



Dear all,

Wishing you all a Happy New Year - Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! It's been wonderful to welcome back all our pupils after the Christmas break. All classes have settled back to work and are enjoying their learning sessions and activities.

On a sad note, over the Christmas holidays Peter Hopkins, a previous Chair of our Governing Body, passed away.

Peter was such a part of our school community. He attended St Robert's as a young boy and then later in life served on the Governing Body for 20 years. Peter was a frequent visitor to the school - he loved visiting classrooms and he especially enjoyed our concerts & eisteddfods.

Peter had suffered ill health for a number of years, however in our last conversation I was able to share with him that the demountable building had been refurbished. He was absolutely delighted as this was something he had focused on for a number of years. What a wonderful legacy!

Mr Hopkins will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Eternal rest grant him, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Amen.



Headteacher Awards **Gwobr y Pennaeth**

Dosbarth Haul - Harri for his great phonic sounds recall. Nola for her super counting backwards in CLIC.

Dosbarth Enfys - Millie W for having a fantastic start to joining St. Robert's and Lucien for working really hard to use his sounding out whilst writing.

Dosbarth Blodau - Matilda for her super science when investigating materials to clean up a spillage. Indy for his brilliant literacy work when writing questions using the 5 W's to interview the Owl and the Pussy Cat.

Dosbarth Seren - Freya J for completing her tasks with wonderful enthusiasm, and growing independence. Ellis for his growing confidence and sharing great answers in class.

Dosbarth Afon - Jacob and Isabelle for demonstrating a very mature attitude to learning and always giving their best.

Dosbarth Coed - Logan and Sophie for challenging themselves with their work and always trying their very best in everything they do!

Dosbarth Mynydd - Billy and Gwen for working very hard throughout the last fortnight.



What's been happening in our classes...**Beth sy'n digwydd yn ein dosbarthiadau**

Dosbarth Haul-

We have a new client Percy the Park Keeper and he sent us Foxy to help us learn all about the weather and seasons. We've been learning all about the different weather types and what months of the year fall into different seasons. Looking at winter we made a list of the things we might see outside and we looked at different landscapes' paintings by the Welsh artist Kyffin Williams. We looked at one of winter in Wales and at what colours he used. We used this painting as inspiration to make a winter landscape collage with different materials using the colours that the artist used. Now we have a beautiful display in our classroom!



Dosbarth Enfys-

Dosbarth Enfys have had a lovely start to the term. We finished off our learning about electricity and had great fun making a simple circuit! We learnt about how wonderful electricity can be but also that we need to be very careful around it. We have been introduced to our new client Hamza who wants us to learn all about animals to help him with his new animal television programme. We have started to learn all about how to write animal fact files and have been doing some research on Emperor Penguins! In maths we have been finishing our addition and subtraction unit and we are all really

confident now on how to add and subtract in lots of ways. In dance for P.E we have been exploring the different ways animals might move and have been performing them for the rest of the class. A great few weeks already pawb, da iawn!



Dosbarth Blodau-

We've had a very exciting time in Blodau, we have a new client for our enquiry topic work! We are working for Ada Twist, a Scientist, to discover and learn about different materials and their properties and uses. We have completed our pupil planning and have thought of some brilliant questions of things we would like to find out in our learning, we have some very exciting learning planned!!

This week we have started our super science work for Ada Twist by exploring our enquiry questions of; What material would make the best flood defence? And What material would be most suitable to clean up a spillage?

We really enjoyed working to find what materials would make the best flood defence. We discovered a fictitious disaster island, a place of heavy rain and high winds. They needed our help in designing a new house for the island that is waterproof and wind proof. We built a house in small groups from various materials and we put a small figure which must be protected inside. The fun started when Mr Main then tested each house by spraying water over each house to test them to see if they were waterproof and wind proof.

We also completed an enquiry to find out what material would be most suitable to clean up a spillage. We focussed on developing new scientific vocabulary and focussed on the word 'absorbency'. We explored the idea of absorbency and considered the idea of cleaning up a spillage - which will be the most effective? We set up our experiment and recorded results to find the most suitable material.



