



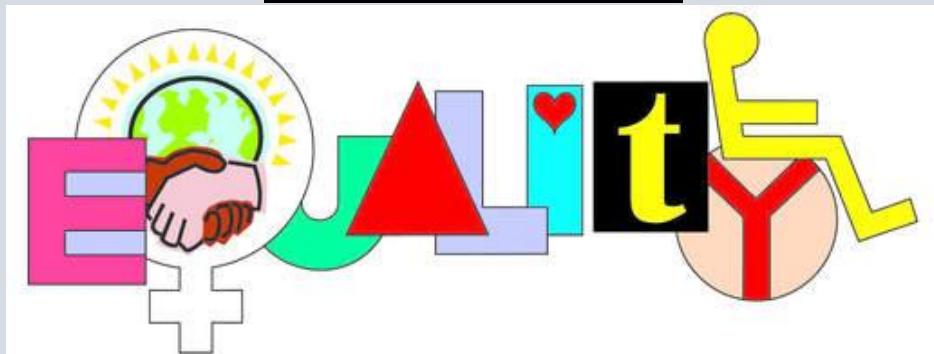
GARNTEG PRIMARY SCHOOL
Hillcrest Garndiffaith Pontypool Torfaen NP4
7SJ
01495 742934

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



Newsletter - 23rd January 2026
Cylchlythyr - 23rd 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

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.

Parking Notices

A polite reminder during drops off and pick up times, the Millennium Hall is available to park in. Please be mindful residents and the safety of children when parking.

Late Arrivals

If pupils arrive at 9:00am and after, please can all Parents & Carers (or whoever brings them to school) take them to the school office for their registration mark and lunch choice. Pupils need to be handed over to office staff. Can Parents & Carers please let other adults who bring children to school know this information too.

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

TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH **PRIFYSGOL TORFAEN**

Torfaen Play & Short Breaks Service
Providing a variety of fun and interactive sessions in the heart of the community.

FOOD AND WELLBEING CAMP

Tuesday 17th February
Wednesday 18th February
Thursday 19th February

10:00am - 3:00pm
Age 5 to 11 years

HOT LUNCH PROVIDED DAILY FREE OF CHARGE

Garnteg Primary School
Hillcrest, Garndiffaith,
Pontypool, NP4 7SJ

Pre booking required
Please use the QR code to pre book
For more information please contact:
torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk

  Chwarae Torfaen Torfaen Play
 @torfaenplayservice  torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk

 Pontypool Community Council
Cymuned Pont-y-Pŵl

Application

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](#)

Diary Dates

⌚ Community Support in School! 📆

Citizens Advice will be available in the school hall on **Tuesday 17th March 2026** 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



cyngor ar
bopeth

citizens
advice

Torfaen

**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

**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)

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 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.

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.



ENJOY THE WINTER SAFELY!



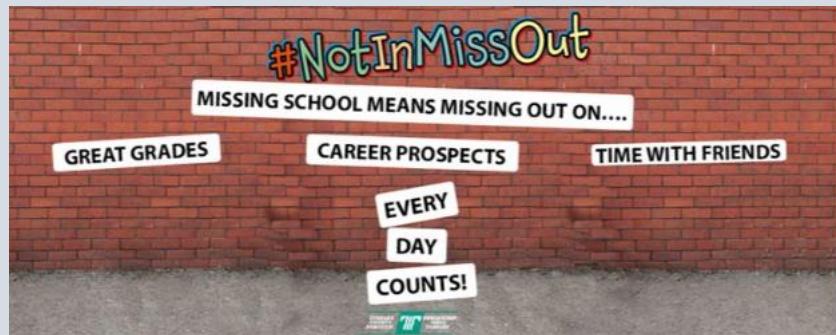
FLOOD SAFETY UPDATES

Sign up for flood warnings on the Natural Resources Wales website

naturalresources.wales/flooding/
sign-up-to-receive-flood-warnings/

Stay informed about weather conditions and flood warnings.





Attendance Winners 12th-16th January 2026

Congratulations to Dosbarth 3 Miss Bones/Mrs Messore who were foundation phase attendance winners for last week with 97.50% and Dosbarth 10 Mrs Lee for KS2 with 96%

WELL DONE! DA IAWN!

