

# YSGOL Y BERLLAN DEG – ANNUAL GOVERNORS' REPORT



2024-25

Headteacher – Ms M Phillips



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## ADRODDIAD BLYNYDDOL CORFF LLYWODRAETHOL I RIENI YSGOL Y BERLLAN DEG (2024-2025)



Mae'n bleser gennym gyflwyno Adroddiad Blynyddol Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Y Berllan Deg sy'n unol â gofynion Rheoliadau Adroddiadau Blynyddol Llywodraethwyr Ysgol (Cymru).

Nid ydym yn bwriadu cynnal cyfarfod penodol i drafod yr adroddiad hwn os na fydd nifer sylweddol o rieni yn gwneud cais. Os hoffech chi fynychu cyfarfod o'r fath a wnewch chi nodi hynny ar bapur i'r ysgol erbyn **dydd Iau Rhagfyr 4ydd**.

Gobeithio y byddwch chi'n mwynhau darllen am gyflawniad yr ysgol eleni eto. Mae croeso i chi gysylltu gyda chadeirydd y corff llywodraethol neu'r pennaeth os hoffech chi drafod rhywbeth yn benodol neu os hoffech chi gael rhagor o wybodaeth ynglŷn ag unrhyw agwedd o'r adroddiad.

*We are pleased to present the Annual Report of the Governors of Ysgol Y Berllan Deg in accordance with School Governors Annual Report Regulations (Wales).*

*We do not intend to hold a specific meeting to discuss this report unless a significant number of parents ask for a meeting. If you feel you would like to attend such a meeting, could you please make a written request to the school by **Thursday December 4th**.*

*We hope that you will enjoy reading about our school's achievements during the year. You are welcome to get in touch with the chair of the governors or the headteacher should you wish to have additional information about anything, or if you would like to make a comment about this report.*

## Message from the Chair of Governors

I am delighted to present the annual report for the academic year 2024/25. It has been a positive and productive year culminating in the successful Estyn Inspection in March 2025.

I would like to thank the headteacher Mari Phillips and her staff whose high standards were recognised by Estyn; *"purposeful leadership and dedicated staff who work together to create a caring, welcoming and inspiring learning environment"*

The report was also a testament to our parents and children who noted that *"pupils' behaviour across the school was very good"* and that *"pupils behaved kindly and maturely"*. Thank you, parents and kids!

As a result of the inspection, we will be extra focused on developing independent learning as well as ensuring consistency in effective teaching practices.

I would like to thank the *Ffrindiau* (PTA) for their tireless fundraising. This has paid for playground improvements and valuable teaching materials that has directly enriched the pupils learning experience. I would also like to thank Cardiff Council's governor services and education department for their ongoing support and additionally, this coming year, for agreeing to fund site security improvements. Finally, I would like to thank my co-governors who volunteer their time and energy to run the governance of the school.

Moving forward, our main strategic focus is to attract more children - of all ages - to join the Berllan Deg family so that we can move out of the deficit budget.

So, please encourage more parents and children to join the Berllan Deg family! It's worth highlighting that non-Welsh speaking children can join us (at any age) as the local authority provides an immersion unit to quickly allow children to be confident in the use of Welsh.

Let's keep up the energy and work hard to achieve another fruitful academic year.

*Wyn Griffiths*

Chair of Governors

## Term Dates 2025-2026

<b>TERM</b>	<b>Term Start</b>	<b>Half-Term Start</b>	<b>Half-term End</b>	<b>Term End</b>
<b>Autumn</b>	Monday September 1st 2025	Monday October 27h 2025	Friday October 31st 2025	Friday December 19th 2025
<b>Spring</b>	Monday January 5th 2026	Monday February 16th 2026	Friday February 20th 2026	Friday March 27th 2026
<b>Summer</b>	Monday April 13th 2026	Monday May 25th 2026	Friday May 29th 2026	Monday July 20th 2026

## INSET days (no school for pupils)

01/09/25 (Monday):

Training Day for Staff

02/09/25 (Tuesday):

Training Day for Staff

03/10/25 (Friday):

Training Day for Staff

07/01/26 (Wednesday)

Training day for staff

19/06/26 (Friday):

Training Day for Bro Edern Cluster Staff

**04/05/26(Monday)**

**May Day**

There will be 1 other INSET day to be taken during the year.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Chair of Governors	Mr Wyn Griffiths Ysgol Y Berllan Deg Circle Way East Llanedeyrn Cardiff CF23 9LD
Vice-chair	Mrs Ali Carter
Headteacher	Ms Mari Phillips
Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Angharad Walpole
Clerk to the Governing Body	Ms Eve Smith

### Parent Governors

Ms Bethan Holliday Stacey	until 19/12/26
Mrs Alison Carter	until 18/10/28
Mr Christopher Gibbs	until 02/11/28
Dr Angharad Jones	until 02/11/28
Mr David Taylor	until 02/11/28

### Staff Governors

Mrs Angharad Walpole (teaching staff)	until 09/09/27
Mrs Rhian Llewelyn Jones (teaching staff)	until 09/06/28
Mr Drew Marchant (non-teaching staff)	until 10/10/27

### Community Governors – (1 vacancy)

Ms Rhian Williams	until 23/09/28
Ms Carris Wakefield	until 18/03/28
Mr Wyn Griffiths	until 17/11/28

### LEA Governors

Mr Rodney Berman	until 30/04/29
Mr Nick Webb	until 27/03/26
Mrs Samantha Vaughan	until 30/06/26
Mrs Sioned Cardew-Richardson	until 26/01/27

## MEMORIES OF 2024-2025 BY EACH CLASS

### NURSERY

We have enjoyed:

- playing with Lego
- learning *Tric a Chlic* letters
- playing with friends
- riding the bikes and scooters
- being Helper of the Day.



