



Dear all,

We have had another fantastic fortnight at St. Robert's with so many wonderful teaching and learning experiences occurring in every class. We've had a whole school focus on Internet Safety and Children's Mental Health. It was wonderful to see how the pupils "Dressed to Express" today. Thank you for donations.

Fr. Tim came into school on Tuesday morning to show pupils how the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are created by burning the palms that were distributed last Palm Sunday. The fire pit of burning palms caused great excitement and Fr. Tim demonstrated how the ashes will be distributed next week during Ash Wednesday Masses across all churches.

Yesterday Dosbarth Haul & Dosbarth Enfys led a lovely whole school Gweddiwn on the virtues of Compassionate & Loving. We reflected on how we can demonstrate these virtues at school, at home and in our wider community. This half term although very short, has been extremely busy, both pupils and staff are ready for the half term break!

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 - Grace for her presentation, Orson for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Elijah C for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Enfys - Issac for his presentation, Seth for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Ella for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Blodau - Emily for her presentation, Rhys for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Isabella C for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Seren - Layla for her presentation, Cerys for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Freddie for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Afon - Daniel for his presentation, Corey for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Reggie for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Coed - Alfie for his presentation, William for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Eira for "Marvellous Maths";

Dosbarth Mynydd - Oliver W for his presentation, Demi for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Olivia Grace for "Marvellous Maths".



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

Dosbarth Haul-

Our client Percy wanted us to help the animals in our woodland area in the winter season, like he does, by making hibernation boxes. We decided where the door and air vents should go and then collected natural materials to put inside to make them warm and cosy. Next, we tested different materials to find out which ones were waterproof so we could cover the boxes to stop them getting wet in the rain. In our groups we decided which waterproof material to use, covered our boxes with it and used leaves and twigs to help the box blend into the area. Our last job was to find a quiet and safe place to put the boxes so any animals could use it to sleep in or store food. Some great park rangers in the making!



Dosbarth Enfys-

Dosbarth Enfys have been continuing our good work learning all about animals. We have done some beautiful artwork trying to replicate animal camouflage and got quite messy using oil paints and rollers to print animal footprints! We have been great scientists and have learnt how to classify animals by what they eat, their habitat and what type of animal they are. We were really helped with this by a visit from Chris at Bridgend Reptile Centre who brought in a wonderful collection of reptiles for us to learn about! We have finished off this half term by performing our Loving and Compassionate Gweddiwn with Dosbarth Haul for the whole school and told the story of Noah's Ark whilst learning how we can be loving and compassionate like Jesus. Da iawn pawb, another lovely half term!



Dosbarth Blodau-

We've been super scientists in Blodau the past few weeks. We have been working hard doing lots of learning and discovering for our Client Ada Twist, Scientist.

We have spent time thinking about how materials cost money to make and so it is important that we use them in a sustainable way. We have been trying really hard in class to think carefully about our rubbish and making good use of our new recycling bins at school. In our outdoor learning we reused toilet roll tubes to make help us make bird cookies and have placed them around our outdoor learning area.

We have really enjoyed exploring waterproofing materials and learned about Charles Macintosh and his famous discovery of how materials can be waterproofed.

We have learned about the force of friction and were excited in our investigation to find out that the smoother the surface the less friction and so objects travelled fastest and furthest on this type of surface. We were super at using our new scientific vocabulary and brilliant at measuring the distance the car travelled on each surface.

We loved carrying out experiments to investigate if materials can be changed. We discovered some materials can be stretched, bent, squashed and twisted, we thought carefully about how this helps to make materials suitable for their uses.

We also discovered that materials can be changed by heating them. We really enjoyed carrying out an investigation to see what happens to chocolate when we melted it. We explored how heating

chocolate changed its state and observed how the chocolate lost its shape and became shiny and glossy.

We have also completed our final commission for Ada Twist by making paper plate hovercrafts and we have written a set of instructions for others of how to make a paper plate hovercraft.



Dosbarth Seren-

What a lovely couple of weeks we have had in Dosbarth Seren! We visited Technquest and had a really wonderful day, we visited the planetarium, and enjoyed trying all the different investigation stations. The behaviour was excellent and Dosbarth Seren were a true credit to our school. We really enjoyed our science colourful shadows experiment, it was great fun! We used torches covered with translucent paper to see if it affected the amount of shadows that appeared. We thoroughly enjoyed our activities based on children's mental health week and safer internet day. We looked at circles of control, and things we can control, what we can influence and we can't control. We have also been writing diary entries imagining we were our client, Phileas Fogg, travelling around the World in eighty days! We filmed our documentary based upon our topic What A Wonderful World and explained what we enjoyed learning. We will be sharing this documentary with our grown-ups very soon! We have thoroughly enjoyed our geography-based topic and travelling all around the World in this fascinating topic!! Today, we have enjoyed fruit kebabs after we explored where fruit comes from. Da iawn Dosbarth Seren- great work!



