



GARNTeg PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hillcrest Garndiffaith Pontypool Torfaen NP47SJ

01495 742934

Garntegschool.office@torfaen.gov.uk

www.garntegprimary.co.uk



Newsletter - 18th September 2026

Cylchlythyr - 18th Medi 2026

Value for this half term is

Co-operation



Gwerth yr hanner tymor

Croeso Yn Ôl

INSET DAYS

2026-2027

Friday 25th September 2026

Friday 18th December 2026

Friday 19th March 2027 - Cluster Training Day

Monday 19th July 2027

Tuesday 20th July 2027

September Diary 2026



October Diary 2026



2026/2027 Academic Year

Term	Term Begins	Half Term Begins	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Tuesday 01.09.26	Monday 26.10.26	Friday 30.10.26	Friday 18.12.26
Spring	Monday 04.01.27	Monday 08.02.27	Friday 12.02.27	Friday 19.03.27
Summer	Monday 05.04.27	Monday 31.05.27	Friday 04.06.27	Tuesday 20.07.27

Big Bocs Bwyd

Big Bocs Bwyd project is about Food Literacy and reducing wastage of food and is available to the whole community. **Every Monday 2:00-3:00pm and every Thursday 2:00-3:00pm** we have a shop open to everyone in our Food For Growth classroom with a range of food available such as fruit and vegetables, refrigerated foods (such as garlic bread, yoghurts, drinks) non- perishable foods such as tins (fruit, soups, beans etc) and packets (chocolate, bread, pasta, rice) which has been received from Fareshare and various supermarkets. Each week we have different products available, all we ask for is a 'Pay As You Feel' donation. Please support the project at Garnteg.

#NotInMissOut

Attendance

A reminder of the importance of good attendance as we begin the new academic year. Supporting Torfaen strategy for attendance at Garnteg, we Strive for 95% + attendance, therefore everyday counts!

Requests for holidays

You must make a formal request to the Headteacher to take children on holiday during the school term; the school will only consider the category of exceptional circumstances for holiday requests.

Therefore, general holidays during school time will not be authorised in line with the Local Authority.

If the request is declined, it will be classed as unauthorised, and you may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. Torfaen LA 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 (EWO).

Pupil Absence

Please remember to contact the school office via our answerphone or email by 9.30am if your child is going to be absent, please note the office lines are extremely busy.

If we do not receive a message and your child is absent, they will be marked as unauthorised, and this could lead to intervention from the Education Welfare Officer.

Please make any dental or medical appointments after school where possible.

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.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that our breakfast club begins at 8.20am and finishes at 8.50am. Please ensure children arrive on time. 🍳 ⚡

#DdimYnoColliAllan

Important - Pupil Data

Please can all parents/carers inform school immediately of any changes/additions to address or contact details, it is important that we are able to make contact quickly should we need to.

We also need to have all relevant Medical Details concerning your child including any Medical Conditions, allergies etc.

It is also important that we receive parental consent forms regarding the use of images, videos and photographs being used on our website and in other printed publications. Along with permission to take your child on any school visit.

Busy Bees

Please can parents/carers let school know in advance which days children are being collected by Busy Bees private childcare. If there are changes, can you also let the office know by lunchtime so they can inform relevant staff before the end of the day.

Gwent Music Tuition 2026-27: A Parent's Guide

Tuition Options & Costs



34 Annual Sessions

Lessons delivered individually or in small groups throughout the academic year.

Wide Instrument Selection

Tuition for Strings, Brass, Guitar, Percussion, Harp, Piano, Woodwind, and Voice.

Music Access Fund

Families receiving Free School Meals or Universal Credit can access significantly reduced rates.

Lesson Type	Standard Fee	Access Fund Fee
Group Tuition	£77	FREE
20-Min Individual	£154	£77
30-Min Individual	£232	£154

How to Enrol Your Child



1. Access the Online Portal

Visit gwentmusic.co.uk and select 'School Direct Tuition' via the Parent Portal.

2. Select School and Instrument

Search for your school and enter your child's details for their chosen instrument.



3. Confirm and Pay

Submit your application to join the waiting list and pay once offered a place.

Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

Plant ifanc a'r fflw
Young children and flu

Gall fflw fod yn ddifrifol iawn i blant.
Flu can be very serious for children.

Chwistrell drwynol ddi-boen
A painless nasal spray

Os yw eich plentyn yn ddwy* neu dair* oed, gallwch ei amddiffyn gyda brechlyn fflw chwistrell drwynol ddi-boen.

Siaradwch â'ch ymwelydd iechyd, meddyg teulu neu nyrs practis i gael rhagor o wybodaeth.

