

Griffithstown Primary School

Gazette

INSPIRE CHALLENGE ACHIEVE

By N Blackburn (Head Teacher)

Friday 4 July 2025 / Dydd Gwener 4 Gorffennaf 2025



Monthly Snapshot

The school was a hive of activity for Griff Market Place at the start of the month for 'My Money Week.' More details on the Maths Minions page.

Y4 had great fun at Gilwern Outdoor Education Centre. Look out for letters about next year's trips for Years 3,4,5 & 6.

Lots of sporty stuff happened in June: girls from Year 4/5/6 participated in a girls' cricket festival at Panteg Cricket Club; pupils took part in a rugby tournament at West Mon School and the Primary Schools Athletics event at Cwmbran stadium.

Y5 MAT pupils spent a week at West Mon School which culminated in a graduation ceremony on the Friday. Pupils described the trip to 'We the Curious' in Bristol as 'amazing!'

It was great to see the various poses from the children as Nigel Bloomer took the class photographs for this year. I'm sure you'll agree that the results were amazing!

This month the teachers have been beaver away writing the annual pupil reports. Together with a summary of your child's progress during 2024/25, you will get a summary of what experiences they have had over the course of the year. Pupils for Y2 to Y6 will also receive their progress certificates. In addition, you will find an evaluation form which both you and your child will need to complete. Please return these evaluations to school as soon as possible. Once again, your opinions matter to us.

Serennau Yr Wythnos / Stars of the Week for 13th, 20th & 27th June, 4th July

Mr Pembrey	Esmee B; James B; Isabella S
Miss Thomas	Ela M; Jake H; Will A
Miss Rogers	Alex W; Dylan F; Monty C; Millie P
Miss Morris	Yassin F; Johnel N; Adele R; Oliver L
Mr John	Jacob W; Grace C; Ethan J; Harri R
Mr McDonnell	Evelyn L; Harry L; George H; Arlo G
Miss E Thomas	Firas A; Jane K; Jessica J; Aiden D
Miss Hall	Isabella O'N; Halle M; Jack D; Daisy T
Mrs Crane-Brown Mrs Cox	Ava R; Grayson E; James SL; Savannah WT
Mr Blackmore	Daisy PC; Lilly JW; Faith P
Mrs Taylor	Isla H; Emily J; Samuel T; Noah T
Miss Z Young	Lily S; Jaxen K; Isla D; Tiarna F
Mrs R Jones	Leo P; Finley L; Robyn G; Willow J

GRIFFITHS	KEMYS	PANTEG	THOMAS
6341	6859	6405	5411

Choir Shines at Weekend Concert

On Sunday, 22nd June, our talented school choir took to the stage at a special concert hosted by *The Voice* finalist Emilie Parry Williams. Performing a well-rehearsed set of six songs, the children captivated the audience and received warm applause for their beautiful singing.

Their exemplary behaviour throughout the event was equally impressive. A special mention goes to our very

own Maisie Bustin in Year 6, who wowed the audience with her solo performances.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the parents for their support in bringing the children to this weekend event, and to the choir members themselves for their continued enthusiasm and dedication. We are incredibly proud of you all!

Y5 MAT Pupils - as reported by the pupils

"We were so lucky to go to the West Mon MAT week! The best bit was definitely 'We the Curious' in Bristol because it had loads of different Science areas and interactive zones - it was amazing! We loved the lunch at West Mon, even the sandwiches were good! The hashbrowns were amazing too! We made

cars by using fans, motors and batteries and tomorrow we are racing them! We created a Sphero obstacle course. We loved the graduation ceremony too!

School Telephone: 01495 759679

Head email: head.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

Clerk email: clerk.griffithstownprimary@torfaen.gov.uk

Check out the school website:

www.griffithstown-primary.co.uk

Attendance

92.1 %

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The pupils learnt lots of facts about a range of different countries during this month's Modern Foreign Language Day. India, UAE, Sweden, India, Lebanon, Iran, Egypt, Mexico and South Africa were the pupils' choice this time.



The sun was shining for Y1's trip to Noah's Ark. Mr Blackmore and Mrs Taylor said, 'The children were amazing; a true credit to all of their families.'

Parents of pupils new to Nursery and Reception attended an informative meeting with Mr Blackburn and the team. Torfaen Catering and the Design 2 Smile team also shared important messages for September 2025.

We all jumped in to our Time Machine earlier this week which transported us to 1st September. The excitement in the hall, as names were called out, was palpable! Pupils got to meet their new teachers and some got to experience a different break time and lunchtime. New Nursery pupils got to 'stay & play' too.

The school was treated to a woodwind demonstration from Lucy Brunnock. If your child is interested in learning how to play contact their class teacher.

It was a packed hall at the start of this week for two performances of 'Griff School Musical' by Year 6. We thank all who helped support the pupils learn their parts and songs at home, and to all who came to cheer them on at the performance. A special page is dedicated to this further in the Gazette.

These cyclists all passed their cycling proficiency test with flying colours this afternoon. Isabella was identified as the 'most improved cyclist'



A huge THANK YOU for the 123 responses to our parent questionnaire. Your opinions matter to us. Your responses will be scrutinised and will inform the way we do things in the future.

F.O.G.S

Thanks for running Father's day Secret room this month and supporting pupils with their entrepreneurial projects at Griff Market Place.

Community

Chris Foot from Junior ParkRun came to give our pupils a taste of ParkRun. Let's see if we can see more 'Griff Gazelles' running each Sunday morning.

Y4 pupils enjoyed an activity day at Pontymoile Basin funded by Pontypool Community Council. Thank you for inviting us.

We had our very own Relay, in support of Cancer Research UK, this month. The donations keep coming but if you're yet to donate there's still time. Please send anything you can spare to Mrs Pugh. Don't forget that Pontypool Relay For Life takes place this weekend in Pontypool Park and that our choir is performing in the bandstand at 1:30pm.

