonlinesafety** **Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety** **Phone - 0800 368 8061**

PTFA

Spring Second Hand Sale

Saturday 16th March

School Hall

Good Quality Clothing, Toys and Books

Trellech's Got Talent

Friday 10th May