



Dear all,

It has been another very busy and enjoyable Autumn term for St Robert's School. I would like to share with you the successes we have had both within and beyond the classroom.

These have included:

- Swimming sessions for Yr. 4, 5 & 6 at Halo;
- Elections & formation of our School Senedd;
- **Class led Whole School Worships-** Dosbarth Afon led our Harvest Worship, Dobarth Mynydd led our Remembrance Day Worship; Live Simply Action - Liturgy of Peace;
- **Masses-** We celebrated the virtual Masses at school, the School Mass at our Parish Church on Bambinelli Sunday and Dosbarth Afon attended Mass for the Holy Souls at St Robert's church;
- October daily Rosary at lunchtime;
- Advent- Fr. Boye visited the school to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation to our KS 2 pupils;
- Peripatetic teachers- Violin, Brass & Woodwind sessions;
- **Enrichment Days/Experiences-** Shwmae Day, Cafod Catholic Social Teaching workshops, Maya Expressive Art virtual workshop (Dosbarth Coed), Shoctober workshop focussing on life saving skills (KS 2), People who help us enrichment day & visit from the Ambulance Service (Dosbarth Haul), Q & A session at school with our local MP, Chris Elmore & Virtual workshop with Claire about the UK Parliament (Dosbarth Mynydd) & a Medieval Feast (Dosbarth Afon)
- Parental Consultations;
- Aberkenfig Foodstore Harvest food collection;
- A highly successful Book Fayre, where the school received £812 commission to spend on replenishing our class libraries;
- Visitors- PC McDonald our Police Liaison Officer, Paramedics in Dosbarth Haul, Opticians in Dosbarth Blodau
- Cycling Proficiency- Dosbarth Mynydd
- **Started Extra Curricular Activities-** Knitting Club, Coding Club, STEM Club, Circuit Training, Cookery Club, P4C Club, Cosy Reading Club, Glee Club & Cross Country;
- **Class Trips/Visits to:** Llys Llywelyn at St Fagan's (Dosbarth Afon), the Senedd and meeting MS member, Huw Iranca Davies (Dosbarth Mynydd), St Fagans (Dosbarth Enfys), Llancaich Fawr Manor (Dosbarth Coed), Cenin Wind Farm and a subsequent visit to school from Jo at Cenin to see final presentations, Aberkenfig Village (Dosbarth Haul), Beauty & The Beast Pantomime (Foundation Phase);

- Yr.6 Transition Activities- Open Evening & visit to Archbishop McGrath High school and workshops with the BCBC music department;
- Reading Meeting- Dosbarth Haul & Dosbarth Enfys;
- Criw Cymraeg arranging for two playground walls to be spray painted with an eye catching, Welsh themed design;
- Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day (raising money for Stephanie);
- Monday Coffee Morning & Christmas crafts for Parents/Carers;
- Christmas Productions- Baarmy Bethlehem (Haul, Enfys & Blodau) & Bethlehem Ballroom (Seren & Afon). Raffle proceeds to Dementia Society

A huge thank you to everyone who works so hard to make our school such a special place.

From all the staff, we hope you all manage to have a restful, peaceful and fun-filled family Christmas.

We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Headteacher Awards **Gwobr y Pennaeth**

Dosbarth Haul - Lucas for super ordering numbers in Maths.
Marley for listening and writing the digraph sounds he can hear in words;

Dosbarth Enfys - Ella for working so hard to improve her writing this term and Jacob for always being a kind and caring friend;

Dosbarth Blodau - Elijah for his brilliant ideas and explanations in our RE work when thinking about how we are preparing in the season of Advent.
Georgia for her hard work and always being willing to share her ideas with others in our class discussions;

Dosbarth Seren - Kyra for having a wonderful willingness to help both her teachers and peers. Jake for a great attitude towards learning and some wonderful answers shared during lessons;

Dosbarth Afon - Lilah and Megan for their positive attitude to all learning activities;

Dosbarth Coed - Jack and Cohan for showing lovely enthusiasm in their learning.

