



January 2025  
Genau 2025

# St Francis R.C. Primary School



[stfrancisprm.cardiff.sch.uk](http://stfrancisprm.cardiff.sch.uk)



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*A message from our Headteacher,*

*Miss Langsdale*



*Hello 2025*

*New Year's Message from the Headteacher*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a good Christmas with your loved ones. As we begin this new term, I want to extend a warm welcome back to all our pupils and families. It was lovely to see smiling faces on the first day back after the holidays!

This term, we'll continue working together to ensure every child reaches their full potential.

**Good Attendance:** Attending school regularly is vital for your child's learning and development. Everyday counts, and we encourage families to prioritise punctuality and attendance to ensure students make the most of their education.

I am excited about the possibilities this year holds, and I look forward to working closely with you all—parents, pupils, and staff—to make 2025 another year of success and happiness for our school community.

Wishing you all a year filled with health, happiness, and achievement.  
Thank you for your continued support.

Miss M. Langsdale  
Headteacher





# Religious Education Directory

Prayer of the Month



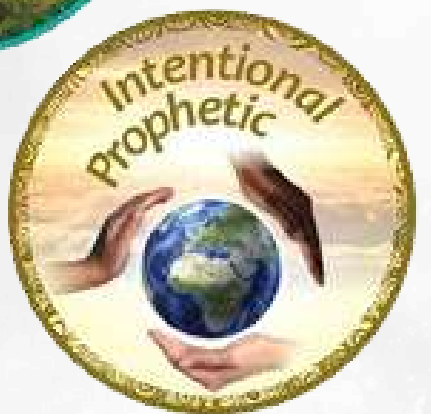
*Gweddi'r Mis*

## **A Prayer for the Feast of Epiphany**

**Lord God of heaven and earth,  
you revealed your only Son to every  
nation by the guidance of a star.  
Bless this home and all who inhabit it.  
Fill us with the light of Christ  
That our concern for others may  
reflect your love. We ask this  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**



# Religious Education Directory



## Virtues

# Grateful and Generous

### Grateful: (Luke 17: 11-19)

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

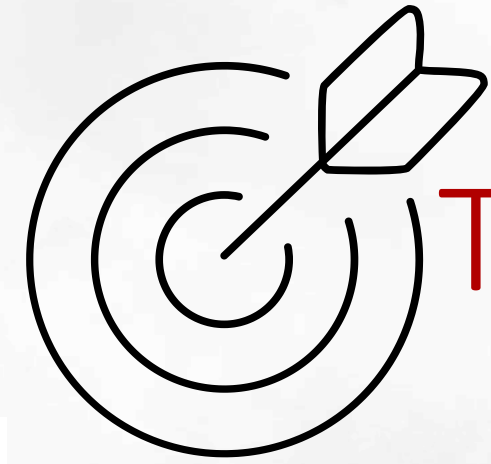
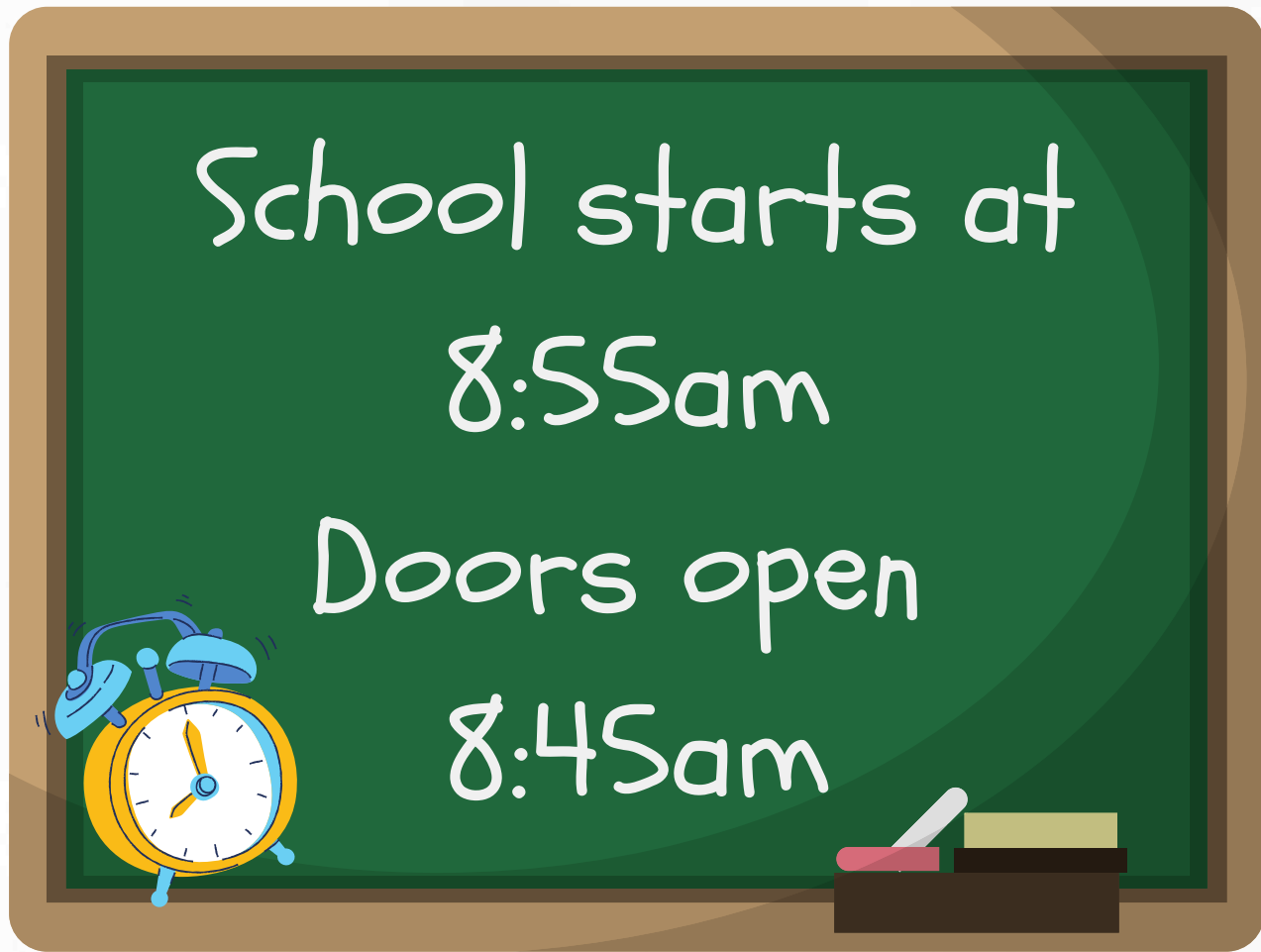
### Generous: (Luke 10: 27-37)

