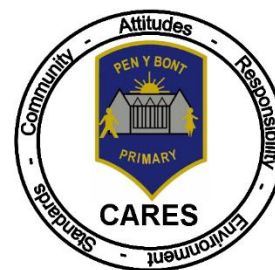


PENYBONT PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Monday 5th October 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely weekend and are ready for another busy week at Penybont. As always, thank you for your continued support and for everything you do to help us give our children the very best start each day.

I do, however, need to raise an important concern about punctuality. This morning alone, 30 pupils arrived late to school, which is far too many and something we need to see improve significantly. Arriving late does not just mean missing a few minutes of learning. It can make it difficult for children to settle calmly into their morning routines and also causes disruption to classes and the wider running of the school.

We completely understand that there will occasionally be unavoidable circumstances, but we really do need everyone's support in ensuring that children arrive at school on time and ready to learn. A calm, punctual start makes such a positive difference to their day.

Thank you, as always, for working with us and supporting our Penybont children. We have another exciting week ahead and look forward to sharing everything that is happening across the school with you.

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.

Prefect Information



We are very proud of our prefects and know how much they enjoy wearing their prefect hoodies! From now on, every new prefect will receive a Prefect Certificate with their hoodie. If you need to purchase another prefect hoodie in the future, simply take the certificate along to any Bridgend uniform shop.

Our current prefects won't miss out either, as they will all be receiving a certificate too.

REMINDER: Important Change to After-School Collection Arrangements

A reminder that, from Monday 12 October 2026, we will be introducing a change to our end of day collection arrangements. This is to help us ensure that all children leave school safely and that we have clear information about who is collecting them.

From this date:

- Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 may continue to walk home independently where we have written permission from a parent or carer.
- Children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 must be collected by someone aged 16 or over.
- Children below Year 4 will not normally be permitted to leave school with a sibling, relative or other person who is under 16.
- Parents and carers must ensure that we have written information confirming their child's usual going-home arrangements and who is authorised to collect them.

We appreciate that this may require some families to make different arrangements, which is why we have provided notice before introducing the change.

We also understand that every family's circumstances are different. If these arrangements present a particular difficulty for your family, please contact the school before Monday 12 October so that we can consider your individual circumstances. Where an alternative arrangement is agreed, this will need to be clearly recorded and supported by a signed request from the parent or carer.

Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support in helping us keep all of our children safe.

REMINDER: Cross Country Events

We are excited to share the provisional dates for the first three cross country races of the year, open to all pupils in Years 3 to 6.

Children should arrive with their parent/carer at 9:30am, ready for the races to begin at 10:00am. Penybont will provide running vests for children taking part so that they can proudly represent our school.

It is important that families are aware that children remain in the care and responsibility of their parent/carer at all times during these events and are not supervised by school staff. Please also note that dogs are not permitted and there are no toilet facilities at the venues.

- 17 October: Pencoed Comprehensive
- 14 November: Brynteg Comprehensive
- 28 November: Porthcawl Comprehensive

The dates remain provisional at this stage and will be confirmed once final arrangements are in place. We would love to see a great Penybont turnout this year!

REMINDER: Teacher – Parent & Carer Meeting Week

Our parents' and carers' meeting week will take place during the week beginning Monday 19 October. This will provide an opportunity for you to speak with your child's teacher and discuss how they are settling in to their new classes. You are now able to book an appointment via the school app.

Meetings for Mr Ashton's class will take place during the week beginning Monday 2nd November, as Mr Ashton will be on paternity leave during the original meeting week.

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)	94.6%	93.6%	93.6%

We have made a positive start to the new school year with attendance continuing to sit above our whole school target of 93%. Our latest weekly attendance was 94.6%, with our overall attendance currently standing at 93.6%.

Thank you to all our families for supporting us by ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time. Every day in school really does matter, and good attendance helps children to build strong routines, maintain friendships and make the most of every learning opportunity.

We have seen some fluctuations across the first few weeks, but it is encouraging that each week so far has either met or exceeded our 93% target. Let's keep working together to maintain this positive picture as we move through the autumn term.

Our target: 93% | Current attendance: 93.6%

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

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
14/10/26	Cinema Night – Reception to Year 6
16/10/26	In School Harvest Festival – pupils only
17/10/26	Saturday Cross Country – Pencoed Comprehensive School
20/10/26	Year 5 & 6 Trip to Theatre Na Nog, Swansea
22/10/26	School Photographer in School
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