



# Pen-y-Fai School Newsletter

*Be the Best that you can be!*

DECEMBER 2017

*Happy Christmas!*



**Our current school value is COURAGE**

*Parent Council*

A huge thanks to those parents who have volunteered to be part of our new Parent Council. The first meeting is arranged for January, details have been sent out separately. If you would like to be part of this group, please let us know and we will inform you as soon as a space becomes available.



Receive regular updates and photographs via Class Dojo

twitter

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**Contact Us**

Visit our school website  
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I would like to take this opportunity to officially wish you all a very Happy Christmas and an extremely joyful 2018. On behalf of all of the staff and governors here at Pen-y-fai Church in Wales Primary School, we hope that you manage to have a restful and relaxing holiday period and that you find the opportunity to spend some valuable, quality time, together as a family at this very special time of year. **Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i Chi!**

## *Whole school values*

Our four, whole school, values have been set following your feedback at parents evening. They are;

1. **Honesty** (the overwhelming front runner)
2. **Respect**
3. **Joy**
4. **Kindness**

As a staff and Governing Body, we have discussed the fact that we need to work hard to ensure that these are not just a set of words that mean very little. These four, core values, have to drive each of our very many interactions with whoever we come into contact with on a daily basis. We firmly believe that each individual (pupil, parent, member of staff and governor) need to know that we are honest with each other, fully respect everyone, are kind and understanding to individual needs and circumstances and also, very importantly, that we attempt to bring happiness and joy to the lives of those that we come into contact with. I firmly believe that, if these core values are embraced by our entire community, all of our pupils will develop each of these in their own value set as they begin to mature. It is crucial that, as adults, we all remember that, whilst we have the right to expect that these values are shown

**This half term's right is taken from Article 19**

**Roxy says that;**

*"All children have the right to be kept safe"*

**Our Newsletters are written because Roxy says that;**

*"You have the right to information"*  
**(Article 13)**

to us at all times by others, we also have the very great responsibility to ensure that we model and encourage them at all times to our young people as this is undoubtedly how they will best learn to display them in their own lives.

I would like to add that, our 3 other values from the list that you were provided with prior to your parent consultation meeting, have become our school learning attributes. These are independence, creativity and perseverance. We have spent the term teaching these to our pupils and encouraging them carefully at all times. We believe that these learning attributes are the key to success in the workplace and, when they are coupled with our 4 core values, make for a very, well-balanced, individual.

Finally, we are focussed on ensuring that our pupils have access to the highest quality 'basic skills' teaching possible. It is vital that our pupils' basic literacy, maths and ICT skills are developed as well as possible during their time with us.

To put it all in a nutshell, the new vision for Pen-y-fai is a 3 pronged approach;

## Important Dates to Note

13<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 2 p.m. - Christmas Concert

14<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 6 p.m. - Christmas concert

15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Jumper day

18<sup>th</sup> December – FOPS Christmas shopping events

19<sup>th</sup> December – Church Service organised by Father Anthony – 6.30pm

20<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas dinner

21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Party Day

22<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Toy Day - End of Autumn term

8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 – INSET Day

9<sup>th</sup> Jan – First Day of term for pupils

W/C 15<sup>th</sup> Jan – Cycle training for Year 6 pupils

19<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fund raising events for the outdoors (more information to follow)

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan – First Parent Council meeting

24<sup>th</sup> January – First Wednesday Clubs Night of Spring term

6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Safer internet day

28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Llangrannog trip

5<sup>th</sup> March – School Eisteddfod

27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Consultations

29<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Fete and last day of term

We have created a new school diary of events for parents on our website at [www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk](http://www.penyfaiciwprimary.co.uk)

## *Whole School Values* (continued)

We aim to ensure that all of our pupils have;

1. **Core values**  
(honesty, respect, kindness and joy). To enable our pupils go on to become ethical, well informed citizens of Wales and the World.
2. **Learning attributes**  
(independence, perseverance and creativity). To enable our pupils to become enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work.
3. **Basic Skills**  
(literacy, maths and ICT).  
Enabling our pupils to become ambitious and capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives.

Our Mission now is to do all that we can do to promote these values and attributes to all of our pupils. We ask for your help in modelling these at all times and encouraging them and highlighting them as often as you are able to. This way, we will all be helping all of the children that we are responsible for to be the ‘best that they can be’, which, incidentally, is set to become the new, whole school motto.

## *Party Days*

Classes will be holding their parties on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. Each individual teacher will send out details via Class Dojo, this will be a whole school non-uniform day. The final day of term will be a toy day, again this will be a non-uniform day.

## *Head lice*

There have been some instances of head lice reported in school so please be on the lookout.

## *Clubs Nights*

A huge thanks to all the staff and volunteers for giving of their time over the past months to ensure that our brilliant pupils have some fantastic extracurricular opportunities to select from. I'm sure that you will all agree that the range of activities available is superb and this couldn't be achieved without so many, willing volunteers. We'll be back with some more options in the spring term.

## *Christmas Service*

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm there will be a Christmas Carol service, organised by Father Anthony, at All Saints Church in Pen-y-Fai. He is keen for as many children and parents from our school as possible to attend. He is very hopeful that this service will provide many families with the opportunity to spend time together in very festive surroundings at this fantastic time of year. Please put this date in your diary, it would be good to see many of our families there.

## *Inset Day*

A reminder that our 4<sup>th</sup> INSET day of the year will be on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Children will return to school after the Christmas holidays on the 9<sup>th</sup>

## *Parking*

I've been passed a number of concerns from parents about cars being driven up the lane near the school entrance to drop children off each morning and presenting a risk to other pupils as the cars turn to get back out again. In the interest of all of our children's safety, we would ask that all parents park away from the school and walk the remainder of the way. We are all very aware that the mornings can present us all with stressful situations as we attempt to get our children to school on time but would ask that the safety of our pupils be our ultimate priority in all of our decision making.

## Mr Jordan

It is with real sadness that I have to tell you that Mr Jordan will be moving on to pastures new in January. He has been teaching PE with us for several years now and has been a source of inspiration to many of our pupils. His last day with us will be this coming Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December. I am sure that I speak on behalf of the entire community here in expressing tremendous gratitude for his time with us at Pen-y-Fai and in wishing him all the very best for his future happiness as he moves on in his career. Good luck Mr Jordan, you will be hugely missed by us all!



A huge 'well done' to our fantastically talented pupils for winning the Christmas card design competition, judged by local councillors Wilkins and John. They all won vouchers for them to spend in WH Smiths. We are very proud of each and every one of them. Pen-y-Fai were awarded 1st place overall in the competition this year for the exceptionally high standard of Christmas cards produced, beating off competition from other local schools. Well done team Pen-y-Fai!



Another huge 'well done' to these fantastically thoughtful, kind and giving year 6 pupils who, along with some of their classmates, raised an incredible £70 for a charity that is dear to their hearts by making cakes and decorating Christmas baubles to sell at our Christmas Fete! We're very proud of all of their efforts.

A final 'well done' to the fantastic FOPS for taking nearly £1400 at the school Christmas Fete. There are a few deductions to be made to cover costs but the rest will be given back to the school to be spent on pupils! A huge 'THANKS' for their efforts!