



'Nurturing Hearts, Growing Minds, Opening Eyes, Imagining Futures'

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October/Dydd Gwener 14eg Hydref 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had an incredibly busy half term so far with all pupils behaving well and working extremely hard to make good progress. All pupils have adapted well to their new classes and our new, youngest learners have settled in super well to their new school routine.

### School Development Plan

The month of September is always a very busy one for school as we review all aspects of school life whilst completing the school's self-evaluation report and develop our school development plan for the coming year. This year the school will be focussing on three main priorities (taken from our recent Estyn inspection). These are:

- Priority 1- Address the health and safety issues raised during our recent Estyn inspection.
- Priority 2- Provide more purposeful opportunities for all pupils to lead their own learning.
- Priority 3- Provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to develop their Welsh skills, especially in the older year groups.

As a staff we have met and discussed these three priorities. We have recorded the rationale behind each priority, have developed a success criterion to judge our progress against them, we have listed milestones to keep us on target and have considered how to monitor our progress and involve the whole-school community. We have also met with the school council pupils who have added their thoughts and ideas on how these three priorities can be achieved. We would now like to hear from you as parents/carers on what you think we could do to achieve these priority areas. We urge you to take a few minutes to complete the survey on the link below. This survey will close on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4\\_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5k-wVjDmavl1HnbDRuakCUs5UOVQxVzFEV1lyU0IPNkFLV0wwOTRVTUZVRi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Ug4_TzS3ZEGUCRtgHRR5k-wVjDmavl1HnbDRuakCUs5UOVQxVzFEV1lyU0IPNkFLV0wwOTRVTUZVRi4u)

### Committees

All pupils belong to either our Healthy Schools committee, our Eco committee or our Criw Cymraeg. Our pupils have successfully met in their first committee groups of the year and have set out their plans and targets for the year.

- Healthy Schools would like to focus on healthy eating and developing our whole school buddy relationships.
- Eco Committee would like to focus on saving energy costs in school.
- Criw Cymraeg would like to achieve the Silver Charter Award.

Here is a message from Criw Cymraeg;

*'We have started in our new committee, Criw Cymraeg. Last week we had our first meeting and were super busy working on targets 1 and 5 of the starter iath. This year we will be working hard to achieve the silver award. For one of our targets, we have to hold a weekly Welsh assembly. We have to announce 'Seren y wythnos', sing some Welsh songs, give out Welsh stickers, say a Welsh prayer and introduce a Welsh question of the week. This week our question of the week is 'Oes anifail anwes gyda ti?'. We also have one of our Criw Cymraeg members checking that all teachers use Welsh in their assemblies. Alongside that target, we are starting to ensure our school reflects a Welsh ethos.'*

Our older pupils also form the school council, which oversees all other school committees and contributes to the strategic direction of the school. They also take up other areas of responsibility e.g., Young Bronze Sports Ambassadors and Super Ambassadors. Both of these roles have undertaken training this week. Our super ambassadors have requested that you help them in raising awareness of the rights of children by completing the attached survey. It closes on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.

[Survey for parents and carers - Children's Commissioner for Wales \(childcomwales.org.uk\)](https://www.childcomwales.org.uk)

## New Curriculum

The Curriculum for Wales journey at school continues, but what does the new curriculum really mean for children at Caersws school? At first, you might not notice too many changes. But in fact, changes to education started happening back in 2017 with schools, teachers, communities, school staff, and experts working together to develop the new Curriculum for Wales. The Curriculum for Wales will involve an ongoing process of improvement that includes our whole school community, especially our children, parents, and carers. Please see the link below for more information on how the Curriculum for Wales will support your child.

[Curriculum for Wales: Early education for 5 to 8 year olds - YouTube](#)

This term we will be looking more closely at how we deliver RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education). Please find attached a link for parents/carers with more information on this important area.

[rse-info-22 parents.pdf](#)

## Upcoming events and dates

Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 4, 5 & 6 visit Ysgol Dyffryn Trannon for wheelchair basketball and Welsh activities.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Year 5 & 6 hockey tournament at Maldwyn. Please see parentpay for details.
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual school photos.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 3 Forest school afternoon.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	FOS Halloween Disco 4- 5.30pm.
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	'Seeds of Hope' Harvest appeal donations due in.
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening.
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents evening.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Friends of the School Meeting 6.30pm. All welcome to attend.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need. School Council to decide on activities.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu catch up.
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	FOS Christmas fair.

We will keep you updated when dates for Christmas events are set e.g., Christmas performances, Christmas dinner.

## Finally-

Many thanks to all of you who were able to join us for our Harvest celebration last week. We look forward to welcoming families and the community back to celebrate Christmas with us. If you have any concerns or worries, please get in touch with us and we will do our utmost to support and help. We are here for all parents, families and children!

With kindest regards,



Sarah Corbett- Headteacher