Up And Coming

7th - 11th July: Y6 residential trip to Gilwern Outdoor Education Centre

9th July: Parent Teacher Consultations on request - please contact your child's class teacher to make an appointment

11th July 9:30 a.m. - Nursery Celebration

15th July 11 - 7:30 p.m: Y6 Leavers' Festival

16th July 5p.m: Y6 Leavers' Disco

17th July 9:30 - Y6 Leavers' assembly

18th July: Last day of the 2024-25 academic year

1st September: First day of the 2025-26 academic year

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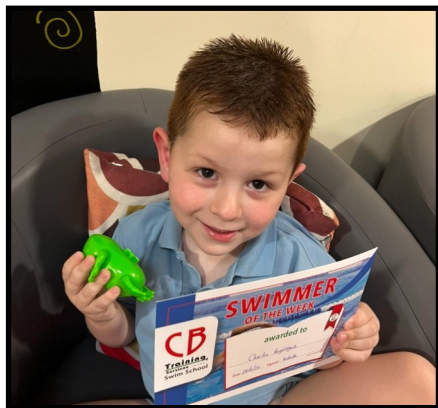
Attendance

92.1 %

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Sharing Success Outside School

Friday 4 July 2025 / Dydd Gwener 4 Gorffennaf 2025



Congratulations to Charles (Nurs) who was awarded 'Swimmer of the Week' recently. What an absolute superstar!

Nofio 8 for Daisy (Y5) this month. Wow, great swimming. Daisy is now attending life saving lessons. Llongyfarchiadau!



Mrs Pugh & Madyn were lucky to join Dexter (Y3) in his first ever senior Park Run earlier this month. Dexter absolutely smashed the 5km - it was like a walk in the park!

Nofio 2 for Isla (Y1) recently. Such an achievement. Da iawn ti!



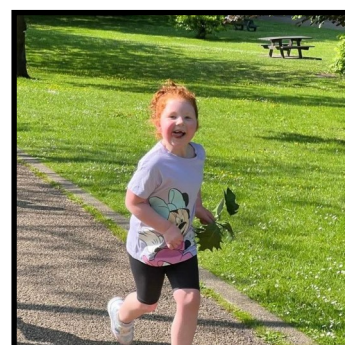
Well done to Maisie (Y6) who sang alongside her singing teacher, Emilie Parry Williams, earlier this month.

She was joined by our school choir who also performed at the concert.



Just look at that smile!

Congratulations to Lily (Rec) on her first Junior Park Run. Keep at it Lily, and you'll soon be joining Dexter!



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Sharing Success Outside School

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Erin (Y5) received her first Holy Communion on Saturday.
Llongyfarchiadau!



Freddie (Y3) received 'Player of the Year' at his recent football presentation night.
Bendigedig!



Ben & Dewi (Y3) are very proud of their trophies collected at a recent football tournament.



Congratulations to everyone who took part in our very own Relay, in support of Cancer Research UK.



Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Extra Curricular Clubs

Friday 4 July 2025 / Dydd Gwener 4 Gorffennaf 2025



Staff have led many extra curricular clubs this year. Teachers have given up their time voluntarily to provide a range of fun and engaging activities for our pupils. Diolch!



Arts & Crafts Club
with Miss Thomas



Dragon Sports
with Mrs Hawksworth & Miss Lee



Pupil Council
with Mrs Pugh

Rugby
with Mr Blackmore

Football
with Mr John &
Mr Pembrey

Choir
with Miss Hall,
Mrs Crane-Brown &
Mr McDonnell



House Captains
with Mrs Pugh

Criw Cymraeg
with Miss Hall & Mr John

Netball
with Miss Young &
Miss Rogers

Eco Club
with Mrs Taylor

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

'Goodbye' & 'Hello'

Friday 4 July 2025 / Dydd Gwener 4 Gorffennaf 2025



At the end of the term we say goodbye to a number of teachers. We thank them for their dedication and hard work whilst at Griffithstown, whether they've been with us for one year or thirty. I'm sure you'd like to join us in wishing them all the best of luck in their next chapters.



Class Teacher
Miss E Thomas



Class Teacher
Mr O John



Class Teacher
Miss Z Young



Class Teacher
Miss C Rogers



Class Teacher
Mrs K Taylor

It's a 'Goodbye for now' to Miss Hall who leaves us temporarily to have her baby. We wish her the very best for the safe arrival of her little one.



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'Goodbye' & 'Hello'

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A Warm Welcome to Griffithstown

After a rigorous appointment process involving both pupils and staff we have successfully appointed five teachers for September. Everyone is looking forward to getting to know them and working together in the forthcoming year.

Miss E Lloyd

Reception Teacher



Miss L Murphy

Y1 Teacher



Miss E Evans

Y2 Teacher



Miss A Charles

Y3 Teacher



Mrs S Jordan

Y4/5 Teacher
& ALNCo



GOVERNORS: Welcome On Board

We are delighted to welcome Adele Skinner & Michelle Dean as our new parent governors. We look forward to your support and challenge in shaping our school.

Griffithstown Primary School Gazette

Griff School Musical

Friday 4 July 2025 / Dydd Gwener 4 Gorffennaf 2025



A magnificent production of Griff School Musical this month. The hall was packed, and very hot! But that didn't stop the cheers and laughter from the audience. Congratulations to you all!

Maisie B(Gabriella)
Will A (Troy Bolton)



Carson J (Sharpay)
Oliver R (Sharpie)



Gethyn B(Chad); Jesse F (Josh)
Eli M (Zeke)



Lyra D & Esmail R
(Mrs Darbus)



Kazer B, James B, Liam H, Conner B Harley
B(basketball team); Sam Y (Coach Bolton)



Skye A (Taylor)



Griffithstown Primary School

Maths Minions

July Issue



My Money Week 2025



This year's My Money Week was a huge success! The variety of products being created and sold was fantastic and learners should

be extremely proud of their efforts.

