



GELLISWICK NEWSLETTER 18th January 2019

Contact us: admin.gelliswick@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01646 692894

MESSAGE FROM MR DYER, THE HEAD TEACHER

- I want to start by saying well done to the children who have made a great start to term. This is an important term for really pushing on with progress and learning and it has been a good first two weeks. There is a calm and purposeful atmosphere in the school, and good enthusiasm from the children. **Da iawn plant.**
- I would also like to thank parents for the way you work with us through the support you give your children to be ready for learning. **'Be Ready'** is one of our school rules – indeed it is a watchword for being able to achieve – and it is a pleasure to welcome children in to school each morning who are already 'ready for learning' and ready to enjoy their day.
- I would like to ask for some continuing help: I am grateful that many of you ensure that you do not bring your dogs close to our gates and doors where pupils come in and out of school. We certainly don't want children to learn to be afraid of dogs, but this helps the very few children who may have real anxiety about dogs, as well as keeping everyone safe. Sometimes parents do this by leaving their dogs further away when collecting children. Can I ask however, that you are careful not to leave your dog tethered and unaccompanied on the main routes near the school, even if this is not directly outside the school. Thank you.
- I wonder what your reaction would be if I told you that **if school was only open Monday to Thursday, then we would hit our attendance target of 95%**. Unfortunately, because the Friday average is barely 93%, our overall figure takes a real hit. You know of course that the learning on Friday is just as important as the other days, but I wonder if there is a general feeling that Friday is not as important. But Friday is important – it is 20% of children's education for one thing, and it also means that habits and routines – being ready for learning – are not interrupted for long periods. **So, let's make it our mission to vigilant about Fridays**, and do let us know if there are things that you think would make a difference.

MESSAGE FROM THE PUPILS

From the School Council

School Council met just before the Christmas, we will give you the full report next week in the newsletter. We asked Class Councils to discuss the following:

- *How can we improve children's attitude to learning?*
- *What helps children with their learning?*
- *How can we get children to improve their attendance?*
- *What ideas do children have to raise Money for our school disco?*
- *How can we improve children's walking in the corridors?*

Since the meeting we have had our KS2 disco, it went really well. It was the first time we have had a disco in our Gelliswick School. We raised nearly £700, this money went into all the KS2 classes to buy books and equipment. We would like to say a massive thank you to Jordan's Mum who brought two bouncy castles along.

DM: **"It was a massive success, everyone had a brilliant time"**

ZS: **"We hope we can hold some more discos like this in the future"**



From Criw Cymraeg

Here is the 'Ymadrodd yr Wythnos' (phrase of the week). We should all be good at this one by now:

Ga i..... os gwelwch yn dda?	Can I have please?
bencil help ddwr rwber papur lud	pencil help water rubber paper glue