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and, Love your neighbour as yourself.' "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Here was a generous man.



# Attendance & Punctuality



Target:  
100%



**Your child's  
attendance needs  
to be above  
95%**



At St Francis we monitor attendance **regularly.**

Our attendance is also monitored by school governors and the Local Authority.

Attendance at school is extremely important for all pupils so that they can achieve as well as possible, and is now part of safeguarding procedures.



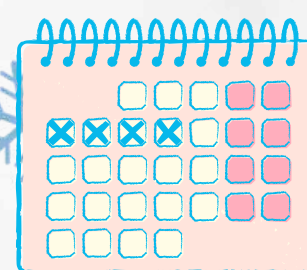
If your child is unwell please contact the office otherwise the absence cannot be authorized.

Please ensure your children are in to avoid potential fines.



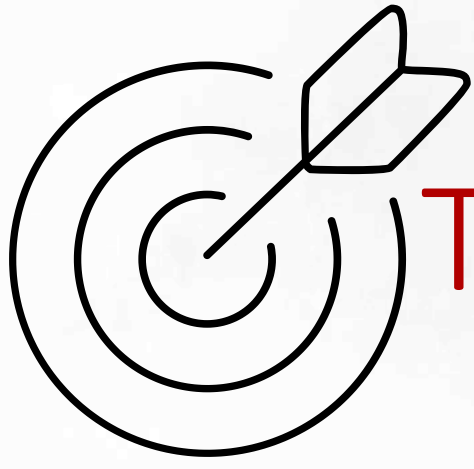
Every moment in school counts.

Days soon add up and the more children are in school the more they are likely to learn. Please do all you can to bring you child to school.





# Attendance & Punctuality



Target:  
100%

Overall  
Attendance

89.12%

**Your child's  
attendance needs  
to be above  
95%**

Nursery  
AM

81.48%

Nursery  
PM

84.36%

Reception

82.6%

Reception/  
Year 1

86.73%

Year 1

87.78%

Year 2

93.74%

Year 2/3

87.43%

Year 3

91.74%

Year 4P

95.21%



Year 4M

92.64%

Year 5M

88.57%

Year 5P

91.87%

Year 6B

83.50%

Year 6M

91.01%

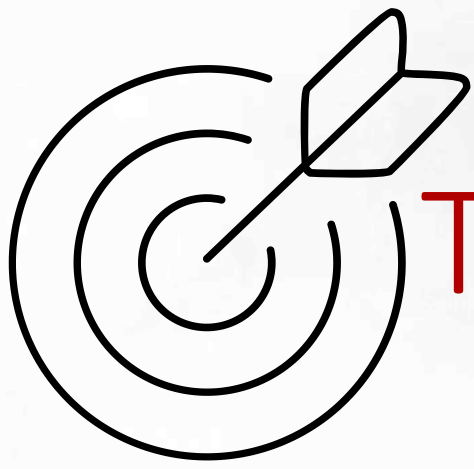


## Attendance Rewards

Our school Senedd are meeting on  
6th Feb to share their ideas for  
attendance rewards.



# Attendance & Punctuality



Target:  
100%

## EVERY School Day COUNTS

Your child's attendance needs to be above **95%**

0 days off school

100%

Perfection!

Equal to 2 days off school each year

99%

Excellent

Equal to 5 days off school each year

97%

Good

Equal to 10 days off school each

95%

Slight Concern

Equal to 20 days off school each

90%

Concerned

Equal to 30 days off school each year

85%

Very Concerned



## EVERY Minute COUNTS

- 5 Minutes late each day
- 10 Minutes late each day
- 15 Minutes late each day
- 20 Minutes late each day
- 30 Minutes late each day

IS APPROXIMATELY

- 3 days lost!
- 6.5 days lost!
- 10 days lost!
- 13 days lost!
- 19 days lost!

Lateness = Lost Learning





# Our 24-25 Topics

## Autumn Term



*Tymor yr Hydref*

### What's it Made of?

*Beth mae e wedi'i wneud o?*

During the Autumn topic our focus is::

**Being curious and searching for answers is essential to understanding and predicting phenomena.**

and

**Matter and the way it behaves defines our universe and shapes our lives.**

## Spring Term

### Fantastic Physics!

*Ffiseg Ffantastig*

During the Spring topic our focus is::

**Forces and energy provide a foundation for understanding our universe.**

During this pupils will be exploring everything from 'push and pull', sources of light and sound, friction and gravity, all the way into Space and flight!



*Tymor yr Gwanwyn*

## Summer Term



*Tymor yr Haf*

### Nurturing Planet Earth

*Meithrin Planed Ddaear*

During the Summer topic our focus is::

**Informed, self-aware citizens engage with the challenges and opportunities that face humanity, and are able to take considered and ethical action.**

**Human societies are complex and diverse, and shaped by human actions and beliefs.**

and

**Our natural world is diverse and dynamic, influenced by processes and human actions.**



# Our Learning Journey

## Nursery

This month we have welcomed our New Starters into Nursery! They have settled in so well and it's been a pleasure getting to know them!