Gallwch gael rhagor o wybodaeth am frechu rhag y fflw yn:
icc.gig.cymru/brechlynffliw
*Oedran ar 31 Awst

If your child is two* or three* years old, you can protect them with a painless nasal spray flu vaccine.

Talk to your health visitor, GP or practice nurse for more information

You can find out more about flu vaccination at:
phw.nhs.wales/flu vaccine
*Age on 31 August

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Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

Plant, pobl ifanc a'r fflw
Children, young people and flu

Gall y fflw fod yn ddifrifol iawn i blant a phobl ifanc.
Flu can be very serious for children and young people.

Yr hydref yma, bydd pawb o'r dosbarth derbyn i flwyddyn ysgol 11 yn cael cynnig brechlyn fflw chwistrell trwyn.

Efallai y bydd rhai'n cael y brechlyn fflw trwy bigiad (heb gelatin) yn lle.

Siaradwch â'ch nyrs ysgol, ymwelydd iechyd neu feddygfa am fwy o wybodaeth.

This autumn, everyone from reception class age to school year 11 age will be offered a nasal spray flu vaccine.

Some may have the flu vaccine by injection (gelatine free) instead.

Talk to your school nurse, health visitor or GP surgery for more information.

Gallwch gael gwybod mwy am frechu rhag y fflw yn:
icc.gig.cymru/brechlynffliw

You can find out more about flu vaccination at:
phw.nhs.wales/flu vaccine

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Public Health Wales Notice

The School Nursing Service will visit the school to offer pupils a **nasal flu spray vaccine** on **29/09/2026**

The online consent form and more information can be found here: [E- Consent Form Link](#)

We encourage all parents/carers to complete a consent form for their child or young person, regardless of whether they wish them to receive the vaccination.

As we approach flu season, we want to ensure all families have the information they need to help protect their children's health. Flu can spread quickly in nursery and school environments and can cause serious illness in young children. This autumn, all children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2026 and all school children from Reception to Year 11 (inclusive), will be offered a free and quick, nasal spray flu vaccine at school. The flu nasal spray vaccine is safe, painless, and helped protect over 220,000 school-aged children in Wales last year.

Giving consent for your child to have the flu vaccine, helps keep them healthy, reducing the risk of illnesses that could disrupt their learning, play and your family life. The nasal spray flu vaccine is the recommended vaccine for children and young people, but if they can't have the flu vaccine or you'd prefer a gelatine-free vaccine, they can have the flu vaccine by injection instead.

Give your consent for your child's flu vaccine to help keep them healthy this winter.

For more information about the flu vaccination visit: www.phw.nhs.wales/flu vaccine

Destination



ABERSYCHAN

Thursday 1st October
5pm - 7pm
Pupils in Year 5 and 6

Check in and receive your flight ticket and passport.

2 hour itinerary



Book your ticket now!

www.abersychan.org.uk



school.office@abersychanschool.co.uk

School Admissions 2027

Will your child be starting Nursery, Reception or Secondary school in 2027?

In Torfaen, there are a number of Welsh Medium, English Medium and Voluntary Aided (VA) Faith based Schools your child could attend.

Applications for school/nursery can be made online via our website. In submitting an online application, you will receive an instant acknowledgment that your application has been received and you will be notified of the outcome of your application via email on the decision date, rather than waiting for a letter in the post!

There is a deadline for making your application. If you miss this deadline, or change your preference after the closing date, it may increase the possibility of not achieving a place at the school of your choice.

September 2027 Admission Groups	Admission Round Commences	Closing Date for Applications	Decision Date
Nursery	8 June 2026	20 July 2026, 5pm	18 September 2026
Reception	13 November 2026	15 January 2027, 5pm	16 April 2027*
Secondary	18 September 2026	30 October 2026, 5pm	1 March 2027*

*This is a common offer date across all Welsh admission authorities.



Scan the QR code now to view the application process!

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Ysgol Abersychan School

Autumn DISCO

TUES 22ND SEPT
5PM - 6.30PM MAIN HALL
OPEN TO PUPILS IN Y4, Y5 AND Y6
Free Entry * Free Treats

Scan the QR code to book!



This is a drop off event, parents & carers are not required to stay.



The ABUHB School Nursing Service

Parent/CarerLine



The ABUHB School Nursing Service are excited to launch Parent/CarerLine, a new SMS text service for parents and carers of children aged 5 to 16!

Parents and carers can text our school nurses on [07507330206](https://www.abuhb.nhs.uk/parent-carerline) for expert advice and support with a child's health and wellbeing. * Texts are replied to Monday - Friday 9:00 - 16:00 (excluding bank holidays)

Who are School Nurses?

