



Dear all,

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

These have included:

- Swimming sessions for Yr. 4, 5 & 6 at Halo;
- As part of the new Curriculum for Wales we have introduced French from Dosbarth Blodau to Dosbarth Mynydd;
- Elections & formation of our School Senedd;
- Class led Whole School Worships- Dosbarth Afon led our Harvest Worship, Dosbarth Blodau led our Compassionate & Loving Worship, Dosbarth Mynydd led our Remembrance Day Worship & Dosbarth Coed led our Faith filled and Hopeful Worship;
- Masses- We celebrated the Beginning of the new School Year Mass and the School Mass at our Parish Church on Bambinelli Sunday;
- Peripatetic teachers- Violin, Brass & Woodwind sessions;
- KS 2 pupils joined the Urdd Virtual Jambori;
- Enrichment Days- P4C day on Friendship, Stone Age Day in Dosbarth Seren, Anti Bullying Week Activities, Shwmae Day, a Mexican Day in Dosbarth Haul and Archaeological dig & Graduation as Junior Egyptologists in Dosbarth Afon;
- Face to Face Parental Consultations;
- Cycling proficiency for Year 6 pupils;
- Visited Aberkenfig Foodstore to take Harvest food collection (173.5kg)
- A highly successful Book Fayre, where the school had £800 commission to spend on replenishing our class libraries;
- We were winners of Credit Union Wales Schools Partnership Award;
- Participated in the Spectrum Project, supporting the Health & Wellbeing Area of Learning and Experience;
- Started Extra Curricular Activities- Knitting Club, Glee Club & Cross Country;
- Class Trips to: The Big Pit (Mynydd), St Fagans (Coed), Techniquet (Seren) & Jack and The Beanstalk Pantomime (Blodau);
- Yr.6 Transition Activities- Open Evening & staff from Archbishop McGrath visiting us;
- Visits- walk to Aberkenfig looking at the history of shops & identify human & physical features (Enfys);
- Visit to St Robert's Church to find out about Baptism (Enfys);
- The Criw Cymraeg led the school to achieving the Siater Iaith Bronze Award;
- Reading Meeting- Dosbarth Enys;

- Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day;
- Learner Forum for parents- Dosbarth Mynydd presenting the findings of their history topic, "Black Gold" and creating Victorian Crafts;
- Christmas Production- Nursery Rhyme Nativity (Haul), A Little Bird Told Me (Enfys & Blodau), Baa Baa Bethlehem (Seren & Afon).

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 2023!

Headteacher Awards Gwobr y Pennaeth

At end of each month we have certificates for Pride in Presentation, Marvellous Maths and Siarad Cymraeg, here are this month's pupils:

Dosbarth Haul- Matilda for her presentation, Lillie for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Chella for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Enfys - Gethin F for his presentation, Matilda for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Austin for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Blodau - Reese for her presentation, Alfie for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Dylan for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Seren- Megan for her presentation, Elis for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Max for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Afon - Cillian for his presentation, Leo for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Logan for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Coed- Brody for his presentation, Aoife G for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Olivia Grace for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Mynydd- Keyanna for her presentation, Isobel for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Zack for "Marvellous Maths".



CONGRATULATIONS!

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

We have been busy preparing for Jesus' Birthday in our RE topic of Birthdays. We learnt all about the advent wreath and what the different candles symbolise each Sunday of Advent. We made a wreath from green playdough and used tea lights for the candles. We put a white candle in the middle which is lit on Christmas Eve for Jesus.



Dosbarth Enfys-

Dosbarth Enfys have been celebrating the festive period by doing some lovely Christmas crafts and finishing the term with our Christmas party! We really enjoyed showing our grownups our Christmas

performance of 'A Little Bird Told Me' and it really got us into the Christmas spirit! In class we have been learning all about Advent and created our own beautiful Advent wreaths to help us countdown to Jesus' birthday. We made Christmas tree decorations with Miss Bobbett, Christmas cards to send home and are all ready for the new year with our calendars. Nadolig Llawen pawb, from Dosbarth Enfys.





Dosbarth Blodau-

We've had a very busy but festive few weeks in Blodau. Here are some of the exciting things we've been up to.

We were absolute super stars in our Christmas concert and enjoyed sharing the wonderful story of the first Christmas with our families.

