

VICTORIA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

"Together we aim for the stars"

13th September 2024
www.victoriaprimary.co.uk

HEADTEACHER'S THOUGHTS THIS WEEK

Dear Parents/Carers,

- Thank you to all who have attended the meet the teacher meetings this week; we hope that you found them informative and useful. If you were unable to attend, you will be able to view each year group presentation on the school website.

- As you know, this year our school theme is kindness and thinking of others and, at this time, we are particularly thinking of the Gopal family. Baby Riaan has been diagnosed with Mitochondrial Disease and to raise awareness we will be holding a fundraising day next Friday 20th September, where all members of our school community will be invited to wear green. Diyan Gopal, Riaan's older brother, will also be assisting in leading an assembly on Monday, in order to raise awareness across the school. Our love and thoughts are with the family at this difficult time. Please read the family's story in this week's newsletter.

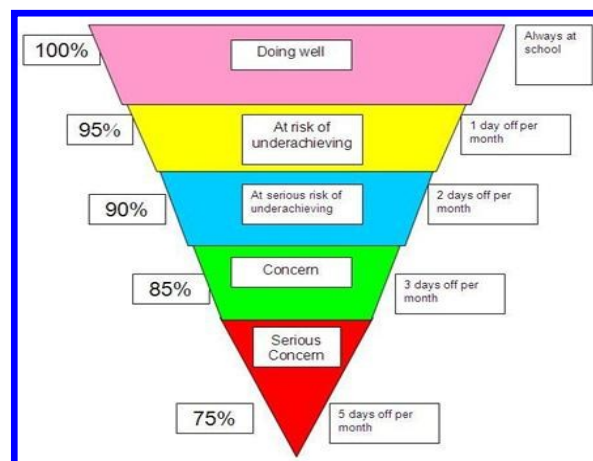
Thank you for your continued support
Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Davies

ATTENDANCE

Below is a pictorial reminder to parents on how important it is for children to attend school everyday. We would like to thank you for your continued support in this area.

School attendance for this week was 96%. A special well done to Class RDH who had the highest attendance with 99.6%.
WELL DONE!



Safeguarding Concerns

As a school we have been using a system called My Concern to record and report all our safeguarding and bullying concerns which helps bring all the information together in one place and makes managing and investigating issues much easier. We now use the parent aspect of this system which will improve the communication and response to concerns you report. The form will be sent directly to the school safeguarding leads.

Moving forward we request that if you have a safeguarding or bullying concern about a child in our school, you report it via My Voice. The link and QR code below will take you to a form to complete:

<https://form.thesafeguardingcompany.com/32f6fbc9-983a-42ee-a009-bb7d4baede8d>



Star of the week



Reception

RSD whole class

RDH whole class

Y1

Idris Pryce-Roberts

Alfie

Y2

Mollie Williams

William Miles-Bousie

Y3

3M whole class

3S whole class

Y4

Rupert Barton

Logan Lambert

Y5

Nova Utting

Evan Turner

Y6

Amber Griffiths

Muhammed Jama

Welsh speaker of the week



Y1	Freddie Roberts	Nye McDonald
Y2	Elis Jones	Ivy Cartwright
Y3	Phoebe Lee-Jones	Kiarna-Mae Wheatley
Y4	Ben Phelps	Annie Egglestone
Y5	Tyler Lingham	Harry Cahill
Y6	Isabella Horwood	

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2024 – 2025



Captain - Sammy Burgess-Mason & Izzy Weigel
Vice - Immy Khoshooee, Max Burroughs



Captain - Alex Smith, George Duffy
Vice - Mo Jama, Alexiss Williams, Theo Robbins



Captain - Valentina Heffer, Archie Buckland
Vice - Tom Vodden, Roy Xie, Ava Tibballs



Captain - Raya Greenaway, Sophia Roap
Vice - Livy Robson, Quinlan Anderson-Clement

Year 3 St Fagans Trip.

The children in Year 3 travelled back in time during their trip to St Fagans on Wednesday. They explored Bryn Eyr - the Celtic Roundhouse - and learnt many facts about how the Celts lived! Year 3 were particularly discussed when they learnt that the Celts brushed their teeth with urine! Super listening from everyone - what a great first trip of the year!



Drama Workshops

This week, Y2, Y4, Y5 and Y6 have enjoyed drama workshops provided by Jigsaw.



Exciting arrival in Y4

Y4 have received a mystery parcel from the Egyptian Centre! Parents may like to ask them what was inside.



Notices

Volunteers

We're on the lookout for enthusiastic parent volunteers to help with reading sessions, arts and crafts, project work, and more! Your support makes a huge difference in our children's learning experiences. If you're interested, please contact ALNCo Mrs Hall via the school email address. Thank you for your continued support.