On Monday 20th June we completed our awards assembly and the results were as followed:



'Awesomest' Advert Award

I especially enjoyed the adverts that all learners created. They excelled in gaining a sale for their products!! Y3 took the plaudits with their 'Duck Song' themed advert.

The eco/environment award went to 1B and 4/5M. This was due to their products reusing materials and materials that were naturally occurring.

The Creative Clarence Award went to Reception and 1T. This was due to their innovative ideas that allowed children develop their D &T skills.



July Magic Numbers

This month's Magic Numbers are:

7/7/25	56	The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.
14/7/25	89	The fastest a person has counted to 1 million was 89 days!!!

My Money Week 2025

The Healthy Individuals Award went to 4J due to their amazingly tasty and 'feel good' smoothies!



The 'Teamwork is the Dreamwork' award went to Y2 and 5R. They worked incredibly well and sold out!!



Finally, The Money Makers award, and the overall winners were Y6. Their products and teamwork were sensational and they made a staggering amount of money! We will miss this cohort dearly when they travel to pastures new!

Overall, we raised an incredible £1038 for FOGS. We cannot thank you, our amazing Griff families, for your continued support. All monies raised will be divided equally and go back to individual classes. Have a wonderful summer break, Mr Blackmore



Griffithstown Primary School

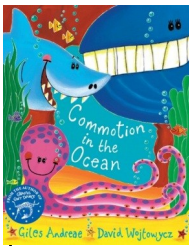
Book Worms

July Issue



July Book Recommendations

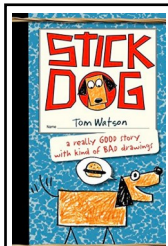
Age 4 to 5



Dive into the ocean for a noisy, rhyming animal adventure in this colourful read-aloud picture book!

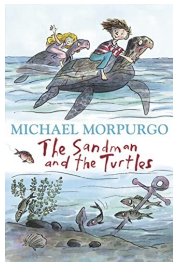
Little ones will love looking at the colourful pictures and joining in with all the great sound words, as they discover all sorts of amazing sea creatures. Including blue whales, sea turtles, jellyfish, dolphins and more!

Age 5 to 7



Stick Dog is hilarious. Why is he called Stick Dog? Because our author/narrator can't draw. And also, because he likes sticks. The funny cartoonish illustrations make this story of stray dogs easy to read and a very entertaining series for kids. Young readers who want early chapter books with funny pictures and humor will love this book series.

Age 7 to 9



The Sandman and the Turtles is one of the most charming summer reads for children from Britain's best-loved children's author, Michael Morpurgo. Michael loves summer holidays in Wales, and Daddi's tall stories about the Sandman, the old Russian sea captain and blood-red dragon in his lair. Little cousin Polly believes every word of the magical tales and she's determined to make it all come true.

Age 9 to 11

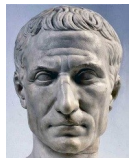


In the small town of Soledad, Texas, 1952, soldiers parachuted in and took the town in a secret (but actually historically true) military op. Simultaneously, a group of friends find an alien whose parents are prisoners of the military operation. Pineda, who is half Cuban, is treated differently than the white kids in his town, so he can relate to the alien's experiences. Pineda and his three friends work with a Black soldier to save their new alien friend and her missing parents in this excellent, thought-provoking story.

July Facts

DID YOU KNOW?

July is named after Julius Caesar, a famous Roman ruler. Before it was called July, it was known as Quintilis, which means "fifth" in Latin, because it was the fifth month in the old Roman calendar. In 44 BC, the Roman Senate renamed it July in honour of Julius Caesar, as it was the month he was born.



July Featured Author and Illustrator

The English author Beatrix Potter created Peter Rabbit, Squirrel Nutkin, Jemima Puddle-Duck, Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle, and other popular animal characters. The Tale of Peter Rabbit was her most famous story.



Helen Beatrix Potter was born on July 28, 1866, in South Kensington, Middlesex, England. She and her younger brother were kept from seeing other children. They snuck a variety of pets into their house, including rabbits, bats, and frogs. Both Potter and her brother enjoyed family holidays in the countryside of Scotland or in the English Lake District. During these trips Potter studied and drew animals, plants, and fungi—such as mushrooms or truffles.

July Newsround

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Summer Reading Challenge



Follow the link for further information on how to take part!

Let's keep our children reading over the summer holidays! The theme is 'Story Garden'.

<https://imaginationsoup.net/summer-reading-list-for-kids/> - this link will show you summer reading for each age group.

Ysgol Griffithstown
Criw Cymraeg

Newyddion Mehefin



Cwestiynau Campus
Haf / Summer

This Question Mat is for pupils in
Reception to Year 2

Scan the QR codes!



Ble rwyd ti'n mynd ar
y penwythnos?

Dw i'n mynd i...



Pa lyfr wyt ti'n
darllen?

Dw i'n darllen...



Beth yw dy hoff bwyd
di?

Fy hoff bwyd i yw...



Beth yw dy hoff sioe
deledu di?

Fy hoff sioe deledu i yw...



This Question Mat is for pupils in Year 3 to Year 6
Scan the QR codes!

- One point - answering in English / one-word answer
- Two points - use of correct sentence pattern
- Three points - extending your sentence - achos, gyda, ond etc
- Four points - extending your answer and posing a question - A ti? Beth amdanat ti?

Answer (examples):

1. One point - to the park / i'r parc / to the cinema / i'r sinema
Two points - Dw i'n mynd i
Three points - Dw i'n mynd i gyda mam o'r enw ...
Four points - Dw i'n mynd.... gyda mam o'r enw ... Beth amdanat ti?
2. One point - Harry Potter / Diary of a Wimpy Kid
Two points - Dw i'n darllen ...
Three points - Dw i'n darllen ... achos mae'n bendigedig / diddorol / anturus.
3. One point - Pitsa / Pizza / Sglodion / Chips / Hufen ia / Ice Cream
Two points - Fy hoff bwyd i yw achos mae'n flasus / melys
Three points - Fy hoff bwyd i yw achos mae'n flasus / melys. A ti?
4. One point - Bluey / Peppa Pig / Arthur
Two points - Fy hoff sioe deledu fi yw ...
Three points - Fy hoff sioe deledu fi yw achos mae'n diddorol / anturus / anhygoel / doniol
Four points - Fy hoff sioe deledu fi yw achos mae'n diddorol / anturus / anhygoel.
Beth amdanat ti?