This week's attendance figures are

| Year | % overall | Class | Percentage | Year | % overall | Class | Percentage |
|-----------|-----------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|------------|
| Nursery | 83.70 | 0 | 83.70 | 3 / 4 | 93.33 | 5 | 94.29 |
| Reception | 92.22 | 1 | 92.22 | | | 6 | 90.33 |
| | | | | 4 | 94.38 | 7 | 97.24 |
| 1 | 85.36 | 2 | 85.36 | | | | |
| 1 / 2 | 95.22 | 3 | 93.93 | 5 / 6 | 89.18 | 8 | 86.55 |
| | | 4 | 95.63 | | | 9 | 89.68 |
| | | | | 5 / 6 | 93.45 | 10 | 95.33 |
| | | | | | | 11 | 93.45 |

| Class | Target by end of year | Current percentage to date |
|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 | 95 | 92 |
| 4 | 95 | 91.67 |
| 5 | 95 | 92.68 |
| 6 | 95 | 92.22 |
| 7 | 95 | 94.96 |
| 8 | 95 | 88.90 |
| 9 | 95 | 92.91 |
| 10 | 95 | 93.52 |
| 11 | 95 | 92.62 |

Seren Yr Wythnos

| Foundation Phase | | Key Stage 2 | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Class | Seren Yr Wythnos | Class | Seren Yr Wythnos |
| Nursery - Mrs Rogers | AM- Ava R PM- Oscar | Dosbarth 5 - Mr Key | Chloe |
| Dosbarth 1 - Mrs Lewis | Edith | Dosbarth 6 - Miss Williams | Evan |
| Dosbarth 2 - Miss Dalton | Solar | Dosbarth 7 - Mr Phillips | Whole class |
| Dosbarth 3 - Miss Bones / Mrs Attewell | Tyger | Dosbarth 8 - Mrs Ngwenya | Maison |
| Dosbarth 4 - Miss Brooks | Beatrice | Dosbarth 9 - Mrs Emanuel | Jacob G |
| | | Dosbarth 10 - Mrs Lee | Jamie |
| | | Dosbarth 11 - Mrs Parker-Evans | Maximus |

Meithrin – Bendegedig Meithrin for a super week of learning. You have enjoyed taking part in the schools big birdwatch this week. You impressed us when you made some bird feeders using oranges and the seed. Also, you have had fun making your own birds in the creative and play dough areas in nursery. You are all enjoying exploring our new post office role play area and using your mark making skills to write letters and postcards. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth 1 – Gwaith da Derbyn. Reception have had a fantastic week exploring all things birds! They designed and made their own colourful birds in the creative area, went birdwatching around the school grounds, and followed instructions carefully to make bird feeders. Have a wonderful weekend! Diolch from Derbyn staff. 😊

Dosbarth 2 – Gwaith wow pawb! This week we have continued to research our topic 'Dragon's Roar Children Soar'. You have used your ICT skills to research an interesting fact about dragons. We have also enjoyed looking into the settings within the tale of the Red Dragon and used wonderful descriptive language within our sentence. We then used our descriptive language knowledge to then create your own dragon's using AI. We look forward to our trip on Monday 26th January, please remember to send your child into school with full uniform and waterproofs on this day. Diolch 😊

Dosbarth 3 – Da Iawn Dosbarth tri for another fantastic week of learning. This week, we have been exploring the setting of Caerphilly Castle. We used wow words and adjectives to describe different parts of the castle. We also took part in a dance lesson for PE and learnt a traditional Welsh dance. Gwaith da! Please remember to send your child into school with sensible shoes, a waterproof coat, a full school uniform and a backpack for our trip to Caerphilly Castle on Friday 30th January. Diolch! 😊

Dosbarth 4 – Gwaith da dosbarth 4! This week we have continued to learn about money and how we would pay for items using different coins. You have really used your resilience this week and shown how

determined you are! We have also been really creative and are using resources to create 3d castles ready for our school trip next week. We are watching the weather forecast for our school trip, and we will keep you updated throughout next week. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth 5 – Bendigedig Class 5 for a very musical week this week! We have been learning about musical terms and responding to different music we have heard through visual scores and soundscapes. In our literacy we have been writing our diary entries and in maths we have been learning to measure accurately. Please remember to bring back your learning logs at least once every two weeks. Please let us know if you have any problems with these.

Dosbarth 6 – Da iawn for another fantastic week. We have been busy listening to classical music and famous composers for our topic this week. In Literacy we have been writing our diary entries linked to our class story and in maths have been looking at measure and understanding how to measure accurately. A reminder that our class will be visiting Pontypool Library on Monday, please ensure learners are dressed in uniform and have coats appropriate for the weather. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 7 – What a busy week! Thank you to everyone who attended our class assembly this week. The children really did us all proud. Look out soon for the radio broadcast of the assembly! Please remember to start bringing in your new learning logs and home readers to change. Also, a reminder on PE kits. The children will need a PE kit on a Wednesday and Thursday in school. Have a great weekend!

