



Dear all,

Wishing you all a Happy New Year - Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! It's been wonderful to welcome back all our learners after the Christmas break and especially our two Little Learners who have joined us in Nursery. All classes have settled back to work and are enjoying their new topics.

On a sad note, over the Christmas holidays one of our parents, Mrs Rhian Howells passed away. She was a wonderful lady; cheerful, always ready for a chat and she had time for everyone. Mrs Howells will be missed by all who knew her.

Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

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

Amen.



Headteacher Awards **Gwobr y Pennaeth**

Dosbarth Haul- Chella for making a great effort with beginning to write her name from memory, Marley for his super recall of the events in our story One Winter's Day.

Dosbarth Enfys - Willow and Layla for making a super effort to have a positive attitude towards their new learning for this term.

Dosbarth Blodau - Alfie for his brilliant science work this week. When carrying out our investigation he could explain to everyone about the force of gravity.

Kaylen for his brilliant work in maths this week. He has been super at using money to make a given amount in lots of different ways.

Dosbarth Seren -Bailey for showing great enthusiasm towards our new topic 'The Romans'.

Isabelle for completing her tasks with growing confidence and independence.

Dosbarth Afon - William for having an excellent attitude to learning and being focussed and independent.

Scarlett for working hard on times tables recall and participating enthusiastically in all maths lessons.

Dosbarth Coed- Aoife B for working very hard all week, listening well and showing excellent effort.

Ebony for her continued hard work and outstanding enthusiasm in all areas of learning!

Dosbarth Mynydd - Ethan and Ayla for consistently working hard and producing work of a very high standard.



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

Dosbarth Haul-

This week we went to use our magnetic letters but they had been left out overnight by accident in the cold weather! They were stuck in blocks of ice so we couldn't use them! We thought of ways to get the letters out - one of them was to drop them on the table to crack the ice but this didn't work so we had to think of another way. Someone suggested melting the ice and we talked about needing heat to make melting happen so we came up with some great ideas! Putting them in the sun because the sun warms things, pouring warm water on them and putting them on the hot radiator. The radiator definitely melted the ice the quickest and we finally managed to free the letters. What fun!



Dosbarth Enfys-

This week Dosbarth Enfys have been exploring shape in our maths lessons. We have learnt the difference between 2D and 3D shapes and have been on exciting shape hunts in and around the classroom to find some real life 3D shapes! We have been working hard to describe the shapes using our key vocabulary and have been sorting them into different groups. We are now really confident with identifying them! Da iawn pawb, you worked really well!



Dosbarth Blodau-

We've had an exciting return to school with a new client and commission for this half term. This half term Dosbarth Blodau are taking on the role of architects. We are going to be working to explore the local area; being architects to discover what homes and buildings are in our area and what materials are used to build these. We will be exploring different types of materials and their properties and uses.

We started our topic with a session of challenges to build the tallest or strongest or most creative structure using junk, paper plates and plastic cups and spaghetti and mini marshmallows.

We've really enjoyed developing our scientific enquiry skills and have worked hard to explore and understand the different reasons why people may need to use absorbent materials. Then we developed our thinking and wondered if hard materials, such as plastic, metal and wood could absorb water, so we carried out an investigation to find an answer to our thinking.

We also had great fun using different types of balls to carry out an investigation to find out which ball is the bounciest. We learned about what makes a material have bouncy properties.

We are super scientists in Blodau! Gwaith gwyh pawb!



Dosbarth Seren-

It has been a very busy time in Dosbarth Seren! We all returned with a great enthusiasm and excitement towards our new topic. Our client Emperor Claudius wrote on a parchment scroll and left a message in a bottle to us, that we discovered in the Super Grounds. Our client asked us who would like to enlist for the 'Roman Army' on a quest to discover what life was like as a Roman soldier! We all excitedly signed up and are excited for all the interesting learning ahead. We utilised pupil voice to establish what we would like to learn. Then, we used ICT to research facts using Britannica Digital Learning. Also, we are writing letters on parchment as if we were Roman Soldiers in this unknown land called Britannica and are missing our friends and family back home. We are also investigating our new virtues eloquent and truthful, understanding how we can live out these virtues in our everyday lives. We have been enjoying our gymnastics topic in PE where we have been learning how to do asymmetrical and symmetrical balances. Also, we have been learning how to play the

pentatonic scale in music. We have got lots of lovely things planned this half term and plenty to look forward to. Bendigedig Dosbarth Seren, what a super start to Spring Term we have had!