### Pwyll

We have enjoyed

- playing with our friends
- learning about dinosaurs and playing with the dinosaurs
- learning about the life cycle of a frog and singing the song Bili Broga
- going on a trip to Cefn Mably Farm to see the animals and going on the train
- doing maths
- playing with the cars
- creating in the corridor with dough and paint
- learning about the life cycle of a butterfly
- reading in the reading corner
- singing in the hall
- building with lego, blocks, knex and the crates in the yard
- preparing a party for Cyw
- gardening in the Berllan Fechan
- role playing on our ty bach twt
- looking at pictures of us as babies
- creating a boat in the yard
- taking Seren and Sparc home and climbing the mountain for speaking Welsh.

## Rhiannon

We have enjoyed

- learning about dinosaurs
- learning about Bili Bach y Broga and singing the song
- brushing our teeth in school
- gardening, being outside and learning about minibeasts
- learning to read
- colouring
- playing with the dough in the corridor
- and being creative
- going on a trip to Cefn Mably
- playing in the play house in the classroom
- playing in the small world and building areas
- playing with friends
- playing with the apparatus on the yard.



## **Branwen**

Autumn Term - We introduced ourselves and talked about our interests and also learned that everyone's families are different. Then we learned about local heroes. Someone from the Llamau charity came to talk to us.

We all danced in the Christmas show - like trees, toys and stars. We created four trees to show how they look different in the four seasons.

Spring Term - We went for a walk to the Maelfa to see the local shops and then create a map of the local area. We created a 'Bois y Pitsa' shop in the shed and a supermarket in the classroom. We got to go to Wagamamas to taste food! We also learned about Fair trade.

In the Little Orchard, we used our senses.

We enjoyed Welsh Music Day and created a picture on a shirt to celebrate.

Summer Term - The visit to the beach was wonderful!! We learned about creatures in ponds. We learned how to keep the beach clean by creating a poster. We created boats to see how many pennies they could hold before sinking! We did work on Pirates, we created a dance for pirates.

## **Llyr**

What a fantastic year we've had in Year 1! We've learnt to write words and sentences using the *Tric a Chlic* scheme, with help from Aled Afal and his friends. We have enjoyed practising our maths and numeracy skills through Big Maths quizzes and learning about money and change in '*Archfarchnad Aled Afal*'. Our topic on marine life was a real highlight! We wrote fact files about our favourite sea creatures and explored rock pools at Rest Bay, learning about the importance of ocean conservation. By collecting data on our families and creating bar graphs and Venn diagrams, we discovered how we are all both different and similar. We're a very creative bunch and especially enjoyed creating Pop Art inspired by Andy Warhol and making colourful parrots out of paper plates. Through class experiments, like launching rockets for Supertaten and testing materials to make boats, we developed our skills as curious scientists. Spending time in nature is also important to us. We planted, grew, and collected vegetables from our garden – a wonderful hands-on experience! We had the opportunity to meet and be local heroes this year. We helped our community by raising money and collecting items for Llamau, and a visit from the RNLI taught us all about beach safety and their important work. We've made so many happy memories – from our exciting Pirate Day filled with crafts, stories, and treasure hunts, to our trip to Wagamama where we tried new foods and made noodles and smoothies. Wow, what an amazing year making unforgettable memories!

## BLWYDDYN 2



### Manawydan

We've had a lot of fun in year 2! We have enjoyed creating many craft things such as African masks, weaving and creating mountains with papier mâché. We had a great experience creating costumes and performing a Fashion Show in front of our parents! In our STEM lessons we designed trains and then built them to see how far they could travel. The experiment was so much fun! We also learned many new things in our math's lessons and used them to solve many problems! We have also learned lots of times tables as well! We enjoyed our wonderful trips around Cardiff, the Brecon Beacons and to Noah's Ark Zoo. Some of our other favourite things were learning an African dance, performing the *Banua* song with percussion instruments and Sports Day! We also had fun rehearsing and performing our Christmas Show "Y Goeden Fach Hardd" in front of our parents. We are looking forward to singing at the Summer Show at the All Nations Center next year when we'll be in year 3!

### Pryderi

It's the experiences we'll remember most about our time in year 2 this year! We started the year learning about 'Cardiff' and so a trip on the bus to see the city's famous landmarks was our first experience. While learning about 'The Countryside' and 'Farming' we went on a trip to Bannau Brycheiniog and had the opportunity to walk on the mountain, collect wild flowers and plants, and see which animals lived in the pond. While learning about 'Our Big Wide World' we went on a trip to Noah's Ark Zoo and saw lots of animals - the capybara and the elephants were our favourites!

While learning about 'Fashion' we held our own fashion show in the hall! Upcycling was our focus and so we drew, adapted and decorated our own clothes, typed words to describe our friend's outfits, practiced movements in order to be ready to perform and were then brave and creative when performing for our families in the hall while they enjoyed canapés and sparkling water! What an unforgettable experience!

At Christmas we loved going to see a theatre show called 'Dawns y Ceirw'. This was the first theatre experience for many of us and it was a memory to be cherished. We were lucky to have a dance workshop with the company before we went which enriched our experience even more.

We've also developed our musical skills while singing and playing instruments to African music, written stories and newspaper articles and learnt our times tables. It has been an extremely busy year! We've started on our journey of learning in English over the last few weeks in year 2 - everyone is now ready for the challenge of learning through both languages in year 3. A year full of fun and excitement!



### **Esyllt**

We have enjoyed many wonderful experiences in year 3. We had a great time visiting Cardiff Met University for swimming, tennis, athletics and basketball lessons. We learnt many new skills. We also visited St Fagans to learn more about how the Celts lived. The Celtic roundhouses were very interesting!