### THE Snail & THE Whale

### During our topic **Wacky Water**

we started by exploring the sea.

We learnt about sea pollution hurting the animals and used our fine motor skills to help clean up the litter.



We made boats to help the snails to cross the sea!



We practiced our pre-writing shapes by making waves!





# Our Learning Journey

## Reception



This week in Reception we have been celebrating Chinese/Lunar New Year. The children have enjoyed learning about the history, the traditions, the different symbols and the food!

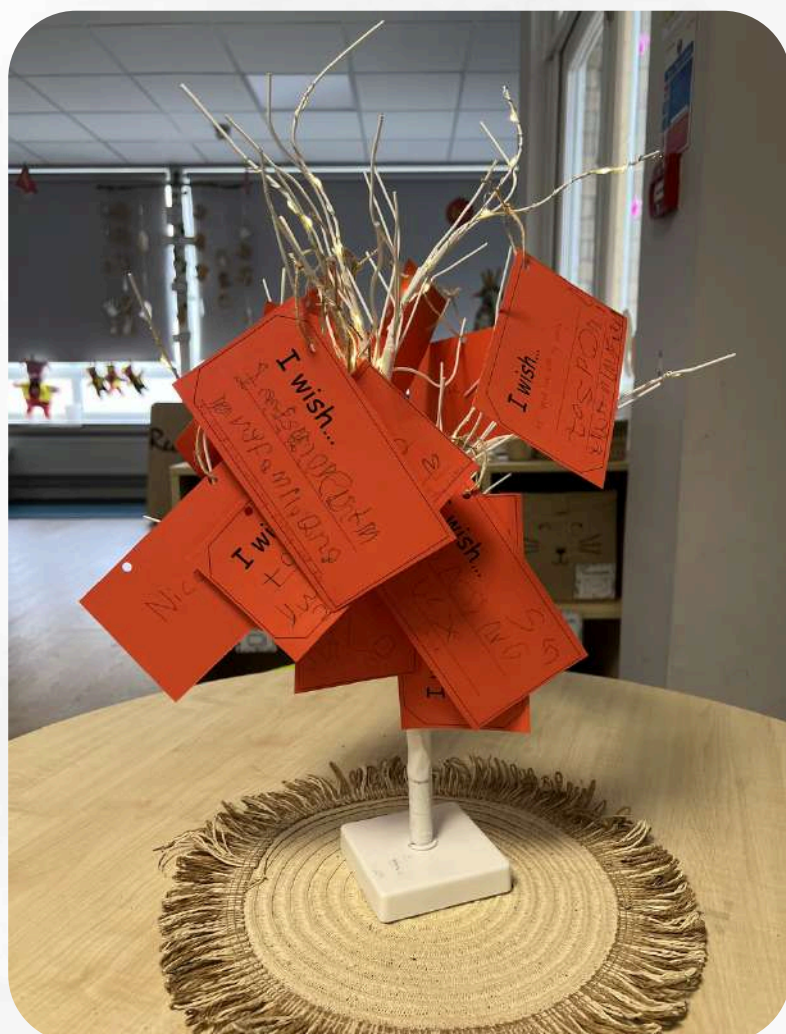


We prepared for the day by cleaning our home corner and decorating the learning environment.

We developed our fine motor skills by using tweezers and chop sticks to pick up noodles!



We all made a wish, wrote it down and hung it on our wish tree.



We cooked and ate lots of yummy Chinese food!





# Our Learning Journey

## Year 1

Through our topic on Force & Energy, we have been learning about different sources of light. We made our own glow in the dark paintings and learning how phosphorescent light works



We also have been exploring how we see colours and how different parts of light are absorbed by different coloured materials. In an experiment using a Newton's Disc, we found proved experimentally that 'white light' contains all the colours of the rainbow