Ble rwyd ti'n mynd ar y penwythnos?

Dw i'n mynd i ...



Pa lyfr wyt ti'n darllen?

Dw i'n darllen ...



Beth yw dy hoff bwyd di?

Fy hoff bwyd i yw ...



Beth yw dy hoff sioe deledu di?

Fy hoff sioe deledu i yw ...



Griffithstown Primary School

Science & Technology

Gorffennaf Issue



Design Technology

We've had a fantastic year bursting with creativity and hands-on innovation in Design and Technology! From the futuristic flair of our 'City of Tomorrow' project to Reception's adorable handcrafted picture frames, pupils across all year groups have been busy sawing, building, and dreaming big. Skills are soaring!

'My Money Week' was a brilliant opportunity for pupils to unleash their creativity and sharpen their D/T skills by designing, making, and selling products for profit. From colourful bracelets and croc charms to handcrafted wood cookies and tempting sweet cones, entrepreneurial spirit was in full swing.

How will you grow your Design and Technology skills this summer? Why not challenge yourself to design a new product, build something from scratch, or get

Scientist of the Month

Anders Celsius

Our Scientist of the Month is Anders Celsius, the brilliant mind behind the Celsius temperature scale. His work helps us measure temperature accurately, perfect for tracking those sizzling summer days! Thanks to him, we understand heat, weather, and climate a whole lot better.



Digital Diaries

With the Summer Holidays just around the corner, it's the perfect time to remind ourselves how to stay safe online. Here are our top tips to help you enjoy the internet and social media responsibly and securely:

PROTECH:

Protect personal information such as passwords, names and addresses

Report and block, if someone is making you feel uncomfortable, tell a parent, teacher or guardian

Only talk to people you know online, avoid chatting to strangers

Think before you click, share or chat

Extra care with passwords and privacy settings; keep accounts secure

Check with a trusted adult if something feels wrong or scary

Have kindness and respect online



Apps of the Month::

Home Learning!

For this edition, we've chosen to highlight all our home learning platforms as Apps of the Month to help keep literacy and numeracy skills sharp over the summer break.



Renaissance

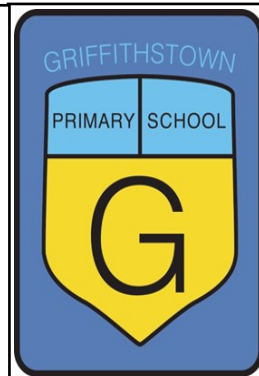
Mathletics



Griffithstown Primary School

Meet Our Governors

July Issue



Just like every school in Wales, we have a board of governors. Their role is to provide strategic leadership for our school. Pupil Council has developed some questions to ask our governors in a quest to get to know them. Each month we will introduce you to one of our governors. If you have a question you would like to ask them let us know.

Nick Blackburn - Headteacher



Why did you want to be a governor?

As head teacher, I must be on the Governing Body. I want to be on the Governing Body because it gives me the opportunity to inform, listen to and work with a fantastic group of parents who have chosen to be actively engaged in the life and development of the school.

Do you enjoy your role as school governor and what is your favourite part?

My favourite part of working with the Governing Body is sharing information about pupil progress and standards, and celebrating the hard work of pupils, teachers and parents/carers.

What part of being a governor do you dislike?

I always wish there was more money for resources and staffing, but glad to say we make the most of every penny that we do have.

What experience do you have to make you a good governor?

I started teaching in 1994. Over the years I have gathered experiences, knowledge and skills to work with pupils and adults to lead an effective evaluation and planning cycle of school improvement.

What would you do if you could do anything for the school and money was no object? How would you change it?

I love music and would want every child to leave school being able to play an instrument.

What is your goal for 2026 as a school governor and what help would you need to achieve that goal?

I want every child to continue to thrive and make progress from their starting points. Let's continue to work as a whole school team; pupils, parents, staff and governors working together to make our pupils the best they can be.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy theatre and film – anything from the ancient Greeks to William Shatner. But as I get older, I need subtitles for foreign and English language content. Can't spend a day without listening to music – guilty pleasure Basement Jaxx.

What was your favourite subject in school?

I loved and continue to be fascinated by history. People and their stories never fail to mesmerise me. Recently stopped reading my social media accounts and focused my eyes on the Crusades, King James I and the Spanish Civil War. Wow... the drama!

Healthy drinks

in primary schools



There is a legal duty for local authorities and schools to **promote healthy drinking in schools**. The Welsh Government and Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes recommend a wholeschool approach.

Drink brought into school for personal consumption can be subject to restrictions at the discretion of the local authority or governing body of a school. Almost all primary schools in Wales specify:

- **only water on desks, or freely available, in the classroom; and,**
- **only water and milk during break times.**

Schools should create an environment and culture where it is **normal and easy for children to drink healthily**. School staff, along with parents/carers, are vitally important in the development of healthy drinking habits for life, through **consistent messages and role modelling**.

Water and milk should be the only drinks at break times in primary schools because:

- this helps children normalise drinking water throughout the school day, and into adulthood, as the **best hydration method**;
- water quenches thirst and is **easily and freely accessible** to children in school and at home;
- milk is a good source of **protein, calcium and other vitamins and minerals**;
- water has no additional calories, helping to **maintain a healthy weight**;
- drinking water can help to **prevent a range of health issues** such as headaches, bladder and bowel problems;
- water and milk **do not damage teeth**, unlike fruit juices and soft drinks, which include 'free sugars' and/or artificial sweeteners; and,
- squash and flavoured water, including sugar-free varieties, encourage children to develop a 'sweet tooth' and do not provide a nutritional benefit.



