



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;
- Elections & formation of our School Senedd;
- Class led Whole School Worship- Dosbarth Afon led our Harvest Worship & Dobarth Mynydd led our Remembrance Day Worship.
- Masses- We celebrated the Beginning of the new School Year Mass live streamed from St. Mary's Church, Dosbarth Afon attended Mass at St. Robert's Church to remember the deceased members of our parish (November) and the School Mass at our Parish Church on Babinelli Sunday;
- Feast Days and special celebrations- Honouring Mary with daily Rosary sessions during October, The Feast of the Guardian Angels, Red Wednesday, remembering those who suffer for their faith and our Live Simply action planting bulbs in our woodland to celebrate God's beautiful creation (Laudato Si);
- Our re-accreditation for the P4C (Philosophy for Children) Gold Award, recognising our continued commitment to this approach;
- BCBC Kerbcraft sessions for Dosbarth Blodau;
- Criw Cymraeg working with pupils to develop the use of Welsh yard games. Ysgol Bro Ogwr pupils supported us with this and introduced these games to Dosbarth Blodau;
- Ospreys developing Yr 6 rugby skills and then all Yr.6 pupils participating at a local rugby festival;
- Peripatetic teachers- Violin, Brass & Woodwind sessions;
- Enrichment Days/Activities- Anti Bullying Week, Whole School P4C day on Heroes & Villains, Teddy Bears' Picnic (Dosbarth Enfys), a virtual workshop with Welsh author, Eloise Williams linked to Dosbarth Mynydd's class reader.
- Autumn Parental Consultations;
- Harvest food collection for Bridgend Food bank;
- A highly successful Book Fayre, the commission (£815) has been spent on replenishing our class libraries;
- Spanish Soccer taster sessions for Dosbarth Haul, Enfys & Blodau;
- Wallich onesie day raising £146;
- Extra-Curricular Activities- Knitting Club, STEM Club & Cosy Reading Club;
- Class Trips to: Visit to Cenin Wind farm, the Senedd & Theatr Na Nog trip to see "The Fight" & participating in workshops (Mynydd), Cardiff Castle (Seren), Swansea University Egyptology Centre (Afon)

- PTA Halloween Disco;
- Transition Activities- Open Evening for Yr.6 & a visit to Archbishop High School, Art & Geography taster sessions;
- Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day £130 raised to support our sponsor child, Stephanie;
- Our Christmas Enterprise Extravaganza - raised £600 to be used for the purchasing of outdoor learning equipment;
- Christmas Productions- "Whoops A Daisy Angel (Haul & Enfys)" & "The Inn Crowd" (Blodau & Seren)
- Teepee Theatre Company - "The Selfless Elf"- for Dosbarth Haul, Enfys, Blodau & Seren;
- End of term Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas celebrations/parties.

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 2025!

### 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**- Leo for his presentation, Aeron for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Nola for "Marvellous Maths";

**Dosbarth Enfys** - Nevaeh for her presentation, Piper for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Arthur for "Marvellous Maths";

**Dosbarth Blodau** - Indy for his presentation, Gethin for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Isabella for "Marvellous Maths";

**Dosbarth Seren**- Nettie for her presentation, Layla for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Melchizedek for "Marvellous Maths";

**Dosbarth Afon** - Lilah for her presentation, Niamh for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Kyra for "Marvellous Maths";

**Dosbarth Mynydd**- Samson for his presentation, Cohan for the "Siarad Cymraeg" Award & Emilia for "Marvellous Maths".



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

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

### Dosbarth Haul-

These last few weeks we have been busy getting ready for Christmas. We have been practising our school concert Whoops-a-Daisy Angel and performed it for the school and for our grown ups - we did a fantastic job! During Advent we made an advent wreath for our classroom using our handprints and learnt what each of the four candles symbolise. We have been using this in our class worships, lighting a new candle each week. We enjoyed making the snowflakes for our enterprise stall in the Christmas Fayre, using our pattern making to make the beads symmetrical - they turned out lovely and lots were sold at the fayre. Other craft activities have been making our Christmas cards, calendars and jingle bells bracelets!



### Dosbarth Enfys-

What a busy and fun end to the term Dosbarth Enfys have had. We have been really busy preparing for our Christmas Fayre and made some delicious gingerbread men that sold out in minutes! We'll have to make a lot more next year! We have been learning all about the special meaning of Advent and



created our own Advent kindness calendar. To finish our topic all about toys we planned, created and evaluated our very own hand wire game in D.T and learnt some letter writing skills to send our Christmas letter to our client Santa. In maths we have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes and have enjoyed making lots of Christmas crafts and of course our fantastic Nativity performances! A great few weeks pawb, diolch!