*Ei'n taith Dysgu*



# Our Learning Journey

## Year 2

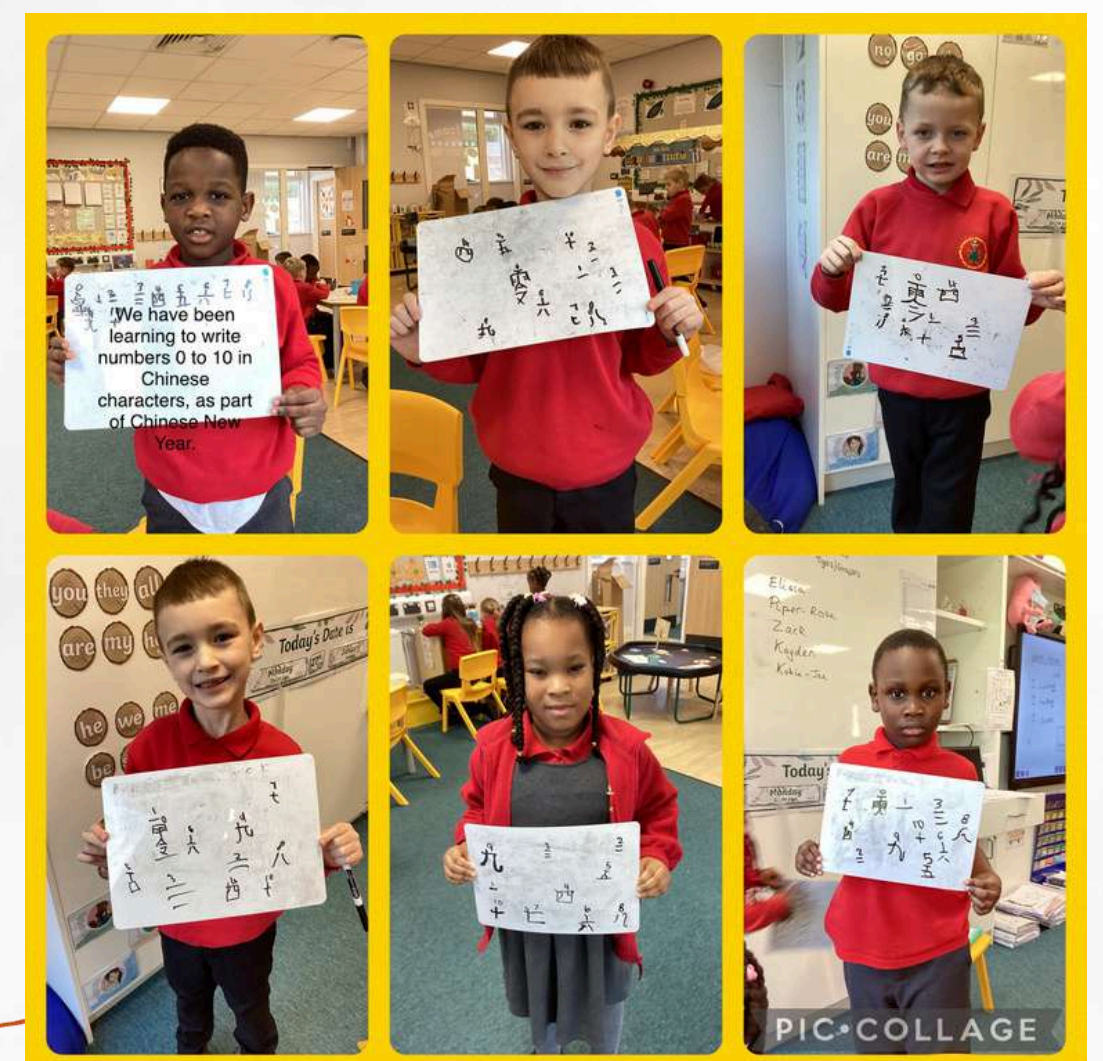
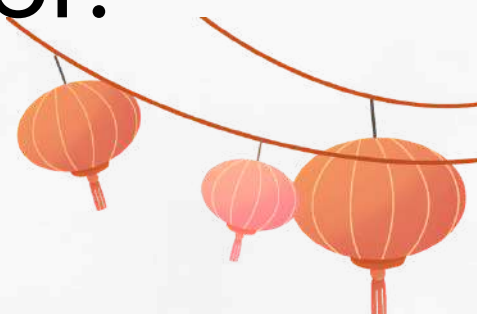
As part of our Topic, Forces and Energy, we have been learning about Light Sources, especially the Sun. We had great fun recognising shadows and making our own outside.



We also studied the moon which is not a Light Source, but is a reflector of the light coming from the Sun. We created our own moons using silver foil and paper, to make the craters of the moon.



We have also enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year. We have tried writing numbers 0 to 10 using Chinese characters. Then we challenged our friends by giving them a sum to answer.





# Our Learning Journey

## Year 2/3



This term the children are completing a Physics topic. To begin this topic the children have been learning about light. The children learnt about natural and artificial light. This led us onto shadows. The children recognized that a shadow is when light cannot go through the object. To explore this the children went outside to investigate each others shadows.

In Literacy our new book is called 'Back to Earth with a Bump' and therefore our new role play is a rocket. Our classroom has well and truly been transformed into outer space.



In Maths Year 2/3 have started learning about weighing and measuring. The children had lots of fun using slime in the outdoor area to develop their vocabulary 'heavier than, lighter than and equal to'. To develop their knowledge of 'grams' the children weighed all their ingredients (flour, sugar and butter) to create space cupcakes. The children had lots of fun being bakers for the day!



Ei'n taith Dysgu





# Our Learning Journey

## Year 3H

It's been a lovely month of great learning and work!

Our new topic is called 'The Fastest on Earth'. The children have chosen to focus on different forces. So far we have focused on 'Gravity' and 'Friction'. They have independently chosen how to set out their work on Isaac Newton and forces so far...

