

Bedlinog Community Primary School

BEDLINOG NEWS

AUTUMN EDITION 2026

A MESSAGE FROM MR. PROSSER

A very warm welcome back to all our pupils, parents and carers as we begin another exciting school year at Bedlinog Community Primary School!

We hope you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break, with plenty of time to relax, have fun and make special memories. We are now looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning a new year filled with exciting learning opportunities and experiences.

As we start the new academic year, we would once again encourage all parents and carers to become involved in school life. Building a strong partnership between home and school remains a key priority for us.

We are also delighted to welcome our new Nursery pupils and their families to Bedlinog CPS. We hope you quickly settle into our school community and feel very much at home.

As we begin a new school year, we would like to remind everyone of the importance of good attendance from the very start of term. Regular attendance is vital in helping children make progress, enjoy their learning and get the most from all that school has to offer. We remain committed to working with families to support every pupil in achieving their best.

This newsletter includes lots of useful information about the term ahead, as well as important dates and events taking place throughout the year. You can also find this information on our school app and website, so please keep checking these regularly for updates.

We look forward to working closely with you throughout the year and to another successful and exciting year at Bedlinog CPS, as together we continue to help our pupils build 'strong roots, successful futures'.

Mr. Prosser

WHAT ARE WE WORKING ON THIS YEAR?

As a school, we always evaluate our work to make sure we are providing the very best education to our Pupils. We use a wide range of information and evidence to do this including feedback from Pupils, Parents and staff, as well as evidence from our monitoring work in school. Each year the school sets itself targets to improve on and develop over the academic year. As a result of the feedback received last year, and from our self-evaluation work, the 4 areas that we are working on over this year are:-

1. Strengthen pupils' mastery of numeracy and mathematics.
2. To establish a cohesive new leadership team with a shared vision, consistent practices and a clear focus on school improvement.
3. To develop high-quality outdoor learning and play environments that enhance pupil engagement, wellbeing and physical development.
4. To promote a strong Welsh language culture through consistent use and visibility across the school.



More information about our School Development plan can be found on the school website.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Our attendance target this year is 95%. Please help us achieve our target by sending your child to school regularly.



★ FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:50 ready to start their day at 9:00.
- If there are any changes to your personal information, please let the office know.
- Only school water bottles are permitted at our school water fountains. These can be purchased from the Office (£2).
- If your child is absent please let the office know as soon as possible, either through the app or by phoning the school and selecting option 1.



INSET DAYS 2025/26

A reminder that the INSET dates for this academic year will take place on the following dates:-

Tuesday 1st September
Monday 2nd November
Monday 15th February
Friday 28th May
Monday 19th July
Tuesday 20th July

THIS TERM'S RIGHT OF THE CHILD



I have a right to be safe
Article 19, UNCRC

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

At our school, we believe in the power of teamwork — Together Everyone Achieves More. That's why working in partnership with our parents and carers is such an important part of what we do. We're always keen to hear your thoughts, ideas, and feedback to help us celebrate what's going well and to work together on any areas we can improve. There are lots of ways you can share your views, and we want to make sure everyone feels welcome and able to get involved. Just a reminder: we have an open-door policy and are always happy to chat. By working together, we can achieve the very best for our pupils. Here's a few of the ways you can get in touch:-



SCHOOL APP

Using the school app, you can submit your suggestions and ideas via the feedback form. Go to the app for more information.

PARENT COUNCIL

Our Parent Council meet on a half termly basis. This is a forum for raising any feedback from Parents/Carers on the work of the school.

BREWS & VIEWS

Our termly 'Brews & Views' event is an informal coffee morning with Mr Prosser to discuss any ideas/feedback on the work of the school.

CONTACT US

As always you can contact the school directly via the school office using the information at the end of the newsletter. This includes email or telephone.



COMMUNITY NEWS!

Before the summer holidays, Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council commissioned Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs to explore the possibility of reopening the Flying Start preschool in Bedlinog. This work is looking at the feasibility and level of need within the community, suitable venues and how a sustainable, high-quality childcare provision could be developed.

There is potential for the provision to be based at Bedlinog Community School, which would be a valuable resource for working families within our community.

A survey has been shared across various social media platforms to help assess the need and feasibility of reopening the provision. If this is something your family could benefit from, please take the time to complete the survey and share your views.



REMOVING FINANCIAL BARRIERS FOR FAMILIES

We understand that managing household budgets is a daily reality for many families, and that even small extra costs can add up. As a school, we're committed to doing everything we can to support parents and carers, and we're mindful of keeping school-related costs as low as possible. To help with planning, we've outlined below the events scheduled for this year that may involve a cost (such as fundraisers). We hope this gives you a clear picture well in advance. Please note that plans can sometimes change, but we'll always keep you informed.



