

Dosbarth Teilo Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Croeso nôl / Welcome back!

I hope you have all had a wonderful and restful summer break. I'm really looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning an exciting new year together in Year 5/6.

This term, our learning will be centred around the whole-school theme of **Belonging**, with our class topic titled **Finding Home**. Throughout the term, we will explore our big question: **'What makes somewhere feel like home?'**

Useful info:

- Please can all children bring a healthy, nut-free snack and a refillable water bottle daily with their name clearly labelled.
- Please can ALL uniform be clearly named. This will help us in returning any lost property.
- The doors will be opened at 8:50am and closed just after 9am. All children need to be in class and ready to learn at 9am each morning. If your child is late they will need to access school through the main front doors.
- Please fill in a new contact sheet if any of your details/'X' preferences have changed. Please also ensure that staff are aware of any medication/allergies.
- Our **PE** lessons will take place on **Fridays**. Children need to come to school dressed in their PE kit - plain joggers/shorts/leggings, a plain t shirt, school jumper, and trainers.
- **Forest School** - Our forest school sessions will be **this term** on a **Tuesday**, learners need a **waterproof coat, waterproof trousers** and **wellies**
- **Home Learning** - Rather than setting regular homework tasks, we ask that children continue to develop key skills at home. Children are expected to **read at home**, practise their **weekly spellings**, and regularly practise their **times tables**. These simple routines make a valuable difference to children's confidence and fluency and provide a great opportunity to share and support their learning at home. From time to time, a specific homework task may be set to support or extend learning taking place in class. Where this is the case, the task and any relevant information will be shared through **Google Classroom**.
- **Spellings** - We are currently assessing learners spelling skills with HAST spelling tests. This year, the children will be learning spellings on a pattern basis, rather than a discrete set of words to learn. We hope this will enable them to apply the spelling rules they learn in their work more accurately. They will have a spelling lesson each Thursday morning, which will focus on learning the patterns they are working on. Each time we start a new pattern, we will upload some example words to Google Classroom, however we encourage the children to look up and explore a variety of words that follow this pattern. The children will be tested on the spelling pattern when they are ready and a new pattern uploaded online.
- **Times Table Tests** - Every Thursday morning we will continue to complete our weekly times tables challenges. Children work through successive times tables, with the aim being fluent recall. We encourage the children to practice at home in preparation for their weekly challenges, and they will be given some class time too. Pupils will continue from their level at the end of last year.

Order of Times Table Tests -

x10, x 5, x2, yellow badge (mixture of 10, 5, 2 tables)

x3, x6, x9, blue badge (mixture of 3, 6, 9 tables)

x4, x8, red badge (mixture of 4, 8 tables)

x7, green badge (mixture of all tables)

Challenges - series of tests to practice fluency of times tables, addition, subtraction etc)

- **Reading books** will need to be brought into school on a daily basis, as we will be listening to your child read in school as often as possible. Please can an adult listen to your child read at least twice a week and fill in the reading record. In addition, all children will have a guided reading session each week. The children are also able to bring in a book from home to use as their tray reading book, for reading for pleasure at different times through the week, or choose one from our class library shelves.
- **Parent helpers** - If there are any parent helpers who would be willing to come in and listen to readers during the school week, please let me know. This only needs to be for half an hour, preferably between 9.00-9.30am any day you can manage, but we can arrange at a time more convenient for you if this is not possible. Many thanks in advance!
- **Pencil cases** - The children are able to bring one pencil case with equipment to use at school, however school equipment will be available too should they need it. Black pens please.
- **Long hair** - In line with school policy, please can any children with long hair make sure it is tied back for school to ensure safety on the play equipment.
- **Jewellery** - In line with school policy, only one pair of studs/one stud to be worn to school and to be covered for PE please. One charity band may be worn. Watches are allowed to be worn to school (any photo/email functions must be disabled).
- Please can all children bring in a pair of named wellies/outdoor shoes to leave in school.
- No toys to be brought to school please.

If you have any concerns or queries, please don't hesitate to contact me via email.

Many thanks for your support,

Thomas Edwards

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