



GARNTEG PRIMARY SCHOOL
Hillcrest Garndiffaith Pontypool Torfaen NP4
7SJ
01495 742934

Garntegschool.office@torfaen.gov.uk
www.garntegprimary.co.uk



Newsletter - 16th January 2026
Cylchlythyr - 16th Ionawr

Value for this half term is



Gwerth yr hanner tymor
Croeso Yn Ôl

INSET DAYS

Friday 13th March 2026 - Cluster Inset Day

Monday 13th April 2026

Friday 17th July 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Diary Dates

✉ Community Support in School! 🗓

Citizens Advice will be available in the school hall on Tuesday 20th January from 2-4pm. Their family advice project is here to provide support, answers, and guidance.

We hope to see you there; refreshments will be available! ☕ ☕

Brighter Futures Together South Wales

Citizens Advice Torfaen provide confidential and impartial advice on a range of areas including:

- Debt
- Benefits
- Housing
- Employment
- Family

Working in partnership with local schools, we are pleased to deliver a family advice project which sets out an aim to tackle child poverty through delivery of advice and support to parents/guardians at schools across the county.



You can meet with our dedicated advisor at Garnteg Primary School on the following dates:

20/01/2026 02pm-04pm
17/03/2026 02pm-04pm
21/04/2026 02pm-04pm
19/05/2026 02pm-04pm
16/06/2026 02pm-04pm

Alternatively if you can't make it, give us a call:
01633 973570
WhatsApp
07562685212



Torfaen

Term Dates - 2025/2026 Academic Year

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Monday 01.09.25	Monday 27.10.25	Friday 31.10.25	Friday 19.12.25
Spring	Monday 05.01.26	Monday 16.02.26	Friday 20.02.26	Friday 27.03.26
Summer	Monday 13.04.26	Monday 25.05.26	Friday 29.05.26	Monday 20.07.26

Tesco Stronger Starts



Please can we ask you to support Garnteg Primary when visiting Tesco's Pontypool by adding blue tokens to our slot in the Stronger Starts box which is in front of the self-service check out. We are hoping to get lots of new outdoor and cooking resources for our pupils with the money we receive. Once again, thank you for your support.

Residential trips

A reminder that Year 5 and 6 residential trip payments must be paid before the end of March 2026. Parents/Carers can make instalments. Thank you!

Food and Wellbeing Camp



School Messaging and Communication

Thank you to all parents and carers

We have had a good response to the messaging books at the gates in the mornings this has allowed quick and easy ways to pass on messages to classes.

Please remember parents will need to ensure with their child in the morning the gate pick up. The school can no longer take messages in the afternoon with a change of gate if this happens, parents will be responsible for walking to the correct gate pick up and your child will stay with the teacher until you collect.

Important message for parents and carers:

We are in the process of updating our information on the school website to assist you all with making our information more accessible.

For example, all class handbooks and school prospectus can now be found on the class pages and main policy sections.

In the forthcoming weeks we will be sharing some information on new policies that have been written with you we would be grateful if you could give us your feedback on these as we publish them.

Class DO JO will still be used to upload other information on a weekly basis, but we hope this will give parents and carers another quick and easy channel to download documents and anything you should require

The link to the website can be found below

[Home | Garnteg Primary School](#)

The link to the school prospectus and policies and documents can be found below

[School Prospectus | Garnteg Primary School](#)

[School Policies & Documents | Garnteg Primary School](#)

The link to the attendance policy can also be found below

[Attendance Policy 2025-26](#)

Attendance in school time

A reminder of the importance of good attendance as we begin the Spring term.

Everyday counts!

If pupils arrive at 9:00 and after, please can all parents & carers take them to the school office for their registration mark and lunch choice. Late arrivals reminder this can affect your child's attendance as late after 9.30 will count as a half day absence.

Please contact the school office as soon as possible from 8.20am to inform of your child's absence. The office phonelines can be extremely busy, please use the absence line 1 and leave a message with your child's name, class and reason of absence.

The Welsh Government recommends that family holidays are taken outside school terms as this counts as a school absence even if it is authorised or un-authorised and this effects pupils' attendance. Torfaen guidance and Welsh Government state that all learners should have attendance between 100% and 95% anything below will be monitored by the school and the Local Authority Education Welfare officer.

#NotInMissOut

Free Tuition at Noddfa Church

**FREE TUITION
GET AHEAD**

Key Stage 2-4

MONDAYS 4-6PM
A drink and a snack when you arrive

LEARNING MADE FUN
Interactive sessions to help make learning fun.
Games and Quizzes that will help you in every subject across the curriculum

HOMEWORK HELP
Come with questions and we can help you to answer them for yourself.

