



GARNTeg PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hillcrest Garndiffaith Pontypool Torfaen NP47SJ

01495 742934

Garntegschool.office@torfaen.gov.uk

www.garntegprimary.co.uk



Newsletter - 9th October 2026

Cylchlythyr - 9th Hydref 2026

Value for this half term is
Co-operation



Gwerth yr hanner tymor

Croeso Yn Ôl

INSET DAYS

2026-2027

Friday 18th December 2026

Friday 19th March 2027 - Cluster Training Day

Monday 19th July 2027

Tuesday 20th July 2027

October Diary 2026



Harvest Collection

Thank you for all your kind donations you brought in for our Harvest, we are very grateful for every item we recieved. The pupils will be donating the collection to the pensioners at the Luncheon Club at Talywain Rugby Club on Tuesday.

Garnteg Farmers Market

We look forward to welcoming you next Friday to our annual Farmer's Market. Pupils will be busy next week making jams, crumbles, fruit muffins, samosas and many other items next week ready to **sell** at the market. We look forward to seeing you there!



Parent Consultations

Thank you to all parents and carers who came to your child's consultation it was an amazing turn out, teachers will contact parents and carers who were unable to make the appointments to rebook.

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

Drop off and collection times

Once pupils have been dropped off in the mornings and collected at end of day from gates, please can parents and carers move away to avoid congestion.

Torfaen Play & Wellbeing Camp October 2026 Half Term

Please register using link or QR code below if you would like your children to attend:

<https://my.torfaen.gov.uk/icustomer/?cuid=CCA8599AE222B64E553E3059431401AB98COB98E&lang=en>

Torfaen Play & Short Breaks Service
Providing a variety of fun and therapeutic activities for the benefit of the community

PLAY & WELLBEING CAMP 2026

Tuesday 27th October
Wednesday 28th October
Thursday 29th October
10:00am - 3:00pm
Age 5 to 11 years

FREE OF CHARGE

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

A refillable drink and packed lunch is required

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

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

THE DEAL

Torfaen Council

A packed lunch and refillable drink must be provided daily.

Cooking Demonstration

FareShare is holding a free cooking demonstration at Garnteg on Tuesday 13th October 2026 at 1:15pm. Everyone is welcome.



Attendance

#NotInMissOut

#DdimYnoColliAllan

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. 🍳 🌟

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	Fees	
	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.

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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The ABUHB School Nursing Service - Parent/CarerLine

07507 330 206

Parent/CarerLine

SMS Text Service for parents/carers of children aged 5-16

School Nursing Service
Swkankach
Wynida Tyeat

Looked After Children
Plant Sŷ'n
Borlye Gafal

GIG
NHS
WYLLS

Berdded Iddyd Prifysgol
Amgylchedd
University Health Board

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](tel:07507330206) 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	84.85	0	84.85	3	88.8	6	96.49
Reception	92.83	1	94.47			4	91.75
		2	91.11	8	94.87		
Year 1	89.04	3	91.69	5	90.4	9 93.86	
Year 2	93.4	4	90.57			10	90.77
		5	93.38	6	89.50	11	93.08
						12	87.02

Foundation Phase		Key Stage 2	
Class	Seren Yr Wythnos	Class	Seren Yr Wythnos
Nursery - Mrs A Phillips	AM- Effie PM- Hudson	Dosbarth 6 - Miss Bones/Mrs Attewell	Gracie s
Dosbarth 1 - Mrs C Lewis	Hunter	Dosbarth 7 - Mrs N Rogers	Mila
Dosbarth 2 - Mrs I Williams	Finley	Dosbarth 8 - Miss Z Williams	Whole class
Dosbarth 3 - Miss M Dalton	Georgie	Dosbarth 9 - Mrs K Ngwenya	Xander
Dosbarth 4 - Mr E Key	Maliyah	Dosbarth 10 - Miss K Matthews	Layne
Dosbarth 5 - Miss S Brooks	Esme Joy	Dosbarth 11 - Mrs H Lee	Ieuan
		Dosbarth 12 - Mr A Phillips	Evan

Class	Target by end of year	Current percentage to date
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3	95	91.69
4	95	90.57
5	95	93.38
6	95	91.17
7	95	96.49
8	95	94.87
9	95	93.86
10	95	90.77
11	95	93.08
12	95	87.41

Meithrin - We have had another fantastic week in Meithrin. It was wonderful to see so many of you at Parents' Evening and have the opportunity to showcase the children's incredible hard work and how well they have settled into our routines. We are so proud of everything they have achieved so far. This week, we have continued to explore our topic, looking closely at signs of autumn. The children have enjoyed finding autumn leaves and observing how their colours are changing. We are also looking forward to welcoming you to our Food Market on **Friday 16th October**. The children are very excited to show you the delicious treats they will be creating 🍁

