

Head Teacher's Message

Unfortunately, I have been unwell and off school this final week, as I know a lot of others have been too. However, I am so glad that I was able to attend the majority of concerts the children put on for families and friends. I was very proud of all their personal efforts and I hope you enjoyed the experience as much as I did. Have a lovely holiday and we will see you in 2025!

Best wishes,



Concerts

As mentioned above, I was so proud of everyone's efforts in their concerts. Unfortunately, I didn't make Nursery's Christmas Sing Song, due to illness, but I heard it was a delight, as was Reception to Year 1's, 'Bethlehem Bake Off' and Year 3 – Year 6's 'Lights, Camel, Action!' What is particularly important to us is that all children take part in a way of their choosing and are supported to do so. I hope this made the experience a positive one for them.



Swansea University Discovery

We are very grateful to Swansea University Discovery student volunteers, for delivering an after school Lego Club as well as coming in weekly to volunteer in our school. This not only extends supports us but allows children to engage directly with people who are in university and taking their own learning further. A big thank you to Mrs Lumsdaine for acting as our link person.

Remembrance

I was very proud of the children who gave up a morning of their half term to attend the Remembrance Service at Danygraig Cemetery. They represented our school superbly at a very important annual event. Diolch yn fawr!



Dynevor Days Presentation

We have been completely overwhelmed with another phenomenal donation made to the school by the Old Dy'Vorians Association and the Dynevor Days Project. Our Year 6 children have received £4,125 to fund outdoor pursuit experiences and this is the second year that our school has benefitted. We will let you know in the Summer Term how the donation was used to provide phenomenal experiences to our Year 6.



Year 4 – Llanelli Wetland Centre

As part of a fully funded experience, the Year 4 classes visited the Wetland Centre to develop their understanding of nature and conservation. They had a great time and represented the school brilliantly over the (Loughor) bridge!



School Council – Replacement Memorial

The School Council recently attended the unveiling of an incredible memorial at the Parc Tawe interchange. The children represented the school in a fantastic manner and were proud to be in attendance.





St Thomas Community Primary School Newsletter



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Big Emotions Workshops for Families

Over the past few months, families have had the opportunity to take part in workshops to support their child in big emotions, as part of our link to Primary CAMHS, Schools In Reach. I hope those who attended, found them useful.

Ospreys Bouncing Back and Action for Children

Since November, Year 6 children have participated in 'Bouncing Back' sessions with Ospreys Rugby and Action for Children. The sessions linked physical movement and resilience training to develop the children's mental health. We are also grateful for their mental health first aid kits.



Winter Fayre and Raffles

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Winter fayre such a success and to all of you who contributed to our raffles. It's been amazing to see so many families supporting us; thank you. We have already used some of the money raised to provide the children with a free Christmas disco which I hope they enjoyed!

Christmas Community Celebration

As a community school, it was great to be able to open our doors for another Community Christmas celebration. The choir sang beautifully and it was a joy to bring different parts of our St. Thomas community together for Christmas.



Attendance Target for the Year – 93%

Attendance so far this year – 90%

We have had a lot of illness this term but hopefully we can pick our attendance back up in the new year. Letters will be going out in the new year, to anyone where attendance is currently below 85, to see how we can help attendance improve going forward.

Bumbles of Honeywood

Miss. Dennis' class have recently taken part in a Bumbles of Honeywood session, where they developed their understanding of sustainability, wellbeing, inclusion and diversity. We are very appreciative of Eastside Insurance for continuing to act as our sponsor for his initiative.

InclusAbility Assemblies

Inclusivity and belonging is really important to our school family. As well as an important assembly this term on Diversity, Inclusion and Discrimination from Mr Dwyer, we were also visited by InclusAbility who delivered engaging sessions for children in Years 3 to 6. This celebrated diversity and raised awareness of the importance of being inclusive. A big thank you to Anthony and Roisin for coming in and we look forward to working with you more in the future.



Important Dates

End of Autumn Term – Thursday 19th December, 2024
INSET DAY – Monday 6th January, 2025 – no school for pupils
Start of Spring Term – Tuesday, 7th January 2025
End of Spring Half Term – Friday 21st February, 2025
Return after Spring Half Term – Monday 3rd March, 2025
School Eisteddfod – Tuesday 4th March, 2025
End of Spring Term – Friday 11th April, 2025

Have a lovely holiday and we will see you back in school on...

Tuesday, 7th January 2025

