On behalf of the pupils staff and governors I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mrs S Coombes – Headteacher

Richly deserved recognition

We are very proud and delighted to announce that the staff of our Special Resource Base, Dosbarth Enfys, have quite rightly had their professionalism and commitment recognised by the ‘Understanding Disability Group’. At the Understanding Disability Awards 2018 presentation evening Dosbarth Enfys were hailed for their work in challenging attitudes towards people with learning disabilities.

Who’s Rudolph’s favorite singer? Beyon-sleigh!

Governors’ news

Mr Dave Thomson, our chair of governors, has recently stepped down from this role after five years of untiring service to the school community. We are hugely grateful to him for his commitment and his obvious passion for ensuring that we continue to strive to be the very best that we can be. While Mr Thomson will stay on as a governor, he is succeeded by Mr Paul Thomas, one of our community governors.

Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws!

Christmas Concert - Bethany

On Thursday 6th December 2018, Llanishen Fach primary school choir went and performed at Bethany Baptist Church to raise money for the Bloodwise charity. We were joined by the Cardiff Arms Park Male Voice Choir; we had a lovely time singing Suo Gan and Little Drummer Boy/ Peace on Earth together. Also, we sang our own songs: A Spaceman Came Travelling, Merry Christmas Everyone, Rocking Around the Christmas Tree and Calypso Carol. After we sang our songs, two former pupils, Olivia Brown and Chloe Palmer, played the clarinet and the piano to traditional Christmas songs.

What carol do they sing in the desert? O Camel Ye Faithful!

Christmas nativity performances

We are well and truly into the festive season now that rehearsing and preparations for our Christmas concerts have come to fruition. Last week saw our Foundation Phase pupils sharing their take on the traditional nativity story, ‘Inn-Spectors!’. Their wonderful performances reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas while having a bit of a giggle in the process.
Our Key Stage 2 pupils took us back to 1918 in what was a moving and thought-provoking version of the nativity story. Not to be outdone our nursery pupils performed their heart-warming take on the nativity play, ‘It’s a Baby’, a magical occasion enjoyed by proud parents, siblings and staff alike.

DVDs of all the performances are available to order at a cost of £10.00.

What kind of music do elves listen to? Wrap!

Siarter Iaith Gymraeg
The children continue to demonstrate great enthusiasm for speaking Welsh and their confidence in using the language is growing from week to week. Siarter Iaith Gymraeg (Welsh Language Charter), launched to promote and increase the use of Welsh in schools, is really becoming embedded in the daily life of our school and it is a pleasure to hear little snippets of Welsh conversation as you walk around the classrooms and the playground.

The ‘Criw Gymraeg’, a very enthusiastic group of pupils from Year 4 to Year 6, who are spearheading this initiative, continue to lead the weekly Welsh Assembly for KS2 and have started to assist the staff and children of the Foundation Phase in their own Welsh assembly. During the week, they actively encourage others to speak Welsh and congratulate their peers when they do so.

We have looked at some online games to help the children practise and use their Welsh vocabulary. Why not have a look at some of the games yourself at home and see how you get on? Lots of different fun activities can be found at: https://www.learn-welsh.net/welshgames

The positive attitude of the children and staff means that we are gradually completing more targets towards the Gwobr Efyd (Bronze Award). You can see our progress on the display board in the Rainbow Corridor.

Finally, Criw Gymraeg would like to wish you all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Da!

Leading the way to keep the local community safe online!
This term our pupils, with the support of our digital leaders, have again been leading the way in informing and supporting the local community in the ever-changing world of digital technologies. Pupils, parents and other family members are increasingly engaged in online activities, be it on social media or in other aspects of their personal and professional lives.

As digital leaders we have learnt what is safe to do on the internet, what to do if you get a mean message, how to use different messages and what will make a good password. Now we can share this with our class.
By Oliver: Year Five L.F.P.S. Reporter

The point of digital leaders is to help people online, keep them safe and happy and try and stop cyber bullying.
By Matthew and Karim: Year Five L.F.P.S. Reporter

In addition, our digital leaders designed a survey for parents to complete. This sought to learn about parents’ perceptions and to determine how best the school can support our wider school community in the future, as the digital landscape around us continues to grow.

Scan the QR code or visit the digital parents area of our school website where you will find a wealth of guidance and information to help you stay safe online.

Digital Leaders are bursting with information and are ready to explore the internet plus make it a safer place to be.
By Isobel, Leah, Jasmine and Olivia: Year Five L.F.P.S. Reporter

Our Year 6 ‘digital heroes’ have been working with the wonderful residents at St Isan’s Residential Home in Llanishen. The pupils have been breaking down the digital generation gap, exploring musical memories from the past and even joining in with a singsong!

Miss Julie Prosser, Year 6 teacher said: “...it has been very special to see the intergenerational digital divide bridged this afternoon.”

Both pupils and residents were eager to explore apps such as Google maps and Google images to look at pictures of north Cardiff and the wider community.

The pupils have been working in partnership with a programme called ‘Digital Communities Wales’, a Welsh Government Project delivered by the Wales Co-operative Centre.

Danielle from Digital Communities Wales said on twitter “The #DigitalHeroes were wonderful and the residents had a lovely time. Well done all!”
You can find out more about this excellent project at: www.digitalcommunities.gov.wales
Mr C Jones
**Breakfast club**
Please be reminded when dropping off at breakfast club that all pupils in Year 5 and below must be accompanied to the registration desk, located at the foot of the Year 3 stairs, and signed in. (This does not apply to Year 5 with prior signed consent.) Doors open at 8:20am with no admittance after 8:45am.