CHARITY EVENTS

At our school we believe it is important for our Pupils to develop an understanding of their role as 'ethical, informed citizens. As part of this, there are times when we run charity events in school, requesting donations, to raise money and awareness for various causes. This year we will be running the following Charity events:-

- Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 25th September - Class donations of cakes
- Harvest - Tuesday 6th October - Merthyr Foodbank Donations (Tins & pasta)
- Children in Need - Friday 13th November - £1 donation - Spots & Pyjamas Day
- Save the Children - Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 11th December - £1 donation
- Red Nose Day - Friday 19th March - £1 donation - Crazy Hair Day

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

With school budgets continuing to be stretched, the support we receive from our parents and carers makes a real difference. It helps us to maintain and enrich the experiences we can offer our pupils. Each term, we hold sponsored events and fundraisers to support our school community. These include:

- Wednesday 14th October - Sponsored Dance-athon
- Wednesday 18th November - Christmas Craft Sale
- Tuesday 23rd February - Football Power shot
- Wednesday 17th March - Easter Craft Sale
- Friday 21st May - Sponsored Fun Run
- Tuesday 29th June - Summer Fete



Information about funds raised and spends can be found in the 'Annual Report to Parents' on our website.



We understand that the ongoing cost of living crisis continues to affect many families, and we want to do everything we can to help. A gentle reminder that the Bedlinog Hub will remain available this year, offering support to those who need it. We can provide food parcels and pre-loved school uniform, and we are always here to listen and help wherever we can. Please be assured that all requests are treated with complete confidentiality.

DRESS UP EVENTS / THEME DAYS

One of the enjoyable aspects of school are the events where pupils can dress up as a novelty! There are a few set dates in our calendar where pupils can dress up in outfits other than uniform. This is never an expectation and pupils do not need to buy new outfits for any of these events.

- Monday 14th September - Roald Dahl Day - Dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl character.
- Friday 23rd October - 'Dis-GLO' UV disco - wear something white/UV friendly
- Monday 9th November - Odd Socks Day - wear odd socks to school
- Friday 13th November - Children in Need - Spots & Pyjamas Day
- Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper day
- December - Christmas Concerts - We may ask for support with costumes for this.
- Thursday 4th March - World Book Day - Dress up as your favourite book character
- Thursday 25th February & Monday 1st March - Eisteddfod - Wear Welsh Outfits/rugby tops/football/traditional outfits
- Friday 19th March - Red nose Day - Crazy Hair Day



Please note that classes may organise separate dress up days if they are part of a class project.

DEVELOPING OUR APPROACHES TO BEHAVIOUR

At our school, we're passionate about helping our pupils learn positive behaviours and thrive in a supportive, respectful school environment.

We believe that creating a great place to learn starts with the way adults lead - with clear boundaries and a big dose of kindness. This approach will be central to our work this year and has already shaped our inclusive school culture, and we're excited to share some of these ideas with families through our upcoming newsletters.

If you're curious to dive deeper, you might enjoy the book *When The Parents Change, Everything Changes*, which you can find online.

Together, we can make sure every child feels respected, responsible and ready to learn.

COMING THIS TERM....

As Part of National Hate Crime Awareness Week, South Wales Police are running their 'Race Against Hate' Cross Country event. We will be holding trials early in the Autumn term and will be taking representatives from Year 1 to Year 6 to the event, which will be held in Aberdare!

**National
Hate Crime
Awareness week**

The poster features a green and blue color scheme. At the top left is the 'Hwb Helpu Cynnar' logo, which includes a stylized figure in a wheelchair and the text 'Early Help Hub'. To the right is a logo for 'Cymdeithas Merthyr Tydfil' and 'Teuluoedd yn Gyffwrdd'. The main title 'Early Help Hub' is in large blue letters. Below it, the text reads: 'Helping families access the right support at the right time.' followed by 'Are you a family in the Merthyr Tydfil area and have children aged 0-18 years?' and 'Do you know where to turn for help?'. A blue box contains a list of support areas: Housing, Finance, Education, Health and Wellbeing, Parenting, and Community Activities. At the bottom, it asks 'Do you want to know what services are available in your local area?' and provides contact information for the Early Help Hub.

Early Help Hub
Helping families access the right support at the right time.

Are you a family in the Merthyr Tydfil area and have children aged 0-18 years?
Do you know where to turn for help?

Would you like to find out more about organisations who may be able to offer support with areas such as:

- Housing
- Finance
- Education
- Health and Wellbeing
- Parenting
- Community Activities

Do you want to know what services are available in your local area?