Dosbarth Afon-

Dosbarth Afon, have been super scientists when investigating our enquiry question - which drinks cause tooth decay? We used eggs to test different drinks because egg shell has similar properties to tooth enamel. We found out that acidic drinks like fruit juices and full sugar fizzy drinks were the worst and that water was the best. We noticed that although milk has calcium in it which is good for our teeth and bones, it contains lactose which is a sugar. As the lactose sugar is broken down, acid is produced that causes your teeth to decay. We now realise how important it is to brush

our teeth twice a day and to limit sugary and acidic drinks. We enjoyed French Friday where we found out about the French artist Seurat and did paintings using his style which is called Pointillism. We had a lovely pupil led class worship last week which was linked to our virtues of Compassionate and Loving. In English, we have had great fun writing detailed descriptions of dragons from our class reader using expanded noun phrases. This was Bailey's idea and he brought in his dragon figures for us to use to help with our writing. We have worked our socks off this half term and looking forward to a rest!



Dosbarth Coed-

Dosbarth Coed really enjoyed the conclusion to their Tudor topic! They played and recorded Tudor fanfares as part of their final commission. Coed have learnt a little about reading music and how to play in time during music sessions as well as how to appraise and evaluate a piece of music. Coed also completed other Tudor based activities such as Tudor games in the hall and lots of drama tasks. We have really enjoyed learning about the Tudors and Stuarts and when writing persuasive writing texts we all thought Henry VIII was the mightiest monarch! This week, we have also completed a launch day focusing on our new topic of 'Ocean Endangered.' During our launch day we used our DCF skills and learnt all about artificial intelligence and how it can help us save and clean the oceans! We are really looking forward to learning more about marine life and our global ocean. We have also been busy learning about ecosystems, biodiversity and food chains in science and have practised Welsh folk dancing ready for our Eisteddfod which will be held after the half term.



Tudor musical fanfares

PIC•COLLAGE

Dosbarth Mynydd-

Dosbarth Mynydd have started a new topic in class called Frozen Kingdom. This topic will be focusing on cold regions of the world and how climate change is impacting on the people and animals living there. As part of our launch day we had a virtual chat with Ben Weber, who in the last year visited both the Arctic Circle and Antarctica. He shared lots of pictures and videos with us about his expeditions - it was fascinating! We did lots of activities linked to our new topic including mapping cold regions throughout the world, using our Maths to make symmetrical snowflakes and testing foil boats using marbles! We have also been focusing on poetry at the moment, in readiness for the Bard competition on St David's Day. We have been writing poems in class and using the outdoors to explore the famous Edward Lear poem, The Owl and The Pussycat. We made clay owl sculptures using natural materials as decorations!



Our frozen kingdom
Launch day



Prayer Time- Amser Gweddi

As we come to the end of this half term's focus on the virtues of Compassionate & Loving, let us think about how we can incorporate them into our everyday lives.

Loving Jesus, **Iesu cariadus,**

Help me to live your goodness and kindness each day.

Remind me that my actions express who I am even more than my words.

May I love as you love.

Boed i mi garu fel ti'n caru

Let me forgive those who need forgiveness, and reach out in kindness

to all I meet,

So, they can experience the unconditional love of God.

May I love as you love.

Boed i mi garu fel ti'n caru

Amen

“No act of kindness,
however small, is
ever wasted.”

-Aesop



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



Dosbarth Haul- Chella and Arthur for showing their care and concern for others without being asked to and seeing their nurturing ways especially with the younger children.

Dosbarth Enfys- Freddie for always being considerate of others and Ffion for being a loving friend.

Dosbarth Blodau- Gethin and Indy for demonstrating they are compassionate and loving by sharing lovely examples in our class P4C session when we discussed our thoughts of 'What is love?'

Dosbarth Seren- Bella for being compassionate towards her peers and always using kind words and manners and Evie for being loving and compassionate in her words and actions to her friends and teachers.

Dosbarth Afon- Ethan, Rose, Corey and Alex, for leading a lovely class worship linked to the virtues of Compassionate and Loving.

Dosbarth Coed- Rory and Samson for always being kind and compassionate in class, to both adults and friends.

Dosbarth Mynydd- Gracie and Charlie J for their loving and caring nature to others.



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

Ralph (4), Ffion (5), Chella (6), Mithra (6), Amelie (8), Zen (8), Morgan M (11) & Mrs Sadd, Mrs Taylor & Mrs Tucker



School News: **Newyddion Ysgol**

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 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.

Half term Activities at Halo Leisure Centres

**FEBRUARY 2024 HALF TERM
ACTIVITIES IN BRIDGEND COUNTY**

**FREE LEARN TO SWIM CRASH
COURSES***

**ACTIVE 4 LIFE ACTIVITIES
(DODGEBALL, RACKET SPORTS
ETC)**

**JUMPINGYM,
BOUNCE & PLAY
AND MUCH MORE!!!**

Check our website to see
what's available at your
centre and how to book.

*Free for those not on Halo
Swimming Lessons

Diary Dates: **Dyddiadau'r Dyddiadur**

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 CLOSURE DAY
9 th April	School Resumes after the Easter Break

Thank you for your continued support

Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Mrs Beveridge