Job Vacancy

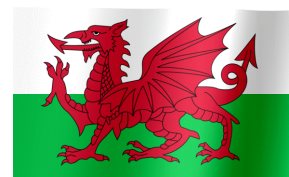
We currently have a temporary position vacancy for a Midday Supervisor and Breakfast Club Supervisor. If you are interested, please contact the school office for further information.



Miwsig Y Siarter Iaith

BBC Radio Cymru and BBC Radio Cymru 2 (the BBC's Welsh language radio stations) have been working closely with the Welsh Language Charter team to create a resource that will help promote the Welsh language.

Miwsig Y Siarter Iaith is a playlist of contemporary Welsh music that you can play in classrooms, halls, your car and home! It's for EVERYONE to enjoy, and it's just one click away!





Riaan's fundraiser for The Lily Foundation

The family's story

Every parent fears their child getting cancer, as horrendous as cancer is, with most cancers there's treatment available, there's often a cure, there's hope...

With Mitochondrial Disease 'Mito' there's nothing, it takes the lives of more children than cancer each year. Every other day in the UK a baby is born who will develop serious mitochondrial disease, yet many people have never heard of it.

Our beautiful baby boy Riaan has been diagnosed with mito caused by an incredibly rare inherited genetic disorder, he is the first case of the KARS 1 mutation in Wales and likely the first case in the UK. There are only 50 reported cases so far worldwide. We have been told that our beautiful baby Riaan's time with us will be limited. His illness is progressive, it is terminal, there is no cure or treatment ☐

Soon after he was born Riaan suffered from severe reflux leading to his first hospital admission for two weeks at only 5 weeks old. Riaan was struggling to gain weight and grow, his medical team believed there was an underlying cause behind his symptoms. Riaan was then diagnosed with hearing loss at 7 weeks old which was truly devastating, we felt like the rug had just been pulled from underneath us, little did we know the hearing loss was part of a wider genetic condition which would unfold in the weeks to come.

We received Riaan's diagnosis of mitochondrial disease on the 5th July 2024, following Riaan suffering a seizure on 19th June 2024 which resulted in him being admitted to ICU and placed in a coma on a ventilator for 13 days. He spent a further 3 weeks in hospital following his diagnosis. Upon discharge, he was readmitted just 3 days later following another seizure, these are now part of his daily life, we cannot stop them, we can only manage them. At only 5 months old, our baby has endured so much pain and suffering that no child should have to go through.

We are utterly heartbroken as a family, there are no words to describe the pain and anguish we feel at this time. Having a child with a terminal diagnosis is absolutely as hard and painful as everyone assumes it is, it is also physically and psychologically exhausting

Our sweet baby boy born on rare disease day (29.02.24) ironically has one of the most rarest diseases in the world. Instead of enjoying maternity leave with our newborn as a family, we are now navigating through the world of palliative care and being supported by the team at Tŷ Hafan children's hospice.

Symptoms of 'mito' can involve multiple organs in the body. Mito is complex and difficult to diagnose, it often affects babies and young children and the long term prognosis is poor. Research is taking place globally to try and find a cure.

Please stand with us and fight Mitochondrial Disease and fight for hope



Calendar 2024/2025

Y2 trip to Cardiff Castle
Y3/Y6 Chance encounters event (WW2 costume needed for Y6)
Mitochondrial Awareness raising day (wear green)
Y6 visit to Stanwell
Individual photos

INSET—school closed to pupils

Y3/4 to Welsh Jamboree
Parent/teacher consultations
Y4 to Egyptian centre
Show racism the red card day (Wear Red)
Harvest assembly
Y5/6 Swansea theatre trip
PTA Spooky Disco

Half Term

Y5 trip to Big Pit
Cake sale (Y2/Y6 contributions)
Anti bullying week
Flu vaccination
Children in need
Theme week
Christmas Fayre

PTA Wreath workshop
Whole school Sherman theatre trip
Class Parties

Last day of term

First day of term

INSET—school closed to pupils

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Wednesday 18th September
Wednesday 18th September
Friday 20th September
Tuesday 24th September
Friday 27th September

Friday 4th October

Thursday 10th October
w/b 14th October
17th October

Friday 18th October

Tuesday 22nd October
Wednesday 23rd October
Thursday 24th October

w/b 28th October

Thursday 7th November
Friday 8th November
w/b 11th November
Thursday 14th November
Friday 15th November
w/b 25th November
Saturday 30th November

Thursday 5th December
Thursday 5th December
Wednesday 18th December
Friday 20th December

Monday 6th January

Friday 21st February

Friday 2nd May

Monday 21st July