Dosbarth Mynydd - Jayden and Zach for some fantastic descriptive writing of a Christmas scene.



CONGRATULATIONS!

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

Dosbarth Haul-

Over the last few weeks we have enjoyed getting ready for Christmas! We had our Nativity called 'Baarmy Bethlehem' where we all dressed up in our costumes and sang the songs we learnt. We've been learning about Advent and how the Advent wreath helps us to count down the days to Jesus' birthday and what the different candles mean. The reception children helped our client Foz send Christmas cards by writing their address on an envelope for him and posting in it the local post box. We've had great fun making our calendars for 2024 and our Christmas cards to our families.





Dosbarth Enfys-

What a busy term we've all had in Dosbarth Enfys! We have done so much learning and lots of lovely things aswell, we would like to share just a snippet of all of the things we've done! We all settled really well into Dosbarth Enfys at the beginning of the year and did lots of work in Geography, looking at our houses and homes and we met our client Paddington, who wanted to learn all about our school and Aberkenfig!

We finished the half term with a lovely trip to St.Fagan's where we saw what houses looked like in the past. We even went into the Victorian school and decided we liked our school better! After half term we started to practise for our Concert Baarmy Bethlehem and worked really hard learning all of our lines and songs. We loved performing for the school and for our grown-ups but we're glad to have a rest now over Christmas!

In science we have been learning all about materials and what types of materials houses are made from. We made some junk modelling houses and tested to see whether they would be weatherproof for our new clients, the Three Little Pigs! We read the story to learn all about the Three Little Pigs and made fantastic hand puppets which are on display in our classroom.



We have been exploring our lovely supergrounds to collect outdoor materials for our Literacy lessons and practising describing using adjectives. In maths we have been working with our numbers within 10 and have been learning how to add and subtract!

To finish off the year in style we went to visit the pantomime in Porthcawl to see Beauty and the Beast. We were joined by children from Dosbarth Haul and Dosbarth Blodau and loved every bit of it!

Nadolig Llawen pawb and we are looking forward to some more great learning in the New Year!

Dosbarth Blodau-

We've been getting in to the festive spirit in Dosbarth Blodau. We really enjoyed sharing our Christmas Concert 'Baarmy Bethlehem' with our families and school community. We loved our trip to the pantomime to see Beauty and the Beast. We've been getting creative and have made beautiful Christmas cards and Christmas tree decorations.

In class we have spent time thinking about how we can prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. We have thought about ways in which we can show we are growing to live like Jesus during the season of Advent. We thought about how the advent wreath is a religious symbol and the meaning of this for us as we prepare for Christmas, we made a beautiful advent wreath for our classroom.

In our literacy sessions we have been writing Christmas limericks. We found out what a limerick is and used the criteria to create our own rhyming limericks all about Christmas. We all worked so hard and have created some super limericks. We decided we would like to word process our limericks and did this using JIT. Gwaith da pawb!





Dosbarth Seren-

We have had an extremely busy few weeks in Dosbarth Seren! We have created light up Christmas decorations after analysing different types of Christmas decorations and seeing what would be the most suitable. We have been enterprising and creative contributors this week, creating our lovely Christmas cards, calendars and decorations. During our RE lessons, we created our Advent promises and looked at the work of several prophets. As part of our new topic we have also looked at different Christmas traditions in both Wales and around the World. We worked really hard on our Christmas production Bethlehem Ballroom and had a great time performing the production for everyone! There was some great dancing, singing and acting skills on display.

Sparkles our Class Elf has brought a lot of joy and laughter to our class! On the last day of school Sparkles brought us all a special certificate to say that we have all officially made the good list due to our hard work in Dosbarth Seren! We have very much enjoyed having Sparkles visit our class and seeing what he gets up to on a daily basis. Da iawn Dosbarth Seren, what a fantastic Autumn Term we have had together!

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Have a wonderful Christmas and a lovely rest.



