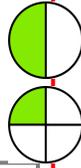


Year 1 Class News at Ysgol y Ddraig

Week Ending:
Friday 24th May



Reminders

• **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.

• **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.

• **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...

In maths, we have been thinking about using our knowledge of the number bonds to 10 to help make the bonds to 20. For example, if $4 + 6 = 10$ then, 14 and $6 = 20$. We extended this idea to find ways of using our number facts to help us make larger numbers: $4 + 6 = 10$ and 34 and $6 = 40$. We also learned about fractions of shape-discovering how to find halves and quarters of different regular 2-d shapes. We found out that fractions are equal parts of a shape. In our writing activities, we wrote instructions on how to care for a flowering plant and have started making information booklets to describe the different layers of the Amazon rainforest using some of the facts we'd learned from last week. We looked at the work of Henri Rousseau who painted, 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm'. It reminded us of the rainforest with all of the leaves and colours. This led us to making close observations of different varieties of leaves in our environment -looking at their shapes, textures and lines-then completing observational drawings in our sketch books. In Forest School, we looked at the delicate bluebells that grow abundantly during May time and wrote a poem to describe their beauty. After that, we used different materials to collage an outline of bluebells, showing different textures and the many shades of blue and tore pieces from real leaves to create a mosaic for the foliage. In P.E., we started to practise a couple of the team races that we shall enjoy during our Sports' Day later this term. For these races we had to think about using our skills of control, coordination and working together to achieve our goal. Finally, to end the week, we had a special visitor- Dave from 'Animal Zone'. We were very excited because Dave had brought some of his *creature friends* to show us and many of them can be found in the Amazon rainforest. We saw hissing cockroaches, snakes and lizards and lots more besides! We listened to Dave as he told us about their habitats, diets and how to care for them. Our afternoon of close encounters was fascinating!

Home Learning

Slowly but surely we are beginning to fill our class topic wall display with wonderful examples of Home Learning. This week we have added a feathery carnival mask and more information about rainforest animals. As we have a whole week off school ahead of us, perhaps your child could challenge themselves to complete one or maybe two of the many choices available on the Home Learning grid. We would really like to have at least one item of work on the display to represent every child in our class by the end of the topic this term. So please, give it a go!

Dates for the Diary

Monday 3rd June - Children return to school

Lost Property

One of our children's entire P.E. kit and bag has been missing from school for a few weeks. The kit bag is an Ysgol y Ddraig drawstring type and all items of clothing are named. Please would you check to see if your child has inadvertently taken the wrong P.E. bag home with them at some point this term. Thank you for your help.

Sports' Day Practise

We are nearing that time of year again when the children will be participating in one of the highlights in the school calendar - the Foundation Phase Sports' Day. As usual, in the weeks leading up to the day, the children will be practising all of the team races and games. However, many children still do not have a P.E. kit in school and, for these lessons, all children **MUST** have suitable clothing to wear for physical development activities. Therefore, we politely request that you provide your child with a P.E. kit for the lessons planned after the Whitsun break. Thank you for your co-operation.

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).

Enjoy
half
term

