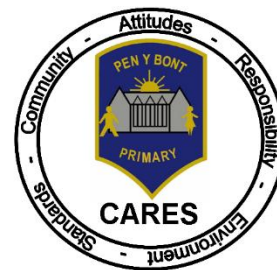


PENYBONT PRIMARY SCHOOL



Bridgend
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Monday 17th November 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

We are thrilled to announce the launch of an exciting new initiative for pupils in Years 2–6; **Penybont Pioneers**! This project is all about empowering our learners to have a real voice in shaping the future of our school and community.

On the last Friday of every month, two pupils from each class will meet together to form dedicated groups focused on driving school improvement through pupil voice.

These groups will work collaboratively to share ideas, solve problems, and make positive changes that benefit everyone.

The Penybont Pioneer groups include:

- **Young Interpreters** – Supporting communication and inclusion for all.
- **Crew Cymraeg** – Promoting the Welsh language and culture across the school.
- **Safeguarding Squad** – Helping to keep our school a safe and happy place.
- **UNCRC Ambassadors** – Championing children's rights and responsibilities.
- **Digital Leaders** – Leading the way in technology and online safety.
- **Playground Peacemakers** – Encouraging kindness and friendship during playtimes.
- **First Aiders** – Pupils will be trained ready to respond to medical situations at home to help keep everyone safe.
- **Green Team** – Champions of sustainability, working to make our even more school eco-friendly.
- **Press Gang** – Our storytellers and reporters, sharing news and updates with the community.
- **Future Builders** – Our future builders will study careers and the world of work, interviewing people from different professions and creating career profiles for their friends.
- **Community Champions** – Dedicated to building strong links between school and local community.
- **Big Bocs Bwyd** – Supporting our zero waste food initiative through sharing resources and growing our own produce.
- **Fundraisers** – Our pupils' creative minds will organise events and activities to raise vital funds for our school and chosen charities.



This initiative gives pupils the opportunity to develop leadership skills, work as a team, and make a real difference in our school community. We can't wait to see the fantastic ideas and projects that will come from our Penybont Pioneers!

Reception Parent & Carer Reading Workshop

We are hosting a Reading Workshop for Reception families on Wednesday 19th November at 2:30pm.

The session will focus on how to support your child's reading at home, including tips on using key words and phonics. It's a really valuable opportunity to see how we teach reading and how you can help your child make great progress. After the session, children can go straight home with you. Please enter through Gate C via the school office. We look forward to seeing you there.

Christmas Jumper Sale

Have You got any Christmas jumpers your children have outgrown? Our Parent & Carer Council would love your help with a festive idea, a Christmas Jumper Sale!

If you have any clean, outgrown jumpers, please send them into school with your child by **Tuesday 2nd December**.

We'll be selling these pre-loved jumpers for just £1 on **Thursday 4th December**, between **3:15pm** and **3:45pm** in the school hall.

All money raised will go to Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day campaign, a great cause!

Thank you so much for your support

Christmas Concert Information

As always, we will be providing a vast number of events for our pupils again this year, culminating in our amazing Christmas Extravaganza on Thursday 18th December!

Here is a summary of events we have planned for this year:

Date	Event	Details
Wednesday 3 rd December	School Christmas Dinner	Further details to follow
Thursday 4 th December	Christmas Jumper Sale	3.15 – 3.45 in the school hall.
Friday 5 th December	Pop Up Shop– Year 6	Bridgend Shopping Centre Further details to follow
Tuesday 9 th December	Reception Christmas Concerts	AM & PM concerts (during the school day)
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Concerts	AM & PM concerts (during the school day)

Thursday 11 th December	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Concerts	AM & PM concerts (during the school day)
Monday 15 th December	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Concerts	AM & PM concerts (during the school day)
Tuesday 16 th December	Nursery Christmas Concert	AM concert only
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Extravaganza	Last day of Autumn term Further details to follow

As in previous years, each department will have both a morning and an afternoon performance, except for the nursery department, which will only perform once, as two performances would be too demanding for them

Families will be given the option of buying up to 2 tickets per pupil in the concert (ie either 2 for the am, OR 2 for the pm, OR 1 for both).

The remainder of tickets going on sale on a first come first served basis. More details regarding this will be published later today.

In each concert, for years 1-6, the youngest year group will form the choir and the oldest year group will perform on stage. This is repeated every year, ensuring that everyone has had opportunity to be in both the choir and on stage within the last 2 concerts. Information regarding costumes and ticket box office days will be sent home in due course.

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.

Thank you to everyone for your efforts in keeping attendance strong this term. Here's how we're doing:

- Starting Strong: In the first two weeks of September, attendance was above 93%, which is a great start!
- A Dip in Week 3: We saw a noticeable drop to 89.7% in Autumn Week 3. Illness and seasonal bugs often play a part here, so let's keep promoting healthy habits.
- Steady Recovery: Since then, we've been climbing back up! By Week 10, attendance is back to 92.1%, showing fantastic improvement.
- Overall Picture: Our running attendance since September is 92%, we're moving in the right direction.

What's Next?

Every day in school counts! Let's aim to push our weekly attendance above **93%** as we head towards the festive season. A big thank you to families for working with us, your support makes all the difference.

Week Ending	Weekly Attendance	Running Attendance	
		Since September 2025	Since Start of Autumn Term
Autumn 1 (05/09/25)	94.2%	94.2%	94.2%
Autumn 2 (12/09/25)	93.7%	93.9%	93.9%
Autumn 3 (19/09/25)	89.7%	92.4%	92.4%
Autumn 4 (26/09/25)	90.1%	91.8%	91.8%
Autumn 5 (03/10/25)	90.4%	91.5%	91.5%
Autumn 6 (10/10/25)	91.0%	91.4%	91.4%
Autumn 7 (17/10/25)	92.4%	91.6%	91.6%
Autumn 8 (24/10/25)	91.5%	91.5%	91.5%
Autumn 9 (07/11/25)	92.6%	91.9%	91.9%
Autumn 10 (14/11/25)	92.1%	92.0%	92.0%

INSET Days 2025-26

Please find detailed below the remaining INSET days scheduled for 2025/26;

- Friday 19th December 2025
- Monday 23rd February 2026
- Friday 22nd May 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Owen

Date	Detail
19/11/25	Reception Parents & Carers Reading Workshop, 2.30
03/12/25	School Christmas Dinner
04/12/25	Christmas Jumper Sale, school hall, 3.15 – 3.45
05/12/25	Pop Up Shop– Year 6
09/12/25	Reception Christmas Concerts
10/12/25	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Concerts
11/12/25	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Concerts
15/12/25	Year 3 & 4 Christmas Concerts
16/12/25	Nursery Christmas Concert
18/12/25	Christmas Extravaganza, last day of Autumn term
19/12/25	INSET Day 3
05/01/26	First day of Spring Term