We had a brilliant Christmas jumper day and enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner - blasus iawn!

We've loved making Christmas cards and calendars ready for 2023. We have particularly enjoyed creating photo frames using willow branches from our school grounds - we were amazing at measuring and cutting the right lengths of branches and worked hard to join them together to create a frame, we've put in a beautiful picture of ourselves wrapped up warm in our coats, hats and scarves on an icy day.

We've worked ever so hard in our R.E. work. We loved scanning QR codes hidden around our classroom to help us find cool facts about the special scripture of the Annunciation - we are brilliant at recalling the events from this story! We have written beautiful Christmas prayers asking God to help us prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

For our maths work we have focussed on shape and we had great fun colouring and creating symmetrical trees to show our understanding of symmetry - what super maths wizards!

We really enjoyed our P4C session, where we looked at a range of Christmas card images and chose the one that reminded us most of Christmas, we were all super at explaining our choices and giving examples. We loved hearing everyone's ideas and linking these to our thinking too - what super caring cwatches we all were listening to ideas of others!

What fantastic work Dosbarth Blodau! We certainly are ready for a break now and a rest, ready for some more exciting learning in 2023!



Dosbarth Seren

We have had an extremely busy few weeks in Dosbarth Seren! We have created Christmas decorations after analysing different types of Christmas decorations and seeing what would be the most suitable for us. 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 explored the nativity. We also imagined what it would be like to be one of the shepherds and Wise Men, imagining how they felt in their search for Jesus and describing their experiences along the way. We have also looked at different Christmas traditions in both Wales and the UK. We had an amazing time in Techniquest where we watched the Forces Show and had a great time going around all the exhibitions and investigation stations. We worked really hard on our Christmas Concert Baa Baa Bethlehem and had a great time doing the performances for everyone! Sparkles our Class Elf has brought a lot of joy and laughter to our class. On the last day of school, he 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!



Dosbarth Afon-

In Dosbarth Afon, we have been having lots of Christmassy fun! We have continued our work on syllabic poetry and completed our hot write haiku, tanka and cinquain poems using Narnia as our stimulus. The weather was so cold and frosty which really helped too! We have worked so hard on our Christmas Concert - Baa, Baa Bethlehem and were complete professionals when we performed three times on Wednesday! We have had great fun working on our production and have made all our teachers and grownups very proud of us. Also, we had a delicious Christmas dinner and enjoyed wearing our Christmas jumpers to support Stephanie. We have been busy making beautiful Christmas cards and reindeer hot chocolate bags to take home for Christmas and had a great last day too when we had hot chocolate and Turkish delight while we watched 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.' Thankfully, none of us were bewitched by the Ice Queen! We ended the day with a Christmas Carol sing along which really got us in the spirit of things!