School nurses are specially trained public health nurses who can help with a range of physical and emotional health issues, such as emotional wellbeing, toileting, immunisations, low mood, exam stress, self-harm, behaviour, relationships, healthy eating and more.



This week's attendance figures are

Year	% Overall	Class	Percentage	Year	% Overall	Class	Percentage
Nursery	87.20	0	87.20	3	97.11	6	94.55

Reception	94.42	1	92.65	4/5	95	7	99.57
		2	96.38			8	97.04
Year 1	95	3	94.40	5	97.08	9	95.48
Year 2	90.25	4	93.85			10	96
		5	89.20	6	89.02	11	94.33
						12	83.87

Foundation Phase		Key Stage 2	
Class	Seren Yr Wythnos	Class	Seren Yr Wythnos
Nursery - Mrs A Phillips	AM- George H PM- Amelia	Dosbarth 6 - Miss Bones/Mrs Attewell	Leo
Dosbarth 1 - Mrs C Lewis	Darcie-May	Dosbarth 7 - Mrs N Rogers	Noah M.P
Dosbarth 2 - Mrs I Williams	Maeve-Marni	Dosbarth 8 - Miss Z Williams	Chloe
Dosbarth 3 - Miss M Dalton	Amia	Dosbarth 9 - Mrs K Ngwenya	Jaydan
Dosbarth 4 - Mr E Key	Noah	Dosbarth 10 - Miss K Matthews	Amalee
Dosbarth 5 - Miss S Brooks		Dosbarth 11 - Mrs H Lee	Jacob
		Dosbarth 12 - Mr A Phillips	Tomas

Class	Target by end of year	Current percentage to date
3	95	96
4	95	92.79
5	95	91.50
6	95	92.61
7	95	97.83
8	95	97.22
9	95	94.96
10	95	93.33
11	95	93.33
12	95	86.29

Meithrin – It has been so lovely to see the children settling into our nursery routines, building friendships and exploring their new environment together. We are so proud of how they are beginning to learn, grow and discover alongside one another. 🧡 A little reminder that our PE day is Tuesday. 🏃👟 We hope you all have a wonderful weekend with your families. Diolch! 😊

Derbyn: -Dosbarth 1 & 2- We have loved learning about our class book, *The Derbyn*, and exploring Me, You and Autumn. It has been lovely to see the children learning and growing together. Remember, our class is a family! 🍷 A little reminder that our PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays. Have a lovely weekend! Diolch! 😊

Dosbarth 3 - This week, we have been learning all about capital letters and full stops. We enjoyed matching, finding and writing capital letters, remembering that they are used at the start of sentences. We also practised adding full stops at the end of our sentences. In Mathematics, we created bar graphs to show the data we collected after asking our peers which shop they get their food from. We then analysed our graphs and enjoyed discussing what we had found out. We also had lots of fun during our PE lesson in the hall, where we practised our ball control skills and worked hard to improve our throwing, catching and controlling. Da iawn pawb for a fantastig week. Have a lovely weekend 🌟

Dosbarth 4 - Da iawn pawb, a wonderful week of learning in class 4! This week we have been learning about writing a recount, including our understanding of capital letters and full stops. In our maths we have been exploring place value of two-digit numbers and finding a total. We also enjoyed our first PE sessions! Please remember learning log challenges, da iawn to everyone who has returned these so far! Have a wonderful weekend!

Dosbarth 5 - Bendedegid Dosbarth 5 for another great week! This week we have been looking at new topic book called "The new kid in town". The children have really enjoyed learning about our new book and could make great predictions based on the front cover! We also really enjoyed our first PE lesson outside and learnt new stretches. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth 6 & 7 - Bendedegid pawb for a super week of learning. We have continued developing our knowledge biographies and have started to plan our own on a famous person. It has been lovely to see the wonderful learning log homework that has been returned to school-we can't wait to see even more. This week the children have been busy learning their lines and songs for their assembly performances-please could you continue to practise them at home. Our performances are on Thursday 1st October please check dojo for more details. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth - 8 Da iawn everyone for another fantastic week in Dosbarth 8. We have began writing our stories in literacy and have enjoyed looking at data to answer questions in maths. In topic this week we have been researching all about autumn and how it occurs. Just a quick reminder that our P.E days are Tuesday and Wednesday and for learning logs and reading books to be returned to school regularly so we can add dojo's for you amazing work. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Dosbarth 9&10 - In Dosbarth 10 this week we have been working hard on building different sentence structures. We have investigated how fronted adverbials can add information about time, place and manner of the action within the sentences and can impact the tone of the action. This will help us to build towards planning and writing our castaway stories next week. In maths, we have begun to look at data, interpreting bar charts and line graphs. This skill is sure to come in handy as we will be looking to track

the changes in temperature and weather as the season changes throughout the term. In our topic lessons, we have started to investigate the evolution of ship designs and researched some real life histories of sea-faring people, such as the Vikings.

