



GUPS Weekly Newsletter

Friday 31st January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I'm sure most of you know, our last Headteacher left the school in the summer. With the assistance of Newport Council, adverts were placed nationally, and Governors shortlisted for the post and interviewed on the 27th of January.

The successful candidate was Mrs Andrea Roberts. She underwent an extremely rigorous appointment procedure with Governors, staff and children interviewing her, assisted by professional education officers. She was outstanding at interview and it was the unanimous decision of the Governors that she be appointed.

Most of you will know Mrs Roberts as she's been the Acting Headteacher for the last five months, a role she has held previously at the school. The Governors are confident that she has the skills and ambition to drive Glan Usk forward into the next ESTYN inspection and beyond.

The entire staff of the school have welcomed the appointment and I ask you to join with me in wishing Mrs Roberts and the school much success in the future.

Your sincerely,

Councillor Phil Hourahine (Chair of Governors, Glan Usk Primary School)

Dear Families,

I am delighted to write to you as the newly appointed permanent Headteacher of Glan Usk. Having had the privilege of serving in this role on an interim basis, I am incredibly proud of our school community and all that we have achieved together.

Our school is a place where children are nurtured, challenged, and inspired to be the best they can be. My commitment remains to ensure that every child receives the highest quality education in a safe, happy, and supportive environment. Working alongside our dedicated staff, I will continue to build on our successes, strengthen our partnership with you as parents and carers, and uphold the values that make Glan Usk such a special place.

I truly believe that education is most effective when there is a strong relationship between home and school. Your support, encouragement, and engagement are vital in helping us to shape the future of our children. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you all, listening to your thoughts and ideas, and ensuring



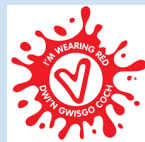
that together we provide the very best opportunities for our pupils.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust. I am excited about what lies ahead and feel privileged to lead this wonderful community into its next chapter.

Mrs Roberts

News, Messages & Events

- ★ In a week's time, on Friday 7th February, we will be supporting Velindre Cancer Centre by wearing red. This is a charity that is very close to many of our hearts. Please join us in wearing red coloured clothing on this day. We are asking for voluntary donations of £1.



- ★ This week, Year 5 and 6 took part in anti-racism workshops led by No Boundaries, sparking meaningful discussions about equality and inclusion. The sessions encouraged pupils to reflect, challenge injustice, and celebrate diversity, leaving them inspired to make a positive difference in our school community.
- ★ Recently, we sent out a **wellbeing survey** to gather insights from our school community. If you haven't completed it yet, please take a moment to share your thoughts. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us improve wellbeing across the school. [Whole School Approach to Wellbeing Survey](#)



Dates for your diary...

- 06.02.25:** Year 5 Trip to Big Pit
- 07.02.25:** 'Wear Red for Velindre' Day
- 11.02.25:** Safer Internet Day with PC Donne
- 18.02.25:** Year 3 Trip to Principality Stadium
- 21.02.25:** INSET Day 4 (School closed to children)
- 24-28.02.25:** February Half Term
- 03.03.25:** Return to School
- 03.03.25:** St. David's Day Eisteddfod Celebrations - wear something Welsh to school.
- 03.03.25-07.03.25:** Reading for pleasure week
- 04.03.25:** Shakespeare Drama Club Performance - All Day @ The Riverfront
- 06.03.25:** World Book Day - Dress as a book character
- 10.03.25-12.03.25:** Year 6 @ Gilwern

REACH for the GUPS Stars!



Across the Autumn Term we have worked with the children and staff to refine and co-construct our REACH for the Stars Positive Behaviour Approach. We believe in Glan Usk that, 'A rising tide lifts all ships.' so we have based the approach on high expectations of behaviour and attitudes to learning. Please see below an overview of our agreed REACH rules, the learners will be creating a video to share with families in Spring 2.