### Dosbarth Blodau-

What a busy Autumn term it has been in Dosbarth Blodau!

We really enjoyed putting on our Christmas performance of 'The Inn Crowd' - Thank you so much to all who came! We had so much fun.

Back in class we wrote our own letters of complaint inspired by the story 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. I think we all enjoyed complaining a little too much. We even started to think about how the character Duncan must feel after receiving all the letters from the crayons - We all came up with some lovely thoughts and did really well when putting ourselves in his shoes.

During our RE sessions, we have been focusing on the signs and symbols used during Advent. We learnt all about the candles on the Advent wreath and even had a go at making our own Advent wreath hats. They all looked amazing!

We were lucky enough to have Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr lead a session with us in order to teach us some elsh yard games. We really enjoyed learning these games and look forward to trying them out at break and lunch times.

We all got very excited in preparation for our Christmas fayre! We all worked super hard to produce Christmas gift tags to sell - We were all super creative and had too much fun when it came to the glitter. Thank you to everyone who came to our stall and purchased a gift tag. We hope whoever you gift them to will love them as much as we loved making them!

It has been an amazing term! Everyone has worked so hard and settled in amazingly to Dosbarth Blodau - We are all excited to see what next term will bring.

From all of us in Dosbarth Blodau we wish you a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year! Nadolig Llawen pawb!





## Dosbarth Seren-

What a busy time we have had in Dosbarth Seren! In our mathematics lessons, we have been working hard practising our times tables. We have been learning all about Advent during our RE lessons. We created our Advent promises and discussed the importance of preparation and waiting patiently. In groups, we created castles out of recyclable materials, this was our final commission for our topic Castles and Courts. This activity was great fun and there were some great team building skills on display. We have all very much enjoyed this topic and learnt lots of facts about life in medieval Wales! Also, we performed our Christmas production The Inn Crowd, in front of audiences. We did an amazing job throughout all performances and read our lines nice and clearly, and our singing and dancing were excellent! Well done pawb, your hard work and practising certainly paid off! This half term, we have been enterprising and creative contributors, creating our lovely Christmas cards, calendars and decorations. As part of our topic we have also looked at different Christmas traditions across the years in the UK, it was most interesting to learn about Christmas in the past. This Christmas, 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, hope you all have a very merry Christmas and a lovely rest.



## **Dosbarth Afon-**

In Dosbarth Afon, we have had a very busy time since our last newsletter. We met with volunteers from Bridgend Foodbank who collected all the generous donations that we collected from our Gweddiwn. We stood in solidarity with persecuted Christians on Red Wednesday and prayed for people all over the world who are suffering and are displaced. We made red carnation badges and walked to St Robert's Church in Aberkenfig where we celebrated Mass with our parish family and met Fr Paul, our new parish priest, for the first time.

We have also been swimming since the last newsletter and have all made fantastic progress with everyone being awarded a certificate for our achievements. Another highlight was our Heroes and Villains P4C Day and Gold Mark accreditation where we focussed on the question - Can you still be a hero if you are scared? After using Robin Hood and Despicable Me as stimuli, we defined the concepts of heroes and villains using a Venn diagram and then we diamond ranked some heroes and villains.

We also finally completed our Live Simply award when we planted bulbs for our Laudato Si garden. We used a range of bulbs which we should see emerging from January onwards so keep your eyes peeled!

Recently we have been working really hard for our Christmas Enterprise for the Christmas Fayre. We thought of lots of ways to raise money but finally decided on doing a Green Screen Photo Booth, Guess the Name of the Elf Competition, Loom Band bracelets and pencil grippers and Miniature Elf Treats. All of the stalls were a great success and we have lots of fun preparing for the fayre.

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. We lit the rose candle on the Advent wreath at the start of Mass and 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 crafts 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 Stacey (Norah's Mum) from the Wallich who came to collect a cheque for the money raised for the Wallich Onesie Day we organised.

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!