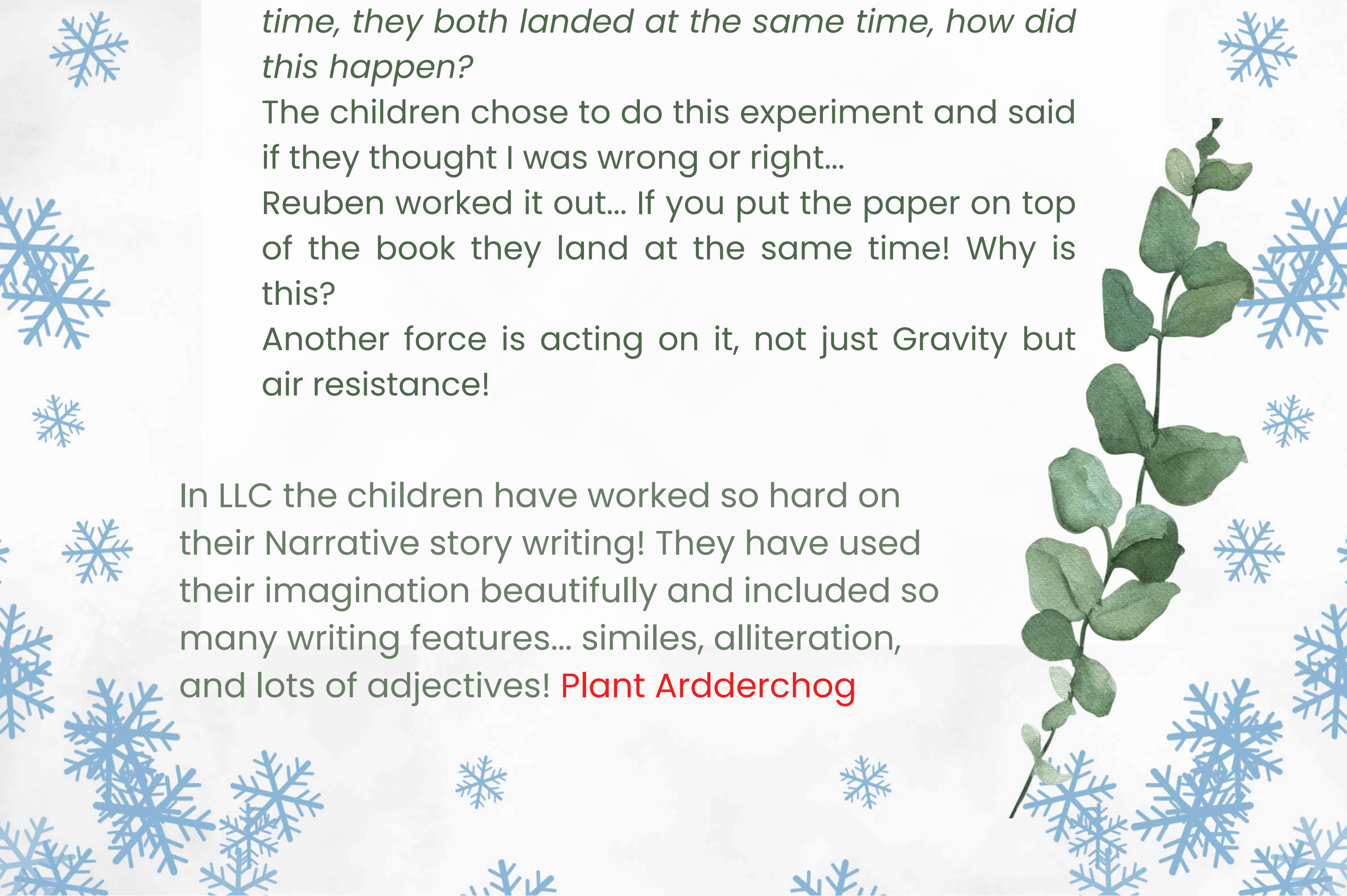
Mrs Humphreys gave them a question... *Last night I dropped a book and piece of paper at the same time, they both landed at the same time, how did this happen?*

The children chose to do this experiment and said if they thought I was wrong or right...

Reuben worked it out... If you put the paper on top of the book they land at the same time! Why is this?

Another force is acting on it, not just Gravity but air resistance!

In LLC the children have worked so hard on their Narrative story writing! They have used their imagination beautifully and included so many writing features... similes, alliteration, and lots of adjectives! **Plant Ardderchog**





# Our Learning Journey

## YEAR 3H





# YEAR 4 - JANUARY



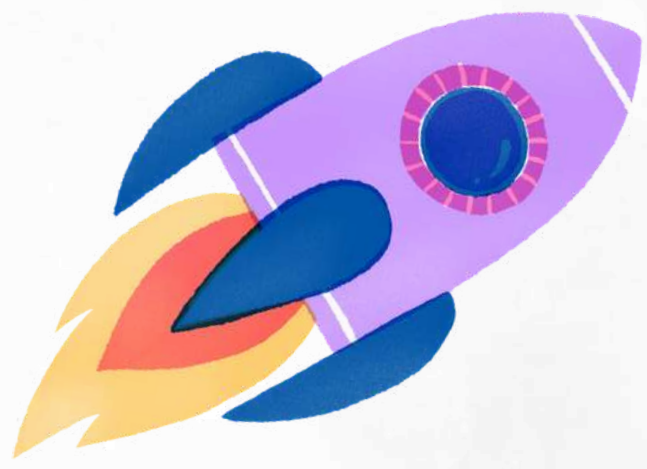
It's been a busy start to the spring term and 2025 in Year 4. We have begun our new topic 'The Fastest on Earth' and the children have shown great enthusiasm to what they're learning so far. They have produced some great independent work on different types of forces and researched Sir Isaac Newton and the discovery of gravity. We look forward to seeing their reaction as we have lots of fun activities and sessions planned for the remainder of term.

We have been learning words and sentence patterns on the topic of "Illness/**salwch**" in Welsh and the children are catching on very well!

In R.E.D we have begun our third branch - Galilee to Jerusalem.

The children have produced some fantastic work and have thoroughly enjoyed creating role play as news reporters, which they filmed on iPads. Very impressive!





# Our Learning Journey



## YEAR 5



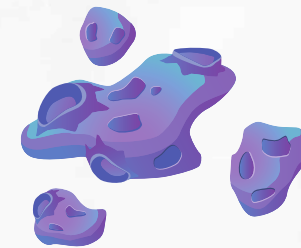
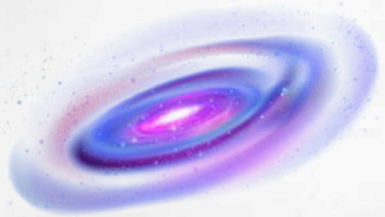
We have really enjoyed starting out new topic called "Journey To Space."



