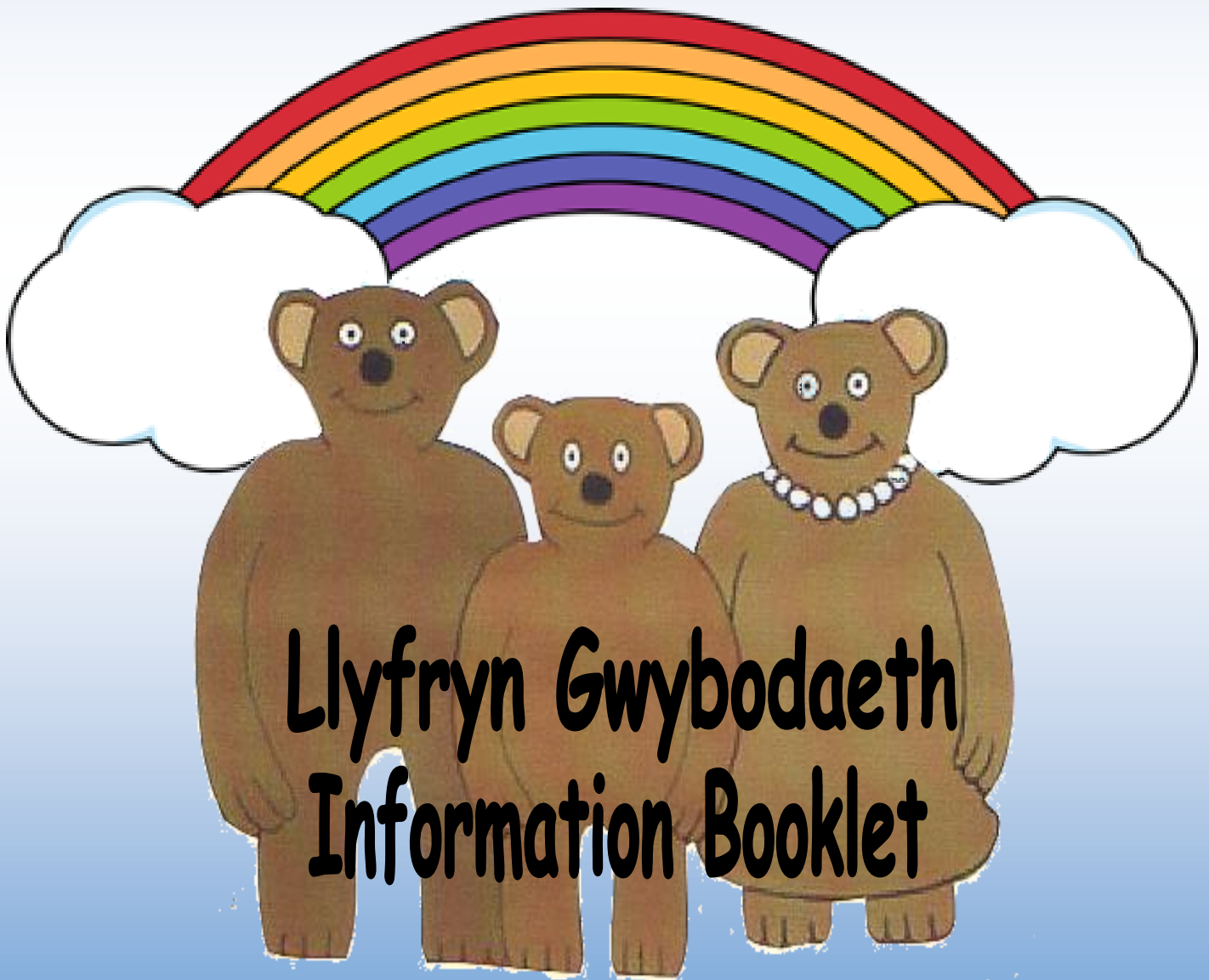


Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbrân

Dosbarth Meithrin

Nursery Class



Llyfryn Gwybodaeth
Information Booklet

Dysgu a chyflawni gyda'n gilydd

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbrân. We are confident that your child's time with us will be a happy one. We hope that this handbook will be of use to you and that it will answer any questions you may have.

Diolch yn fawr!

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbrân

Henllys Way

St Dials

Cwmbrân

Torfaen

NP44 4HB

Telephone: 01633 483383

Website: www.ysgolgymraegcwmbbran.co.uk

Twitter: @YGCwmbran

Schoop ID: 10319

Headteacher: Miss Catrin Evans

Chair of Governors: Mrs Jo Lewis



Cawsom Iaith i'w Chadw

Arrangements for starting in the Nursery:

Starting in the Nursery is a big step for children and we endeavour to make the process as easy as possible for them. A meeting is arranged for the new Nursery parents and children in the summer term before the children's entry to the Nursery in the following September. Children are welcome to come along to see the class and meet the staff who will be looking after them.