Derbyn: -Dosbarth 1 & 2- We have had another fantastic week in Dosbarth Derbyn! It was wonderful to see so many of you at Parents' Evening and have the opportunity to showcase the children's incredible hard work and how well they have settled into our routines. We are so proud of everything they have achieved so far. This week, we have continued to explore our topic, looking closely at signs of autumn. The children have enjoyed finding autumn leaves and observing how their colours are changing. We are also looking forward to welcoming you to our Food Market on **Friday 16th October**. The children are very excited to show you the delicious treats they will be creating. 🍁🌸😊

Dosbarth 3 - Dosbarth 3, we have had a wonderful week learning the skills we need to write our recount of our story. We went on a nature walk, finding objects and using adjectives to describe what we found which will help us with our writing about the story 'The Enormous Turnip'. In Mathematics, we have used the balance scales to weigh objects, we extended our skills by counting how many cubes each items weighed, and some even made predictions before testing. It was lovely to welcome you into our new classroom to celebrate your child's learning so far this year, in our parents evening sessions. Diolch 😊

Dosbarth 4 - This week Dosbarth 4 have been using the skills we have been developing to write past tense recounts, including time words first, next, then, finally and adjectives to describe the events! We have enjoyed exploring our story 'A Kid of Their Own' and using this as our inspiration! We have also been learning to measure in different ways including balance scales and using grams. Thank you for your support

in parent/carer meetings this week, it was lovely to discuss the children's progress and targets. Have a lovely weekend!

Dosbarth 5 -Gwaith da pawb! This week we have been working really hard and have re written our class story 'A kid of their own'. They have used adjectives and similies within their writing and have produced some amazing stories! In maths we have been looking at weight and how we can tell if an item if heavy or light. Just a reminder that pe is on Thursday and next Friday is our Food for Growth where you can come into school and buy items your children have cooked at 3.20pm in the hall. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth 6 & 7 - Well done everyone for a super week of learning. You have shone with how well you have mastered adding on a number line to writing a summary of our new class book 'Billy and the mini monsters go swimming.' Just a reminder that class 6 will now have cricket for 3 weeks on a Wednesday-please can the children bring in PE kits on this day. Class 7 will continue to have lesson with DJ Suzi on this day and will not require their kits. If children would like to bring their PE kit into school and leave it in for the half term please can you ensure that their names are clearly written on the clothes and bag. Have a lovely weekend.

Dosbarth - 8

What a fantastic week we have had in Dosbarth 8! Thank you to everyone who attended our Harvest performance, the children thoroughly enjoyed performing to you all and we were all very proud of them. Da iawn Dosbarth 8 for learning your lines, songs and actions to make our performance amazing! 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 your amazing work. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Dosbarth 9&10 - Another fantastic week in Dosbarth 9 and 10. We have been working hard planning what we will be making for our exciting Food for Growth Market next Friday. We look forward to seeing you there! A reminder to please return home reading books and learning logs so we can see all of the fantastic work taking place 😊

Dosbarth 11&12 -

It has been another busy week in year 6 exploring Macbeth and using our algebra skills. It was lovely to see so many of you at our parent's evenings this week. Thank you for attending. Next week, we will be taking part in our food for Growth project with the School Food Market being held on Friday after school. Enjoy the weekend and see you back in the classroom on Monday.

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 SPORTS SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS
8-14 YEARS OLD

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](https://www.instagram.com/chwaraetorfaentorfaenplay) [Chwarae Torfaen Torfaen Play](https://www.facebook.com/ChwaraeTorfaenTorfaenPlay)
[@torfaenplayservice](https://www.x.com/torfaenplayservice) torfaenplay@torfaen.gov.uk

GWEITHGAREDDAU HANNER TERM HYDREF! OCTOBER HALF TERM ACTIVITIES!

MEWN CANOLFANNAU YM MWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN | AT CENTRES AT TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH

- NOFIO I'R TEULU | FAMILY SWIM**
Canolfan Hamdden y Tyllgoed | Fairwater Leisure Centre
- JUMPINGYM**
Stadiwm Cwmbran | Cwmbran Stadium
- BOWNSIO A CHWARAE | BOUNCE & PLAY**
Canolfan Byw Egniol Pont-y-pŵl | Stadiwm Cwmbran
Pontypool Active Living Centre | Cwmbran Stadium
- TEGANAU CHWYDDADWY YN Y PWLL | POOL INFLATABLES**
Canolfan Byw Egniol Pont-y-pŵl | Pontypool Active Living Centre
- NOFIO A SLEID | SLIDE & SWIM**
Canolfan Byw Egniol Pont-y-pŵl | Pontypool Active Living Centre

SCAN TO VIEW THE FULL TIMETABLE
Or visit: haloleisure.org.uk/whats-on

halo

TORFAEN HEALTH, SPORT & FITNESS

Join us for
Family Fun Fitness

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN 8+ YEARS OLD

Moving together for a healthier happier tomorrow

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.

Please visit [FreeSchoolClothes.com](https://www.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



LIGHT — THE — SKY

L A S E R
L I G H T S H O W

S A T U R D A Y

10TH OCTOBER 2026

— G A T E S O P E N —

5.00PM

A T

THE BAKERY FIELD TALLYWAIN

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



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	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	FRIDAY	
10am - 11.30am Shellite (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 Feetparent 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	



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