QUALIFIED TEACHERS
Volunteers from Noddfa Church with experience in teaching are giving up their time to offer free tuition.

www.NoddfaChurch.com
(Homeschoolers welcome)



LEARN
LOVE
SHARE

NODdfa JUNIORS

FRIDAYS 6-8PM
TERM-TIME

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL
AGED CHILDREN

MAKE NEW FRIENDS
EXPLORE CHRISTIANITY
ASK QUESTIONS

Team
AWARDS

Individual
PRIZES

Cost
FREE

Activities

- ✓ Storytelling & Crafts
- ✓ Games and Singing
- ✓ Tuck Shop
- ✓ Pizza and snacks
- ✓ Seasonal trips

Noddfa Church

Abersychan
NP4 7EF

All are welcome

You do not need to be a
"Christian" to come.



More Information www.NoddfaChurch.com



Talk to your children about Water Safety!

Flooding and ice in winter can be dangerous for children. Keep your children safe and talk to them about water safety.



STAY AWAY FROM THE EDGE

- Keep back from slippery banks.
- Never walk or play on ice.
- Stick to well-lit areas and plan your walks during daylight.
- Avoid walking or driving through floodwater.



KEEP CHILDREN AND PETS CLOSE

- Teach children to stay off the ice and avoid floodwater.
- Keep dogs on a lead near ice and slippery banks.



IF YOU FALL THROUGH THE ICE

- Keep calm and call for help.
- Float on your back until you feel calm, then try to climb out.
- If you cannot climb out, continue to float and keep your head clear of the water.



IF YOU SEE SOMEONE IN TROUBLE - CALL 999

- Do not enter cold water, ice, or flood water to rescue someone.
- Assist from a safe distance. Use rescue equipment, something that floats or something that could help such as a rope or tree branch.



ENJOY THE WINTER SAFELY!



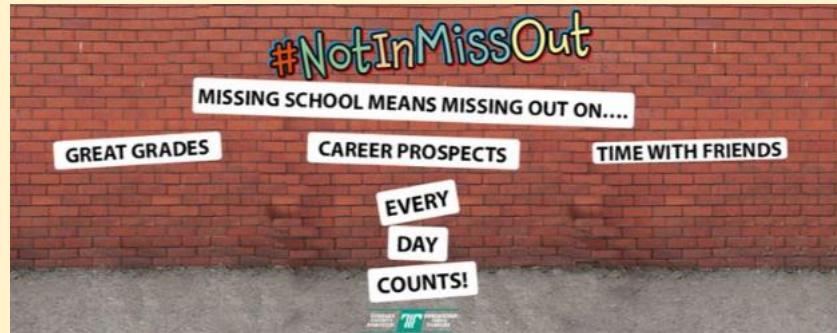
FLOOD SAFETY UPDATES

Sign up for flood warnings on the Natural Resources Wales website

[naturalresources.wales/flooding/
sign-up-to-receive-flood-warnings](http://naturalresources.wales/flooding/sign-up-to-receive-flood-warnings)

Stay informed about weather conditions and flood warnings.





Attendance Winners 05th-09th January 2026

Congratulations to Dosbarth 4 Miss Brooke who were foundation phase attendance winners for last week with 94.92% and Dosbarth 7 Mr Phillips for KS2 with 97%

WELL DONE! DA IAWN!

This week's attendance figures are

Year	% overall	Class	Percentage	Year	% overall	Class	Percentage
Nursery	84.44	0	84.44	3 / 4	95.13	5	95.71
Reception	94.93	1	94.93			6	94
1	91.43	2	91.43	4	94.17	7	94.14
1 / 2	94.29	3	97.50			8	92.76
		4	95.31	5 / 6	94.17	9	95.81
						10	96
				5 / 6	95.52	11	95.17

Class	Target by end of year	Current percentage to date
3	95	91.87
4	95	91.43
5	95	92.58
6	95	92.33
7	95	94.82
8	95	89.05
9	95	93.11
10	95	93.41
11	95	92.57

Seren Yr Wythnos

Foundation Phase		Key Stage 2	
Class	Seren Yr Wythnos	Class	Seren Yr Wythnos
Nursery - Mrs Rogers	AM- Ralphie PM- Ophelia	Dosbarth 5 - Mr Key	Lexi
Dosbarth 1 - Mrs Lewis	Harry	Dosbarth 6 - Miss Williams	Louie
Dosbarth 2 - Miss Dalton	Poppy	Dosbarth 7 - Mr Phillips	Jaydan
Dosbarth 3 - Miss Bones / Mrs Attewell	Aria	Dosbarth 8 - Mrs Ngwenya	Easton
Dosbarth 4 - Miss Brooks	Jac	Dosbarth 9 - Mrs Emanuel	Lowri
		Dosbarth 10 - Mrs Lee	Presley
		Dosbarth 11 - Mrs Parker-Evans	Jack