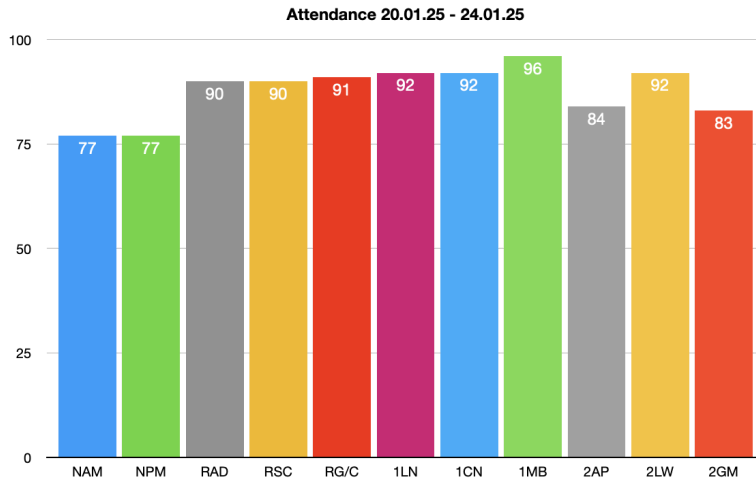




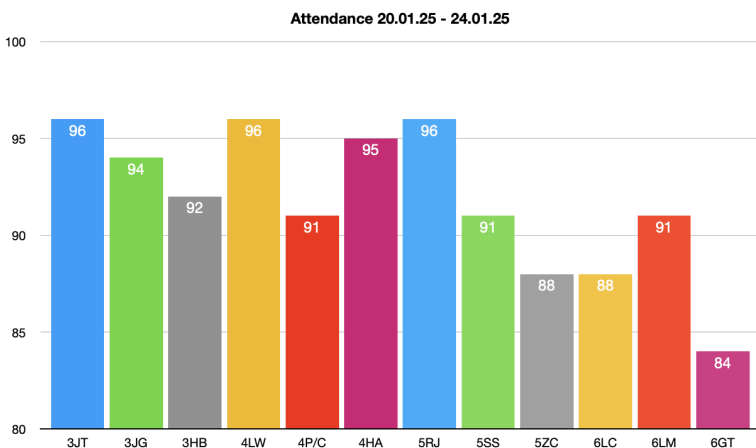
Attendance

Please help our learners attend school as often as possible, supporting us to 'Strive for 95%'. Everyday is an opportunity to learn, grow and build relationships.

Llongyfarchiadau to IMB for achieving 96%!



Llongyfarchiadau to 3JT, 4LW & SRJ for achieving 96%



Our overall attendance for the week beginning 20.01.25 was **90.1%** which is **below** our target of 92% Please help us continue to make attendance a priority. Remember everyday counts, and together, we can achieve great things!
#Toogoodtomiss!



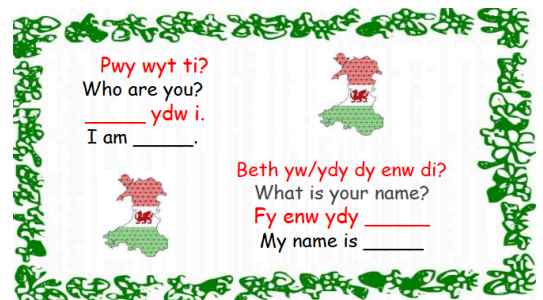
Ymradrodd Yr Wythnos



Phrase of the Week



Please click on the link or scan the QR code to hear a member of Criw Cymraeg pronounce the Phrase of the Week. We encourage you to embrace and use Welsh in your daily interactions with your child to help promote Welsh language within our community.





This week's GUPStars are...



We will be sharing Year's 3-6 photo next week.

We are so proud of all the learners that have reached for the stars this week and earned themselves an achievement certificate. Da iawn pawb!

Upcoming School Events...



Wear Red for Velindre

Please join us in wearing red for Velindre on Friday 7th February!

The children are welcome to wear red coloured clothing on this day.

Please help us raise as much money as we can for this amazing charity that is close to so many of our hearts. We are asking for a voluntary donation of £1.

Thank you for your continued support.



Glanusk Primary School

Safer Internet Day with PC Donne

Glanusk Primary School

Learn how to be safe online
11th February 2025

Learn how to be safe online!

Coffee and tea available

Please scan the QR code to book on!





Messages from the PTFA

PTFA email - gups.ptfa@gmail.com



'Break the Rules day' - Friday 31st January

What a successful FIRST EVER Break the Rules Day we have had!