Nursery Hours

Morning session: 9:00 - 11.30

Afternoon session: 1:00 - 3:30

It is important that you bring and collect your child from Nursery on time. Please drop off and collect your child from the Nursery entrance which will be opened at the beginning and end of each session.

Morning session:

Bringing your child to Nursery: The double gates adjacent to the Nursery building will be opened before the start of the session at 8:45. Bring your child through these gates and to the Nursery gate, where your child will be greeted by a member of staff.

Collecting your child: The double gates adjacent to the Nursery building will be opened at the end of the session for collection of your child. Exit via this gate also.

Afternoon session:

Bringing your child to Nursery: The double gates adjacent to the Nursery building will be opened before the start of the session at 12:55. Bring your child through these gates and to the Nursery gate, where your child will be greeted by a member of staff.

Collecting your child: The double gates adjacent to the Nursery building will be opened at the end of the session for collection of your child. Exit via this gate also.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to park on the school site when dropping or collecting your child.



Helping your child to settle

Encourage your child to be independent - it gives them confidence.

When your child starts in the Nursery, it will help your child if he / she is able to:

- Go to the toilet independently, pull the flush and then wash and dry their hands. (It is important that the children understand the importance of washing hands well so that germs that could make them ill are not passed on.) It is expected that the children are toilet trained before starting in school and are able to wipe themselves independently.
- Look after their belongings e.g. putting their coat on the peg and recognising their coat.
- Dress themselves e.g. coat, jumper, socks and shoes after P.E lessons.
- Recognise their name e.g. on their peg, book etc.
- Tidy and take responsibility for toys and equipment.
- Eat independently e.g. hold a cup correctly, place fruit in the bin after snack time.



Home and School Links

Co-operation between the school and home is very important to us. If you have any concerns regarding your child, you are welcome to contact the school and make an appointment to discuss them.

We also arrange different open afternoons for you throughout the year e.g. art and cooking sessions where you are invited into school to work with your child.

Illness and Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school, would you please telephone and notify the school **as soon as possible on the day of your child's session?** We will contact you if your child is taken ill at school and it is important therefore that your contact details are kept up to date.

Medication

If your child needs to be given medication or an asthma pump while at school, you will need to fill in a permission form and ensure that your child's name is on the medication.

Daily Snack

The children are provided with a daily drink of milk at 'snack time'. You are also welcome to send a **bottle of water (only)** in with your child as we encourage the children to drink often during the session. We will happily re-fill empty bottles.

You are also welcome to send in a piece of prepared fruit daily with your child.



It is very important that you let us know if your child has any food allergies of any kind.

School Uniform

In order for children to feel they 'belong' to the school, we encourage children across the school to wear the school uniform. The school colours are red and grey. The children may wear a grey skirt / trousers / tracksuit bottoms or something similar with a red cardigan / jumper with the school badge. It is possible to order the school uniform from Pretty Miss, Cwmbrân.

Phone: 01633 484408. **Website:** www.kidsschoolkits.com

Please ensure your child's name is on every item of clothing.

Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for the weather. We shall be going outside in all weather
- rain, snow, wind and sun.



Spare Clothes

Accidents do happen therefore, when your child starts in Nursery, would you please send in a bag of spare clothes labelled with your child's name? The bag can be kept in school until it is needed. Please also ensure that the bag is refilled when clothes have been used.

Physical Education

There are two P.E. sessions a week:

One outside session: For this session, we will be using the climbing frame and bikes etc so your child won't need to wear a P.E kit.

One inside session: For this session, we kindly ask that you dress your child in a P.E. kit e.g. a tracksuit or leggings with a T-shirt etc. They can come to school dressed in these clothes on the day of the lesson as this will mean less time changing the children etc. The session inside will be done barefoot so, if your child has shoes with velcro, this would be a great help to us.



Before writing and reading

Before your child begins to write they need to:

- Be able to draw a complex figure with details;
- Enjoy using a pencil and be able to use it correctly; (never correct a left handed child)
- Notice small differences in similar pictures; (letters can be very similar e.g. p, b, d)
- Follow a line with their finger;
- Overwrite lines; (straight and curved)
- Have lots of experience of and enjoy pretend writing;
- Follow and copy a sequence.



Before your child begins to read they need to:

- Enjoy listening to stories and want to read;
- Handle books correctly;
- Talk about pictures;
- Notice details and differences;
- Find two pictures the same;
- Know that print carries meaning;
- Notice words in places other than books; (labels on food, clothes, signs etc.)
- Know that a story is read from left to right and top to bottom;
- Be able to copy and follow a sequence;
- Recognise most sounds;
- Recognise some words e.g. their name, family names etc.