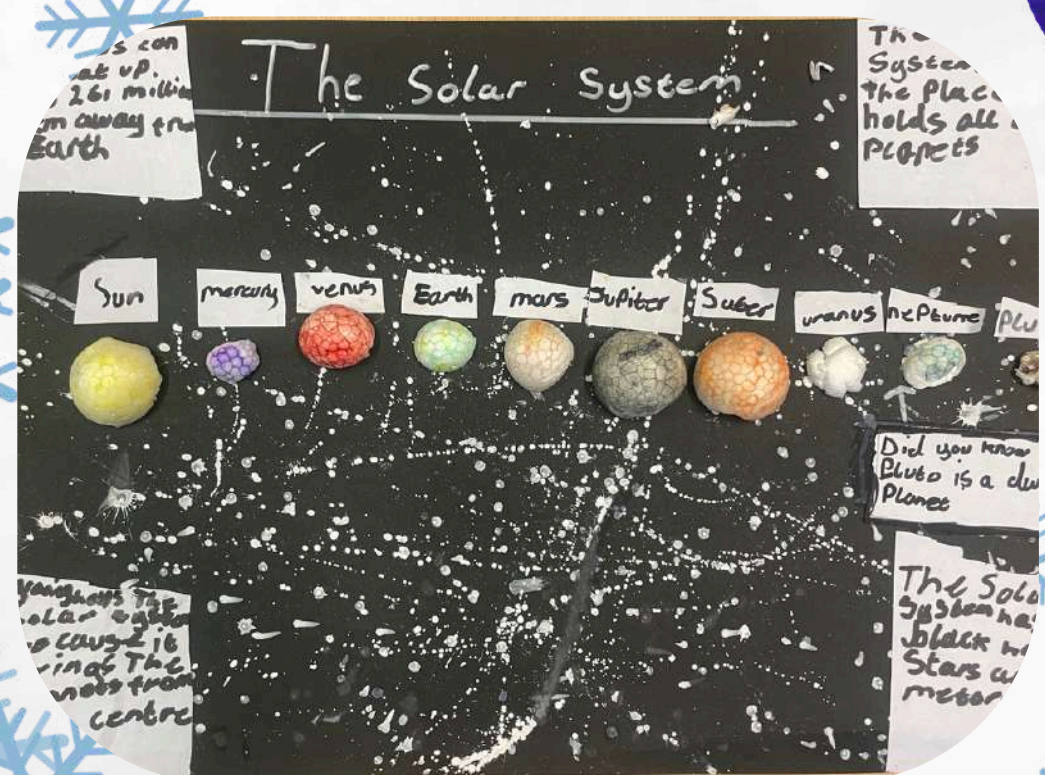
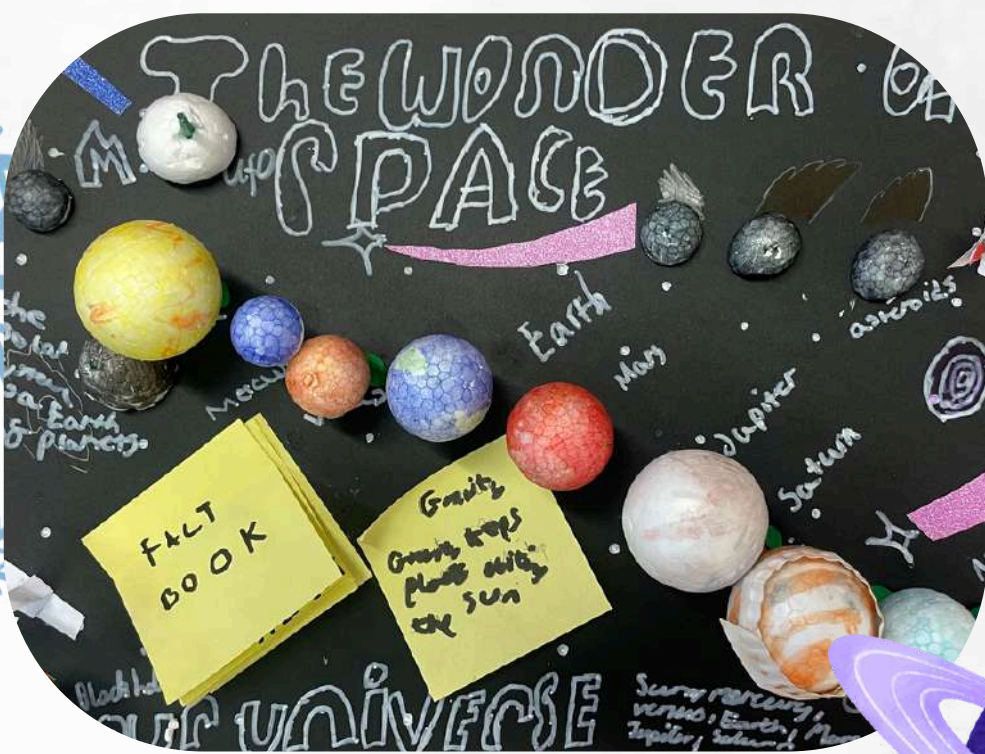
We have learned about the Solar System and shown our understanding of what we have learnt by creating excellent, independent informative posters and models



In English, we're writing a science fiction narrative story and have shown how creative we can be when creating characters, settings and ideas for them. We are so impressed with their imaginative, futuristic ideas! We can't wait to read their finished stories.



On Mondays, we're lucky enough to have boxing lessons run by my Mini Dragons. We've been doing this for three weeks already and the children are enjoying learning new skills and getting fit at the same time. The children can wear PE kit on Mondays for this!



Ei'n taith Dysgu





# Our Learning Journey Year 6

As part of the "Passport to Graduation" activities Year 6 were invited to Cardiff University Science and Maths Faculty to participate in three workshops to open their eyes to some of the course available at university. The workshops involved Maths Science , Music and Arts.



Maths workshop



Maths workshop



I.T. workshop



I.T. workshop

*Ei'n taith Dysgu*



# Our Learning Journey Year 6

Our final workshop involved :-  
 Finding out about the Chinese Lunar New Year.  
 Using a traditional calligraphy pen.  
 Identifying traditional Chinese instruments.  
 Learning and performing a traditional Chinese Folk Song  
 Opportunity to use a traditional book drum.



