



Week Ending:
Friday 9th October

Reminders

• Gate opening & closing times:

Morning - 8.30-8.45am

Afternoon - 2.50 - 3.05pm

Please arrive and leave promptly as we are trying to keep the number of people on the school site to a minimum. If the gate is closed, you will need to go to the main entrance.

•**P.E. Kit** - P.E days are on **Tuesday (indoor)** and **Thursday (outdoor)** every week. The kit should include a white T-shirt, black shorts/ leggings/joggers, school jumper and trainers or plimsolls. All children should wear their P.E. kit to school on these days. Due to Covid-19 guidelines, P.E. kits will not be kept in school this term.

•**Snack Money** - Children are invited to bring their own healthy snack to school on a daily basis or can purchase a piece of fruit for £1 per week. The payment of £1 per week should be made via **Parent Pay**. Please contact Mrs Jones or Mrs Rees in the school office if you require any further information or support.

•**Water Bottle** - Children can keep a water bottle in the classroom for taking regular drinks throughout the school day. (This is in addition to any drink that they may bring for their lunch.) Please note that **only water/flavoured water** is permitted - No squash, juice or fizzy drinks, thank you.

•**Labelling Property** - Please ensure all clothing/ lunchboxes/water bottles ... are clearly labelled.

If you have any queries relating to your child's learning or otherwise, please do not hesitate to call in and see us.

Diolch yn fawr.

Mrs Birmingham (Class Teacher), Mrs Buxton & Mrs Burch (Class LSAs)

Dosbarth Thaw ~ Class News at Ysgol y Ddraig

This week...

We began the week by looking at the work of British Land Artist and environmentalist, Andy Goldsworthy. Using his work as inspiration, we worked cooperatively in small groups to create our own land art using the natural materials found in our Forest School and the surrounding area. We formed a variety of images from a castle with turrets and a flag to a very impressive car! We have been discussing the four seasons and focusing on the characteristics of Autumn. We have learned how animals, plants, the weather and people are affected by the seasonal changes. We wrote facts about Autumn and looked closely at an Autumn picture for an activity called: 'I see, I think, I wonder'. For this we had to label what we could see in the picture, write what we thought was happening and discuss our 'wonderings'. As part of our literacy, we worked in our groups to compose a piece of shared writing - A Harvest 'Thank you' prayer. Firstly, we considered the importance of saying 'thank you' and contemplated the many reasons for being grateful for all that we have. We learned about the meaning of Harvest thanksgiving and talked about 'charity'. In writing our prayer, we had to include adjectives to describe the different foods and think of ways to extend our ideas to include more detail. We also learned how to edit and improve our writing together. We have practised logging into 'Hwb' and used the website tool JiT5 Paint program to create an Autumn scene- then saved it and logged out. Throughout the week we have been having fun learning a Harvest song called 'Cauliflowers Fluffy' and recorded our performance wearing the Harvest crowns we'd made from printing a repeating pattern using fruits/vegetables in Autumn colours.

To support our learning and as part of our topic, '**Woodland Wonders**' we would like to create an interest table display in the outdoor classroom where the children can handle, examine and explore the 'Autumn Treasures'. We'd really like to encourage the children to contribute to our *hands-on* display with unusual seeds, nuts, seasonal fruits and a rainbow of leaves in different shapes and sizes. We look forward to sharing your exciting finds!

Word Walls

We have sent the Word Walls home this week. Please help your child to practise the sight words regularly, as we will review them regularly. **These words are 'look & say' words and should be recognised and read instantly, without decoding.** As a further challenge, your child could also learn to spell the words to aid writing fluency.

•**Seesaw** - The Home Learning Grid and weekly class newsletter are available to view on the app.

•**Twitter** - Photographs of your children and updates on class activities are uploaded to **@ysgolyddraig**. Look out for **#Thaw**.

•**Website** - www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk

Dates for the Diary

Every Monday - Please bring a pair of wellies (or suitable alternative footwear) for our outdoor learning activities. Please ensure that your child has suitable clothing for wet/cold weather, e.g. a coat and waterproof trousers (if possible).

Pori Drwy Stori

Next week will be sending home a magazine from the Pori Drwy Stori programme called, 'The Unicorn's Challenge'.

Pori Drwy Stori is an exciting bilingual programme, funded by the Welsh Government and designed by BookTrust Cymru, aimed at supporting children's literacy and numeracy as they start Reception class and enter Year 1 in all maintained schools in Wales.

The programme supports parents and carers to play an active role in their children's learning through sharing rhymes and songs, enjoying books together, playing number games and completing fun activities.

The Unicorn's Challenge magazine is designed to be sent home with children over the summer at the end of their Reception year to support children as they move into the new school year. However this year, due to Covid-19, the magazine is being sent home during the first term of Year 1.

The fun activities are linked to the Foundation Phase and Literacy and Numeracy Framework outcomes and encourage children to practice key skills through playing games with a parent or carer.

We hope that you enjoy the activities and playing the games.