HAVING FUN

*and staying safe
in the sun!*



Applying sunscreen to a child with sensory issues can be a challenge; as well as getting them to wear a hat. So can outdoor life during the summer, for children who have challenges regulating their body temperature.

This document has some useful tips



Many parents of children with ASD find it challenging to apply sunscreen on their children as things like the smell and feel (stickiness) can cause sensory issues.

However, it is very important to keep your child's skin protected this summer. This is why we have compiled some tips and brand suggestions for you to help with those sunscreen battles.

- If a child can't handle the feel of sunscreen on their skin, what about wearing clothing with UPF? (That's the clothing equivalent of SPF—it stands for Ultraviolet Protection Factor.)

Limiting the amount of skin that is exposed directly to the sun with sun protective clothing can limit battles over sunscreen. Make use of lightweight long sleeve clothing, rash guards and wide-brimmed hats.

- What is a good way to help a child with intellectual disability understand why sunscreen is important—how can a parent explain it?

To explain why we use sunscreen, keep it simple: "The sun can cause burns that help our skin." And then think: routine, routine, routine. Sun protection should be second nature to both yourself and your child when enjoying time outdoors. Many children with ASD crave routine so start using sun protective clothing and sunscreen early on in life and part of a daily routine. Hopefully, your child will equate this with a necessary step towards outdoor fun. Preparing your child can also be helpful so they are not surprised. For example, walk your child through the steps involved in going to the pool, with sun protection being one of those tasks.

Application



We have noticed that many children prefer mists, sprays and roll-on over the traditional suncream. This is because traditional suncream tends to be thicker, stickier and takes longer to apply.

Additionally, many parents opt to use a wash-on sunscreen that is applied in the shower.

Tip- Avoid Creams

- Some children with disabilities can heat up more than other children when it's hot outside, as they have issues regulating their temperatures. Do you have any tips for helping to keep their bodies/skin cool when they are outdoors at the beach, at an amusement park or anywhere where they might end up baking in the sun?

As every parent knows, there is no one size fits all solution. Children with ASD and/or sensory processing disorders have diverse needs and often require creative and unique solutions. Keep to the shade for both sun protection and avoid overheating. Be prepared—a spray bottle with water and cooled towels can help

- What advice do you have for applying sunscreen to a child with sensory processing issues?

Applying and wearing sunscreen can pose a challenge to children with tactile sensory disorders. A couple of tips: 1) Make it fun – sing a silly song for sunscreen time. 2) Make it a game; pretend you're going through the sunscreen car wash. 3) Try spray-based sunscreen: Spray on your hand then rub them in. 4) Use roll-on sunscreen for challenging areas like the central face and back of the neck. 5) Try distraction if all else fails—a tablet or phone may be a necessary evil.

Be a sunscreen role model—apply yours in front of your child. Habits are easier to adopt if everyone in the household does them!

Brands



Nivea Roll Sun Kids Roll On

La Roche-Posay Anthelios Invisible Kids Mist SPF50+ 125m

Ambre Solaire Aerosol Mist Spray

Neutrogena Sunscreen Ultra Sheer Stick

Remember each child is different, so try them out and see what works best for you.

Tip- Give plenty of warning before application





THE
ROYAL. BRITISH. LEGION
BLAENAVON. BRANCH



23 Elgam. Avenue
Blaenavon
NP4. 9QY
tele (01495. 790857

lesleycyril251@btinternet.com.

Griffithstown Primary School

On Behalf of the Blaenavon Branch Royal British Legion, we would like to thank all the Pupils and staff for the wonderful donation of £102.50 that your school collected for V E Day, The donation will go towards veterans
Once again a sincere thank you.

Yours. Gratefully.

h Morgan

Lesley. Morgan

Branch. Poppy Organiser





**GIRLS
ONLY**



PANTEG CRICKET CLUB



AGES 8 - 11
Friday 16th May - Friday 4th July
5:00pm - 6:00pm
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
PANTEGFLAMES@GMAIL.COM



SCAN ME TO REGISTER



PANTEG CC
FREE GIRLS ONLY
CRICKET
8 WEEK CRICKET PROGRAM
FIRST 24 SPACES FREE! USE THE DISCOUNT CODE AT
CHECK OUT.
DYNAMOS (AGES 8 TO 11) - L5V32

DYNAMOS CRICKET 



DYNAMOS CRICKET 



junior parkrun

Dear Parents, Carers and Griffithstown Primary Students,

This week we have had junior parkrun taster sessions to promote Pontypool Park's junior parkrun event. We are encouraging students and their families or friends to attend junior parkrun on Sunday morning at Pontypool Park, Pontypool, NP4 8AT the event starts approximately 50m from Active Living Centre, at the back of the rugby grandstand adjacent to "The Pontypool front row". Everyone is welcome to come along!

junior parkrun is a free, community event where you can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. junior parkrun is 2km, dedicated to 4-14 year olds and their families and friends, every Sunday morning at 9:00am with a really fun warm-up starting at 8:45am. junior parkrun is positive, welcoming and inclusive, there is no time limit and no-one finishes last!

Next steps...

Register (for FREE)

You can register for parkrun for free here - <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/> or you can scan the QR code below.

Join the Griff Gazelles school group!

As a school community, the Griff Gazelles are aiming to complete 50 junior parkruns or 5k parkruns by the end of the school year!

Once you have registered, joining the Group is easy;

1. log back into your profile
2. select Groups and start typing Griff Gazelles
3. when the Group appears, select it and click Join

Volunteer

If you would like to volunteer you can contact the event team on this email - pontypooljuniors@parkrun.com

parkrun!

If you can't attend this week, junior parkrun happens every Sunday so you can come any Sunday you are available. It would be great to see as many of you representing Griffithstown as possible!