Dosbarth Afon-

In Dosbarth Afon, we have had a very busy time with our Christmas Concert with Dosbarth Seren. We had such fun rehearsing the concert and were very proud of all our hard work when we performed for our families and friends last week. We have also been kept busy with our class elves, Bob and his brother Bill. Bob got himself into a bit of trouble when he played with Mrs Lewis' staple gun and got himself stapled to our Art display! So, Father Christmas sent Bill along to save him and he never went back! Ever since we have had two naughty elves causing chaos in Dosbarth Afon. Bob even went to Dosbarth Coed and Mynydd to be a bit nose-y and Bill was very cheeky and decided to spend the day with Mrs Daly!

A highlight last weekend was when we celebrated Gaudete Sunday at St Robert's Church when we had the blessing of the Bambinelli Jesus and all received a tiny baby Jesus to take home. Ethan lit the rose candle on the Advent wreath at the start of Mass and we led the Prayers of the Faithful where we prayed for joy to be brought to others. This really helped us to get into the Christmas mood so this week we have been busy making our Christmas cards and Elf Treats as well as partying and singing our favourite Christmas songs and carols. Advent is also a time to think of the needy and we welcomed Laura from Aberkenfig Foodbank who came to collect all the food that we have brought in as a whole school.

We'd like to pass on a huge DIOLCH YN FAWR to everyone who contributed!

We wish you all a happy and holy Christmas from all of Dosbarth Afon - Nadolig Llawen pawb!



Dosbarth Coed-

Dosbarth Coed have really enjoyed the lead up to Christmas and have worked hard to think about how we wait joyfully and patiently during the Advent season. In RE we have discussed various accounts of the nativity that we have found in the Bible and even created our own modern day Nativity scene pictures! We enjoyed talking about the activities we do in the lead up to Christmas and have made tally charts and bar graphs using the information from our class survey. We have continued with our topic based on the Tudors - Mighty Monarchs - and really enjoyed our trip to Llancaich Fawr Manor where we even met some Stuart servants who told us all about their master and the house they live in. We loved seeing the different rooms of the manor and talking about what daily life was like during Tudor and Stuart times. We are looking forward to continuing with our topic after Christmas and finding out more about the monarchs of Tudor and Stuart times. We have also been very creative in the lead up to Christmas, making Christmas cards, calendars and Christmas crafts! Nadolig Llawen pawb!

