



# Llantilio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that Christmas Day is just around the corner! I would like to thank you all for your support this term. I hope you and your family all have a wonderful Christmas.

**Newsletter 5**  
**14th Dec**



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## Reception Class Places

Monmouthshire County Council has asked me to remind our school community that Admission forms for reception places for September 2024 will close on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 5pm.

[Starting primary school - Monmouthshire](#)

## Respiratory Viruses

The Welsh Government have made updated changes to the following guidance for respiratory viruses including COVID-19 to provide further clarity:

[Guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19 | GOV.WALES](#)

*Attending education is important for children and young people's development, health and well-being. The long-term impact of missing education should not be underestimated.*

*Children and young people with mild symptoms can continue to attend their education setting. Mild symptoms include a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, in children who are otherwise well.*

*They should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing. They should wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.*

*Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home. They should avoid contact with other people where they can. They can go back to their setting when they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend.*



Contact us: 01873 853746  
email: [llantiliopertholeyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:llantiliopertholeyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk)



## Cost of the School Day

You will know that for some time we have been looking at how we can reduce and minimise the cost of sending your child to school. In the post-Covid recovery period and the ongoing cost of living and inflation crisis, it is so important to bear in mind that many people are struggling.

When we talk about 'cost' we mean a few things. The first aspect of cost is the number of fundraising activities for school and for charities we support each year. We want to promote children's kindness, compassion and generosity but not at parents' expense so we've changed our language around facilitating donations rather than it being conditional (eg: £1 to wear non-uniform, as previously). ParentPay has been helpful in making donations less visible, inconspicuous and more private. We know there's a cost to parents if we ask for an item of clothing that you do not have and we know there's a cost to both your time and patience when you learn about specific requests with little notice. Our themed days have become more generic rather than simply asking you to dress up your children, for example wear something Christmassy instead of Christmas Jumper Day. We hope that this will reduce cost and stress and ensure all children can feel included. We don't want children to want to stay at home because their parents can't afford a dressing up costume!

Then there's the 'emotional cost' of coming to school for children. We're really aware of how it feels if you don't have the right uniform, if you don't have a coat, if your shoes are too small, if your trousers are ripped, if you don't have dressing up clothes or if you are wearing uniform when everyone else is dressed up or in expensive costumes. We work hard to make sure that children would never feel left out or different because of an activity we had planned or designed. This emotional cost of the school day extends to parents too in how they feel when they are struggling to provide clothing or equipment but feel they have no other choice.

Last year we opened The Community Cabin which has been a great success allowing every child to attend school in full uniform for a few pounds. The Community Cabin is also great for teaching the children about recycling and reusing items of clothing that are still good quality. The shop also includes sanitary and toiletries to support our families with these simple essential, but costly items. We are thrilled with how many families are using The Cabin, whatever the motivation. We now would like to see more trainers and sporting equipment donated which could allow a child to join a local club or activity which they might otherwise have been unable to.

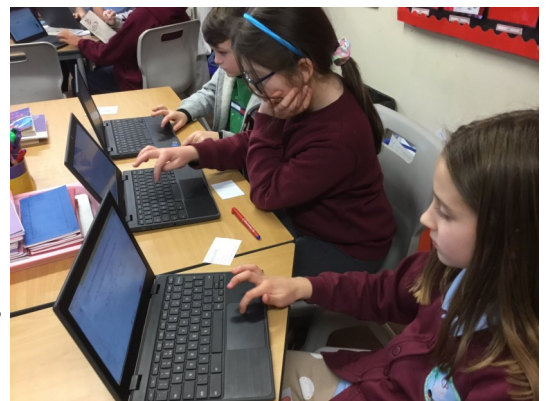
We have worked very hard to develop our learning environments, resources and lessons to be exciting and motivating for the children throughout the school. We understood from the Parent Survey that some of you wanted more school trips. So, we asked you for your views.

