



Week Ending:  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Dosbarth Thaw ~ Class News at  
Ysgol y Ddraig



## Reminders

### • Gate opening & closing times:

**Morning - 8.30-8.45am**

**Afternoon - 2.50 - 3.05pm**

Please arrive and leave promptly to help us keep the number of people on the school site to a minimum during busier times of the day.

• **P.E. Kit** - P.E days are on **Tuesday (indoor)** and **Thursday (outdoor)** every week. All children should wear their P.E. kit to school on these days.

• **Snack Money** - Children can bring their own healthy snack to school every day or the school can provide a piece of fruit daily for £1 per week. (Weekly payment to be made via **Parent Pay**, please.)

• **Water Bottle** - Please note that **only water/flavoured water** is permitted in the bottles kept in the classroom - No squash, juice or fizzy drinks, thank you.

• **Outdoor learning activities - Every Monday and Wednesday** - Please bring a pair of wellies (or suitable alternative footwear) for our outdoor learning activities. Please ensure that you have suitable clothing for wet weather, e.g. a coat and waterproof trousers (if possible).



## Communication

• **Seesaw** - Please can we remind families to log in to your child's Seesaw account. This is where we will be able to communicate with you by sharing our class letter, announcements and some Home Learning activities. It's important to us that home and school can work together in partnership and Seesaw can help us to do this. If you have any technical questions or difficulties logging in/navigating the platform you can email, [ddraigsupport5@hwbcymru.net](mailto:ddraigsupport5@hwbcymru.net)

• **Twitter** - class updates are uploaded to **@ysgolyddraig**. Look out for **#Thaw**.

• **Website** - [www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk](http://www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk)

## This week...

We have continued to learn more about Diwali, the Hindu 'Festival of Lights'. To help us understand the important parts of the celebration we made and decorated pinch pot diya lamps from salt dough and uploaded a photo onto Seesaw; designed mehndi patterns; constructed symmetrical rangoli floor patterns using Numicon, 2-D shapes and loose parts; made a Diwali greetings card by following step-by-step instructions; tasted a poppadom and mango chutney; listened to traditional Indian music; created a firework picture; and finally, used information from our own mind map of Diwali to write a description of the five day festival using a word mat and 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell some of the topic words. PHEW! We also followed the Diwali theme in our Dance lesson by acting out parts of the story through movement and response to music. We completed practising the 'Robot-arm' letters (p, b, k) and thought carefully about the formation and size. [Please, take a look at the letter formation 'How to' videos on Seesaw to help extra practise at home.] We had a great time in Forest School finding out about how to build shelters from natural materials for different animals. We had to learn how to tie knots and worked in pairs to build tripod shelters. We talked about camouflage and how to disguise the shelters from predators. Something that we'd all been looking forward to this week was writing our letters to Father Christmas! We looked at the structure of a letter and used a writing frame with different sentence openers to help us organise our writing. Some of us tried to use connectives and more detail to extend our sentences. We also had to write Father Christmas' address on the envelope, being very careful to write our words clearly for the postman to read. Some of us knew our own address and we talked about why it's important to know where we live. We are going to walk to Llantwit Major Post Office to post our letters very soon. If you have not already done so, please remember to send a first class postage stamp into school before Wednesday 25th November - Thank you!



The children are really enjoying their time in Forest School experiences and will be having their third session led by Mrs Julia Price @walkinthewild on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November**. Please remember to bring suitable clothing and footwear for the activities.

If you have any queries relating to your child's learning or otherwise, please do not hesitate to call in and see us. If that's not possible, please phone the school or send us an email and we'll respond as soon as we can..

Diolch yn fawr.

Mrs Birmingham (Class Teacher) and Mrs John (Class LSA)