Discipline

Discipline in Ysgol Gymraeg Cwibrân is firm but fair and consistent.

The children are taught how to, and are expected to treat all the class resources with care and to tidy after themselves. The children are praised regularly. If you or your child have concerns, please speak to the class teacher. We believe it is very important to share information. The school will speak to you if they have any concerns so that we can work together to overcome them.

Our aims and objectives in the early years

"Children learn through first-hand experiential activities with the serious business of 'play' providing the vehicle..... "

"First-hand experiences allow children to develop an understanding of themselves and the world in which they live."

(Framework for children's Learning for 3-7 year olds.)

We aim to do this by providing an environment which is safe and appealing; where children's efforts are appreciated; activities are differentiated, are inclusive and practical and encourage children's independence.



Curriculum for Wales

Language, literacy and communication:

In this area of learning, the children will study a variety of stories and poems and communicate in spoken, written or visual ways. We encourage the use of the Welsh language throughout the school day activities.

How you can help:

Give your child opportunities to experiment and make marks. Help your child recognise and build their name. There are programmes for the children on Cyw on S4C every day. Frequently read a variety of stories with your child.

Mathematics and Numeracy:

In this area of learning, the children will develop their understanding of numbers and use symbols in maths. They'll explore concepts relating to number, shape, space, pattern, weight, measuring, money and volume through a variety of practical activities.

How you can help:

You can draw their attention to mathematical skills during day to day life e.g. numbers on signs, counting objects, playing number games, adding and taking away objects, counting steps as you walk, count money when you shop and measure and weigh ingredients when cooking.

Humanities:

In this area of learning the children will learn about their homes, society and the world around them, focusing on events in the past and present. The children will explore the challenges and opportunities that face humanity and how we can safeguard the world and its people in the future.

How you can help:

Draw attention to these things as the opportunity arises during day to day life. Help the children understand diversity and culture and discuss their habitat, society and the wider world.



Curriculum for Wales

Science and Technology:

In this area of learning, your child will learn about physical science, computing and design and technology. They will learn about design and engineering, living things, matter, forces and energy and how computers work.

How you can help:

Give your child opportunities to experiment with a variety of materials e.g. water, sand and natural materials found outdoors.

Give your child opportunities to follow step-by-step instructions to reach an end goal.

Expressive Arts:

In this area of learning, your child will develop their creative, artistic and performance skills through the exploration of art, dance, music, drama, film and digital media.

How you can help:

By giving your child opportunities to use a variety of materials e.g. pencils, crayons, collage material, paint, scissors glue etc. Encouraging your child to sing and to listen to different types of music and to use simple instruments to make their own. Provide opportunities for your child to play imaginatively and to role play.

Health and Well-being:

In this area the children will develop these skills across all areas of learning. Health and well-being is about looking after their physical and mental health including emotional well-being. The children will learn about themselves and their relationships with others within their family, as well as outside the home. We encourage them to communicate with others and to be confident, independent and responsible. They'll also learn about a balanced diet and making good decisions.

How you can help:

Talk positively to them about friends, relationships etc. Encourage them to respect others, be independent and responsible e.g. tidying toys, getting dressed, sharing with others.



Frequently Asked Questions

What are the advantages of my child being bilingual?	Research shows that children who understand more than one language are able to think more flexibly and creatively. There are economic advantages, as increasingly in Wales employers are asking for bilingual skills. This is true for all areas of Wales not just in the predominantly Welsh speaking parts of Wales. Bilingualism provides opportunities to experience two different cultures. You see aspects of Wales in a different way. Two languages - twice the choice!
Is Welsh a difficult language to learn?	No! In a supportive atmosphere, any child can learn to speak Welsh. Their brains soak in language like sponges. Learning a language is much harder for an adult.
Do children mix up the two languages?	At the start, a few children will use a mix of both languages, but they soon learn to separate them, and will use whichever language the person talking to them uses. Research shows that speaking more than one language helps them learn and understand other languages.
I can't speak Welsh. How can I help my child?	Support your child and show pleasure and pride in their ability to speak Welsh. If you feel confident enough try using some Welsh words, for example, colours and numbers. Take an active interest in all aspects of your child's life and discuss what they have learned. It is good to reinforce what they have learned in Welsh by discussing in English. Encourage any Welsh speakers you know to use the language with your child. There are lots of other ideas on how to help your child within the handbook.
What if one parent can speak Welsh?	This is a common situation. It is important that the parent who can speak Welsh speaks it as often as possible. There is no need for the non-Welsh speaking parent to feel left out as children usually take great pleasure in translating for them! Their contribution is equally as important.
I like to read with my child, does it have to be in Welsh?	No, it's the reading that's important. Once your child has learned to read, they will transfer the same reading skills between English and Welsh.