Dosbarth 8 – A wonderful week in Dosbarth 8. We have enjoyed finding out and exploring the origin of Marvel superheroes and researching facts and data about these countries. Dosbarth 8's map skills have been fantastic! A reminder to return any swimming letters as soon as possible, many thanks 😊

Dosbarth 9 – What a brilliant week it's been in Dosbarth 9! We're thoroughly enjoying our new topic, **Myths and Marvel**, where we've been discovering how ancient gods inspired Marvel and how each film teaches an important moral lesson. Please remember to return learning logs each week so dojos can be given out.

Dosbarth 10 – What a lovely week we have had in Dosbarth 10! We are thoroughly enjoying our new topic **Myths and Marvel** and have researched how the ancient Gods were an inspiration to the Marvel creators and how each film has a moral behind it. Please could children bring back their learning logs each week for their dojos to be awarded.

Dosbarth 11 – Class 11 have had another excellent week exploring our new topic 'Myths & Marvel' by comparing ancient Gods and Marvel characters to see how they are similar and how they differ. Please could we have a big push on homework learning logs this weekend to earn those dojos. Have a lovely weekend and we will see you all on Monday 😊

Community Notices



**Have your say.
Help shape the garden.**

4th February 3pm - 5pm
Former Victoria Primary School, Abersychan

Come along and meet the teams behind Victoria Village Garden and have your say on the community plans.

We're inviting local residents to share ideas, ask questions, and help shape a new green space for wellbeing, nature and community.

Garden

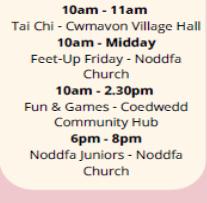
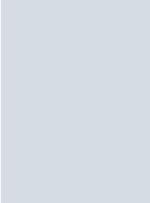
MYST
Support Team - Fy Nhien Cymru

GARNSYCHAN PARTNERSHIP
Putting your ideas into action

Coedwedd
COMMUNITY HUB & CHARITY

The poster features a green background with a white circular area containing the main text. It includes an illustration of a red brick building with a white arched entrance. To the right is a vertical column of logos for MYST, Garsychan Partnership, and Coedwedd. The word 'Garden' is written in large, bold, yellow letters at the bottom.

● WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN ● GARNDIFFAITH AND ABERSYCHAN

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|--|--|---|
| 10 am - 11am Yoga - Cwmafon 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 - Cwmafon 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 Cwmafon & Blaenavon Crafters - Cwmafon 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 - Cwmafon Village Hall 12.30pm - 2.30pm Little Feet (parent and baby group) - Noddfa Church 1.30pm - 3.30pm Knifty Knitters - Millennium Hall | | |
|  |  |  |

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

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, Gardiffaith, Abersychan, Pontypool

Weekly Schedule



- Monday**
10am - 3pm
- Tuesday**
10am - 3pm
- Wednesday**
10am - 3pm
- Thursday**
10am - 3pm
- Friday**
10am - 3pm

Drawing & Talking
10am - Midday



Open House Art
12:30 - 14:30

To Be Confirmed



Coffee Morning
10:00 - Midday

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

Social Walk
10:30 - 13:00



Fun & Games
10am - 14:30



Coedwedd Community Hub

Everyone is welcome

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
Gardiffait, NP4 7LY
(opposite Premier shop)

Coedwedd Community Hub

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 Garnsychan Partnership, 55 Stanley Road, Gwernfaeth, NP4 6LH
Every Tuesday at 10am

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.

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 Garnsychan Partnership
- Every Tuesday morning at 10am
- Refreshments provided post session at 

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

07908 215952 aled.walker@torfaen.gov.uk

PONTYPOOL!

FootiCubs
EARLY YEARS FOOTBALL

AGES 18MTHS - 5YRS

**BASED INDOORS AT
GARNDIFFAITH HALL,
NP4 7LT EVERY
SATURDAY!**

FREE TRIAL!





www.footicubs.co.uk/early-years



Torfaen WORKS
Torfaen yn GWEITHIO



£0 COST

INTRODUCTION TO BECOMING A SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR

WANT TO MAKE A SPLASH IN YOUR CAREER?
TRY TORFAEN WORKS' NO COST TASTER SESSIONS.

**No previous
experience needed**

Halo Leisure Torfaen are looking to recruit and train Swim instructors.
Could you be the next?

If you are confident with basic swimming techniques, over 16, and a Torfaen resident this taster course could be for you.

Whats on offer

- Swim Wales Safeguarding training
- 5 taster sessions to explore the role
- Funding available to complete the L2 instructors training
- Customer Service training
- Experience a real swimming lesson
- Guaranteed interview with Halo

Contact us for more information and to check your eligibility

01633 647 743 employability@torfaen.gov.uk

Kindest Regards,

Mrs Roche & all the staff at Garnteg Primary School