During our second term in year 3, we had the opportunity to learn to play the toots in our weekly music lessons, and we were all very excited to perform in the All Nations Centre. We also enjoyed rehearsing and performing in the chorus of Shrec.

In our STEM lessons, we had the opportunity to plan many interesting experiments. We especially enjoyed making electrical circuits using bulbs and motors. We have also created Roman mosaics and roundhouses out of clay. In maths, we enjoyed developing our problem solving skills and working on Sumdog.

We enjoyed our theme 'The Romans', especially learning about Caerleon and how the Romans lived in Wales. Our trip to Caerleon was fantastic, we learned about the history of the Roman baths and how the Romans watched shows in the amphitheatre. The workshop was amazing and we had the chance to dress in Roman costumes!

Our favourite class books this year were The Bog Baby, Henri Helynt and Escape from Pompeii. We developed many new technology skills by creating a video to advertise the school. As part of our 'Travel' theme we enjoyed listening to Mr Thomas talk about his job as a pilot. We also learned a lot about Lowri Morgan's adventures in the Amazon. One of the highlights of the year was our class party with a talent show and lots of fun games.

### **Tristan**

We have enjoyed learning about many interesting subjects, especially about the Celts and the Romans. During the year, we had the opportunity to visit Caerleon and St Fagans. We enjoyed visiting the baths and the Roman amphitheater. We have enjoyed creating a Celtic house out of clay and creating a Roman cart. We like to share our ideas and contribute to 'Llais y Plentyn'.

We have also enjoyed participating in days such as competing in the School Eisteddfod, performing in Dydd Miwsig Cymru, singing in the Christmas concert, competing in school sports and ending the year by performing Shrec with years 4, 5 and 6 which was an amazing experience. We have also enjoyed learning to play the 'Toot' and playing the 'toot' together with other schools in Cardiff at the All Nations Center.

We had the opportunity to have swimming lessons in Year 3 at the MET and we enjoyed developing our swimming skills. We also had the opportunity to develop our athletic skills at the MET which was wonderful. In Year 2, we were in different classes. We have enjoyed the experience of being mixed before coming to Year 3, because we have had the opportunity to make many new friends.



### **Olwen**

We have had a lot of fun in year 4. We enjoyed our trip to Cardiff Castle, where we had a tour of the castle and learned many interesting facts. Our Autumn term themes were Welsh Castles and Attack and Defence. We had a lot of fun learning about castles but the highlight for most of the class was creating a catapult. The trip to Riverfront Theatre in Newport to see the Culhwch and Olwen Show was good. Christmas came once again and we performed our Christmas service at Glenwood Church.

In the Spring term our themes were Everything Green and Grand Designs! We learned about the book 'There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom'. The message of the book was very important and the class was inspired to write letters to Cardiff Council. We learned about eco houses and had the opportunity to create eco houses. We enjoyed the assembly and the workshop from Dŵr Cymru. The school came together to celebrate St David's Day and the school Eisteddfod. We enjoyed competing in a variety of competitions at the School Eisteddfod, especially singing Aderyn Melyn. Year 4 was very lucky to have the opportunity to go on a new TV program called Taclo'r Tywydd. We had a lot of fun recording and we are looking forward to watching our episode in September. Another highlight was having Clarineo lessons with Mr Murphey.

### **Culhwch**

We have had a busy but successful and thoroughly enjoyable year in Year 4, filled with a wide range of enriching experiences. A particular highlight was our school trip to Cardiff Castle, which linked perfectly with our exciting topic on the castles of Wales. We also loved going to see the pantomime performance of *Culhwch ac Olwen*, and learning to play the Clarineo has been a real musical highlight. Singing at the Urdd Jamboree and taking part in performances such as the KS2 show *Shrec*, our Christmas Service with Year 3, and the school Eisteddfod gave us the chance to grow in confidence and creativity. We really enjoyed learning about the water cycle too—especially when Dŵr Cymru came in to talk to us about their important role in the process and delivered a fun and engaging workshop. We've had many opportunities to work collaboratively, such as designing wind turbines, catapults and

building eco-friendly houses, which helped us develop our teamwork skills. Our unit on climate change was particularly interesting, especially learning about sustainable palm oil and how we can make a difference. We also enjoyed improving our sports skills through sessions in tennis, rugby, and cricket with Glamorgan Cricket, Cardiff Met and Mackintosh Sports Club, and had great fun at Sports Day. One of the most exciting moments of the year was getting the chance to film for the new TV show on Stwnsh, called *Taclo'r Tywydd*—an unforgettable experience! It's been a fantastic year full of learning, creativity, and fun.



### **Macsen**

This year we have enjoyed a number of new experiences. Some of our favourite things were going on a residential trip to Abernant and having the opportunity to try paddle boarding, fencing and activities on the lake. We have also enjoyed going to see 'A Christmas Carol' at Theatr y Sherman, going to Hay Festival and listening to authors talk about their books, going on an underground trip to Pwll Mawr, and having a Victorian lesson at Ysgol Maestir, St Fagan. We have also learned new STEM skills with e-ysgol. We have enjoyed our sessions with Cardiff Met, where we have had the opportunity to develop our hockey skills. We have enjoyed developing our creativity in Art lessons this year. It has been an exciting year for us learning about the Industrial Revolution, developing our digital skills using Mircobits and creating a website using Canva and Adobe. To finish the year we had fun performing as part of the 'Shrec' show chorus.

