

Our value this half term is

equality

Dear parents/ carers,

As it comes to the end of another half term, I wanted to share our Coed-Y-Lan news from the Summer term so far.

It has been another action packed few weeks. Our topic this half term has been 'From Pontypridd to Mbale,' and the children have explored the similarities and differences between living and going to school in Pontypridd compared with living and going to school in our partner school in Mbale, Uganda.

The children have researched various aspects of life in Uganda. They have also looked at the physical and human features of Pontypridd. At the end of the topic, the children will produce an education pack to be shared with our partner school telling them all about Pontypridd.

This half term we have continued to work hard on developing our garden and outdoor learning area. Unfortunately, we were unable to proceed with our planned 'Ground-force' parent volunteering day as we didn't have enough participants. However, we have been extremely lucky that two companies have supported us by sending members of staff to volunteer in the garden. We can't thank the staff of V12 Finance and PWC enough for all their hard-work. The garden and outdoor learning areas are both looking fantastic, and the children are thoroughly enjoying their time in the outdoors.

Next, we intend to work on the yard areas which are looking a little drab! After half-term the children will be doing a sponsored 'Mile-A-Day,' for the first week back. The funds we raise will be used to pay for new playground markings to brighten up the yard areas. Sponsorship forms will be sent out at the end of this half term.

In response to parent requests to streamline communications, we have introduced Parenthub. The app is a quick and easy way to receive general school messages, updates and reminders, and it also allows you to give instant consent for school trips. Please read the messages when they are received, and sign up for the app if you haven't already.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and the sun shines.

Warm regards,

#### Estyn Re-visit

At the beginning of May, we received a further re-visit from Estyn to monitor the progress we are making towards addressing the recommendations in our post inspection action plan. Overall It was another very positive visit. They recognised the extensive work we have done on designing a bespoke curriculum that meets the needs of our learners.

They also praised the robust ALN processes that are now in place to ensure each child's individual needs are met. Despite the positive feedback, currently we remain in the 'special measures' category.



#### **Enrichment Activities**



As well as planning an engaging and interesting curriculum that reflects our context and the needs of our school community, we also aim to give the children as many interesting and varied opportunities that enrich the curriculum as we can. In a time of decreasing budgets, this can be challenging, but we try to be as creative as we can to find ways to bring the curriculum to life, and to capitalise on any opportunities that come our way. This week we will be taking the children to a basketball tournament in Ystrad Rhondda, and we have secured free tickets to the Hay Literary Festival. Here are just a few examples of other activities we have done this term to enrich the curriculum;

- Outdoor learning and growing with David Harris from Grow Rhondda
- Kerbcraft-road safety awareness
- Size of Wales- deforestation workshop
- 2Be Enterprising project- 'Turn honey into money'
- Dragon's Den pitches to the PTA
- Technocamps

## **Community Links**

We have also been very fortunate this term to have benefited from the generosity of local companies and members of our community. As well as our friends from V12 and PWC supporting us by volunteering to help in our garden, our Eco committee also received a donation from Nigel Wheeler of NW Consultancy to purchase litter picking equipment.

Walters construction company came to work with the children to decorate bird houses and the Principality building society supported our enterprise project

These community links are something we would like to develop further. If any of our parents work for companies who can support us by offering sponsorship or volunteering opportunities please let us know.

We would also like to develop a volunteering partnership with parents and grandparents who are able to support us from time to time e.g. reading volunteers, volunteers to accompany us on local walks, or volunteers who could help in gardening club. As there is a local authority policy regarding volunteering to work with the children, we would need to complete all the relevant checks. If any of our parents or grandparents/ family members would like to volunteer, please get in touch with Mrs Owen to fill in the relevant forms.





#### **Attendance matters**



During the Summer term we have seen a significant increase in the number of holiday forms we are receiving. We are very conscious of the increased cost of holidays during the school break periods, and understand that some family events are unavoidably organised during term time, but please support us by keeping these to a **minimum**.

The school and local authority policy is that we can only authorise a maximum of 10 days in any school year, and only if the child has attendance of at least 95%. We are unable to authorise any term time holidays if attendance falls below 95%.

We have also noticed an increase in appointments being organised during the school day. Whilst we understand sometimes this is not by choice e.g. hospital appointments, wherever possible dentist, doctor and optician appointments should be organised for after school, weekends or during the holidays. Other appointments should always be organised outside school hours.

