

Dyddiadau i'r dyddiadur Dates for the Diary



February 28th – 3rd March Welsh Week and St David's Day

March 1st Y3 Kinetic School of Performing Arts

March 1st Happy St David's Day! Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus! Wear Welsh costumes, red, Brownies, Cub, Scout uniforms.

March 2nd Strike – school open for 3G and 6G only

March 3rd Y6 Kinetic School of Performing Arts

March 3rd 17th 24th 31st 9-9.45am RG – Parents, come on in and see how to help your child with their early reading – all welcome!

March 6th Year 1 Local walk

March 6th Reception – Hearing re-screening.

March 6th to 10th Parents, come in to your child's class to share in our modern, multicultural Eisteddfod. Look out for your invite!

March 7th Y4 to the Pavilion

March 8th Y6 International Women's Day – Microsoft Session

March 15th and 16th Strike – classes open to be determined

March 17th Red Nose Day

March 21st and 28th Parents' Evenings – a chance to chat with your child's teacher and see how they are doing.

March 28th Colorfoto – class photos and Y6 individual

3rd April – 14th April Easter Holidays

April 17th 6G – Sony coding

April 18th 6P – Sony coding

April 20th Eid Parties – wear your party clothes!

21st April INSET DAY – School closed to pupils

1st May Bank holiday

8th May King's Coronation Bank Holiday

29th May – 2nd June Half Term Holiday

July 24th INSET DAY – School closed to pupils



Article 14: Children have the right to freedom of thought, belief and religion
Article 30. Children have the right to use their own language, culture and religion - even if these are not shared by most people in the country where they live.



We will be inviting donations to help the people of Turkey and Syria following February's devastating earthquake.

Buckets will be available for you to donate at our multicultural Eisteddfod.

NEU Strike Action

Thursday 2nd March: School open to 3G and 6G.

Breakfast Club will be open to children in 3G and 6G
 While we all hope the dispute can be settled swiftly, further strikes are planned. Details of which classes will be open will be shared as soon as possible. Please start to consider childcare for these dates, in case the class is closed.

Further strike dates:

Wednesday 15th March – After school clubs will be closed

Thursday 16th March

Halfway Round Up – what have we been up to?

We're just over halfway through the academic year – so it's a good time to catch up on where we are!

Our Curriculum – what have your children been learning and why?

Parents – you were surveyed about the curriculum in Feb '22. You put academic subjects – literacy, maths and science as the areas you felt were the most important areas of learning. There are through all units of learning and most strongly in UoL 2 and 5. We have also been taking your written feedback from the Family Afternoons, where you have been able to visit school and have your child talk you through their books and their learning.

Why? Our Vision says we want children to ...	Why? To meet CfW 4 Purposes	So what will they learn? Unit of Learning (UoL)
feel physically and emotionally safe, fit and happy.	<i>Healthy, confident individuals</i>	1. Body Ready, Brain Ready
be literate, numerate and technologically able...and to value the Arts and creativity	<i>Ambitious, capable learners</i> <i>Enterprising, creative contributors</i>	2. Story Listener, Teller, Maker 5. Maths is Magic!
include and respect everyone - celebrating our differences and sameness.	<i>Ethical, informed citizens</i>	3. Winter Celebrations Around the World 4. Pwy Ydym Ni? Pwy Ydw i?

What will they learn next...?

Well, the new curriculum is all about responding to children's needs. As a staff, we know that our children need to learn more about applying their maths, securing their basic maths skills and understanding our world would be a very different place without maths! So, our UoL 5 will be focused on exploring Maths and how it contributes to our world – after all, *Maths is Magic! Keep an eye out for the overview.*



Our School Improvement Plan

Curriculum for Wales (CfW).

Lead member of staff: Sian Chase We are well on our way to implementing the CfW. All our learning is based on the mandatory (must) and statutory (should) elements. We're working hard with the Fitzalan cluster of schools to ensure we understand what progression looks like across our schools. See our curriculum summary on the website here: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/grangetown-primary-school/UploadedDocument/b5c56eb9-f269-4c54-a7e3-c1033c541a9d/curriculum-policy-3.pdf>

Learning and Teaching.