### **Elen**

We've certainly had many new experiences this year. It has been an exciting year for us as we learned about the Industrial Revolution. We developed our digital skills by using Microbits, Hour of Code, and creating a website, as well as using Canva and Adobe. Many lessons have stayed with us, such as our lesson on inventing a new device for our Dragon's Den presentations, where everyone had a turn being one of the dragons! We also learned new skills in STEM lessons with the e-sgol company and discovered which liquid cleans coins best. We couldn't believe that ketchup would make the coins sparkle! Some of us were lucky

enough to visit the studio. We enjoyed our sessions with Cardiff Met University, where we had the opportunity to develop our hockey skills. One of the highlights of the year was going on a residential trip to Abernant and staying in the same room as our friends! We had the chance to experience climbing, paddleboarding, fencing, and canoeing. Going to see *A Christmas Carol* at the Sherman Theatre was a fantastic experience that tied into our theme. When we went to the Hay Festival, we met authors and listened to them talk about their books. We were inspired to read books by Anni Llŷn, Catherine Rundell, and Jules Howard. On our underground trip to Big Pit, we remember when everyone turned off their helmet lights and the deafening sounds of the machinery. It was a chance for us to truly understand the conditions miners worked in. We had the opportunity to dress up and experience a lesson as a Victorian pupil at Maestir School in St Fagans. To end the year, we had fun at sports day—especially the relay races—and of course, performing as part of the chorus in our show *Shrec*.



### **Math & Mathonwy**

We've learned so much this year — from art to science, history to technology, and everything in between! One of our favourite topics was learning all about Cardiff Bay and the docks. The history was brought to life by the Betty Campbell show by *Mewn Cymeriad*. Planet or Plastic was another favourite where we learned the importance of protecting our planet and Beth and Bethel spoke about the importance of recycling on *Newyddion Ni* on SAC. We had an assembly by Welsh Water and also visited the Education Centre in Cilfynydd to learn more about water conservation.

STEM Week was full of exciting moments. We got hands-on with Sparklab Cymru workshops, and the Lego League team were crowned champions! We took part in many experiments including making gloop; flying paper aeroplanes; designing and building boats to float with 1Kg weight and building a wooden frame car with a sail to see which would go the furthest—science in action!

Books took us on amazing adventures this year too. We wrote and illustrated our own AI-powered books about *Kevin the Carrot: Lost at Christmas*. We loved reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, *The Lost Bear* and *Ta-ta Tryweryn*. From morning reading circles, reading First News to dressing up on Book Day, we were all hooked! A highlight was the Hay Festival, where we met MC Grammar – and cheered as Sheighley danced on stage with him!

A huge highlight was our residential trip to Llangrannog – go-karting, skiing, trampolining, and even a disco with everyone singing and dancing in the disco! We thoroughly enjoyed making stop motion videos of our favourite activities. We also had some fun German lessons with Mr Waters and enjoyed meeting our future teachers during transition days with Bro Edern.

The Ffrindiau have kept the fun going all year – from the Halloween Disco to the Summer Fayre (although some of us missed it while away camping!). Rainbow Day was a colourful celebration, with brilliant raffle prizes and a great atmosphere.

We also embraced our Welsh identity throughout the year. We all took part in the School Eisteddfod and our St David's Day Chairing Ceremony was a special occasion, with Sam, Martha and Hannah recognised for their outstanding poetry. We loved watching *Stwnsh* on S4C on rainy days – especially when they visited and pined Mr Williams (definitely a Year 6 highlight!). Many pupils competed in the Urdd Eisteddfod and we celebrated Welsh Music Day with karaoke in the hall. A live performance by *Paralel*, a band made up of former YBD pupils, inspired many budding musicians. We were also super proud to support the Welsh Women's Football Team in the Euros – we wore red, sang *Ymlaen*, and even wrote speeches to inspire them in Switzerland. Cymru am byth!

Sport kept us active all year! From rugby and cricket to netball and football, we've been non-stop. We had a week of cycling sessions learning to be safe on the road before going to high school. Hannah & Catrin - were part of the fastest team in the Urdd Cardiff & Vale cross country competition. Cardiff Met gave us brilliant indoor sport sessions. Mrs John was very proud of the girls and mixed netball team at the Urdd tournament. The girls & boys football team also competed in the Urdd competitions and the boys even reached the final round of the CVSFA. Oh, and on Sports Day this year – Teifi won for the first time since we've been at YBD!

Our School and Eco Councils were busy bees, especially Macsen & Inessa, Bethel & Hannah, Gruff a Seren who led many meetings. We've loved working in the garden, planting, weeding and even selling produce & making smoothies from The Berllan Fechan - apples, lavender, onions and more all under Mrs Bull's guidance.

Finally, our creative side really shone this year. From our Christmas concert at Glenwood Church to singing at the Eisteddfod, we've had lots of chances to perform. A drama workshop with Rhodri Trefor helped us understand the experiences of refugees, while our drama work about Tryweryn brought the history of Capel Celyn to life. Many Year 6 pupils competed in singing, reciting, acting, art, craft and even cooking in school and county Eisteddfodau. Many of us have continued our guitar, violin and piano lessons and our Drama Club continued to be popular this year. We were also lucky to watch Bro Edern perform *The Sound of Music*. But the real showstopper was our own production of *Shrek* – singing *I'm a Believer* and *This is Our Story* was a moment none of us will forget.

It was sad to say goodbye to Mr Williams, who played such an important role during our time in year 6, but we were very grateful to Mr Jones for stepping in his place.

It's been an unforgettable year full of laughter, learning and memories we'll treasure forever as we get ready for our next big adventure... high school!