If so, the Early Help Hub can help support you and your family
We provide advice, information and support

For more information, please contact
Early Help Hub, Civic Centre, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 8AN
Tel: 01685 725000
Email: EarlyHelp.Hub@merthyr.gov.uk

AUTUMN TERM 2026

DIARY DATES

September

- Tues 1st – Start of Autumn Term
- Thu 10th – Cross Country Trials – Y1 – 6
- Mon 14th – Roald Dahl Day – Bring a Roald Dahl book or even dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl Character!
- Mon 14th – Lending Library restarts
- Weds 16th – Y6 transition visit to Afon Taf & Open Evening
- Fri 18th – Parent RWI Info Session (D.Coch), 15:00
- Mon 21st – Race Against Hate Cross Country
- Fri 25th – Macmillan Coffee Morning, 9:00
- Mon 28th – No Outsiders Day
- Tue 29th – Parent Council Meeting – 14:50

October

- Fri 2nd – Reading Café, 14:45 – 15:30
- Tue 6th – Harvest Festival
- Fri 9th – Number Hub – 9:00 (N – Y2)
- Mon 12th – D. Coch & Melyn Learn With Me – 15:30–16:15
- Tue 13th – D. Gwyrdd Learn With Me – 15:30 – 16:15
- Wed 14th – D. Glas Learn With Me – 15:30 – 16:15
- Wed 14th – Sponsored Dance-athon
- Thu 15th – Y6 Cluster Football @ Afon Taf – 16:00
- Fri 23rd – Autumn Term Dis-Glo

Half Term – Mon 26th Oct – Fri 30th Oct

November

- Mon 2nd – INSET – School Closed
- Mon 9th – No Outsiders Day
- Mon 9th – Odd Socks Day – Start of Anti-bullying week
- Tue 10th & Wed 11th – Parents Evening
- Tue 10th – School Photographer (New Nursery (individual) & Classes (not individual portraits))
- Wed 11th – Poppy Day Assembly
- Thu 12th – Brews & Views, 9:00
- Fri 13th – Children in Need
- Weds 18th – Christmas Enterprise Sale, 15:30 – 16:15
- Thu 19th – Cluster Rugby Tournament, 16:00
- Mon 23rd – UK Parliament week
- Mon 30th – Governor Learning Morning

December

- Tue 1st – 'Bring a Bauble' to school
- Wed 2nd – PTA Christmas Event
- Thu 3rd – Aladdin Pantomime @ Blackwood Miners Institute. Rec – Y6
- Mon 7th – Concert Week
- Fri 11th – Christmas Jumper Day
- Mon 14th – Christmas Quest (Y3 – Y6)
- Tue 15th – Santa Sing-a-long (N – Y2)
- Wed 16th – Christmas Dinner Day
- Fri 18th – Christmas Disco

Christmas Holidays – Mon 21st Dec – Mon 4th Jan
School returns Monday 4th January

READING CAFE

Our reading Cafe will take place this term at the new time of 14:45– 15:30 on Friday 2nd October. All Parents/Carers welcome to attend!



LEARN WITH ME

Our 'Learn with Me' sessions provide an opportunity to work alongside your child, supporting their learning and enjoyment of school. Following feedback from parents and carers, we have arranged for one session to take place after school (3:30pm–4:15pm) and the other during the school day, allowing us to accommodate as many families as possible. The Autumn Term sessions will take place after school on the following dates:-

- **Dosbarth Coch** – Monday 12th October
- **Dosbarth Melyn** – Monday 12th October
- **Dosbarth Gwyrdd** – Tuesday 13th October
- **Dosbarth Glas** – Wednesday 14th October



THE NUMBER HUB

This term we are introducing our new initiative to support with developing pupils number skills in the early years and infant stages of school. These sessions will be hands on & practical to help you support your child's number development at home.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

We know that Parents/Carers very often need to book time off to attend concerts. Please find below advanced notice of dates for our Christmas concerts this year:

- **D. Coch & D. Melyn:-**
 - Tuesday 8th December, 10:15
 - Thursday 10th December – 14:15
- **D. Gwyrdd & D. Glas –**
 - Tuesday 8th December, 14:15
 - Thursday 10th December, 10:15



There will also be an opportunity for families with babies/young children to watch our dress rehearsals on Monday 7th December.

NEWS & UPDATES

- Over the summer holidays, we have been busy making improvements to our school, including installing an external door to our former upstairs library. We are excited that, by October half term, Dosbarth Melyn will move upstairs into this newly adapted space. This will improve the flow around school and allow all classes to access the hall more easily.
- A reminder that our school website and school app has all the information you need to support your child's time at school. These are updated regularly so please do check for updated information about your child's time at school.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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