

GARNTEG PRIMARY



GARNTEG PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Lythys - Newsletter - 8th May 2020

This half term our value is "Unity" being united or joined together as a whole.



Dear Parent/Carer,
Annwyl Rhieni

Welcome to our sixth edition of our online newsletter. This letter will be tweeted, added to our school website and posted on the Hwb and Class Dojo sites.

We hope you are all well and looking after yourselves and your families. As always we really, really miss you all and thank you for all your lovely photos and work you are sharing with us every week. We hope you will be celebrating VE day today at home with some special thoughts to our War Heroes and NHS and all frontline workers, a very special time for us all.

Note of Thanks

After a week of voting for the next Garnteg staff singalong the winner with 51% was: Can't stop the Feeling: look out next week for more dance actions from the staff.

Year 7 Transition

We have been in contact with the secondary schools and they will be setting up links onto the year 6 Hwb pages and Teams for you where you can meet and ask questions. For children going to Abersychan Comprehensive there will also be a link on the Abersychan website for transition these updates will be available in the next two weeks so please keep checking. The schools will also be offering virtual school tours via the link too and a transition booklet will be set up. Classes for Year 7 will be set up in much the same way as it normally would, and our teachers are already setting up meetings and providing lots of information. The classes for Abersychan plan to be completed when they would be available in June.

Transition Nursery and Reception Garnteg

In much the same way staff at Garnteg are currently preparing induction booklets presentation and virtual tours and will be phoning parents in the forthcoming weeks to discuss our new pupils. All staff are really looking forward to talking to all parents about our new pupils.

Link to Education Ministers press release 07.05.20

As you are aware this week there has been a lot of speculation about schools re opening on 1st June. Kirsty Williams in her press release states this will not happen in Wales. There will need to be a period of due care and preparation for pupils, staff and parents on school sites before this happens. Please visit this link for the full statement;

<https://gov.wales/situation-schools-will-not-change-june-1st-education-minister-says>

Letters to Care Home Residents

Due to the current situation we have unfortunately been unable to take part in our intergenerational project with residents of care homes in the local area and know how much our pupils and residents enjoy this project. We will therefore be asking pupils if they would like to write letters to residents instead. We are able to accept scans/photographs of handwritten letters or letters that have been typed. Look out for more information on your class Hwb pages.

Digital commitment for home learning

We know that some families may need some IT equipment and connections to WI FI in the homes. We are working with Torfaen and SRS in the next two weeks to make this available to all families who need it.

Information

Staying Safe online

Learners and schools are now using technology to continue their learning and many of us are relying on technology for work and communicating with friends and family. This increase in the use of technology has raised the importance of keeping children and young people safe online. The latest Online Safety Zone half termly news article, published last Friday on Welsh Governments Hwb, has many useful tips:

<https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/online-safety/news/articles/42ae160b-7ab4-4510-8792-c70ef861c6d5>

<https://www.gwentsafeguarding.org.uk/en/Children/Parents-and-Carers/Keeping-Children-Safe-Online/Keeping-Children-Safe-Online.aspx>

Support for Home Learning

Each class has been meeting virtually via video link using Microsoft Teams. This can be found within the Office 365 section of Hwb. A guide which shows you how to access this can be found here <http://www.garntegprimary.co.uk/media/1493/hwb-teams-guide-correct.pdf>

If you are having any problems accessing Hwb or any of our online material please don't hesitate to get in touch with your class teacher or email us using

garntegschool.office@torfaen.gov.uk

Garnsychan Partnership are now working to support immediate frontline services for residents and families affected by Covid-19. More information is available on:
<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/AboutTheCouncil/Homepage-Stories/Coronavirus/Other-Local-Organisations/Other-Local-Organisations.aspx>

Thrive

Thrive activities can be found in all class 'hwbs' in a file called 'Thrive activities'. These activities can be used by all children even if they do not currently take part in Thrive sessions in school. The activities are designed for you to use with your child to support their emotional development at home. They will help to develop connections through play and fun activities. Play releases lots of feel good chemicals that help us feel calm, steady and connected.

Well done to those who have already sent in some lovely examples of your Thrive work!

