



Year 1 Class News at Ysgol y Ddraig

Week Ending:
Friday 3rd May

Reminders

•**Word Walls** - Please continue to practise the sight words often, as we will review them regularly. These words are 'look & say' words and should be recognised and read without decoding. Rapid recognition improves reading accuracy and fluency. As a further challenge, your child could also learn to spell the words to aid writing fluency.

•**P.E. Kit** -Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school, for both indoor **and outdoor** activities. Suitable outdoor footwear will be required (eg trainers or plimsoles). P.E days are on **Monday** and **Thursday** every week.

•**Reading Folders & Books** -After listening to your child read, please sign and date the reading record and add a comment, if desired. Then, return the book bag, reading book and reading record on the day allocated to your child.

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

•**Website** - www.ysgolyddraig.co.uk



This week...

Croeso nôl! - Welcome back!

We can't believe how quickly this year seems to be moving along, as it's the summer term already! The children seemed very happy to be back in the classroom and, judging by the level of noise, they certainly had a lot to talk about! We started the week by completing some number problem solving investigations called Pyramid Sums, Odds and Evens and Best Beach. We had to use our knowledge of number facts and adding pairs of single-digit numbers to solve the mystery of the pyramid. We did our detective work by adding the same pairs of numbers in different combinations to see if we could work out the pattern. With the odds and evens challenge we had to add two single-digit numbers and work out if the total resulted in an odd or even number. We discovered that by adding two even numbers together we made another even number and by adding two odd numbers together they also made an even number. However, if we added an even number with an odd number the total always made an odd number. We tested our results several times to check our theory. We used the computer to choose the 'best beach' for each character by listening to what each character liked to do at the beach and then identifying which beach would meet their needs by checking the symbols in the key. We were able to edit our choices and improve our answers. We spent some time talking about our favourite memories of the Easter break and then wrote our final entry in our diary. It will be fun to read our diary in years to come - it'll remind us of some of the fun things we did in Year 1. This week we learned how to describe our family in Welsh. We also practised asking our friends about their families by creating our own questionnaire using the question pattern, 'Oes ___gyda ti?' (Do you have a ___?). We also read a book together called 'Teulu Tomos' (Thomas' Family) to help us to recognise and learn our key vocabulary. As we are beginning a new term we are also starting a new topic. This term our topic is called, 'Rio de Vida' and, as the title suggests, we are jetting off to sunny Brazil and exploring the tropical Amazon rainforest, the famous landmarks and the colourful Rio carnival! We started our learning journey by sharing what we already know about Brazil and then considering what we would like to discover and learn during our topic. So that we can reflect on our ideas, we created group mind-maps of our suggestions.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May - Children return to school

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) and Mrs Roberts (Class LSA).

Home Learning - 'Rio de Vida' Summer Topic

Please find this term's Home Learning grid on the reverse of this newsletter. **Copies of future weekly newsletters and the Home Learning grid for Dosbarth Thaw will be available on the Ysgol y Ddraig website.** A quick reminder of how the homework grid works: The four yellow corner boxes suggest activities that should be undertaken regularly throughout each week. The eight white boxes are topic related activities that include opportunities for developing literacy, numeracy and ICT skills in different contexts. All of the work brought into school is celebrated with the class, which then forms part of our class wall display for the topic - developing over the course of the term. We suggest that the children should complete a minimum of three of the topic-based activities throughout the Summer term (May-July). All activities are intended to encourage parental involvement in the fun learning experiences. As our school motto says, 'Achieve, Challenge, Enjoy'

