



**GARNTEG PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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### Lythys - Newsletter - 22nd 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 eighth 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 as the bank holiday approaches. 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.

### Note of Thanks

We hoped you enjoyed watching our staff video last week. This week our talented **school orchestra** have helped us make another video to say well done for the super work you have all completed this half term and also to say a big thank you to the key workers for looking after us and keeping us safe. We are sure you will be really impressed with our school orchestra and staff for compiling this excellent video on the link below:

<https://youtu.be/1TEByZ2ai2o> titled Mr Baked Potato.

### Information

As always we will be here to support you over the next week but due to it being bank holiday week the tasks set will be similar to that of Easter. Designed for you to be on a much lighter note so when we return the week after we will all be refreshed. Staff next week will also be working up at the HUB we look forward to seeing some of you there.

### New Staying Safe Coronavirus Posters

A competition for all year groups, can pupils design staying safe coronavirus posters to display. Can you send these to the class teachers through Class Dojo and Hwb. Thankyou.

### **Torfaen Young People's Counselling Service**

Torfaen's Primary Counselling Service is available to support parents and carers as they support their children at home. They are currently offering support to parents/carers so that they can have access to guidance and support in order to respond if they feel their child is struggling. Their Facebook page is regularly updated with ideas, techniques and apps that can be useful when a young person is not coping.

**Facebook:** Torfaen Young People's Counselling Service

<https://www.facebook.com/Torfaen-Young-Peoples-Counselling-Service-109172984050900/>

**Instagram:** ccyp\_counselling

**Confidential Telephone Message Service:** 01633 453035 - Leave a message with your name and number and a counsellor will get in touch

### **Year 7 Transition**

It has been fantastic to see pupils making use of the new Abersychan transition Teams account where you can leave questions for the staff to answer. Year 7 transition also have Twitter (@abersychan2020) and Instagram (abersychan20202026) accounts available for pupils to make use of also.

### **Transition Nursery and Reception Garnteg**

In much the same way staff at Garnteg are currently preparing induction booklets presentations 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. Intake presentations are available to watch on the school website for parents of pupils due to start Nursery and Reception next academic year.

<http://www.garntegprimary.co.uk/information-zone/admissions/>

Information about the school can be found in our new prospectus 2020-21 here

<http://www.garntegprimary.co.uk/our-school/school-prospectus/>

### **First Minister of Wales press release**

Many of you have been asking about the position regarding the re-opening of schools in Wales. The Education Minister has published a working document on the decision framework for the next phase of education and childcare. Here are the links for information:

<https://gov.wales/decision-framework-next-phase-education-and-childcare>

<https://gov.wales/education-minister-sets-out-thinking-return-schools>

Kirsty Williams, Minister for Education also took part in a live Q&A session on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Here is the link

<https://www.facebook.com/welshgovernment/videos/2800439016735456/>

### **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 to make this available to all families who need it, hopefully by the first week back after half term.

### **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](mailto:garntegschool.office@torfaen.gov.uk)

### **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!

**Nursery** - Thank you for another week of fantastic home learning! Your obstacle courses were really creative, and we love seeing your enthusiasm at having a go at the daily tasks. Our next Teams video chat will be Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Remember to use our class page on Hwb to access resources to support your home learning. We also have daily discussions at 9am. Keep safe and have a lovely half term!

**Dosbarth 1 & 2** - Da iawn Reception for all the super home learning you have been up to this week! We are very proud of you all. Teams meetings will start again after half term with a meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 10.30am. Make sure to check in on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> for new challenges and updates on HWB! We love seeing your fabulous work and giving you lots of dojo points!! We have uploaded some half term challenges for you to our HWB classes including a stay safe poster and a challenge from the wildlife trust! Have a lovely half term and see you on the 1<sup>st</sup> June! 😊

**Dosbarth 3 & 4** - As we come to the end of the half term we want to say a big bendigedig for all of your hard work. We are so proud of you all. We hope you have a lovely half term break spending time with your families. Our next Teams meeting is on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 11am and we will be ready to hear all about what you have been up to over half term. We also update the Hwb class and Dojo pages every morning so don't forget to have a look at these. We have uploaded some hands-on learning tasks for you to have a go at over half term on Hwb and Twitter and, we can't wait to see what you get up to. Diolch. Stay safe and enjoy your half term break. 😊

**Dosbarth 5 & 6** - A huge Well Done and thank you for all your incredible home learning so far this term 😊. We have been blown away and are so proud of you all! Next week is half term. There is a learning log of fun homework activities saved on our Hwb Files but please enjoy the time with your families as much as you can. We look forward to hearing all about what you have been up to in the half term in our Team Meetings the first week back. We

hope you have a lovely half term spending time with your families! Stay safe and keep climbing to sparkle!

**Dosbarth 7 & 8** - Diolch yn fawr for all your amazing work produced this term. There will be no teams meeting over half term next week. Teams meetings will start back up after half term - Class 7 on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Class 8 on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June. We can't wait to see you all and find out what you did over half term! We will continue with our hands-on learning tasks already set over half term, and we'll have a few new tasks for you to complete as well! Polite reminder to send any completed Covid-19 Hero stories to your class teacher before the end of May for them to be submitted. Have a lovely half term with your families! 😊

**Dosbarth 9 & 10** - Diolch yn fawr Dosbarth 9 & 10 for another amazing week learning at home. The work you are doing is fantastic and we really enjoying looking at all the tasks you complete, the artwork, challenges and helping out with your family. Thank you for the fun Teams meetings we have twice a week. The quiz was so much fun and we cannot wait for the next one. Next week there will be a hands on task sheet on Hwb and dojos for you all to have a go at. We are all very proud of you all. Have a lovely weekend, keep safe and enjoy. Keep climbing to sparkle everyone!

**Dosbarth 11 & 12** - It has been another busy week in Year 5! A big diolch yn fawr for another week of home learning and to all parents and carers for your support in completing tasks. We are very proud of you all and the effort you are putting into your work! This week you have really impressed us by taking part in the Mental Health Awareness Week tasks. You have been thinking of ways we can be mindful and kind to ourselves and others around us. Hope you all enjoyed the staff video posted online this week! Have a lovely weekend with your families, keep safe and remember, keep climbing to sparkle!

**Dosbarth 13 & 14** - Diolch yn fawr Dosbarth 13 and 14 for all your hard work over this half-term. You really have made us proud. We have been amazed with your Covid-19 hero stories, as well as your entries for the history projects and work completed this week for Mental Health Awareness Week. We will have a check-in next week on Teams on Wednesday. Don't forget to look out for Eisteddfod T which is on S4C all next week. Enjoy the weekend as a family, keep safe and 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