The children were fully engaged in all activities, well behaved and attentive...  
 Well Done Year 6 !!!

*Ei'n taith Dysgu*



# Stars of the Month! Seren y Mis!



We will be celebrating our pupils achievements inside and outside of school each month.

If your child takes part in any activities outside of school and has received a medal, badge, certificate, trophy or anything they would like to share please send them into school with it so we can celebrate them!



## Good to be Green Champions this Month



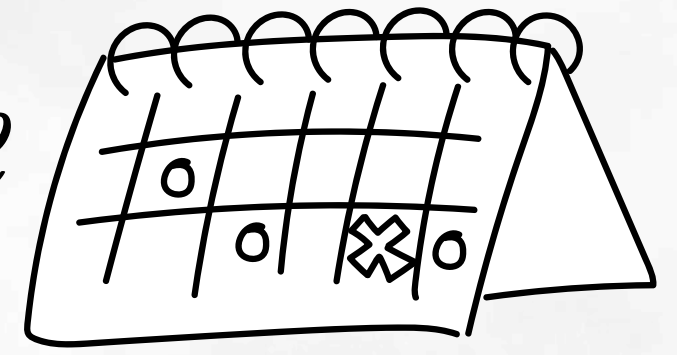
Great behaviour this month has earned these classes 10 minutes of extra play!