May I also remind everyone that school starts at 9.00am. Persistent lateness can also impact on your child's learning. By missing the first 10-15 minutes of the day children are missing the vital input to their reading session.

# 'Dragons Den' with the PTA

Our pupil voice committees presented 'pitches' to the PTA requesting small amounts of funding to support their campaigns. The children all presented impressively and every committee was awarded with the funding requested. Thanks PTA





# Outdoor Learning











# Technocamps





# The Size of Wales

Meeting Elon the elephant and learning about the importance of buying Fairtrade products.



















## 2Be Enterprising



2Bee Enterprising and the The Principality Building Society issued Dosbarth Helyg with the Bumblebees of Honeywood challenge to 'turn honey into money.' They certainly rose to the challenge! They researched different products they could make with honey, found a recipe and made their own healthy lemonade. The children raised nearly £100. They worked out their costs and how much profit they'd made. Their earnings will be put in a building society account to earn interest. This was a fantastic learning opportunity as well as lots of fun.

# Outdoor Learning



## Waste Free Wednesday



Our Eco and Healthy Schools Committees worked together to arrange a Waste Free Wednesday to promote both healthier lunchboxes and to focus on reducing plastic waste at lunchtimes. It was a great success and this is something we would like to do more next term

# The Rights Respecting School Committee's visit from the Children's Commissioner for Wales' office







Sophie Williams came to school today to share what the Children's Commissioner for Wales' role is. She told us that Rocio Cifuentes is the Children's commissioner and that her job is to listen to children, protect them and to speak up for them.

She explained that The Rights of a Child are to keep us all safe, healthy and happy.

The monthly matters is a resource to collect children's views via an on line survey and she invited us to participate in May's issue which was all about break time

- What do we like about break? What could we change to make it better? Do you ever miss break? Why?

We are all looking forward in participating in the June issue.



# PTA Summer Fete Friday 21st June 3pm



The PTA are looking for volunteers to help set up and look after stalls in the school Fete on Friday 21st June. If you can help please get in touch with the PTA. They are looking for donations of pre-loved books and toys, and raffle prizes. These can be sent in to school.

The PTA's work is a vital source of funds for the school. It helps us provide all the wonderful enrichment activities you can see in this newsletter, so if you can help, please do.



# Dates for your Diary

Friday 19th July	End of term
Wednesday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers assembly (am)
Friday 12th July	Annual reports to parents
Thursday 11th July	Evening event- Year 5&6 prom
Thursday 11th July	Year 5 transition Pontypridd High School ( To be confirmed by PHS)
Tuesday 9th- Thursday 11th July	Year 6 transition Cardinal Newman
Friday 5th July	Sports Day- 1pm Sardis Road
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery new starters transition session 9.30-10.30am
, ,	Years 1-6 Wales Millennium Centre 'Madagascar'
Friday 28th June	Dosbarth Celyn- Colliers fun farm
Thursday 27th June	Evening event- Pontypridd High School, Year 6 transition showcase of their learning during the week.
Mon 24th- Thurs 27th June	Year 6 - Pontypridd High School transition week
Mon 24th- Wed 26th June	Book Fair each day 3.15pm in the hall
Friday 21st June	PTA Summer Fete- Coed-Y-Lan Primary School hall- details to follow
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery new starters transition session 9.30-10.30am
	playground markings to brighten up our yard.
Monday 3rd-Friday 7th June	Sponsored 'Mile a Day' The children will participate in walking a daily mile (shorter for nursery and reception) to raise money for new
Monday 3rd June	Return to school
	End of half term
Friday 24th May	'Times Tables Rockstars' Launch- Come to school dressed as a rock star
Thursday 23rd May	Hay Festival visit- Year 5&6
Wednesday 22nd May	Basketball tournament Y5&6-Ystrad Sports Centre
Monday 20th May	Tempest class photos- please wear school uniform

# If you haven't already, please follow these instructions to join parent hub



## Coedylan Primary School

would like you to join their school on Parent Hub.

Just tap "Join a School" in the app and enter the handle below...

## @Coedylan

The Parent Hub app is FREE to download and use.





What is Parent Hub?



Parent Hub is a FREE app that helps keep you up to date with what's going on at school. You'll receive messages, pictures, documents and newsletters, all in one handy place.

#### Instructions for Parents



- Download the Parent Hub app from your app store (iPhone or Android).
- Create yourself an account.
- 3. Choose "Join a School" and enter the school handle (above).

Visit www.parenthub.co.uk to find out more