Dosbarth Seren-

It has been a very busy time in Dosbarth Seren! We have all returned to school with a great enthusiasm and excitement for the rest of the year ahead! We have enjoyed our new class reader 'Around the World in 80 Days' which is all about our client Phileas Fogg and his journey around the World! We have used our class reader as inspiration for our diary writing unit. We are trying our best to imagine what it would be like to travel around the World in 80 days, thinking of all the people we would meet and the amazing sights we will see! In our topic, we have used ICT to research how far Wales is to various countries across the World. We utilised pupil voice to establish what we would like to learn and as part of our pupil voice, we wanted to have a go at different dances from around the World. In PE, we have had great fun trying different dances including Irish and African

dancing. Even though it has been cold, we have enjoyed wrapping up and getting outside for outdoor learning, we recreated a map of the World and tried our best to label different continents and oceans. In RE, we have been looking at the story of Abraham and beginning to understand what it means to make a promise, and how there are levels of trust and love involved within promises. We have lots of lovely things planned this half term and plenty to look forward to- including our trip to Techniquet next Friday!

Bendigedig Dosbarth Seren, what a super start to Spring Term we have had!



Dosbarth Afon-

In Dosbarth Afon, we have had a busy start to the new year. We started off as we mean to carry on by making new year's resolutions and renewed our peace promises. We have started our new topic, Vicious Vikings and have met one of our clients called Olaf the Beardless. As novices of the Hairy Hooligan Viking Tribe, we have been commissioned to write a guide on how to be a Viking. We completed our pupil voice feedback about what we want to learn about and have thought about our enquiry questions. We are really excited to hear what our grown-ups have added and can't wait to get started! We have started our new class reader, How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell. We have been learning how to create expanded noun phrases to describe the different dragons. Bailey has a collection of the dragon figures from the story and we have decided to use them to help us write descriptions.

Another fun thing we have started is our Welsh Folk Dancing in readiness for St David's Day. We have been learning the Cylch y Cymru dance on Hwb and are beginning to master the steps. We have also been working hard on problem solving and reasoning and helped Dan the Detective solve his number clues. In RE we thoroughly enjoyed mapping the story of Abraham and have been finding out about the sacred covenant that God made with Abraham.



Dosbarth Coed-

Dosbarth Coed have been hard at work since returning to school after the Christmas break. We have continued to learn about Mighty Monarchs during Tudor and Stuart times. We have listened and appraised Tudor music and learnt about some of the instruments that the Tudor musicians would have played. We have also learnt a Tudor dance....which we were very good at! We also have been very lucky to have Charlie from the Ospreys return to visit and have completed our first session of the new term with her, learning more rugby skills! Dosbarth Coed have learnt about the features of persuasive writing in literacy and we are almost ready to write our own persuasive text

based on Henry VIII. We have worked hard on grammatical features such as fronted adverbials, causal conjunctions and have practised writing in paragraphs with accurate layout. In Science lessons we have started a new topic, all about animals, their habitats, food chains and how species are adapted to survive in their environment. We enjoyed our outdoor learning session where we acted out different food chains using pictures, cones and skipping ropes.... how creative!

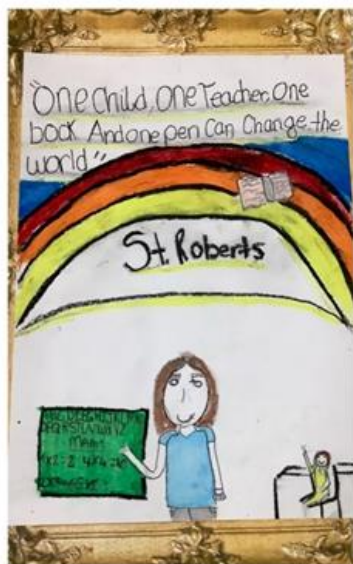
Tudor dancing



PIC•COLLAGE

Dosbarth Mynydd-

During our first fortnight of the Spring term we have been focussing on our final commission for our topic, 'Make your Voice Heard'. We have been exploring how art can be used to raise awareness of an issue and evaluated examples such as street art and Guernica by Pablo Picasso. We thought about an issue that we wanted to make our voice heard on, and then created artwork on this to share with our families in our learner forum. At our learner forum, we shared what we have learnt in this topic as well as completing some fun activities with our adult. These activities included using Padlet, a P4C discussion and mapping countries throughout the world with the year in which women got the vote.