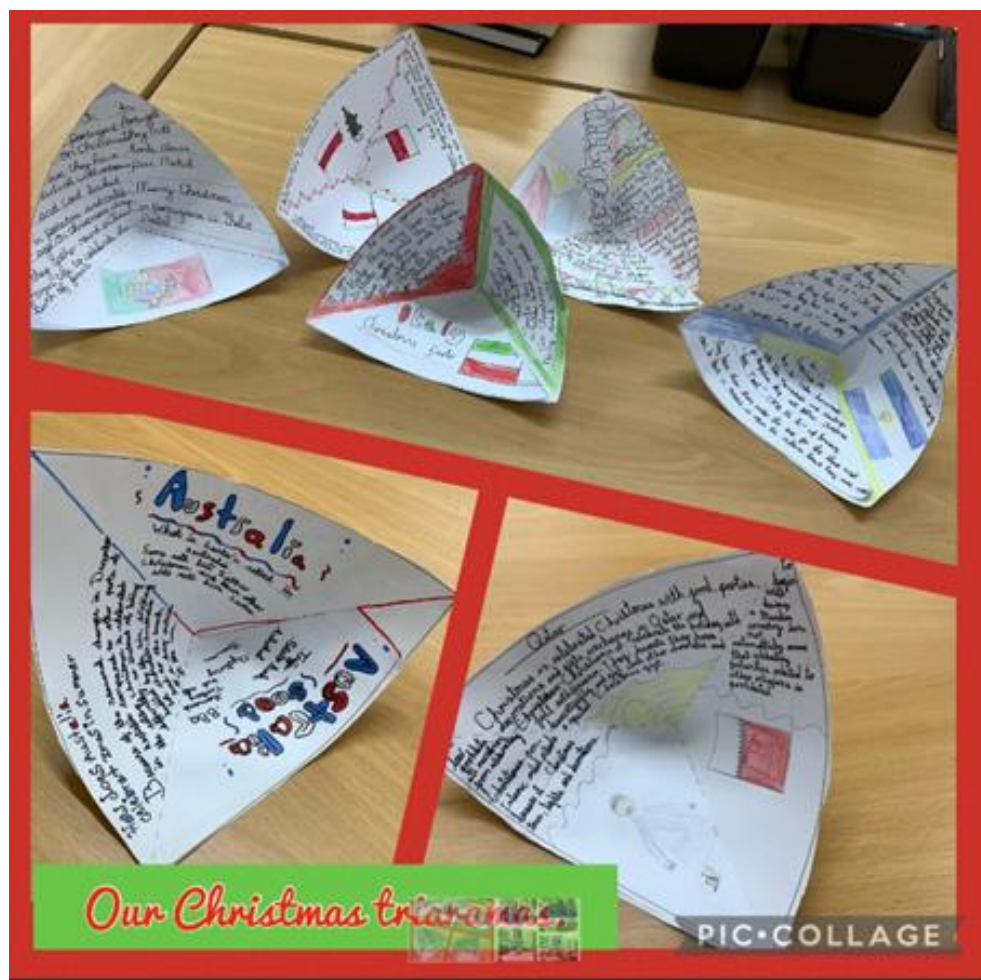
Dosbarth Afon wish everyone a Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!





Dosbarth Coed

Dosbarth Coed have had a very busy few weeks in the run up to Christmas! We have continued learning about Advent and how we wait in hope. We have created pic collages, written our own poems and responded to scriptures about waiting hopefully. We also enjoyed imagining we were Joseph and completing hot seating tasks which helped us to think about Joseph and Mary's feelings during the time before Jesus was born. We have also finished our class reader- The Snow Spider which we have really enjoyed! We have worked on using drama techniques such as freeze frames and thought tapping to depict and represent our favourite scenes from the book. We created an interactive gallery of scenes and enjoyed talking about them in class. Great acting and drama skills Dosbarth Coed! We have continued to write our explanation texts based on the cracking contraption of the 'Snoozatron' and have also started work on fractions in maths. We have also been busy practising for our Gweddiwn which focuses on the virtues of being faith filled and hopeful. This week, as part of some Christmas tasks, eg have also researched what Christmas is like in other countries, creating triaramas with all the facts we found. In addition to all of this, Dosbarth Coed have also made wonderful Christmas cards, crafts and calendars ready for Christmas and the New Year! Dosbarth Coed would like to wish everyone a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas!





Dosbarth Mynydd-

We have really been enjoying reading *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens over the last couple of weeks - it has really put us in the festive mood! As part of our work, we have been researching Christmas traditions that originated in the Victorian era. We had a fantastic end to our topic in our learner forum. Our parents joined us and we presented our learning to them. We then made Victorian Christmas cards together and this was followed by some rather delicious tea and scones (made by the class and Mrs Hinkley!). It was a fantastic event! We have also been thrilled to have a video message

from Welsh author Eloise Williams. We have been reading her book *Gaslight* in class, and she sent us a message answering some of our questions - diolch Eloise!





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

Happy Birthday to:

Seth (4), 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 Clark & Mrs Beveridge





This fortnight the following pupils have demonstrated the Virtues of being

FAITH-FILLED & HOPEFUL
LLAWN- FFYDD & GOBEITHIOL



Dosbarth Haul- Louie receives our faith filled virtue for always being thoughtful & kind while using the provision and on the yard.

Orson receives our hopeful virtue for always putting great effort into his work and always with a smile!

Dosbarth Enfys- Ollie received our Faith-Filled virtue this week. Sonny received our Hopeful virtue this week.

Dosbarth Blodau- Amelie and Evie for the lovely ideas they shared in our P4C sessions, the examples they gave of their thinking really showed how they are growing to be faith-filled and hopeful.

Dosbarth Seren- Amelie & Brianne for being faith-filled and hopeful showing good understanding the true meaning of Christmas.