The results to the question how many trips would you be prepared to donate towards:

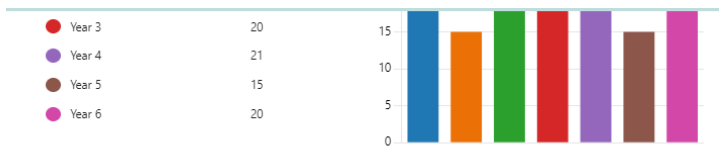
- 1 trip 3%
- 2 trips 29%
- 3 trips 33%
- More than 3 trips 34%

**The results are very close.**

**This tells me that we can only please 1/3 of our parents what ever we do!**

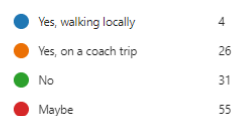


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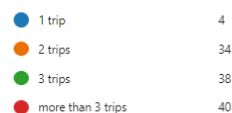
2. Would you be able to support trips by accompanying trips?

[More Details](#)



3. How many trips would you be prepared donate to each year (at about £15 a trip)?

[More Details](#)

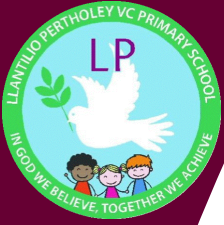


Teachers have always planned trips and visits which they feel reinforce themed learning in class. But of course, inflation touches each element of such visits with transport costs rocketing and venue costs increasing too. You have asked for more visits. We have reviewed what we offer and we are going to incorporate a trip for each of our 3 10-week topics every year, including local, free visits where possible. Below is a table of suggested trips for each term that we have created (subject to change).

***Please, if you are struggling to meet any costs of a trip, please contact Mrs Balkwill or me in strict confidence and we will do whatever we can to support you.***

<i>Suggested trips</i> <i>(Subject to change)</i>	REC/Y1/Y2	Y3/Y4	Y5/Y6
Who Do You Think You Are?	Local walk St Teilo's Church	Lego Educational Centre St Teilo's Church	Big Pit St Teilo's Church
Our Planet, Our Future	One Planet Centre	Dwr Cymru	Newport Wetlands
Remember the Past, Prepare for the Future	Cardiff Museum	St. Fagan's	Y5 Camping/Walking up The Deri Y6 Residential Trip Y5/6 Hay Festival
Out of this World!	Planetarium	Technquest	Cardiff Bay
How Does it Work?	St Teilo's Church Technquest	Pizza Express	Y5 Camping/Walking up The Deri Y6 Residential Trip Y5/6 Hay Festival
V.I.P.	Abergavenny Theatre	Abergavenny Museum	Cardiff Bay/The Senedd

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## Christian Values

We follow 12 Christian values and look at one each half term in assembly and school. I will let you know which one we are looking at so, if you would like to, you can follow up at home.

Next half term we will be looking at:

Respect

## Other Information

Foundation Phase does not exist under the new curriculum. Our new name for Llantilio Pertholey Reception-Year 2 classes will now be known as **Parth Gwenyn** (Bee Zone).

Key Stage 2 does not exist under the new curriculum. Our new name for Llantilio Pertholey Year 3—Year 6 classes will now be known as **Parth Bloddau Haul** (Sunflower Zone).

## Expertise: Can You Help?

Do you have an interesting hobby or an interesting job? We would like to invite you in to speak to the children. Can you help to raise their aspirations? Can you help to explain to the children that if you work hard you can reach your goals? Do you have expertise in science, art, technology, geography, cooking, woodwork for example. Then, we need you! We know that we have a wealth of expertise amongst our parents, carers, grandparents, aunts and uncles. Would you be willing to come to talk to the children about what you do? It would be great to share your experiences and knowledge with the children. It could be with a class or, if you were up for it, to the whole school in an assembly. Please could you complete this quick survey (I'm sorry...another one!) so that we have your details and we will get back to you. We would love to hear from people who have a wide range of hobbies, jobs and careers. Thank you in advance.

<https://forms.office.com/e/pkM5CUbX8t>

## Eco Shop

Thank you for your responses to our survey regarding the eco shop. We are very excited to announce that it will be opening in the new year. Watch this space!