## STAFFING September 2025

Nursery:	Catrin Williams-Jones
Reception (Pwyll):	Angharad Walpole
Reception (Rhiannon):	Heledd Symons / Rhian Thomas
Year 1 (Branwen):	Eleri Browning
Year 1 (Llŷr):	Betsan Jenkins
Year 2 (Manawydan):	Lucy Thomas / Sioned Wyn Jones
Year 2 (Pryderi):	Caryl Parry
Year 3 (Esyllt):	Kellie Atkins
Year 3 (Tristan):	Rhian Llewelyn Jones
Year 4 (Olwen):	Manon James
Year 4 (Culhwch):	Ffion O'Brien
Year 5 (Macsen):	Iestyn Greenway / Medi Davies
Year 5 (Elen):	Emyr John
Year 6 (Math):	Adrian Williams
Year 6 (Mathonwy):	Lowri John
ALN Coordinator:	Non Roberts
PPA Teachers:	Amy Bull / Lucy Corbett

Teachers from the same year of teaching continue to receive PPA time together to ensure consistency, development, and ongoing discussion among teachers.

### **Learning Support Assistants:**

Meryl Davies (0.8), Dewi Rhisiart, Lucy Corbett, Veronica Jones de Kiff (0.6), Maxine Curtis (0.8), Alyson Ray (0.8) Louise Holmes (0.6), Aimee Marriage, Emily Blofield, Lleucu Evans

## **NUMBERS IN EACH YEAR GROUP SEPTEMBER 2025**

Nursery:	24 morning 20 afternoon
Reception:	47
Years 1:	50
Years 2:	41
Years 3:	54
Years 4:	41
Years 5:	55
Years 6:	57

Total of Fulltime Pupils (Reception – Yr. 6) = 345

Total Pupils (Nursery – Yr. 6) = 389

## **DONATIONS TO CHARITY**

### **Cardiff Food Bank**

As part of our thanksgiving collection we collected 93.5kg of food for the Cardiff Food Bank in October 2024, which is enough to provide 3 meals a day for 8 people for 3 days.

### **Children in Need - £367**

The School Council organized fun activities for Children in Need. Everyone came to school wearing spots or pyjamas and £367 was raised for the good cause.

### **Save the Children - £92.87**

Everyone came to school wearing Christmas jumpers and raised £92.87 for Save the Children.

### **Christmas Carol Services – Macmillan=£422.93; Noah’s Ark = £402.30**

It was a pleasure to see the school children take part in Christmas concerts on several occasions - the Reception children's concert, the Year 1 and 2 Christmas show (2 shows), the Nursery children's concert (2 concerts), Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 carol services at Glenwood Church, Llanedeyrn. £422.93 was raised for Macmillan in one service and £402.30 for Noah’s Ark in the other. Year 1 also collected toys and goods for the Llamau charity as part of their topic work.

## **CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENTS AND VARIOUS ACTIVITIES**

### **Estyn Inspection March 2025**

We are very proud of the Estyn report which confirmed the good work that takes place in the school and reflects the school's "caring, welcoming and inspiring learning environment" and "a happy community where respect and Welsh identity are valued." It praises the children's behavior and positive attitudes towards learning, the positive relationship of all members of staff with the pupils and notes that the majority of pupils are making good progress across all areas of learning.

The recommendations for improvement are on the school's improvement plan for 2025-2026 and we have put security measures in place following the inspection by ensuring that the school's main external gates are locked during the day. We are currently in discussions with the authority to have more permanent measures in place for example, automated main gates.

### **St. David’s Day Celebrations**

A whole school eisteddfod was held this year with houses competing against each other in the hall. The ceremony of chairing the poet was held in the school hall in the afternoon and it was a pleasure to see a Year 6 pupil win for writing poetry.

### **Curriculum For Wales / Links with Ysgol Bro Edern**

All Bro Edern cluster schools have been working together for the past three years on creating a new curriculum in accordance with the Curriculum for Wales which is statutory since September 2022. Meetings with relevant members of staff are held regularly to plan different aspects of the new curriculum with the 4 purposes central to the schemes of work.

### **Food and Fitness / Appetite for Life (Promoting Healthy Eating and Living)**

The school tries hard to promote a healthy lifestyle. If a lunch box is provided for pupils for lunchtime, parents are asked to support the school's healthy eating policy by not including chocolate, sweets and so on in the box. Pupils are encouraged to bring fruit to eat during the morning break time. Due to the increasing number of pupils with allergies pupils are not allowed to bring nuts to school.

Nursery to Year 2 pupils receive free milk every day. Again, following our policy of keeping healthy, we ensure that water is available to drink throughout the day. All children are asked to bring a water bottle to school with the child's name clearly written on it. The bottles are sent home to be washed daily and they are expected back at school every morning.

All the pupils continue to run their 'mile a day' in order to stay healthy and fit and to enable them to concentrate better in class.

All Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils brush their teeth in school on a daily basis as part of the Design to Smile national initiative..

### **World Book Day**

All the pupils had fun celebrating reading with many fun activities organised, including exchanging books and the older children and teachers going to a different class to read a story. The purpose of the day was to promote reading and show that reading can be fun.

### **Welsh Music Day**

We had a lot of fun celebrating Welsh music by listening to live music in the hall and taking part in a number of activities organized by our Dreigiau committee.

### **Eisteddfod yr Urdd**

The school had success in this year's Urdd Area Eisteddfod with a number of pupils from this school winning and representing the area in the County Eisteddfod.

### **COGURDD**

As part of the Urdd Eisteddfod competitions, the first round of the Year 4,5 and 6 cooking competition was held in the hall in October 2024 and a Year 6 pupil represented the school in the regional round.

### **Residential Courses**

Year 6 spent a week in Llangrannog with the other schools in our cluster, Year 5 once again had the opportunity to stay for 2 nights at Abernant outdoor centre in mid Wales.

### **Free School Meals**

By now all pupils in the reception classes, Year 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 are offered a free school meal at lunchtimes. It is the parents' choice is to accept the offer or provide their own packed lunch for their child.