Dosbarth Afon- Samson and Eva for being faith-filled and hopeful when participating in Mass on Baminelli Sunday.

Dosbarth Coed- Beth and Gwen for showing the virtues of being faith filled and hopeful to all they meet both friends & staff;

Dosbarth Mynydd- Max, who shows he is faith-filled through his kind and loving actions to others, and Oliver, who is hopeful in his positive action and manner.



Advent Wreath Reflections

Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle on an Advent wreath, usually pink, symbolises joy. Christmas excitement is building as the holiday quickly approaches. Listen to a reading from Luke.

"Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptising you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire"

Light the first three candles (the two purple and the pink candles or three blue candles) or any three candles that you have.

Response: Let each person share one thing they're especially joyful about this Christmas. Then say.

Three candles, burning bright,
Chasing away the darkness from light.
Three candles, glowing bright,
The blessing of God, giving new sight.

Let us pray.

Dear God, we pray for the joy that is found in Jesus,
that those who seek it may truly find it.
May we celebrate in the joy found in You.
Amen.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

The fourth candle on an Advent wreath, usually purple, is often called the candle of love. Christmas happened because of God's great love for all people.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." Luke Ch1v41-45



At Christmas, God gave us the best gift ever. He sent his Son, Jesus, to live, die, and rise again so we could live with him forever in heaven. Although this gift required great sacrifice, God knew we needed Jesus.

Light the four candles on your advent wreath.

Response: As your family gets ready to open Christmas gifts, talk about why we give nice things to people we love. Ask: What are some of the most memorable gifts you've received? How can you tell when much love and thought go into a gift? Then say.

Four candles, burning bright,
Chasing away the darkness with light.
Four candles, glowing bright,

The blessing of God, giving new sight.

Let us pray.

Dear God,

We pray that our faith may be renewed once again, and may we relive the wonder of your love in our lives.

In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we pray.

Amen.

Christmas Day

We wait no longer. God's promise of a Redeemer is fulfilled. Christ Jesus is born. We light the Christ candle with praise to our God who brings joy to the world.

On **Christmas Day** 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 hide.

"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.

brings joy to the world.



Light all four candles plus the Christ candle in the middle.

Response: Share how will Christ be at the centre of your lives today.

All: Four candles, burning bright,
Chasing away the darkness with light.

Four candles, glowing bright, Christ at the centre,
The blessing of God, giving new sight.

Let us pray

Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God and you are with us.

May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you,
We will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life

Amen



Other information: **Gwybodaeth arall**

**Say it in Cymraeg this
Christmas....**



Merry Christmas	Nadolig Llawen	Na-doh-lig lla-when
Happy New Year	Blwyddyn Newydd Dda	Bl-oi-ddin New-ydd Dd-ah
Present	Anrheg	Ann-rhh-eg
Star	Seren	Se-ren
Christmas Tree	Coeden Nadolig	Coy-den Na-doh-lig
Father Christmas	Siôn Corn	Shaun Corr-n
Snow Man	Dyn Eira	Dean Eye-rah
Reindeer	Carw	Ca-roo
Snow	Eira	Eye-rah
Christmas Dinner	Cinio Nadolig	Kin-yoh Na-doh-lig
Christmas Pudding	Pwdin Nadolig	Pww-din Na-doh-lig
Christmas Carols	Carolau Nadolig	Car-ol-ai Na-doh-lig
Stocking	Hosan	Hos-ann
Mince Pie	Mins Pei	Mince Pay
Decorations	Addurniadau	Add-irn-iad-ai
Angel	Angel	Ann-ghel
Holly	Celyn	Ceh-lynn
Lights	Goleuadau	Go-ley-add-ai



Rhif Cwmni: 06693822

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 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.

PTA

We are trying to relaunch the PTA. If you are interested in being a part of this extremely important aspect of school life, please Dojo your interest to your child's class teacher.

Diary Dates: Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur

22 nd December	Last day of term- Christmas Celebrations. Pupils to wear Christmas jumpers
23 rd December	SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY
9 th January	School resumes after the Christmas Holidays
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

Reminder of School Training Days 2022-23 (School closed to pupils)

- 23rd December 2022
- 17th February 2023
- 17th April 2023
- 5th June 2023
- 24th July 2023