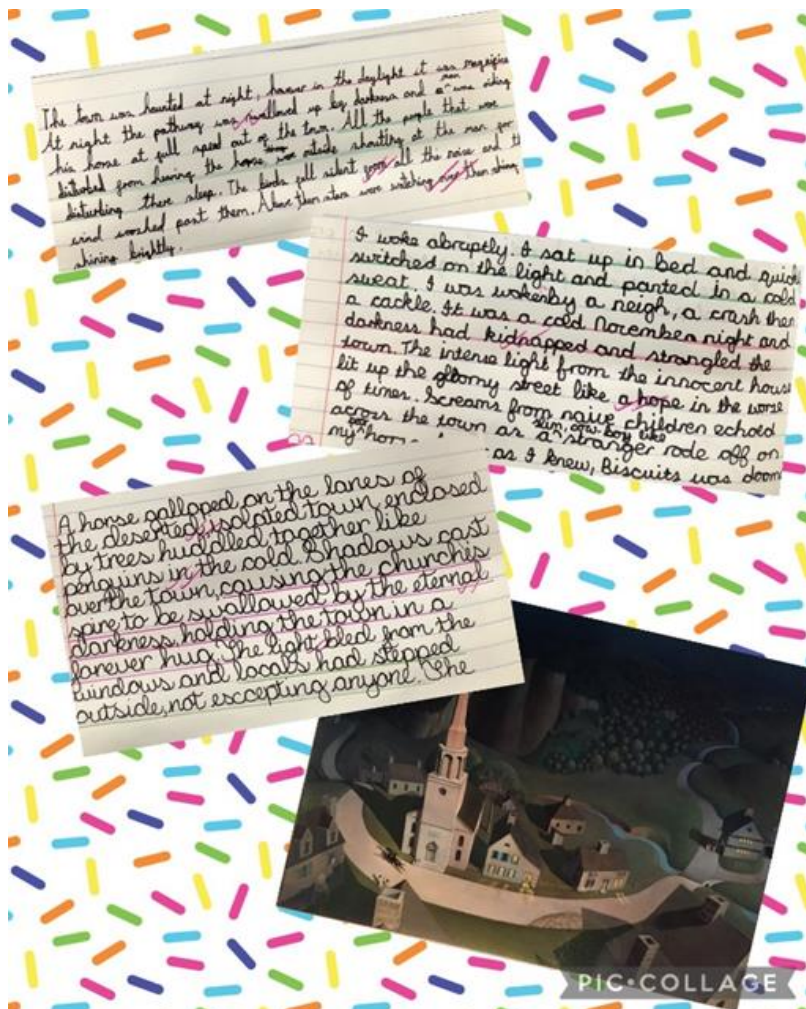


*Our trip to Llancaich
Fawr Manor*



Dosbarth Mynydd-

We have been getting ready for the festive season in class through our RE topic, From Advent to Christmas. We have been exploring the tradition of the nativity scene, first created by St Francis of Assisi and using the laptops to research different Christmas traditions. In English, we have been coming to the end of our fantastic class reader, Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz. We took part in Horowitz's writing challenge and had to describe a Grant wood painting. We shared our writing on X and Anthony responded saying how much he liked our work! We worked in groups to make an electrical steady hand game, using our knowledge of electric circuits. We were great at collaborating! We have also been cycling in class with BCBC council - even in the rain! We are now very much ready for our Christmas break - Nadolig Llawen Pawb!



Advent Wreath Reflections

Third Sunday of Advent

The third week of Advent, we light the rose candle and remember the gift of Joy we have in Christ. We remember the joy that Mary felt when the angel Gabriel told her that a special child would be born to her - a child who would save and deliver all people. Joy is the gift we all receive from the unconditional love Christ has for us.

God wants us all to have joy. The angel who announced to the shepherds that Jesus had been born told them: "Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people - for to you is born this day, in the City of David, a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

We remember that Christ came to bring true and everlasting joy to all people.



Family members share how they have experienced joy today.

Let us pray -

Loving God, we thank you for the joy you bring us.

Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by helping us see that Christ came for every person we meet wherever we go.

We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth week of Advent we remember the gift of Love we have in Christ.

The light of the candle is meant to remind us of the love that God has for us. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He is God's love in human form. The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance. Love never ends.

We remember that we are called to love like Christ loves us.



Family members share how they have experienced love today.

Let us pray-

Loving God, we thank you for your gift of love - shown to us perfectly in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by loving others as Christ loves us.

We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

Amen

Christmas Day

Today we celebrate the gift of the Incarnation, Emmanuel, God with us. We celebrate the birth of Christ who is the Light of the World—a Light no darkness can extinguish. Christ's Light can enter any darkness and as members of the Body of Christ, we live in the Light of Christ.

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

Jesus, the Son of God, chose to be born of Mary, to become human, one of us. He lived among us, experiencing our joys and hopes, our struggles and challenges. He came to bring us out of the darkness to which we had fallen and into God's wonderful, eternal Light.

Family members share how they experienced Christ this day.