*In total, we have raised an outstanding **£1082.80!***

We are so grateful and appreciate all donations and can now buy more litter picking equipment than we first thought! Diolch yn fawr!

Family & Community News

Another fantastic week at Glan Usk for our Families and Community! It has been wonderful to see lots of smiling faces around the school! We have lots of opportunities coming up this term! Please see below all we have to offer:

Marvellous, Magical Maths!

Dear families,

We have a very exciting opportunity for you and your superstar! In year 1 we are going to be running some magical maths sessions after school on a wednesday!

We shall have a range of fun, hands on activities for you and your superstar to take part in as well as showing you how you can build maths into everyday life and play to support your child's learning! So come along and have some fun, siblings are welcome to join in as well!

We look forward to seeing you there!
Mr Butcher

The dates of the sessions:

- Wednesday 29th January
- Wednesday 5th February
- Wednesday 12th February
- Wednesday 19th February

3:20 - 4:00pm

You will need to attend all sessions.

Refreshments will be available and lots of hands on fun for you and your superstar!

Magical Maths Sessions

We had our first Magical Maths workshop this week for the families in Year 1! We were so excited to see so many families there! This week we explored numbers and next week we are going to decorate white t-shirts for World Number Day! We had a fantastic time!

Our Terrific Toddler Group!

Our wonderful Baby and Toddler group goes from strength to strength every week and we really have build a special little family that are so lovely together. One parent said 'this is the highlight of my week!' when asked about the Toddler group! If you would like to come and join us please come along, we would love to see you!



Learning Difficulties Workshops

Please see the flyer below for a wonderful opportunity to work alongside our ALNCO on how best to support your child if they have difficulties in any areas! This is a brilliant opportunity that you will not want to miss! Please feel free to access either session!

HELPING HANDS OUTREACH VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS: DEC 24-APR 25

We run monthly workshops on a range of topics including: Exploring Behaviours That Can Challenge, Introduction to Sleep, Supporting Anxiety in Children, Supporting with Transitions, Introduction to Sensory Processing.

These group workshops are open to any parents/carers of children with additional needs, including families and professionals linked with Serenu, Nevill Hall and Caerphilly Children's Centre. For more information, please speak to the Family Liaison Officer at your local Children's Centre.

Please see our additional flyer for information on how to book on to our Introduction to Sensory Processing Workshop.

The workshops will take place online via a video-call.

MONDAY 27TH JANUARY 10AM - 12NOON	EXPLORING BEHAVIOURS THAT CAN CHALLENGE We will be sharing ideas behind behaviour support and help you to understand and respond to behaviours that can often challenge. Book by Midday on Wednesday 22nd January
MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 10AM-12NOON	SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN We will share ideas about how to support children and young people with anxiety and worry. We will also consider supporting children in the run up to Christmas Book by Midday on Wednesday 5th February
MONDAY 10TH MARCH 10AM-12NOON	INTRODUCTION TO SLEEP We will share ideas about how to manage common sleep difficulties in children and young people. Book by Midday on Wednesday 5th March
WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL 10:00AM-12NOON	TRANSITIONS & SEPARATIONS We will share ideas about supporting children and young people with transitions and separations Book by Wednesday 23rd April

BOOK A SPACE OR SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST
To book a space on one of these workshops, or subscribe to our workshop mailing list for updates on all our future workshops, you can:
• Scan the QR code • Click on the QR code
• Follow this link <https://forms.office.com/s/DtaWSD0KK>

Glan Usk Primary School

SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES WORKSHOP

Does your child have difficulties in any of the following areas:
Literacy
Numeracy
Motor and Coordination skills
Attention and Concentration
Speech and Language
Social Communication skills

Join ALNCOs from Glan Usk Primary School and St Julian's Primary School - Mrs A James and Miss L Welsh, to learn ways to support your child

Wednesday 12th March
9:30 - 10:30am - at Glan Usk Primary
1.30 - 2:30pm - at St Julian's Primary

Information from Sparkle

The Children's Centre Psychology Team will be holding their **Exploring Behaviours that can Challenge** workshop **Monday 27th January 10am-12pm**, if you would like to attend please use the link to sign up.

[Helping Hands Workshop Booking and Children's Centre Psychology Mailing List Form](https://forms.office.com/s/DtaWSD0KK)