Meithrin – The children have had a wonderful week exploring our new topic 'Cymru Wych.' The children have confidently spoke about their local area and what they see when the walk or drive to school. They have then used their building and mark making skills to make or draw their favourite place. The children are proud of where they live. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 1 – Our Reception class has had a wonderful time exploring our new topic, *Cymru Wych!* We've been learning all about the beautiful places that make our local area so special and sharing our favourite spots with our friends – from parks and castles to beaches and shops. The children have loved talking about what makes Wales such a great place to live and play. We've also been thinking ahead to the new year by setting our own goals for 2026, such as trying new things, being kind to others, and working hard in school. It's been lovely to see everyone so enthusiastic and proud of their community and their dreams for the year ahead! Have a lovely weekend! Diolch.

Dosbarth 2 - This week in Dosbarth Dau, we have enjoyed acting out the tale of the Red Dragon. We have explored the characters and decided to take on different roles of characters in the tale to self and peer assess our acting skills. In Mathematics, we have used our counting skills to use money to pay for items. We were able to use 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins. Da iawn pawb. A kind reminder that all trip letters must be returned to allow your children to attend. Have a restful weekend 😊

Dosbarth 3 - What an excellent week of learning we have had in Dosbarth 3! We have really enjoyed acting out the story of the Cadw Dragons and are excited to visit the dragons at Caerphilly Castle. Letters for our trip have been sent out; can these be returned as soon as possible. New learning log tasks have also been sent out, we look forward to seeing your amazing home learning. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 4 - Da iawn pawb! This week we have been looking at body biography's and how we can show how a character from our myths can feel, look and speak. We were able to think like them and explain in detail about their personalities we have seen throughout our myths. We are really looking forward to our class trip on the 29th January. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 5 - Da iawn pawb for another fantastic week. This week we have been using our place value with larger numbers and practising our rounding skills. In our literacy we are preparing to write our own diary entries by practising our first person and past tense sentences. Diolch for your wonderful home learning from our snow day! We have sent new spellings linked to our spellings home ready for the following Monday 26th. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 6 - Da iawn for another fantastic week. This week we have been looking at diary writing and understanding the features we need to use when writing our own diary. We have been working hard in maths looking at place value and rounding numbers to ten and a hundred. We have enjoyed exploring our topic further this week and have been gathering data to show our favourite instruments. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Dosbarth 7 - It has been another busy week as we practise our class assembly for next Wednesday. We have enjoyed working on our script and learning songs. We have also enjoyed working with DJ Suzie, playing the ukuleles in preparation for our performance. The assembly will take place on Wednesday 21st January starting at 1.45pm. We look forward to seeing you all there. Enjoy the weekend!

Dosbarth 8 - A wonderful week in Dosbarth 8! We have enjoyed exploring our new topic 'Myths & Marvel'. We have explored artwork in the style of Jack Kirby. A reminder for swimming letters to be returned as soon as possible, this is a compulsory part of our curriculum. Learning logs will be given out this week along with new reading books. Please can any school books or learning logs be returned to school as soon as possible 😊

Dosbarth 9 - We have had a brilliant week starting our new topic. Please can learning logs be brought in so new tasks can be set for your children. Can all year 5 swimming consent forms please be returned this week for the swimming instructors. Diolch!

Dosbarth 10 - We have had a fantastic week enjoying our new topic "Myths and Marvel" and have completed excellent work! All homework books have now been taken home for this term, please could you encourage your child to try to complete one piece of homework each week. Just a reminder for all year 5 swimming letters to be returned asap so these can be passed onto the swimming instructors next week. Have a wonderful weekend!

Dosbarth 11 - I am so pleased with the wonderful work completed last Friday and throughout the week. Class 11 displayed excellent behaviour during swimming this week and are doing so well with their swimming levels. Keep up the fabulous work and take a good look at your homework logs this weekend.