Gelliswick School Values / Ysgol Gelliswick Gwerthoedd



Compassion
Courage
Creativity
Fairness
Forgiveness
Friendship
Generosity

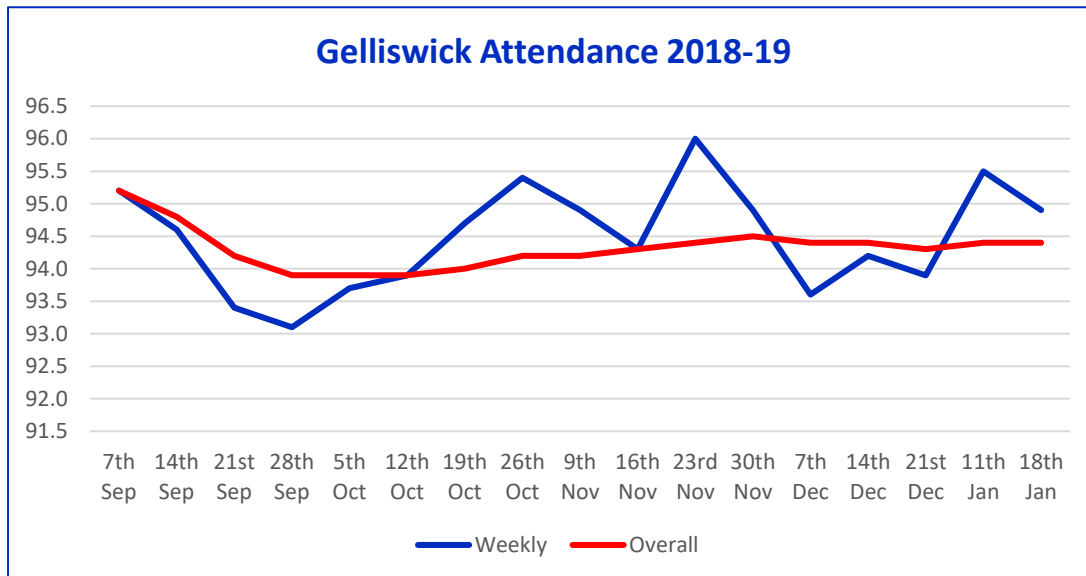
Hope
Humility
Love
Peace
Perseverance
Respect
Responsibility
Service

Sportsmanship
Spirituality
Team work
Thankfulness
Trust
Truthfulness
Wisdom

CAUGHT MOMENTS – Diolch a da iawn to these children who were 'caught' living Gelliswick's values:

Friendship & Team Work	Miss Yelland caught Aidan Carter and Yusuf Barry showing service and team work when helping to look after resources in our classroom.
Respect	Mrs Vaughan caught Ellie Mathias in showing respect in tidying up the classroom
Friendship	Mrs Mountstevens caught Chase Davies showing friendship to a new member of the class.
Responsibility	Mrs D Evans caught Bayleigh Lewis being a responsible Helpwr Heddiw and helping to give instructions to the class.
Perseverance	Mrs George caught Logan Jenkins-Sanderson persevering when writing tricky adding sums.
Respect	Mrs Evans and Mrs Ormond caught Riley Picton showing respect to adults all week Mrs Blair caught Chad Harrison Bennet showing respect, letting others go in front of him in the line.
Teamwork	Mrs Littlejohns caught Macen Williams and Dylan Lewis working together and helping each other out to complete an activity.
Perseverance	Miss Council caught Leon Hitchcock trying to write his number sentences on his own
Responsibility	Miss Ralph caught Lilrose Gray being mature and responsible in solving a problem
Responsibility	Mrs Evans caught Alyssa Hartley showing great perseverance when she found part of her Welsh poster a little tricky.
Perseverance	Mrs Candler caught Harley Smith persevering with his writing independently.
Teamwork	Miss Scale caught Corey Cato-Goffin showing teamwork when working with the laptops
Friendship	Mr Williams caught Oliver Gray supporting a friend when they were upset.
Respect	Mrs Whatling caught Alfie Candler holding the door open for her and another pupil and showing impeccable manners.
Generosity	Mr Stow caught Jack Williams giving up his time to help other children on the laptops.
Perseverance	Mrs Reynolds caught Lewis Morgan persevering with being ready and making good choices.

Attendance Matters



The blue line shows how we have done each week.

The red line shows how we are doing overall through the year.

We are hovering around 94.4%, but can get this up to 95% by staying above 95% now.

A slight drop this week at 94.9%, but close to the target. I am sure we can keep our upward graph.

School Matters!



ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our target	95%
This week	94.9%
This year so far	94.4% Still lots to do to get up to 95%

Last year we were 93.5%, in the lowest 25% in Wales.
Gelliswick can do better – we have to for our children

**IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE ALL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO IMPROVE OUR ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR.
NOT HERE? NOT LEARNING ENOUGH?**

Congratulations to the following classes for over 95%

Whitesands 100%; Swanlake Bay 99.0%; Westdale 98.2%; Tenby 97.6%; Barafundle 97.3%; Marloes 96.9%; Manorbier 96.7%; Coppet Hall 95.3%; Sandy Haven 95.2%; Trefdraeth 95.0%

GELLISWICK NEWS

Writing in Foundation Phase

In Reception the children are using Little Red Riding Hood as their stimulus. They have learnt about fiction writing and non-fiction and have been finding out about wolves. They thought of lots of amazing words to describe wolves and used these to write group poems. [You can see one of the group poems here.](#)

In Year 1 the children have been learning about Weather and the Seasons and used facts to write information texts about a Season.