Dosbarth 11 - We have had another fantastic week in Year 6! The children have really enjoyed learning about Artificial Intelligence, discussing how AI works and thinking carefully about the information we see and whether we can always trust it. We have also been exploring optical illusion art, looking at how artists can trick our eyes and beginning to create some fantastic designs of our own. A little reminder that PE sessions take place on Mondays and Thursdays, so please ensure PE kits are in school ready for these days. We hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 12 - We have had a busy week in class 12. We have enjoyed creating surveys finding out about our transition visit to Abersychan last week and having Caring Canines visit our class. Thank you to the children who have already sent in completed pieces of work in their learning logs this week. Reminder that PE will take place on a Monday and Thursday. Have a lovely weekend!

Community Notices

Pontypool Community Council
supported by Torfaen Play

MILLENNIUM ACTIVITY CLUB

**FREE
OF CHARGE**

A range of fun activities and workshops
that are young person centred, including:
VR Headsets, Sports, Arts & Crafts,
Games and lots lots more!

**WEDNESDAYS
4:00PM - 5:30PM
8-14 YEARS OLD**

**Garndiffaith
Millennium Hall,
Top Road, Garndiffaith,
Abersychan, NP4 7LT**

**TUCK
SHOP**
Nutritious
Snacks and
drinks

**CHWARAE TORFAEN
AND SHORT BREAKS SERVICE**

Families First

A safe environment for young people to meet up with
and spend time with friends outside of school.
For more information please contact:
torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk

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

Pontypool Community Council
Cwmyn Cymuned Pontypool

You are invited to join our free virtual swap shop:



FREE SCHOOL CLOTHES.com

Join our **growing community**. Easy to adopt with significant benefits for schools and families:

FreeSchoolClothes.com is a free, not-for-profit "virtual swap shop" helping families share and reuse school clothes and other essentials locally within your school community, for free.

- Help families to save money.
- Protecting our planet by reducing waste.
- Strengthening our communities.

Founded in 2022 at Ysgol Treganna, Cardiff.
Now covering all UK schools.

It's easy to get started. *Simply share this message and QR code with your families.*

- Your school is already live on the platform and ready to go.
- **Free** to join and use. Not-for-profit.
- **No storage or handling** of clothes, redistribution happens directly between families.
- **Sustainability goals:** live impact data show money saved and carbon offset for your school.
- **Always open:** when families need it most, evenings, weekends and school holidays.
- **Compliments existing physical swap shop initiatives**, if you have one.

Please visit [FreeSchoolClothes.com](https://freeschoolclothes.com) to join our new virtual swap shop.

Offer outgrown school clothes to other families in our school community. Browse and request things that you need, for free. Save money and protect the planet.



For **support** or to volunteer as a school champion please contact:
support@freeschoolclothes.com



You could save up to **£300** on your annual water bill.

Support for families

Summer holidays can be a challenging time for families, juggling the kids being off school with work and other commitments, as well as managing money during what can be an expensive few weeks.

Did you know?

Working families, low-income families and families receiving a means tested or disability benefit may be entitled to money off their water bill.

We're here to help

Call us to talk through your options:
0800 052 0145

Visit us online for more information:
dwrcymru.com/supportwithbills

[Help with your bills | Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water](#)

SPOTLIGHT DANCE FITNESS

Gentle Spotlight Dance Fitness

Move at your own pace with simple choreography, uplifting music, and a relaxed, supportive atmosphere.
A softer take on the classic Spotlight session — same fun, less intensity.

Thursdays – 10:30am Garndiffaith Millennium Hall
Fridays – 11am Blaenavon Workmen's Hall

No experience needed. Everyone welcome.

Contact Rachael: 07484 737410

Unit 14, Gilchrist Thomas Industrial Estate, Blaenavon. NP4 9RL

GARNSYCHAN PARTNERSHIP

Community Hub

Monday - Friday 9am - 4:30pm

- Coffee Corner
- FREE WIFI and Computer Library
- Community Kitchen
- Pantry
- FoodBank
- BabyBank
- Fuel Support
- Prescription and Welfare Support Packages
- Befriending Calls
- Volunteering
- Training Courses
- Bike Recycling
- Furniture Retail Shop

01495 774453

● WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN ● GARNDIFFAITH AND ABERSYCHAN

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

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
Shelitte (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

FRIDAY

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



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](#)



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
Garndiffaith, NP4 7LY
(opposite Premier shop)

Coedwedd Community Hub

Kindest Regards,

Mrs Roche & all the staff at Garnteg Primary School