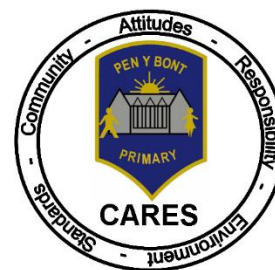


PENYBONT PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Monday 19th October 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

I must begin this week with a sincere apology to our families, as I completely forgot that the cross-country event was taking place on Saturday morning! I am genuinely sorry that I wasn't there to support and cheer on our pupils. Please be assured that this was a one off oversight, and I will be attending future events as I always have in the past. I hope everyone who took part had a fantastic morning, and I am incredibly proud of all our runners!

I am very much looking forward to welcoming parents and carers into school this week for our Parents and Carers' Meetings. It is always a pleasure to meet with families, celebrate the children's achievements and discuss how we can continue working together to support their progress.

During these meetings, teachers in Years 3 to 6 will share information about homework expectations, including how families can support learning at home. I will also share this information with all parents and carers again after half term to ensure expectations are clear and consistent.

I will also be sharing a short survey during the week and would be grateful if you could take a few moments to provide feedback. Your views will help us strengthen and improve the way we offer these meetings in the future.

Safe Driving and Parking

I would like to remind all parents and carers to take extra care when driving and parking around the school during morning drop-off and afternoon collection times. As we are still without a School Crossing Patrol Officer, it is particularly important that everyone drives slowly, parks responsibly and remains mindful of children and families crossing the road. I have written to the council on several occasions requesting an update, but unfortunately, I have not yet received a response. Thank you for your continued patience and for helping us to keep our whole school community safe.

Harvest Donations

A huge thank you to all our parents and carers who have generously contributed to our Harvest collection. Your kindness will make a real difference, with every donation going directly into our Big Bocs Bwyd to support families across our school community. Donations will remain open throughout the week, so there is still time to contribute if you are able to do so. Diolch yn fawr for your continued generosity and support.



Join Team Penybont for Movember!



This November, Penybont Primary School is proud to be supporting **Movember**, a charity that raises awareness and funds for men's mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer.

Mr Ashton, Mr Milton-Harris and I will be taking part on behalf of the school, and we would love governors, parents, carers and other adult members of our community to join us.

How can I take part?

You can support the **Penybont Primary School Community** team by:

- growing a moustache during November;
- taking on a Movember challenge;
- helping us to spread the word;
- making a donation through our official Movember page.

To join our team, please:

1. [Sign up through the Movember website.](#)
2. Search for **Penybont Primary School Community**.
3. Join the team and choose how you would like to take part.

Alternatively, you can join or support us directly through the link below:

[Join or support the Penybont Primary School Community team](#)

Participation and donations are entirely voluntary. Whether you grow a moustache, take on a challenge, make a donation or simply help us raise awareness, we would be delighted to have your support.

We also hope to organise a social event later in November for everyone who gets involved. Further information about this will be shared soon.

The campaign will follow the official advice and guidance provided by the Movember charity. For security, all online donations should be made through our official Movember fundraising page. You can [find out more about Movember and its work](#).

We hope this will be a positive opportunity to bring the Penybont community together, raise money for an important cause and encourage open conversations about men's physical and mental health.

**OUR
MOTIVATION**

At our school, we believe in looking after every member of our community. By supporting Movember, we want to raise awareness of men's health, start important conversations and remind everyone that it is always okay to ask for help.

Brynteg Open Evening – Years 5&6 – Thursday 22nd October

The information below has been received from Brynteg

'Our Pupil Tour Guides and staff are ready to welcome all visitors on Thursday. Please can all parents and carers from Penybont enter Brynteg via the 'Heronsbridge' entrance.

All Parents & Carers will be placed into small groups and begin their tours; pupils will need to be mindful of the times as they need to make sure they are at lower hall at 4.50pm for the second speech.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xwuYOaVZ5mCelZVilxcgyQ4WCtdFGgfiCSeaKsYo7D4/edit?usp=sharing>

Best Wishes,
Mr Rosser'

REMINDER: School Photographer: Thursday 22nd October

Our school photographer will be visiting Penybont on Thursday 22nd October to take this year's school photographs. It's always lovely to have these special snapshots of the children as they make their way through their time with us, so please make a note of the date. Pupils in Reception classes will be photographed before they enter the pumpkin patch!!

School Attendance

The table below identifies three sets of statistics relating to school our whole school attendance. The 'Weekly Attendance' figure shows the attendance for that week. The 'Running Attendance' shows the school's attendance percentage from September to date and for this term to date.

If the percentages are coloured red, they are below our whole school target of 93%. If they are coloured in green, they are equal to or above our 93% attendance target for the whole school.

Estyn have given the school a target of reducing persistent absenteeism, we can only meet this target with your help. Therefore, our FEO, Jade, and senior leaders will be closely monitoring attendance in even more detail this academic year and looking to contact families of pupils who are causing concern in relation to this to see if any support can be put in place.

Autumn Term Attendance So Far!

Week Ending	Weekly Attendance	Running Attendance	
		Since September 2025	Since Start of Spring Term
Autumn 1 (04/09/26)	96.2%	96.2%	96.2%
Autumn 2 (11/09/26)	95.8%	95.9%	95.9%

Autumn 3 (18/09/26)	92.9%	95%	95%
Autumn 4 (25/09/26)	94.5%	94.9%	94.9%
Autumn 5 (02/10/26)	93.6%	94.6%	94.6%
Autumn 6 (09/10/26)	92.8%	94.3%	94.3%
Autumn 7 (16/10/26)	93.2%	94.1%	94.1%

Our whole school attendance for the week ending 16th October was 93.2%, bringing our overall attendance since September to 94.1%. Although this remains above our school target of 93%, we have seen attendance decline from the very strong levels achieved at the beginning of the term.

It was encouraging to see a small improvement this week, but every school day matters. We ask families to continue supporting good attendance by ensuring that children attend school regularly and arrive punctually unless they are genuinely unwell. Thank you for your continued support.

Thank you to all our families for continuing to support good attendance. Our school

Our target: 93% | Current attendance: 94.1%

INSET Days 2026-27

Please find detailed below the remaining INSET days scheduled for 2026-27

- Friday 18th December 2026
- Friday 28th May 2027
- Monday 19th July 2027
- Tuesday 20th July 2027

Yours Sincerely,
Mr Owen

Date	Detail
16/10/26	In School Harvest Festival, Nursery – Year 2 – pupils only
20/10/26	Year 5 & 6 Trip to Theatre Na Nog, Swansea
21/10/26	School Harvest performance, Years 3 – 6. Hope Church
22/10/26	School Photographer in School
22/10/26	Pumpkin Patch for Reception Pupils (09.30-11.00)
23/10/26	Last day of Autumn 1
02/11/26	First day of Autumn 2
11/11/26	Year 1 & 2 Trip to Caerleon, Newport
18/11/26	Year 3 & 4 Trip to Cardiff Castle, Cardiff
14/11/26	Saturday Cross Country – Brynteg Comprehensive School
28/11/26	Saturday Cross Country – Porthcawl Comprehensive School
09/12/26	Years 5 & 6 Concerts
10/12/26	Years 3 & 4 Concerts
14/12/26	Years 1 & 2 Concerts
15/12/26	Reception Concert
16/12/26	Nursery Concert