In Year 2 the children have been learning about the Chinese New Year and have drawn story maps and retold the story.

The wolf

Ar Wooooooooo!

The wolf runs in the woods as fast as the wind,

His ears pointing to the sky,

His pointy black nose sniffing for his dinner,

His fluffy coat keeps him warm and cosy,

Wagging his tail and chasing the animals,

Sharp pointy teeth ready to eat the little animals,

Caught with his big sharp claws.

Ar Wooooooooooooooooo!

Writing in Key Stage Two

This term the children have started with learning and writing persuasive texts and warning stories

Before Christmas lessons were focused on instruction texts and 'defeating the monster' stories. [Read this story from Aliyah in year 6 if you dare ...](#)

The Dark Village

Hades staggered along the jungle path, it was covered in crunchy leaves and broken branches. He looked blurry eyed, gazing at the thick canopy of leaves. Enormous trees towered over him and the leaves danced down from the trees as they fell to the ground. The last thin rays of summer sunlight slipped through the strange shaped thorns casting a maze of ebony shadows.

Hades arrived at the dark village like temple deep in the jungle. Shattered pots, damaged clay bricks and broken glass covered the floor like the buildings had been sick. Chimneys leaned and dreamt in the sky; smoke puffing slowly into the atmosphere. But in the corner sat unnoticed ancient patterned pottery wheel sat spinning with green disgusting mouldy clay on the top like someone had disappeared half-way through making something beautiful.

Hades sat next to the pottery wheel and waited. A bitter wind shook the temple. The temple creaked, it sounded as if it was going to collapse onto Hades. Hades sensed something moving; something watching him. He grasped a brick. He heard something scurrying...

He ran away but tripped over a tree and screamed as he fell. Something jumped onto his back. He turned, shivering with fear. A rabbit gazed at him. Hades stroked its silk like fur and felt a wave of calmness travel through him. The rabbit bounced off into the night, calm and innocent, unaware of the jungle monsters beyond.

Hades pined for his companion. His precious panda friend was full of confidence and bravery and Hades was certain he would know exactly how to react in any dangerous situation. Hades had watched Mia the Panda defeat many dangerous creatures. Unfortunately, the dark village remained a pitch black space, the last thin wisps of light choking.

In the distance, Mia the panda ambled between the temples following the scent of her leader. Far away he could hear his mother's lonely cry. A sharp, distant cry that drew him closer. Darkness settled on to the village like a blanket had been thrown over the area and panda hated the dark. Everything stilled and the scent track was hard to follow. The moon sat in the sky like a stilled galleon. As energy drifted out of Mia's body he started to dream about the escapades of the day.

Men running with spears, women screaming and dogs barking viciously. Fear had taken over. The attack on the village came without warnings or sign. Thirty or so rebels came to take our gold. We had worked hard for the gold. At the time, I was playing marbles with Hades outside our home. We ran in different directions. Hades cold sweaty face is my last memory. Will I ever see him again?

Hades stared into the dark not completely sure what he was staring at his eyes ached. Something moved between the trees. Trudging in his direction. Squelch, squelch, squelch. He tried to keep as still as the temple to become one with the temple.

A vine covered brick seemed to rise out of a bush. The Komodo dragon stood on its hind legs. It shot venom at Hades face so he dodged it. Its body was as thick as a tire. Its eyes were hidden in its skin, its nails as big as five daggers. Armour like skin rough and bold. Its great face turned slowly, sensing the bitter stillness. His heart beating as if, if he didn't run it would pop out. So he grabbed a knife threw it and hoped for the best.