Dosbarth Afon-

In Dosbarth Afon, we have been enjoying using the new chrome books in our learning. We have researched world weather in different climate zones and we have also used the chrome books to go into our Google Classroom and collaborate on writing a playscript based on Little Red Riding Hood. We braved the chilly weather this week to work on our basketball dribbling skills and played some dribbling team games which really warmed us up. In gymnastics, we have been working on individual and paired balances. We looked at bridges from around the world and thought about how they are supported. We used this stimulus to create paired support bridges. As part of our research on global warming for our client YPTE, we have found out about different biomes and how animals have adapted to their habitats. Next, we will be looking at how climate change is having an impact on the living things in the different biomes on planet earth.



Dosbarth Coed-

Dosbarth Coed have been very busy since returning to class after the Christmas break. During the first week back, we concluded our 1960's topic from last term with our final commission, an 'interactive museum learning exhibition' where we showed Dosbarth Afon some of our learning activities and through this, taught them a little of what life was like during the 1960's. We really enjoyed our afternoon and even dressed up in 1960's clothing for the occasion! We are also really enjoying our new class reader, 'Paddington,' which is the focus of our literacy work for this half term. Our new topic is 'Wonders of the natural world.' During this topic we will be learning about all wonders of the world however our focus will be on the natural wonders, in particular mountains in Wales and the wider world. We started our topic learning journey this week by locating mountains on online maps and working out what countries and continents they are in. We have also been very busy in PE, learning dances from around the world and playing rugby! A busy and fun start to the new year!



Dosbarth Mynydd-

We started our Spring term by being healthy, confident individuals in our PE lessons. We have really been enjoying our gymnastics unit on matching and mirroring and had a great time this week using the apparatus in the hall. We have also started our new class topic on WW2, entitled 'Their Finest Hour'. As part of this topic we will be working for the Prime Minister of Britain just before and during the war years and have taken on the role of British Intelligence Officers. We are really excited about the topic and can't wait to find out more and become ethically, informed citizens. In our Science and Technology learning we have been exploring microorganisms and designing our own microbe - was it helpful or harmful? This week we will be carrying out a yeast race - check out pictures from our investigation on Twitter soon!


Microbe type: Virus

Is it helpful or harmful: Harmful

Special features: When I get into your stomach, I release acid that makes you feel sick and I have extendable arms to get in the acid to your stomach.

Microbe story: I am a harmful virus that enters your food when you eat the food. I also travel into your stomach. Then I use penicillin or I will die.

Strengths and weaknesses: I like to live on acid food and people place to live in is a space like because it has no food to live in. My weakness is going into food and you can see in the fridge and I die.



Design a bug!


Microbe type: Virus

Is it helpful or harmful: very useful as it fights off bad bacteria.

Special features: Sticky feet to stick to your throat and extendable arms to fight enzymes.

Microbe story: I come from good penicillin and come for one reason, to help your body but do not get lots of unhealthy food as I will die off. I also multiply.

Strengths and weaknesses: The strengths are fight your unhealthy cells. Weaknesses are unhealthy foods kill me.



Design a bug!

Microbe name: Rubi red rash

Microbe type: Virus

Is it helpful or harmful: harmful

Special features: I have many lumps to help rid of rash and I have an extremely hot burn that makes people itch really bad.

Microbe story: I am a very harmful virus and I cause trips to the hospital. I have lumps to help rid of my rash and I have an extremely hot burn that makes people itch really bad.

Strengths and weaknesses: My strengths are an itch to make me bigger and more powerful and my weakness is ice and needles.



Microbe name: Ruby River

Microbe type: B. Jungs

Is it helpful or harmful: Useful

Special features: Air bubbles that can help rise anything I am put into and I am also very microscopic.

Microbe story: I am used to make bread rise as I am full of air bubbles to live in most areas as it helps me to develop.

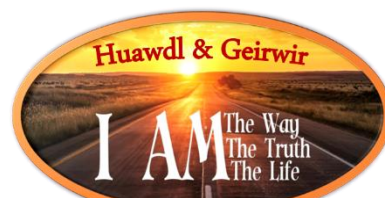
Strengths and weaknesses: I am able to add air into bread. However, if into the rice, it could stop the protein altogether.




Gymnastics



The St. Robert's Pupil Profile



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: **ELOQUENT** and **TRUTHFUL**.