Diolch yn fawr iawn,

Chris Foot
Outreach Officer for Wales
chris.foot@parkrun.com



Swimming Lessons
ages 4-10



NEW Classes!



Holiday Inn Newport,
NP18 2YG

Click to
view the
pool
timetable

Click to
view all
our pools

So, you want your
child to learn to swim.

Let's help them learn the right
technique, in the right environment,
with the best people.

Let's give them the courage
to be fearless, make friends,
swim strongly and have fun.

Then let's see where those
skills might take them.

Let's do this.



Let's do this.

You've decided to take your
child to swimming lessons,
but why should you choose
Swim Academy?

LET'S BE AWESOME.

We train, we teach, we continue to learn,
at the highest level, so that your children
are taught in the best possible way,
from their first class to their graduation.

LET'S GET THERE.

We set clear targets and meet them.
Track the progress of your superstar
swimmer through your online account and
follow their progress every step of the way.

LET'S OWN IT.

We don't knock children down; we build
them up. Our strokes are deconstructed
so that nothing is ever 'wrong'
because they've always
started out right.

LET'S GO FURTHER.

We are continually evolving and
improving our programmes in line with
new research and guidance on swimming
and child development but also in line
with what we learn internally about our
swimmers and the way they progress
through our programmes.

We're a proud member of the
Swimming Teachers' Association



LET'S HAVE FUN.

Children learn through experience,
not through repetition. We keep our
classes fun, lively, varied and exciting
to help your child stay engaged and
challenged in the water.

t: 02922 806242
southeastwales@puddleducks.com
Find more information at www.puddleducks.com

Swim Academy is brought to you by the experts at Puddle Ducks





SNAP CYMRU

For more information please
scan the QR codes
(Links are also attached to the
images if using a device)

Who are SNAP Cymru?

For issue that involve school I recommend Snap Cymru. Snap Cymru is an Independent parental support by SNAP Cymru (Special Needs Advisory Project Cymru). SNAP Cymru is a charity that offers information and support to families of children and young people who have special educational needs. The service is: Free, Confidential and Independent

What Can SNAP Cymru Do?

Talk to you about your concerns. Visit you at home if you want them to. Help you understand how your child can be helped. Help you write down your views about your child. Support you at meetings, school, visits and discussions with professionals who are working with your child if you wish. Give you information about the services in your area and how you might be able to find the support you need.

Contact Information

Email on: gwent@snapcymru.org
Visit their website at: www.snapcymru.org

SCAN ME



SNAP Cymru Helpline –
Telephone Appointment

SCAN ME



Helpline - 0808 801 0608

Our Helpline team are here to talk,
Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm. or you can book an appointment
in advance via the link below

<https://outlook.office365.com/book/SNAPCymru1@snapcymru.org/>



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board



HELPING HANDS OUTREACH VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS: JUL-SEPT 25

We run monthly workshops on a range of topics including: Exploring Behaviours That Can Challenge, Introduction to Sleep, Supporting Anxiety in Children, Supporting with Transitions, Introduction to Sensory Processing.

These group workshops are open to any parents/carers of children with additional needs, including families and professionals linked with Serennu, Nevill Hall and Caerphilly Children's Centre. For more information, please speak to the Family Liaison Officer at your local Children's Centre.

The workshops will take place online via a video-call.



MONDAY 7TH

JULY

10AM - 12NOON

EXPLORING BEHAVIOURS THAT CAN CHALLENGE

We will be sharing ideas behind behaviour support and help you to understand and respond to behaviours that can often challenge.

Book by Midday on Monday 30th June

MONDAY 4TH

AUGUST

10AM-12NOON

SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN

We will share ideas about how to support children and young people with anxiety and worry.

Book by Midday on Monday 28th July

MONDAY 15TH

SEPTEMBER

10AM-12NOON

INTRODUCTION TO SLEEP

We will share ideas about how to manage common sleep difficulties in children and young people.

Book by Midday on Monday 8th September

WEDNESDAY

22ND OCTOBER

10AM-12NOON

TRANSITIONS & SEPARATIONS

We will share ideas about supporting children and young people with transitions and separations

Book by Midday on Wednesday 15th October



BOOK A SPACE OR SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST

To book a space on one of these workshops, or subscribe to our workshop mailing list for updates on all our future workshops, you can:

- Scan the QR code • Click on the QR code
- Follow this link <https://forms.office.com/e/DfqfWSd0kK>

We also run additional workshops that are jointly designed and delivered with our health colleagues in the Children's Centres.

These workshops need to be booked using separate QR codes.

UNDER EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION TO SENSORY PROCESSING WORKSHOP

This workshop is not currently offered and is under review. However, you can access a wealth of information from the Occupational Therapy Website that is due to be launched very soon. This will include videos that cover many of the topics from this workshop.

Watch this space for news on other workshops coming soon.



**MONDAY 18TH
AUGUST
10:00- 12:00 AM**



SUPPORTING COMMUNICATION

A workshop delivered jointly with a Speech and Language Therapist.