Images whirled in Hades mind. The Komodo dragon's swollen eyes. The dark village. Then, Mia's warm smile appeared out the jungle. Hades felt safe and calm.

GETTING IT RIGHT...

MERIT AWARD – Llongyfarchiadau, congratulations to our Merit Winners this week:

Poppit Sands (PT Nursery)	Jack Haughey	For having a fantastic attitude to everything we do.
Poppit Sands (Nursery)	Joshua Williams	For settling into his new class so well.
Tenby (Reception)	Isaac Edwards	For drawing an amazing story map of Little Red Riding Hood.
Newgale (Reception)	Marnie Bridgeman	For fantastic storytelling of Little Red Riding Hood when following our Story map.
Parrog (Year 1)	Mickey Macury	For an excellent classroom helper with super scissor skills.
Manorbier (Year 1)	Seth Holden	For working so hard in Literacy, highlighting important text features in a piece about Winter.
Whitesands (Nursery to yr 2)	Osian Jones	For working really hard in his Read Write Inc sessions and making lots of new words.
Nolton (Year 2)	Pippa Mayhew	For excellent telling of the Chinese New Year story.
Druidston (Year 2)	Jaydan Shipley	For showing enthusiasm with his writing in Literacy this week.
Westdale (Year 2)	Latysa McBrien	For working really hard in maths and showing perseverance with division.
Little Haven (Year 1-3)	Ethan Brown	For sequencing our story of Little Red Riding Hood and explaining what was happening in each picture.
Pwllgwaelod (Year 3)	Harper Bristow	For settling so well into her new class and for working SO hard every day.
Coppet Hall (Year 3)	Wyatt McBrien	For trying really hard to be positive about all aspects of school life, and really giving everything 100% this week.
Swanlake Bay (Year 4)	Mali-Rose John	For giving all aspects of school life a 100%.
Abereiddi (Year 4)	Leon Abbott	For working really hard in maths and showing great perseverance.
Sandy Haven (Year 5)	Amy Watts	For researching well and finding lots of information about the heart.
Skrinkle Haven (Year 5)	Lily Naylor	For consistent hard work during every lesson.
Barafundle (Year 6)	Lewis Llewellyn	For working hard in maths, showing resilience and determination when faced with a challenge.
Trefdraeth (Year 6)	Owain Roberts	For working hard during literacy lessons, sharing his work with the class and continually editing and improving his work.
Marloes (Year 3 to 6)	Ioan Williams	For an excellent piece of independent writing, challenging himself to try writing on his own.

BE SAFE, BE RESPECTFUL, BE READY

The 'Hot Chocolate with the Head Teacher' reward is for children who have consistently followed our three rules, and who have gone 'above and beyond' in this, often in a quietly unassuming way.

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD TEACHER

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

Poppit Sands (Nursery)	Gabby Harding	Pwllgwaelod (Year 3)	Caelin Harris
Tenby (Reception)	Lola Johnson	Coppet Hall (Year 3)	Wiktorina Barnett
Newgale (Reception)	Heidi Witts	Swanlake Bay (Year 4)	Paige Collymore
Parrog (Year 1)	Mackenzie Newton	Abereiddi (Year 4)	Lily Owens
Manorbier (Year 1)	Ethan Brown	Sandy Haven (Year 5)	Isabella Defrancesco
Nolton (Year 2)	Louis Rutherford	Skrinkle Haven (Year 5)	Nia Sweeney
Druidston (Year 2)	Amara Ipek	Barafundle (Year 6)	Rhianan Stinton
Westdale (Year 2)	Leeanna Abbott	Trefdraeth (Year 6)	Harvey Pilgrim
Whitesands (Nursery to Yr 2)	Kenny Smith	Marloes (Year 3 to 6)	Ollie Allerton
Little Haven (Year 1-3)	Ethan Brown	Broad Haven (year 5/6)	Christopher Maguire