Community Notices

● WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN ● GARNDIFFAITH AND ABERSYCHAN

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
10 am - 11am Yoga - Cwmavon Village Hall Baby & Me - Millennium Hall 10 am - Midday Drawing & Talking - Coedwedd Community Hub 12.30 - 2.30pm Open art session - Coedwedd Community Hub 1pm - 3pm Wellbeing Through Stitch - Cwmavon Village Hall	10 am - 11am Couch to 5km - Coedwedd Community Hub 10 am - Midday Coffee Morning - Trinity Methodist Church 10.30am - 11am Tai Chi Talywain OAP Hall 11.30am - 12.30pm Body Weight Exercise Class - Millennium Hall Midday - 2pm Lunch club - Talywain Rugby Club 2.30pm - 4.30pm Pensioners Club - Victoria Village Hall	10 am - 11am Tai Chi - Millennium Hall 10am - 2.30pm Men's shed - Coedwedd Community Hub 2pm - 4pm Prize Bingo - Victoria Village Hall Cwmavon & Blaenavon Crafters - Cwmavon Village Hall 6pm - 8pm Noddfa Teens - Noddfa Church 8pm - 10pm Old Time Modern Dancing - Millennium Hall
THURSDAY	10am - 11.30am Shelite (gentle exercise class) - Millennium Hall 10am Start Wellbeing Walk - Coedwedd Community Hub 10am - Midday Art for Everyone - Cwmavon Village Hall 12.30pm - 2.30pm Little Feet (parent and baby group) - Noddfa Church 1.30pm - 3.30pm Knifty Knitters - Millennium Hall	9.30 - 10.30am Pop in & Play (family with pre-school children) - Millennium Hall 10am - 11am Tai Chi - Cwmavon Village Hall 10am - Midday Feet-Up Friday - Noddfa Church 10am - 2.30pm Fun & Games - Coedwedd Community Hub 6pm - 8pm Noddfa Juniors - Noddfa Church



The Millennium Hall are running 3 warm hubs on a weekly basis for the next few months.

Monday: 11am - 2pm will be just a warm hub (free refreshments and somewhere to go and have a chat)

Wednesday: 1pm - 4pm will be a film club (free to attend)

Saturday: 11am - 2pm will be a family film club (free to attend)

Victoria Village Hall:

Thursday: Cake and Company 11am - 1pm (free refreshments)



Coedwedd Community Hub

Wellness in the Workshop
Wellbeing Walks
Coffee Mornings
Social Garden
Drawing & Talking

"Strangers are just friends we haven't met yet"
"Mae dieithriaid yn ffrindiau nad ydym wedi cwrdd â nhw eto"

info@coedwedd.org
Coedwedd Community Hub
MEN'S SHEDS CYMRU

Stanley Road, Garsyfan, NP4 7LY (opposite Premier shop)
Coedwedd Community Hub

Coedwedd Community Hub

Coedwedd Community Hub offer sessions in our local community for adults, including DIY, Chat and Snack and Craft and Relax. Please visit their website to find out more.

[Coedwedd Community Hub](#)
[| Home | Stanley Road, Garsyfan, Abersychan, Pontypool](#)



Weekly Schedule

Monday 10am - 3pm

Drawing & Talking
10am - Midday

Open House Art
12:30 - 14:30

Tuesday 10am - 3pm

To Be Confirmed

Wednesday 10am - 3pm

Coffee Morning
10:00 - Midday

Men's Shed (Social & Workshop)
10:00 - 14:30

Thursday 10am - 3pm

Social Walk
10:30 - 13:00

Friday 10am - 3pm

Fun & Games
10am - 14:30



Coffee Morning

Thursdays 10 AM - Midday

Trinity Methodist Church

Looking for a friendly space to connect, chat, and unwind?

Come along to our local coffee morning in Abersychan – a relaxed and welcoming gathering where neighbours become friends over a hot brew and a biscuit or two.

Trinity Methodist Church, High Street, Abersychan, NP4 7AB



TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GARNSYCHAN PARTNERSHIP

'Free' Couch to 5k Programme

A relaxed beginners running programme.
Meeting at Garsyfan Partnership, 55 Stanley Road, Garsyfan, NP4 6LH
Every Tuesday at 10am

What will this offer me?

- ✓ Improves physical health with a gradual approach
- ✓ Connect with people on a similar journey
- ✓ Learn strength and mobility exercises that can support your running journey

When & where will this be?

- Meeting at Garsyfan Partnership
- Every Tuesday morning at 10am
- Refreshments provided post session at Garsyfan Partnership premises

Overview

The couch to 5k is a guided NHS programme that supports someone who wishes to build up towards running 5km. This programme is intended for beginners, easing them into running over 9 weeks. This coached group programme will tailor advice to each person's ability. Including further guidance on strengthening exercises to prevent injury and improve overall fitness.

To register your interest please contact Aled using the contact information below.

07908 215952 | aled.walker@torfaen.gov.uk

Kindest Regards,

Mrs Roche & all the staff at Garnteg Primary School