### **Cardiff Welsh Schools' Senedd**

The members of the school council were very fortunate to be able to attend Cardiff Welsh schools' Senedd in Cardiff Bay during the year.

### **Session For Parents About Neurodiversity**

Mrs Bethan Jones (the authority's autism specialist teacher) hosted an interesting afternoon for parents on Neurodiversity in the school hall. It was an opportunity for parents to know more about the neurodevelopmental pathway and what support is available from the school and the authority. She also came to school to discuss neurodiversity with Years 3-6 pupils.

### **Session for Parents about Big Emotions**

Mr Gareth Jones (the authority's welfare consultant teacher) hosted an interesting session in March for parents on how to respond when their children display great emotions at home.

### **Visitors and Visits**

It was good to see that a number of visits had been organized during the year including the Hay Festival, Sherman Theatre, St Fagans, Big Pit, Llangrannog (residential course), Abernant (residential course) Crucial Crew, Cardiff Met, Cilfynydd reservoir, Caerleon, Noah's Ark Zoo in Bristol, Cardiff Castle and Rest Bay beach in Porthcawl. The pupils also benefited from visitors to the school including safety workshops and shows about the history of Wales by the Mewn Cymriad theatre company.

### **STEM Week**

A STEM week was organized at the school once again in March 2025 with each year holding Science and Technology activities based on the term's topic.

### **Year 3,4,5 and 6 Summer Show - Shrec**

Watching the Year 3,4,5 and 6 show at the All Nations Centre at the end of the summer term was thrilling. It was a high-quality show and we are very grateful to all the staff for contributing to the success of the show and giving the children such a memorable and valuable experience.

## **LINKS WITH PARENTS**

### **FFRINDIAU**

In such financially difficult times for schools, the hard work of the Ffrindiau to raise money has been at the core of being able to buy resources to enrich the children's experiences at school and we are very grateful to them once again this year for raising an incredible amount of £14,568. The money was spent on painting playground markings on the big yard, sports equipment, Lego Spikes equipment and equipment to develop woodworking skills in the early years. Also, each class teacher was given a certain amount of money to order resources that will promote independence throughout the school.

The Ffrindiau also organized a very successful summer fair once again on the school grounds to raise money for the school. They have also been busy throughout the year collecting and selling second hand school uniforms, sports t-shirts in the colours of the school house teams and bucket hats with the school logo on them for the summer.

### **OPEN AFTERNOONS FOR FAMILIES**

Successful open afternoons were held for prospective parents and their children aged 2-4 in the autumn term of 2023 and the spring term of 2024 to try to attract more families to the school and to Welsh education.

### **Welsh Lessons For Parents**

Welsh lessons for parents were offered free of charge to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents in the school hall and the Berllan Fechan (our garden). These lessons were organized by Cardiff and the Vale College and we will be able to offer this again in the Autumn term 2025 with the focus on mathematics and numeracy.

### **Cooking Sessions For Parents**

It was a pleasure to be able to welcome an officer from Menter Cardiff to the school for 6 sessions to present and cook recipes suitable for families and learn a little Welsh at the same time. Everyone who attended each session received a slow cooker at the end of the course.

## **LINKS WITH THE COMMUNITY**

### **Reading Volunteers**

We are very grateful to the reading volunteers who continue to come to the school every Monday and Tuesday morning to read with Year 5 and 6 pupils.

### **Menter Caerdydd**

The provision of childcare and Bwrlwm (a free 2-hour play session through the medium of Welsh) was very successfully held by Menter Caerdydd during most of the school holidays with a large number of children attending.

### **Sports Activities and Various Competitions**

It was a pleasure once again to see teams representing the school in a number of local and regional sports competitions. The highlight for the boys was getting to go to a football tournament in Southampton to represent Cardiff after winning the regional competition.

Year 3 pupils attended multisports and swimming lessons during a week in ??? 2025.

During the year, Year 6 went on a 4-night residential course to the Urdd centre in Llangrannog with other Bro Edern cluster schools and Year 5 went on a residential course to Abernant for two nights.

Year 6 benefited from free cycling lessons organized by Cardiff council.

All classes continue to run a mile each day. The intention is to keep the pupils fit and help them focus better in class.

### **International Links**

Year 6 pupils received German lessons every two weeks from a teacher from Ysgol Bro Edern which is part of the transition process.

### **Welsh Government Free Breakfast Scheme**

The breakfast scheme, funded by the Welsh Government, continued to go from strength to strength and is currently full. To ensure that as many pupils as possible have had places in this scheme, all parents had the opportunity to register online. The purpose of the scheme is to supply breakfast to those who would not otherwise have breakfast at home.

## **Special Educational Needs / Additional Learning Needs**

Since September 2021, the Special Educational Needs framework has been replaced by a new and revised system called the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act.

Many children receive special educational needs education during their time at school. Some children have specific special needs, a physical disability or a particular ability (More Able and Talented) that must be extended. Our aim is to meet the requirements of each child through careful planning, using a range of visual, auditory and kinesthetic strategies that enable learners to reach their full potential.

Mrs Non Roberts is the school's Additional Learning Needs co-ordinator. During the 2023/2024 academic year most of the learning support assistants helped her. They work closely with the class teachers and external agencies to ensure that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential. A number of different interventions are used to support and develop pupils' literacy, numeracy, emotional and social skills.

It was noted in the Estyn inspection report that the "school offers effective support to pupils with additional learning needs, ensuring that learning plans are adapted to their individual needs".

## **Equal Opportunities**

We believe that every individual has the right regardless of their race, background, religion or disability to receive equal opportunities at this school. We are proud to be a school that welcomes pupils, staff and parents from different social backgrounds, race, gender, disability, belief, language, sexual orientation and age.