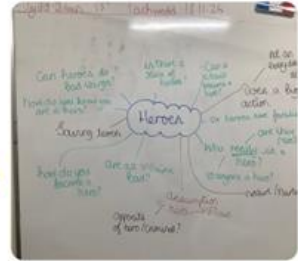




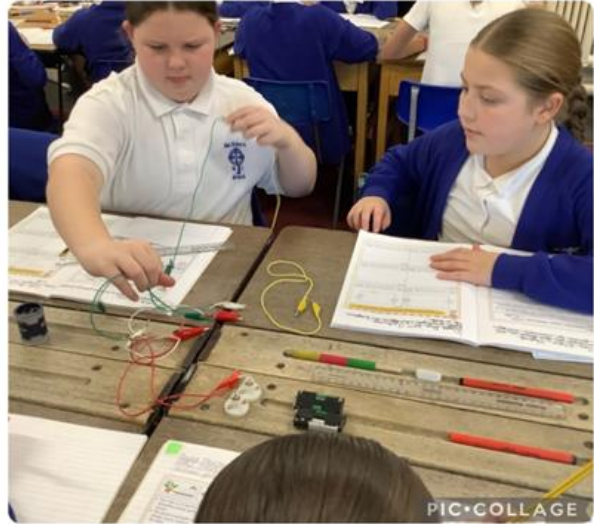
### Dosbarth Mynydd-

What a busy couple of weeks we have had in Mynydd! We were lucky enough to have a virtual workshop with Welsh author, Eloise Williams. She is the author of our class reader, *Gaslight* which we have thoroughly enjoyed in class. We got to ask her lots of questions about her books and what it is like to be an author. We have also been looking at electrical circuits in class and investigating factors that affect the brightness of a bulb. This term we have also carried out lots of philosophical enquiries, developing our ability to think critically. We have been focusing on ask big, philosophical questions and spotting assumptions in people's ideas. As we get ready for Christmas, we have been busy making bilingual Christmas cards to sell at our Christmas Fayre as well as calendars and Christmas cards to take home to our family. We are now very much ready for our Christmas break - Nadolig Llawen Pawb!





## Electricity and Philosophy

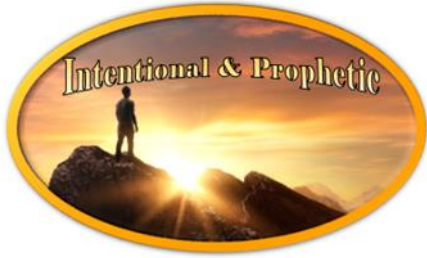


On behalf of all the children and staff at St Robert's Primary School

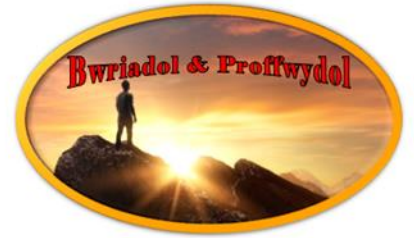
**Happy Birthday to**

Jonah (4), Layla (4), Harrison (5), Seth (6), Ella (6), Jacob (6) Orson (6), , Gethin (7), Joseph (8), Nettie (8), Vicky (9), Freya R (9), Ethan (10), Daniel (10), Florrie (10), Norah (10), Florence (10), Olivia J (11), Scarlett (11), Rosie (11), Miss Mordaunt, Mrs Clarke & Mrs Beveridge





**St. Robert's Pupil Profile**  
This fortnight the following  
pupils have demonstrated the  
Virtues of being-  
**INTENTIONAL & PROPHETIC**  
**BWRIADOL & PROFFWYDOL**



**Dosbarth Haul-** Harri for always having an intentional effort with his work and giving his best. Tommy for being aware of his actions and making good choices during playtime.

**Dosbarth Enfys-** Louie H-W for intentionally working hard in all areas of his learning and Grace for creating a lovely prayer focus for our class worship.

**Dosbarth Blodau-** Louie J for choosing to be part of the Christmas concert this year with confidence. Willow receives our prophetic virtue for showing in her words and actions how to be kind and thoughtful about God's world.

**Dosbarth Seren-** Vicky for being intentional by always making good choices everyday and Matilda for being intentional by making good choices and always being ready to learn.

**Dosbarth Afon-** Ethan and Reggie for being intentional by participating in the charity Tractor Run to raise money for charity and to bring joy to our local community.

**Dosbarth Mynydd-** Rory and William who are good examples of behaviour and working hard in the classroom.





## *Advent Wreath Reflections*

### *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 have 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

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 2025

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 2025 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

20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term- Christmas Celebrations. Pupils to wear Christmas jumpers
6 <sup>th</sup> January	School resumes after the Christmas Break
13 <sup>th</sup> January	School Closure Day
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day for pupils prior to half term
21 <sup>st</sup> February	School Closure Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	School resumes after the half term break
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of Term