Deaf Awareness week

This week is deaf awareness week, please see your child's class page for details of activities that are available to support deaf awareness - I particularly enjoyed doing the fingerspelling word search, it's a great challenge!

Nursery - Another fantastic week of home learning! Thank you for the pictures, tweets and messages. It was lovely to see so many of you on the class Teams video chat and meeting your pets. Our next chat will be Monday 11th May, we look forward to seeing you then. Enjoy your weekend and stay safe.

Dosbarth 1 & 2 - Wow what an amazing week again Reception! You have been working so hard and it has been a pleasure to see all the amazing work being sent in through your pictures and videos, give yourselves a big pat on the back!! There will be new challenges uploaded from Monday to start the new week! Next week Mr Key's class call will be Tuesday 12th May at 10.30am instead of Monday. Class 1's next team call remains on Monday. We hope you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend including VE celebrations! Diolch!

Dosbarth 3 & 4 - Another fantastic week of home learning, we hope you are enjoying our new topic 'Ready, Steady, Cook.' Thank you for sharing all your photos and videos, we love seeing learning at home. Each piece of work has been uploaded to your personal files in Hwb and Dojos have been awarded. A new set of home learning tasks and challenges will be updated next week. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to home learning.

We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating VE Day and enjoy spending time with your families celebrating the special occasion.

Dosbarth 5 & 6 - Thank you for all your efforts this week! We have had another fantastic week of our Summer Term home learning topic 'Inside and Out.' This week, we have loved reading your important letters to the NHS and we can't wait to read more of them as they are sent to us. We are all very proud of you! Keep climbing to sparkle and keep sharing your incredible work! New challenges will be on Hwb files next week. They will be in the file

named 'Summer Term Week Commencing 11-05-20.' We have loved our Team Meeting sessions too! It's been wonderful seeing and speaking to you all! The 'Show and Tell' sessions were lovely and have really made us smile! We look forward to seeing you again next week!

😊 Enjoy the weekend and VE celebrations! 🧗

Dosbarth 7 & 8 - Diolch yn fawr for all your amazing effort this week. Keep it up! We hope you are all enjoying our new topic of 'We are Survivors.' Make sure to check in daily with your Hwb class and Class Dojo for your tasks. Reminder that we will have a weekly team meeting - Class 7 on Mondays and Class 8 on Fridays. It's been a pleasure to see and speak to you all! Next week we will be celebrating Earth Day. We have lots of fun activities that you can complete with your families. Another reminder that Urdd Eisteddfod entries need to be sent to us by Monday, so we can submit your entries. Good luck. Have a lovely weekend and keep climbing to sparkle! 😊

Dosbarth 9 & 10 - Diolch yn fawr Dosbarth 9 & 10 for another amazing week learning at home. It is lovely to see more of you joining into our weekly teams meeting on Monday and Friday. All the staff in Year 4 look forward to seeing your fantastic work every day-you are making us all very proud. We were astounded by your silhouette artwork work for VE day-I think that we have some artists in the making. Keep up this fantastic work with your families and keep sharing with us. Have a lovely weekend with your families, keep safe and remember keep Climbing to Sparkle Year 4!

Dosbarth 11 & 12 - Thank you for all your efforts and hard work this week. We are so impressed with everything you have been doing, uploading and showing us. Class 11 have taken part in 'Hands-on Learning week' and class 12 have been busy baking, making and preparing for VE Day. Well done to every single one of you! We look forward to our Teams meetings next week and are looking forward to hearing about your weekend. Another big well done to those who have participated in the Eisteddfod entries. Diolch yn fawr! Have a lovely weekend, keep safe and remember, keep climbing to sparkle!

Dosbarth 13 & 14 - Thank you for all your efforts this week. We have seen some amazing pieces of work. It has been really enjoyable (and emotional) to read your Covid-19 hero stories this week and we can't wait to read more of them as they are uploaded. We have also enjoyed reading your topic work. Keep it up! You are making us so proud of you all. It has also been great to see so many of you online with our Teams meetings and we look forward to more of these chats next week. Enjoy the weekend, have fun with your families and keep safe and we will see you back online on Monday. Keep climbing to sparkle!

We miss you, and send all of our best wishes at this time

Kind regards,

Mrs S E Roche & all the staff at Garnteg