## **Accessibility Plan**

As a school we understand the importance of effective learning and teaching which ensures the best experiences for all pupils in the school. We ensure that every pupil with a disability has the same experiences as everyone else in the school. We constantly evaluate our performance to ensure that the requirements of each child are met. The school has a specific policy and access plan.

## **Policies**

The school regularly reviews and evaluates the success of the strategies used in the school. A full list of the school's policies is available at the school. If you would like to see or discuss any policy you are welcome to make an appointment to discuss this with Miss Phillips.

## **Health and Safety**

The external doors are secured by having a special fob to ensure access. All visitors go to the school office first where they sign in and get a visitor badge.

The yard is suitable for pupils and adults with disabilities. The school has a comprehensive Health and Safety policy to ensure a safe environment for everyone within the school

Following the Estyn inspection in March 2024 the school's external gates are locked throughout the day. The school is collaborating with the authority to arrange for electronic gates to be installed and security measures have already been put in place inside the building to strengthen the security measures that already existed.

**Toilets**

There are plenty of toilets around the school and they are cleaned at least once a day. If there is an issue due to the cleanliness of the toilets members of staff will deal with the issue as soon as possible.

**School Bus**

The 822 bus service through Penylan to the school has now been extended and is partly funded by Cardiff Council. You can book a place on the bus and get more details by contacting New Adventure Travel on 02920442040. Using the bus is convenient and a good way to avoid traffic on the roads or the problem of parking outside the school. It is also a good way to help improve the environment locally by reducing pollution from cars travelling to and from the school.

## **EVALUATION OF 2024-2025 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

### **PRIORITY 1 – Ensuring that all pupils develop into ambitious and capable learners, principled and informed citizens, healthy, confident individuals and principled and informed citizens by continuing to develop our provision for Curriculum for Wales;**

The schools in the cluster have been working closely to develop a relevant curriculum for pupils in this part of the city, including introducing a Language genres plan and mapping oral skills. We also as a school constantly evaluate our curriculum making relevant changes if necessary. A questionnaire to the school staff on this had led to some effective changes in our provision including a more prominent place for the pupil's voice in the classes and that their ideas are taken into account when discussing the theme/aspect of the work. All the schools in the cluster came together in September 2024 for a successful INMS day which was an opportunity to attend various sessions on diversity and anti-racism including dealing with situations of racism in the school and acceptable vocabulary. Attending the DARPL leadership program means that the headteacher has more up-to-date and broad knowledge of how to develop processes and systems to ensure an anti-racist mindset throughout the whole school.

### **PRIORITY 2 – Developing Health and Wellbeing throughout the whole school**

Following training by members of the authority's inclusion team on provision for all children on the Class floor, a number of effective strategies were implemented to improve our mental and emotional wellbeing provision across the school. One of these was to develop a method of identifying the feelings of each pupil as they arrived to class in the morning. Sharing the SHRN questionnaire with all the school's stakeholders was also a means of further evaluating our provision.

### **PRIORITY 3 – Strengthen self-evaluation arrangements, monitor and track pupils' progress;**

Using the *Traciwr* tracking system facilitates the process of tracking each pupil's progress throughout their time at school and now the baseline of the reception classes has also been added. Progress meetings were held at the beginning of January where Adrian Williams and Non Roberts (ALN coordinator) met with individual teachers to discuss the progress of each pupil in the class and what can be put in place for pupils who had not shown sufficient progress. This aspect will receive further attention in the 2025-2026 school improvement plan including tightening our self evaluation processes.

### **PRIORITY 4 – Improving pedagogy throughout the whole school, especially independent learning, the child's voice and collaborative learning.**

When scrutinizing books and talking to pupils there was now a clear consistency to be seen in terms of formative assessment strategies and every single child who was questioned was able to explain how these strategies help them improve their work e.g. keep right side blank for corrections / drafting. Our expectations of formative assessment were refined following the last action research project and now each year has an agreed guide to the expectations. Estyn inspectors' comments during our inspection in March reinforced this as well. We will continue to ensure more consistency in terms of effective learning and teaching strategies and how to further promote pupils' independence in the academic year 2025-2026.

**PRIORITY 1 – Strengthen strategic leadership and improve self-evaluation procedures and plan for improvement procedures in order to strengthen and ensure consistency in provision**

**PRIORITY 2 – Providing regular opportunities for pupils to take responsibility for their learning and develop them as independent learners**

**PRIORITY 3 – Ensure consistency in effective teaching practices across the school and raise staff's expectations to provide a constant challenge for all pupils**

**SCHOOLS OUTTURN OF EXPENDITURE / CANLYNIAD GWARIANT YSGOLION 2024-2025**

**Governing Body / Corff Llywodraethu of: Ysgol-y-Berllan Deg**

	<b>Governor Approved Budget/Cyllideb a Gymeradwywyd gan y Llywodraethwyr</b>		<b>Actual Expenditure/ Gwariant Cyflawnedig</b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Staffing costs/Costau Staff</b>				
Teaching Costs/Costau Addysgu	1,127,899		1,189,109	
Special Needs Teachers/Athrawon Anghenion Arbennig	38,478		40,558	
Teachers for statemented pupils/Athrawon ar gyfer disgyblion sy'n destun datganiad	0		0	
Short Term Supply/Llanw Byr Dymor	0		2,735	
Long Term Supply/Llanw Hir Dymor	34,188		61,726	
Special Needs Support Staff/Staff Cymorth Anghenion Arbennig	0		0	
Nursery Assts/ Teachers Aides / Adult Helpers/Cynorthwyyr Meithrinfa/ Cymhorthion Athrawon / Cynorthwyyr Foreign Language				
Assistants/Cynorthwyyr Ieithoedd Tramor	0		0	
Technicians/Technegwyr	0		0	
Mid Day Supervisors/Gorychwylwyr Canol Dydd	17,288		16,231	
Library Staff / Attend Officer/Staff Llyfrgell / Swyddog Presenoldeb	0		0	
Administrative Staff/Staff Gweinyddol	40,040		38,108	
Non teaching supply costs/Costau llanw staff heb fod yn athrawon	0		0	
Training Costs/Costau hyfforddi	8,617		13,101	
Other Staff Costs/Costau staff eraill	107,197		137,946	
Performance Management/Rheoli Perfformiad	2,000		1,431	
<b>Total Staffing Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Staff</b>		1,547,372		1,654,506