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### Multiply Maths

Next term we are pleased to announce that we will be offering a free maths after school club for children throughout the school **with their grown ups** (sorry—children cannot attend without a grown up.)

This will take place on a Tuesday after school. We are sure that this will be popular with children and grownups alike. We ask you to book your **free** place using the ParentPay APP. Places are limited and will be on a first come first served basis. This club will start on Tuesday 16th January from 3.30-4.30 for 6 weeks.

Economy Employment & Skills Cyflogaeth a Sgiliau monmouthshire sir fynwy **Multiply**

## Maths Madness!

Let's play, learn and excel

Calling all parents, grandparents and carers.

Looking for a fun and educational way to ignite your passion for maths? Search no further! Come and play at Maths Madness and join us on our journey into the fun world of numbers through games, play and stories.

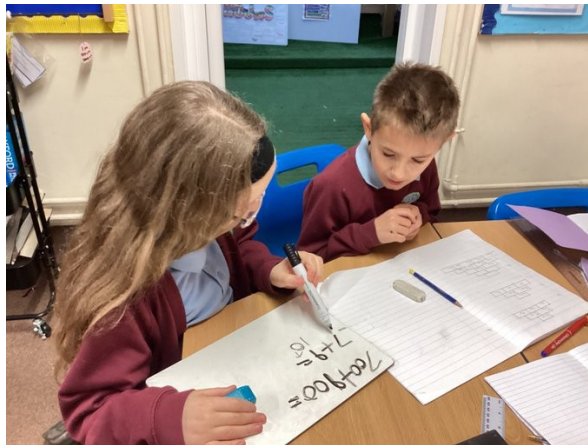
Let's make maths an exciting adventure together with the family - all for Free!

For more information and to book onto this course, please speak to your school office.

For further details about our Multiply project visit our website: [www.mccemployskills.co.uk/multiply/](http://www.mccemployskills.co.uk/multiply/)

Funded by UK Government Wedi ei ariannu gan Llywodraeth y DU WEDI'YRANU GAN FFFYNIANT BRO POWERED BY LEVELLING UP

Please visit [www.mccemployskills.co.uk/multiply/](http://www.mccemployskills.co.uk/multiply/) for more information.

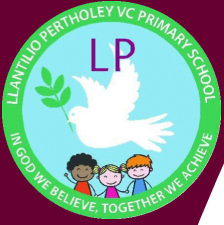


### Poppy Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Poppy Appeal this year. The local organisers were thrilled that we raised a huge £380.80. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



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## PTFA

A huge thank you to our amazing PTFA for all of their efforts over the past term. They have organised amazing events and fundraisers since September. Thank you.

A big thank you also to all of our parents, carers and families for your continued support, generosity and kindness. The colour-themed hampers were amazing as usual.



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## Dates for Your Diary

### December

Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service 6pm at St. Teilo's Church (all welcome)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Magician (whole school)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Service St. Teilo's (for pupils only) Year 5/6 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3/4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas lunch
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Rec-Year 2 Christmas Party
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Christingle Service 6pm at St. Teilo's Church (all welcome)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day of term (Pupils may be collected at 1.30)

### January

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET Training Day (school closed for pupils)</b>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	School reopens for pupils
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Multiply Maths starts

### February

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term Holiday
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### March

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last day of term (Pupils may be collected at 1.30)
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### Emotional Support

This can be a difficult time of year for some families. If you need some emotional support please visit [Melo Cymru - Mental Health & Wellbeing Resources, Courses & Support](#). Melo contains information, advice and self-help resources to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing.

The staff and I would like to wish you all a very, merry Christmas. I hope you've all been good so Santa will fill your stockings with goodies and not lumps of coal!

God Bless,

Helen King (Headteacher)

### ***Our School Vision:***

***Llantilio Pertholey Primary School will provide an inclusive, supportive and nurturing learning environment to meet the needs of all of our children in a changing world.***

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