Pupils in St. Robert's Catholic Primary School are growing to be **eloquent** and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world. To be **eloquent** in the way in which we speak to each other and **truthful** in our words, actions, to the Gospel and to ourselves.

Eloquence is the ability to speak or write fluently, persuasively and appropriately.

We aim to give our children the language to ask questions, express emotions, speak beliefs, talk about matters of faith and hope, debate points of view, and engage in conversation.

Eloquence isn't limited to speaking and writing. We can express ourselves in other ways like music, drama, painting or dance.

We should use our creative gifts to say things in a way that is interesting, **truthful**, memorable and faithful.

Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life', so being honest and **truthful** means we are following in his example and living life the way God wants us to.

Being **truthful** is being faithful to ourselves and to Jesus. We should stand up for the truth.



Prayer Time- This fortnight's prayer reflects the Virtues of **Eloquent** and **Truthful**



Say this prayer together:

We pray our school will be filled with love

We pray our learning will be full of truth

We pray our playground will be full of joy

We pray our friendships will be full of forgiveness

We pray our teachers and learning support assistants will be full of wisdom

We pray our community will be full of hope Lord God,

help us to know the truth,

and to speak the truth,

today and always.

Help me Lord God to grow in

the virtues of Eloquent and Truthful.

Amen.

At home:

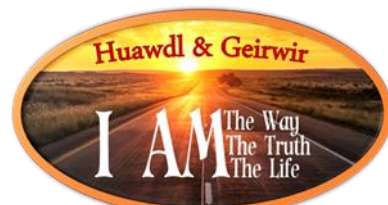
Decide now what you are going to do this week to be more **ELOQUENT** and more **TRUTHFUL**.

How will you be honest and truthful, following Jesus' example and living life the way God wants you to?





This fortnight the following pupils have demonstrated the Virtues of being
ELOQUENT & TRUTHFUL
HUAWDL & GEIRWIR



This fortnight the following pupils have demonstrated the Virtues of being
ELOQUENT & TRUTHFUL

Dosbarth Haul- Ffion receives our eloquent virtue for always speaking using a lovely clear voice to her friends and adults in the school. Piper receives our truthful virtue for being honest about situations when asked.

Dosbarth Enfys- Nettie received our eloquent virtue this week. Lucien received our truthful virtue this week.

Dosbarth Blodau- Athena has shown she is eloquent and truthful in the way she always sets a good example to others.

Harry for being eloquent and truthful in our science investigations work this week. He had lovely ideas to share with his group when we explored the different scientific concepts and was very eloquent in the way he listened carefully to others and then shared his own ideas.

Dosbarth Seren- Alex for showing eloquence in his words and actions in class towards his friends and teachers.

Niamh for always being truthful to her teachers and friends and using eloquence with her words and actions.

Dosbarth Afon- Sophie and Lukas for showing eloquence when contributing ideas to class discussion and moving our learning on.

Dosbarth Coed- Sophie and Brody for showing the virtues of being eloquent and truthful by the way they express their ideas and speak about themselves and others.

Dosbarth Mynydd- Henry and Savanna, who both spoke eloquently in our class debate on whether appeasement in 1938 was good or not.

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

Ella (4), Ellie (5), Harry (6), Oliver C (7), Brianne (8), Lukas (9), Rory (9), Olivia Grace (10), Florence H (11), Keyanna (11) & Mrs Kilminster



School News: **Newyddion Ysgol**

Congratulations Isla Howells

Isla has amazingly qualified to represent Wales this year in Dance World Cup Portugal.

She auditioned for four routines and all four successfully qualified. Two of these routines, Acro solo age 14-10 category and her senior Acro Group, she was placed 1st out of the whole of Wales, beating 50 other competitors.

She will be looking for sponsorship to help raise money for her club, Universal Academy of the Arts, to be able to participate in this fantastic opportunity to represent Wales.



Nursery Places for September 2023

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 2023 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.

Parking Issues

Please remember to park legally along Bridgend Road & Penyfai Road as I have received a number of complaints concerning driveways being blocked due to parked cars.

I appreciate your co operation on this matter. Diolch yn fawr

Diary Dates: Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur

16 th February	Last day for pupils prior to half term break
17 th February	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
27 th February	School resumes after half term break
31 st March	Last day for pupils prior to Easter Holidays
7 th April	Good Friday
9 th April	Easter Sunday
17 th April	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
18 th April	School resumes after Easter Holidays

Thank you for your continued support

Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Mrs Beveridge