Let us pray -

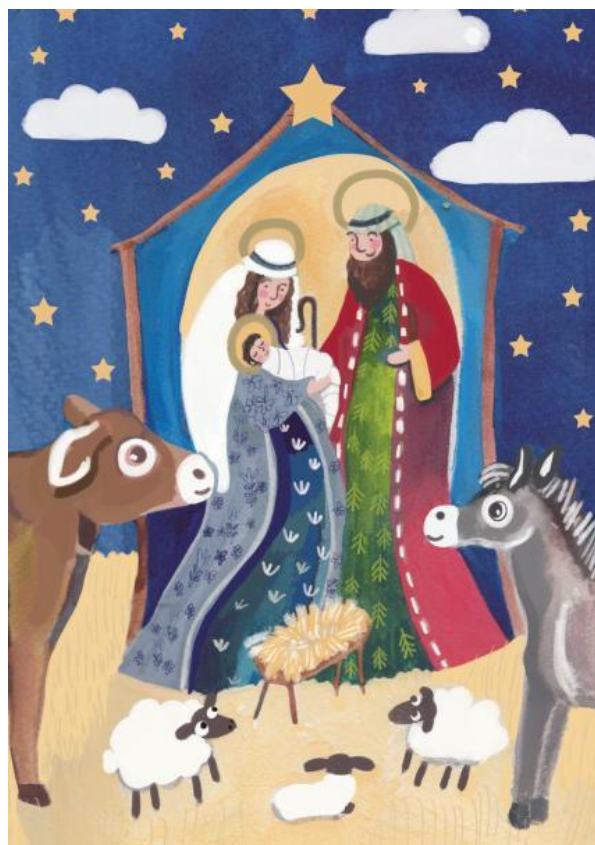
Loving God, we thank you for your mystery of the Incarnation - Emmanuel, God with us.

Help us receive the Light of Christ in our hearts.

Share it generously and joyfully in our families and communities.

We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

Amen





St. Robert's Pupil Profile
This half term the pair of
virtues we will be focusing on-
ATTENTIVE & DISCERNING



This fortnight the following pupils have demonstrated the Virtues of being
ATTENTIVE & DISCERNING

Dosbarth Haul- Ralph for his sensible attitude during the day and whilst playing inside and outdoors.
Elijah C for being attentive during story time and answering questions about the story.

Dosbarth Enfys- Dotty for always working hard to be attentive throughout the day & Louie J for making a super effort to make good decisions.

Dosbarth Blodau- Ellie and Joseph for demonstrating they are attentive and discerning in the way they are always eager and enthused in all of our activities in class.

Dosbarth Seren- Vicky for demonstrating attentiveness and always being kind to both her teachers and peers. Joey for sharing attentive answers during our RE lessons and always making good choices.

Dosbarth Afon- Elis and Evie for always being great role models in being attentive and discerning.

Dosbarth Coed- Leo and Tianna for always thinking about choices they make in class and during breaktimes.

Dosbarth Mynydd- Gabriel and Freya E for paying attention in class when we are learning.



On behalf of all the children and staff at St Robert's Primary School

Happy Birthday to:

Seth (5), Gethin (5), Joseph (6), Harry (6), Nettie (6), Freya R (7), Norah (8), Florence (8), Alex (8), Scarlett (9), Caleb S (9), Bethan (10), Mairwen (10), Max (10), Ayla (11) Zack (11), Miss Mordaunt, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Beveridge & Miss Rossi.



Other information: Gwybodaeth arall

Tea, Tots & Toys Group at St. Robert's School starting January 2024

This group will start on TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY 2024

It will run every Tuesday from 9.15-10.30 and be held in the school hall.

Refreshments will be available for the grown-ups (£1.00 donation)

The group caters for babies and Toddlers (0- Preschool)

Benefits of joining this group include-

- Play, songs, and stories with an optional weekly book;
- A chance to meet new friends in a relaxed environment

Anyone with a baby or toddler is welcome and we look forward to starting this exciting initiative.

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 or know who will be three before September 2024 contact the school for an application. Also, if you are aware of family or friends 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

21 st December	Last day of term- Christmas Celebrations. Pupils to wear Christmas jumpers
22 nd December	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
8 th January	School resumes after the Christmas Holidays
8 th February	Last day for pupils prior to half term break
9 th February	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
14 th February	Ash Wednesday
19 th February	School resumes after half term break
22 nd March	Last day for pupils prior to Easter Holidays
29 th March	Good Friday
31 st March	Easter Sunday
8 th April	School resumes after the Easter Break