The workshop aims to help you to:



- Understand how communication develops in children and means of communication
- Explore why some children develop communication difficulties
- Explore the related challenges that can develop alongside communication difficulties
- Think about different means to support your children to communicate

To book on this workshop, please scan or click on the QR code or follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/qpyjEJLPtN>



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Iwrdid Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

News from Sparkle and our Children's Centres

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2nd SNAP Cymru sessions @ Caerphilly Children's Centre 10am-1.30pm Please book a slot Carer's Caerphilly Coffee Morning 11:00am – 12:30pm Murray's Barbed Monmouthshire Coffee Morning for Parent Carers 10-11:30am GPCN Office, Old Police Station, Abergavenny NP7 5BB	3rd SNAP Cymru sessions @ Nevill Hall 10am-1.30pm Please book a slot	4th Newport Autism support group @ Serennu 10am-12pm	5th ADHD+ Support Group @ St James ICC 10am-12pm	6th Sparkle coffee morning @ Serennu 10am-12pm Hope GB Information & Support with Torfaen Home Education Officer at Aspris College, Cwmbran - 6th June, 10am	7th	8th
9th Introduction to Sleep Workshop 10am-12pm Via Teams	10th SNAP Cymru sessions @ Serennu 10am-1.30pm Please book a slot	11th	12th Carer's Risca Coffee afternoon 12pm – 1:30pm The Sycamore Centre Risca	13th	14th	15th
16th	17th Monmouthshire Coffee Morning for Parent Carers 10-11:30am Bridges Centre, NP25 5AS	18th	19th ADHD+ support group @ Serennu 10am-12pm Gwent Parent Carer Network (GPCN) Exclusive ALN Session Kingdom Come Abergavenny 3:30pm-5:30pm	20th Carer's Caerphilly Coffee afternoon 2pm – 3:30pm The Old Library Caerphilly	21st Sparkle Coffee Morning @Caerphilly Children's Centre 9:45am – 11:15am	22nd
23rd ADHD+ support group @ Serennu 5:30pm- 7:30pm Hope GB Information & Support at Thornhill Community Centre - 23rd June, 6pm	24th SNAP Cymru sessions @ Nevill Hall 10am-1.30pm Please book a slot Carer's Caerphilly Coffee Morning 10:30am – 12:00pm McKenzie's Café Blackwood	25th	26th	27th Monmouthshire Coffee Morning for Parent Carers 10-11:30am Mia's Coffee Shop, The Square Magor NP26 3HY	28th	29th
30th SNAP Cymru sessions @ Caerphilly Children's Centre 10am-1.30pm Please book a slot						



SNAP Cymru

Snap Cymru will be at our children's centres over the next few months for drop-in sessions. You can attend any centre to speak to a representative from SNAP Cymru.



Serennu	Nevill Hall	Caerphilly
9 th September 10am-1:30pm	16 th July 10am -12.40pm	30 th June 10am -1:30pm

If you would like to book on to any of the drop-in sessions above, please email

ABB.FamilyLiaisonOfficer@wales.nhs.uk

Snap Cymru

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What Can SNAP Cymru Do?

Talk to you about your concerns. Visit you at home if you want them to. Help you understand how your child can be helped. Help you write down your views about your child. Support you at meetings, school, visits and discussions with professionals who are working with your child if you wish. Give you information about the services in your area and how you might be able to find the support you need.

Contact Information

Talk to someone on 0808 801 0608

Email on: gwent@snapcymru.org

Visit their website at: www.snapcymru.org

Information from ABUHB Paediatrics Service

In celebration of Learning Disability Week (16th–22nd June), we're excited to launch a new pack of visual support tools - designed to enhance the hospital experience for children and young people with additional needs, when admitted to GUH.

Parents can now create a visual timetable in the room to support their child or young person to understand the daily routine on the ward or use it to communicate 'Now' and 'Next.' Packs are available in each pod on the paediatric ward and in the children's assessment unit. A choice of 'real life' pictures or widgeit symbols is currently available, following feedback from members of the Sparkle Youth Forum. They also include information with visuals explaining blood tests, x-ray, CT scan or ultrasound, along with a communication card for post-op patients. If you think your child would benefit from the use of visuals and they aren't offered, then please ask the nursing staff for the pack.



nyas

gwasanaeth eiriolaeth
ieuenctid cenedlaethol
national youth
advocacy service

You have the right to meet with an **ADVOCATE** who can tell you more about how our service can **HELP YOU**

01

Your Social Worker
will contact us on
your behalf

02

We will get in touch and
ask you if you would like
us to visit you

03

If you would like to meet
with us we will arrange this
at a time and a place that
suits you

**Help you to
UNDERSTAND
what's going
on around
you**

**LISTEN
to you**

**Be
independent
and work
only for YOU**



**Help you
to be
INVOLVED
in decisions**

**Support
you to have
your VOICE
heard**

**Inform you
of your
RIGHTS**

www.nyas.net

Helpline **0808 808 1001**

 **NYAS.yv**  **@NYASServices**

Registered Charity No: 1012485



Scrooge - A Cirque Spectacular

6:30pm - Relaxed Performance

ICC Wales Wednesday 17th December 2025

<https://www.iccwales.com/whats-on/cirque-scrooge>

A relaxed performance is a show that's been adapted to suit people who might require a more relaxed environment when going to the theatre. Usually, these are adults or children with learning difficulties, autism or sensory communication disorders.

People with conditions like these can find standard theatre performances overwhelming or unpleasant. Common triggers are darkness, loud music, sudden noises and a generally unfamiliar environment in which you're expected to sit still and quiet for a long time.

To make theatre more accessible to people who might struggle with these aspects, shows will put on a relaxed performance. These do vary slightly from theatre to theatre, but share common themes.

Some technical changes may have been made to the performance – this can include quieter music, reducing loud or surprising sound effects and avoiding strobe lighting.

The atmosphere is exactly that – relaxed! The lights aren't turned off and sometimes aren't even dimmed. Theatres will often provide a 'chill-out' area for people to visit if the experience becomes overwhelming. Generally, people are allowed to enter and leave the auditorium freely, and there is an open attitude towards audience noise and movement.





Our free online workshops in July 🎉

Tuesday 1 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Awesome advertisers

Friday 4 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Checking your benefits online

Saturday 5 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Coding club: Animated animals

Thursday 10 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Staying safe online on any device

Saturday 12 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Coding club: Quiz masters

Thursday 17 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Make a social story on any device

Friday 18 July 10.30am - 11.30am - Supporting your young person into adulthood

Please note that for the sessions that are full you can join the waiting list.