St. Robert's Pupil Profile- Proffil Disgybl St Robert



COMPASSIONATE & LOVING TOSTURIOL A CHARIADUS

The St Robert's School Pupil Profile is made up of pairs of virtues or qualities we aspire to grow in, to be the person God wants us to be.

Each half term we will explore a different pair of virtues.

This half term's focus is: **COMPASSIONATE** and **LOVING**

Pupils in St. Robert's Catholic Primary School are growing to be

.. **compassionate** and **loving** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving word.



To be **COMPASSIONATE** is not only to CARE about someone else but to be moved to DO SOMETHING to help them.

To be **LOVING** is to be kind, not only to our friends but everyone we encounter.

If we are **COMPASSIONATE** and **LOVING**, we show we are concerned about others. We are sympathetic to others. We care about others. We forgive others and we try to do something to help them.

Jesus says "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

John 13:34-35



Prayer Time: **Amser Gweddi**

This fortnight's prayer reflects the Virtues of **COMPASSIONATE** and **LOVING**



A Prayer of Compassion (St Teresa of Calcutta)

Lord, open our eyes
that we may see you in our brothers and sisters.

Lord, open our ears
that we may hear the cries of the hungry,
the cold, the frightened, the oppressed.

Lord, open our hearts
that we may love each other as you love us.

Renew in us your spirit.
Lord, free us and make us one.

Amen.





This fortnight the following pupils have demonstrated the Virtues of being
COMPASSIONATE & LOVING
TOSTURIOL A CHARIADUS



Dosbarth Haul- Oliver for always showing his care for others by helping them when in need
Leo for showing love for others by playing gently during outdoor play.

Dosbarth Enfys- Our compassionate award goes to Mikkie for always looking out for others. Our loving award goes to Millie J for being a very loving person to children and adults.

Dosbarth Blodau- Austin for being loving and compassionate in his actions and caring ways to those around him, he is always very helpful in class. Oliver for always being loving and compassionate to everyone at play times. He is considerate to others and always makes sure everyone has someone to play with.

Dosbarth Seren- Amelie for being compassionate and loving towards her friends and teachers. Harry for being compassionate and loving, and always using wonderful manners.

Dosbarth Afon- Compassionate and Loving Award, Emilee and Max for always showing compassion to others by putting others first.

Dosbarth Coed- Raeya and Scarlett for being very caring and showing compassion and kindness to others.

Dosbarth Mynydd- Halle and Ruby who have very loving and generous natures, both at home and in their friendship groups.



On behalf of all the children and staff at St Robert's Primary School **Happy Birthday** to:

Ellie (6), Harry (7), Oliver C (8), Lukas (10), Rory (10),
Olivia Grace (11) & Mrs Kilminster



School News: **Newyddion Ysgol**

Next Friday we will be saying "Goodbye" to Mrs Kilminster. Her family are relocating to Chicago, USA.

We thank Mrs Kilminster for all that she has done for our pupils over the 13 years she has worked at St Robert's and wish the very best on her American adventure.

Children's Mental Health Week

On the week of the 5th-11th February, St. Robert's will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. During this week pupils will be taking part in activities to promote positive children's mental health and will be learning about this year's theme 'My Voice Matters'.

On Thursday 8th we would invite pupils to dress in a colour that expresses a feeling based on the characters from the Disney Pixar film Inside Out (Yellow-Joy, Red-Anger, Blue-Sadness etc). This can be a whole outfit or even just a colour that expresses a feeling. We would kindly ask that pupils bring in a £1 donation which will be passed on to Children's mental health charity Place2Be.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY?



For more information on the wonderful work this charity does and the types of activities we will be taking part in this week please visit the website below

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/>

Nursery Places for September 2024

St Robert's Governing Body are currently accepting applications for our Nursery for next September. If you have a child who will be three before September 2024 contact the school for an application.

Also, if you are aware of family, friends or neighbours who may be interested in giving their child an education rich in catholic ethos, please encourage them to contact the school on Tel: 815515.

Diary Dates: Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur

8th February	Last day for pupils prior to half term break
9th February	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
14th February	Ash Wednesday
19th February	School resumes after half term break
22nd March	Last day for pupils prior to Easter Holidays
29th March	Good Friday
31st March	Easter Sunday
8th April	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
9th April	School Resumes after the Easter Break

Thank you for your continued support

Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Mrs Beveridge