**Travelling to Bethlehem**
Year 1 and Year 3 were recently privileged to visit Rhiwbina Baptist Church to take part in their ‘Through the Keyhole’ retelling of the nativity story. The children participated enthusiastically as they ‘travelled’ from home to home investigating clues left by the key characters of the Christmas story before arriving in Bethlehem and entering the stable to be greeted by Joseph and Mary and the rest of the cast.

The visit brought the story to life in a magical and engaging way. A big thank you to all those involved, it was a truly immersive experience.

**Lost property**
Despite the best effort of the staff and pupils of Year 5 we still have a lot of unclaimed uniform etc. In an attempt to reunite pupils with their belongings there will again be a display of unclaimed items towards the start of 2019.

**Multitalented at multisports**
*Last week we were at the sports centre for a multisports competition. We played boccia, football, badminton, jumping, hopping, running, sorting and curling. We had three teams, we all did really well, my team won a silver medal. Written with the help of Finn: Dosbarth Enfys L.F.P.S. Reporter*

**Competition success**
As has become expected, there was fantastic effort displayed by all our Year 4 and Year 5 teams at the regional heats of the Welsh Primary Schools Novice competition. The gymnastic U9 boys and U9 girls stretched, tumbled and sprang all the way to bronze medals.

A great effort by our Year 5 and Year 6 cross country teams saw the Year 5 boys and girls teams qualify for the south Wales primary schools final. With approximately 80 children competing in the final, the competition was tough.

**What happened when Santa got stuck in a chimney?**
He felt Claus-trophobic!

**How does Darth Vader like his Christmas turkey?**
*On the dark side!*

**How does Santa keep track of all the places he’s visited?**
*He keeps a logbook!*

**What kind of motorcycle does Santa ride?**
*A Holly Davidson!*

**Our Trip to the Gate Theatre**
We went in the big bus. It was hot in it. When we got to Treasure Island it was silly and funny. The Captain was funny too. They made a sea cake. It was very messy and got everywhere! The pirates had a fight with water pistols and it was a very silly thing for a pirate to do. One of the songs at the end was ‘Pirates like to sail’. They had a lot of cool songs. The lights were moving and the people were talking like real pirates. It was very fun!
*By Catrin: Year Two L.F.P.S. Reporter*

**I went to see ‘Treasure Island’ on a school trip. It was fun. I liked the pirates. They were funny. They made a sea cake using flour and baked beans and cream and then one of them put it on his head. I laughed as it was really funny. They found a treasure map and they followed it and they found the treasure. It was gold! It was shiny and glittery. It was a fun trip!**
*By Poppy: Year Two L.F.P.S. Reporter*

**Which side of a turkey has the most feathers?**
*The outside!*

**Clubs news**
With a few exceptions, the majority of lunchtime and afterschool clubs will be starting up again in the second week back after Christmas. The sports clubs which rely heavily on sufficient light and outside areas will start later in the term with participants being informed at the start of next term.
Why did nobody bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay? They were two deer!

PE kit
If your child hasn’t already, they shall soon be bringing home their PE kit which won’t be required now until the start of the new term in January. Any item that isn’t returned may well have found its way to the lost property display, which is definitely worth a look.

Term dates
The new spring term starts on Monday 7th January and finishes on Friday 12th April. Half-term is the week starting Monday 25th February. Friday 8th February is a planned INSET day.

What did the farmer get for Christmas? A cowculator!

School dinner money
For those who prefer to pay their dinner money in advance the spring 1 term totals are:
7 weeks @ £12.50 per week (minus one INSET day). Total = £85.00

What happened to the man who stole an advent calendar? He got 25 days!

Healthy and Confident
We have had so many opportunities to try different sports this term through our participation in the Cardiff Games. From an aquathon to table tennis, from cyclo-cross to skiing with climbing, gymnastics and various multi-sport competitions along the way, our pupils have given 100% in everything they have entered.

Boccia success
A while ago Dosbarth Enfys went to the sports centre to play boccia against other children from around Cardiff. When you play you have to roll the ‘jack’ and then roll the blue and red balls to get closest to the jack. We had two teams; Poppy, Caden and Evan were the winning team. I felt happy when we played boccia. We were the champions!

Written with the help of Finn: Dosbarth Enfys L.F.P.S. Reporter

Festive fun
Due to a clash with our Christmas performances we moved our support for the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day to Thursday 20th December. We have been marking this very important awareness raising campaign by encouraging our staff and pupils to dig out their Christmas clothing and or Christmas bling (nothing new required). So go on ’make the world better with a sweater’ or a novelty hat, Rudolph nose or anything else Christmassy you find at the bottom of the dressing up box. Voluntary Save the Children donations are being collected during the day.

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck? A Christmas quacker!

FOLF news
It has been another successful term for our school’s PTA, FOLF. The money raised is always greatly appreciated and put to good use but the pleasure and enjoyment our events provide shouldn’t be overlooked either. The Scaries and Fairies disco was phenomenally successful, attracting record numbers of pupils, each in fancy dress, and raising £2,241 for the school in the process. Other events have included a craft fair, Rags2Riches collection and the FOLF Christmas Party. As ever a massive thank you goes out to all our FOLF volunteers, without whom these events would never get off the ground.

... and finally
Well here we are again at the end of another year. No two days, let alone years, are ever the same at Llanishen Fach but what stays the same is the determination our staff show in ensuring we provide the very best learning opportunities for our pupils. A backward glance through our 2018 newsletters will provide ample confirm that we have again gone the extra mile for all our pupils and the wider school community.

So as our thoughts turn to time spent with our loved ones and a Christmas lunch, with all the trimmings, the pupils, staff and governors would like to wish you all a very joyous Christmas and a happy New Year.

We will see you again on Monday 7th January 2019

What is a Christmas quacker? A duck in a Christmas jumper!