# After School Clubs

## Spring Term Timetable



### MONDAY

Gymnastics/  
Cheer Leading  
Year 3  
3pm - 4pm  
Mrs Coray

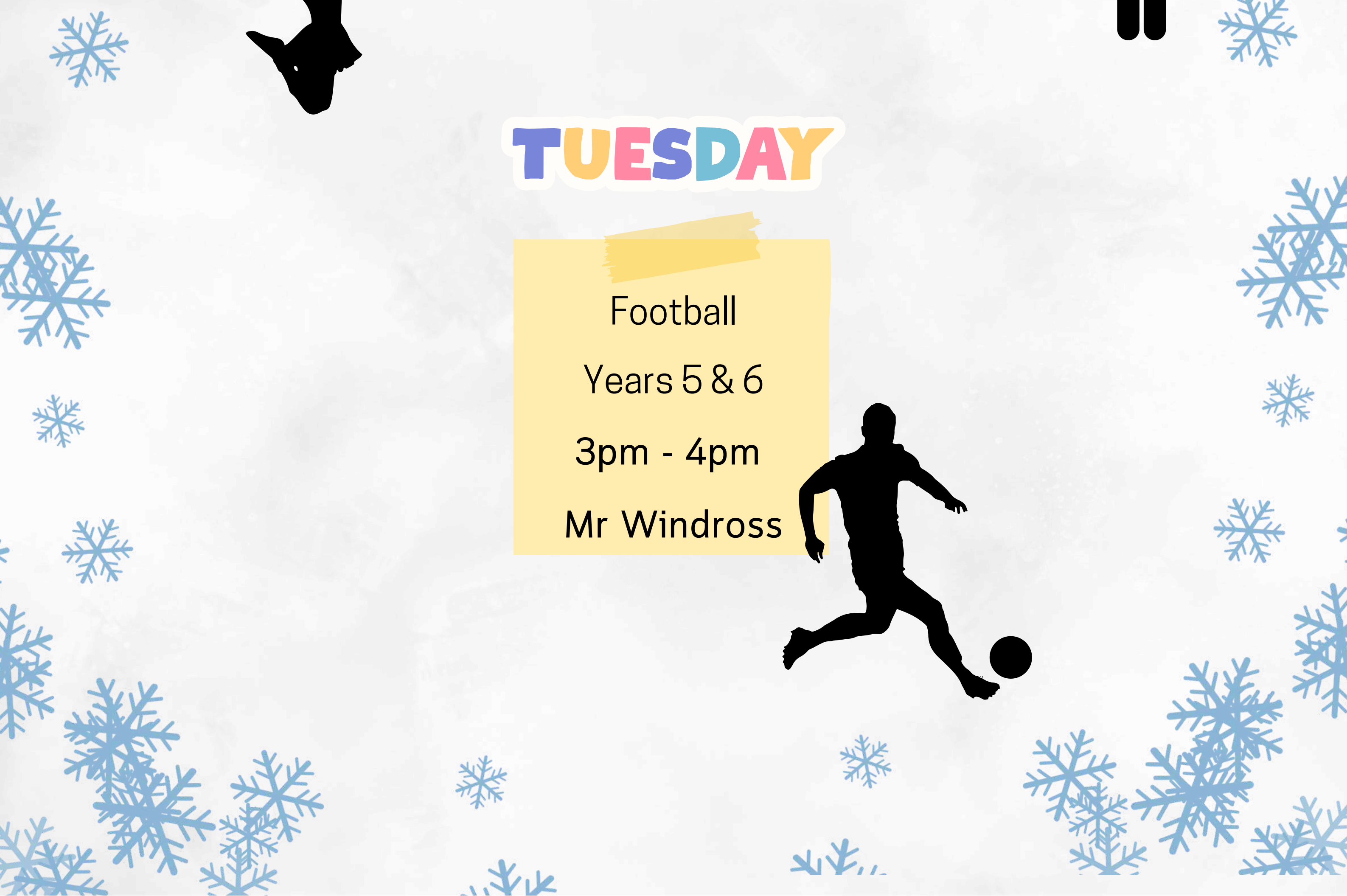


Choir  
Years 4, 5, & 6  
3pm - 4pm  
Mr Philp



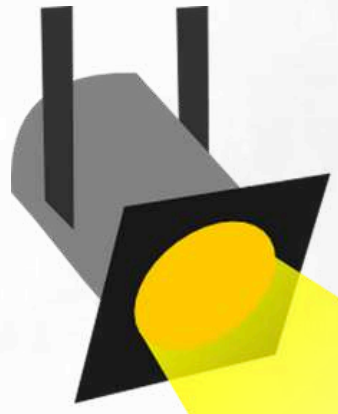
### TUESDAY

Football  
Years 5 & 6  
3pm - 4pm  
Mr Windross

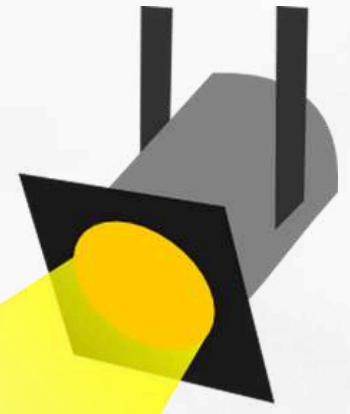




# St Francis Senedd Senedd St Francis



Introducing our Senedd  
and Mini Senedd



Our pupils are leading the future of  
St Francis Primary School.

They do this by being a part of our Senedd  
(KS2) and Mini Senedd (F.L) groups.

These groups are:

**Open Your Eyes (KS2 only)**

**Worship Warriors**

**Healthy Schools**

**Outdoor Adventurers**

**Y Tim cymraeg**

**Digital Leaders**

**School Ambassadors**



Each month we will put the  
spotlight on a different Senedd  
group and they will introduce  
their role and agenda to you.





# Community Engagement

**We would like to say a massive**

**THANK  
YOU**

**to Keith at**



Making a Difference Locally

**for his very generous donation to  
our School Christmas Fayre!**





# Google Translate App



# Google

# Translate

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FREE APP

Google Translate is a free app available on the web, iOS for iPhone and Android.

EASY TO USE

It is easy to use and can translate between up to **133** languages.

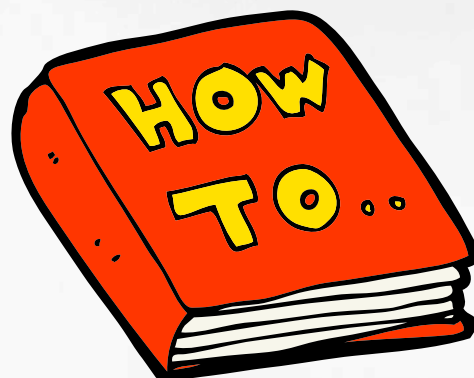
You can copy and paste text into the translator if the text is digital, or use the camera to convert in real time if the text is printed.



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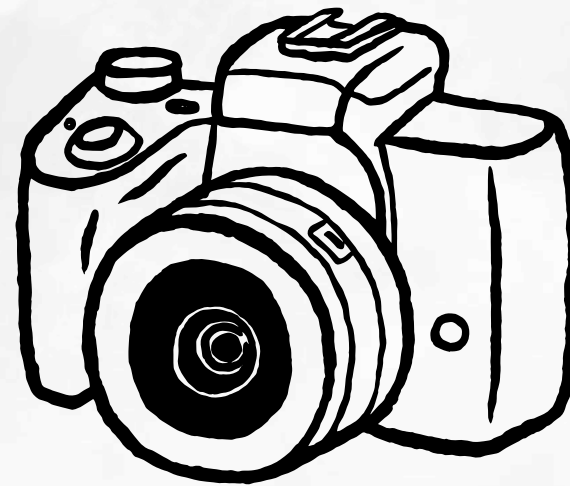


# Year on a Page Blwyddyn ar Dudalen



	Term Starts	Half Term	Term Ends
Autumn Term	02.09.24	28.10.24 - 01.11.24	20.12.24
Spring Term	06.01.25	24.02.25 - 28.02.25	11.04.25
Summer Term	28.04.25	26.10.25 - 30.05.25	21.07.25

## School Photos



Thursday 7th November  
Individual Photographs

Thursday -- May (Date TBC)  
Class Photographs

## Inset Days

1. Monday 2nd September
2. Tuesday 3rd September
3. Monday 18th November
4. Monday 3rd March
5. Monday 2nd June
6. Monday 21st July

## Parents Meetings

Wednesday 23rd October  
 Wednesday -- 26th March  
 End of Year Report in July

## Important Dates in the Catholic Calendar

Friday 4th October - The Feast of St Francis

Thursday 26th October - Harvest Festival

Monday 3rd February - Celebration of the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday

Monday 7th April - Holy Week Assemblies





# Dates for your Diary



## February



Tuesday 11th February - Safer Internet Day



Friday 14th February - Valentine's Day



Wednesday 19th February - Y 5 & 6 visit to Mary Immaculate - Annie



Monday 21st February



Half Term



Friday 28th February



Friday 28th February - First day of Ramadan





# Dates for your Diary



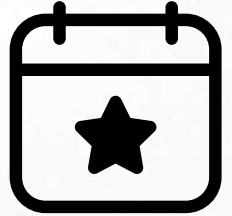
## March



Saturday 1st March - St David's Day



Monday 3rd March - INSET DAY



Tuesday 4th March - Pancake Day



Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday



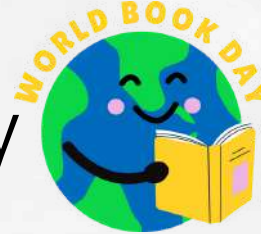
Friday 7th March - St David's Day Celebration in School



Children are invited to celebrate St David's Day by wearing something **Red**, **White** and/or **Green** or something Welsh, e.g. Traditional Dress or Welsh rugby/football tops



Thursday 14th March - World Book Day



Children are invited to celebrate World Book Day by dressing up as a character from a book, and bringing a book in to school with them



Monday 17th March - St Patrick's Day



Sunday 30th March - Mother's Day



Sunday 30th March - British Summer Time Begins



Sunday 30th March - Eid al-Fitr