Secure your space now: <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/.../discover.../workshops/>

Torfaen

Events coming up in July 🌟

- 🌟 Introduction to Autism & Understanding Behaviour - Training for Parents & Carers

Friday 4th July 10 - 11:30am

Thornhill Community Centre, Leadon Court, Cwmbran 10 spaces available

- 🌟 Introduction to Autism & Sensory Processing Differences - Training for Parents & Carers

Monday 14th July 6 - 7:30pm

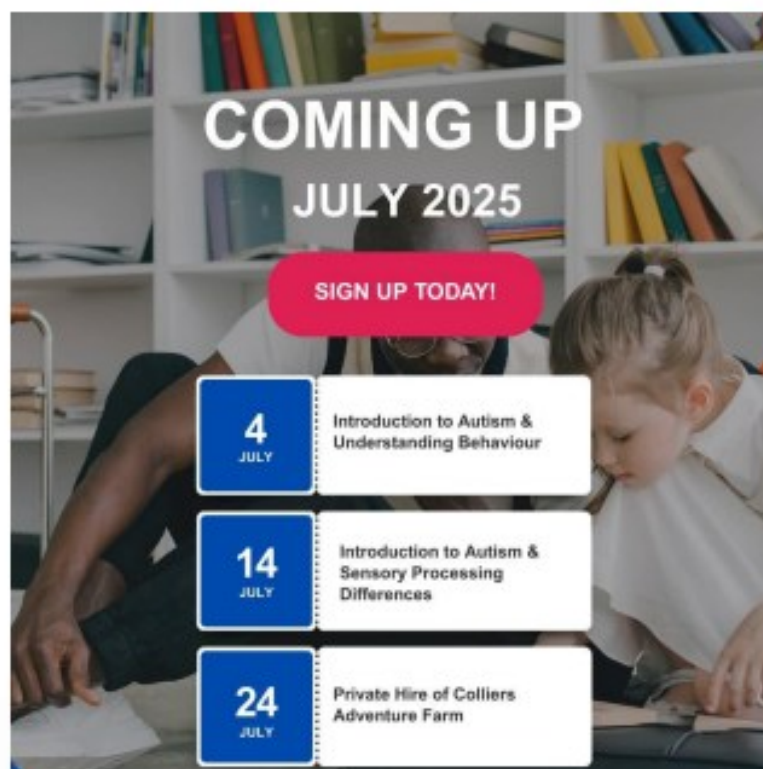
Thornhill Community Centre, Leadon Court, Cwmbran 10 spaces available

- 🌟 Private Hire of Colliers Adventure Farm - Soft play, visit the animals, indoor and outdoor fun

Thursday 24th July 5:30 - 7:30pm aerphilly Road, Treharris CF46 6PR

£5:00 per person (travel not included and parent/carer to stay on site)

Find out more and book your space, hurry, limited spaces available - admin@hopegb.co.uk 💬



**COMING UP
JULY 2025**

SIGN UP TODAY!

4 JULY	Introduction to Autism & Understanding Behaviour
14 JULY	Introduction to Autism & Sensory Processing Differences
24 JULY	Private Hire of Colliers Adventure Farm

Go Play ASD Sessions

We offer an exclusive ASD friendly sessions at our Go Play in Cwmbran Stadium

These are designed to offer a more peaceful play.

Plenty of space – reduced capacity

Music turned down – no loud announcements

[Go Play - Torfaen Leisure Trust](#)



The poster features a background image of a playground with colorful slides and climbing equipment. Overlaid on this are three blue rounded rectangular boxes containing white text. The top box says 'GO PLAY'. The middle box says 'Exclusive ASD friendly session'. The bottom box says 'Wednesdays 4pm-6:30pm'. In the bottom left corner, there is a small icon of a puzzle piece, and in the bottom right corner, there is a stylized logo consisting of three curved lines in blue, orange, and pink.

GO PLAY

**Exclusive ASD
friendly session**

**Wednesdays
4pm-6:30pm**



Torfaen Play Service
in partnership with TOGS



PLAY & SUPPORT SESSIONS

THURSDAYS

10:00am - 11:30am

Activities suitable for
aged 5 and under



Civic Play
Torfaen County
Borough Council,
Civic Centre, Pontypool,
NP4 6YB



BOOKING REQUIRED

For more information please contact: torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk



@chwaraetorfaentorfaenplay



Chwarae Torfaen Torfaen Play



@torfaenplayservice



torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk



Funded by
UK Government
Wedi ei ariannu gan
Llywodraeth y DU



Pontypool Community Council
Cyngror Cymuned Pont-y-Pŵl



A series of teenage wellbeing talks start next week.

The free one-hour talks organised by Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Child and Family Community Psychology team will be held online.

You can sign up for one or two courses or all 5 here: [Talks in Torfaen for Parents & Caregivers: Summer 2025 Sign Up Form](#)



Talks in Torfaen for Parents & Caregivers

Free online wellbeing talks

Supporting your teenager's...

Emotional well-being
10th June 6-7pm

Brain development
17th June 6-7pm

Attendance at school
24th June 6-7pm

Anxiety
1st July 6-7pm

Self-esteem & body image
8th July 6-7pm

Sign up here:



🚦 6-Week Course for Parents & Children! ☀️

Help your child understand their emotions, build confidence, and develop healthy coping strategies—all in a supportive and positive environment.

- 💡 Get support with:
- ☑️ Behavioural challenges
 - 😴 Sleep struggles
 - 💪 Self-esteem boosts
 - 😰 Anxiety & panic attacks
 - 🎯 And much more!

📍 Join Torfaen Talks CIC and Happy Kids with Andrea Jones for this course and support your child's well-being.

🔗 Register your interest here: www.torfaentalkscic.org.uk/chillskills



Presents with



A 6 week course for parents to attend with their children to understand their emotions, feel more positive and learn coping strategies.

Get support with:

- Behavioral issues
- Sleeping problems
- Self esteem
- Anxiety
- Panic attacks
- And much more in a gentle and positive way.

To register your interest, scan the QR code, or click the link below.



Scan here