Lead member of staff: Nicki Herbert We have been working hard on developing our understanding of learning and teaching theory. We are using research to drive our work – Rosenshine's Principles of Progression and Metacognition are our key drivers.

Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal Act (ALNET)

Lead member of staff: Alyssa White We are working on implementing the new approach to meeting any additional learning needs children may have. We are writing Individual Development Plans (IDPs) for children who need one and changing statements over to IDPs. See more information on our website here: <https://www.grangetownprimary.com/aln-additional-learning-needs-anghenion-dysgu-ychw/>

Maths

Lead member of staff: Erin Lock We are working to develop our approach to maths in the CfW. Our UoL 5 will focus on maths, and staff will explore the 5 Proficiencies which lead to children's progress. See maths in CfW here: <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales/mathematics-and-numeracy/principles-of-progression>

Reading...

Reading is a basic in any curriculum. We know that good readers do well. Promoting a love of reading, as well as reading to learn, is really important. We are currently upgrading our library and books. Look out for updates and pictures in next month's Newsletter!



RSE

The heads from all the primary schools in the Fitzalan Cluster continue to work on developing RSE for our cluster. Using feedback from parents lessons and resources are being constructed. A joint letter from all heads giving an update on the progress will be shared soon.

Thank you for your patience.



Article 28: Children have the right to an education.

Attendance Matters!

School starts at 8.55am
Gates shut at 9am.



Current Attendance is: 87.6% **Our target for July is: 92%**
#EveryDayMatters

We know that the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, along with current illnesses, continues to affect attendance in all schools across Wales.

We need to get attendance back on track, but we can't do it without you!

We all know good attendance is important for every child. Good attendance means children progress well in school, they have every chance of succeeding and of reaching their full potential.

Every day your child is in school matters and every day counts.

What attendance means:		Over a year, this means that your child misses...
100%	Excellent	0 days of school.
95%	Good	10 days of school.
90%	Unsatisfactory	20 days of school.
85%	Very worrying	Half a term of school.
Less than 85%	Serious concern	Over 2 months of school.

Need help with getting your child into school?

Our school cluster has recently appointed a new School Attendance Officer (SAO), Ahmed Hassan. He will work closely with the Deputy Headteacher, Nicki Herbert, to ensure we are doing all we can to support families in getting children to attend school regularly.

If you have any questions, or are worried about your child's attendance, please speak with either the class teacher or with Mrs Herbert.

By working together, we will improve the attendance for your child and for all our children.

Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN)

Cardiff Council's Policy is that **persistent absence** and **lateness** may lead to a FPN.

We really don't want to request these; we want to work with you.

Here are some of the reasons why a FPN may be requested and issued:

- 10, or more, unauthorised absences (5 school days) in the current term and these do not need to be consecutive;
- Children arrive after 9.30am for more than 10 sessions in the current term.
- Parents/carers don't engage with the school and/or the SAO in attempts to improve attendance.
- An unauthorised holiday is taken.

Click here for more info:

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Schools-and-learning/Schools/School-Attendance/Fixed-penalty-notices-for-non-attendance-at-school/Pages/default.aspx>

Attendance for each class so far this year...

As a school, our aim is to make sure ***attendance increases for each child under 98%.***

We have work to do in every class.

Pre-Covid, the school was around the 94% mark. Let's get back there!

Working together, we will improve attendance for all our children!

Class	Attendance	Class	Attendance
RG	81.4%	RP	87.7%
1G	86.6%	1P	83.9%
2G	88.7%	2P	88.7%
3G	87.3%	3P	88.8%
4G	84.4%	4P	89%
5G	89.2%	5P	90.5%
6G	89.3%	6P	91.4%

Holidays

We strongly recommend all holidays are taken during the school holidays.

If your child's attendance is **above 92% from the previous academic year**, 5 authorised holiday days can be given. If the holiday exceeds 5 days the remaining absence will be unauthorised.

If your child's attendance is **below 92% in the previous academic year**, all holiday absence will be unauthorised, and a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) will be issued.

If your child's holiday **exceeds 20 school days**, the Education Welfare Service will be informed, your child may lose their place at Grangetown. You would then need to re-apply for a school place via Cardiff Council/Primary School Admissions.

Queries regarding a holiday? Please make an appointment with Mrs Herbert (Deputy Headteacher) **before** the holiday start date.