**Premises Related Costs/Costau Eiddo**

Caretaking Staff/Staff Gofalwyr	37,838		40,531
Domestic Staff/Staff Domestig	15,016		12,652
Grounds Staff/Staff y Tir	3,681		3,312
Cleaning Costs/Costau Glanhau	55,707		44,676
Energy Costs/Costau Ynni	39,452		36,105
Rates/Cyfraddau	46,084		46,084
Repairs and Maintenance/Atgyweiriau a Chynhaliaeth	17,085		7,973
Water/Dŵr	14,165		12,680

**Total Premises Related Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Eiddo**

229,028 204,012

**Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant**

Pupil Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Disgyblion	0		3,620
Staff Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Staff	200		337
Vehicle Costs/Costau Cerbydau	0		0

**Total Transport Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Cludiant**

200 3,957

**Supplies and Services/Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau**

Teaching Materials/Adnoddau Addysgu	13,250		12,076
Equipment, Furniture, Materials & music tuition/Offer, Dodrefn, Deunyddiau a hyfforddiant cerddoriaeth	0		420
Library Books & Materials/Llyfrau a Deunyddiau Llyfrgell	0		0
Catering Costs/Costau Arlwyo	4,200		4,072
Unallocated / Savings to be found/Arian heb ei ddsbarthu / Cynilion	-134,926		0
Communications Equipment and Services/Offer a Gwasanaethau Cyfathrebu	4,950		7,253
Consultants Fees/Ffioedd Ymgynghorwyr	0		0
Examinations Fees/Ffioedd Arholiadau	0		0
Games & School Activities/Gemau a Gweithgareddau Ysgol	1,700		45,878
Clerk to Governing Body/Clerc y Corff Llywodraethu	1,705		930

Other office costs/Costau swyddfa eraill	1,301		3,682	
Printing & Stationery/Argraffu a Deunydd Ysgrifennu	11,104		9,351	
Pupil Exclusions/Gwaharddiadau Disgyblion	0		0	
Subsistence and expenses/Cynhaliaeth a threuliau	0		0	
<b>Total Supplies and Services/Cyfanswm Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau</b>		<b>-96,716</b>		<b>83,661</b>
<b>Central Services/Gwasanaethau Canolog</b>				
School Meals/Prydau Ysgol Service Level	0		0	
Agreements/Trefniadau Lefel Gwasanaeth	16,783		15,556	
<b>Total for Central Services/Cyfanswm ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Canolog</b>		<b>16,783</b>		<b>15,556</b>
<b>Income/Incwm</b>				
Additional Central Funding/Nawdd Canolog Ychwanegol	-231,395		-29,089	
Community Education/Addysg Cymunedol	0		0	
Donations/Rhoddion	-750		-50,254	
Lettings/Gosodiadau	-11,000		-20,135	
Other Income/Incwm arall	0		-525	
Grant Income/Incwm rhent	0		-333,333	
Sales/Gwerthiannau	0		0	
School Meals Recharge/Talu am Brydau Ysgol	0		0	
Training and Tuition Income/Incwm Hyfforddiant	-1,200		-2,500	
<b>Total Income/Cyfanswm Incwm</b>		<b>-244,345</b>		<b>-435,836</b>
<b>Interest and Other/Llog ac Arall</b>				
Interest on investments/Llog ar fuddsoddiadau	0		0	
School Investments/Buddsoddiadau Ysgol	0		0	
Withdrawal Investments/Buddsoddiadau Dileadau	0		0	

School Deficit/Gwariant Ysgol			
Temporary Loans/Benthyciadau			
Dros Dro	0		0
Temporary Loans/Benthyciadau			
Dros Dro	0		0
Interest/Llog	0		0
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Interest and Other/Cyfanswm Llog ac arall</b>			
		<u>1,452,322</u>	<u>1,525,856</u>
<b>Total Net Expenditure/Cyfanswm Gwariant Net</b>			
Less Uninvested Balance Brought Forward/Llai'r Balans na fuddsodwyd a ddygwyd ymlaen		56,488	
Less earmarked Rates/Llai'r Cyfraddau a glustnodwyd		-46,084	-46,084
Contribution to / from balances/Cyfraniad i / o falansys			-17,046
		<u>1,462,726</u>	<u>1,462,726</u>
<b>Revised Net Expenditure/Gwariant Net Diwygiedig</b>			

### Summary/Crynodeb

#### Total resources available in 2024-2025 / Cyfanswm adnoddau ar gael yn 2024-2025

	£
School balances Brought forward from 2023-2024/Balansau ysgol a ddygwyd ymlaen o 2023-2024	-56,488
School Loans Brought forward from 2023-2024/Benthyciadau Ysgol a Ddygwyd ymlaen o 2023-2024	0
Prior Year Adjustment/Cyn Addasiad Blwyddyn	0
Total delegated resources/Cyfanswm adnoddau dirprwyedig	1,508,810
<b>Total/Cyfanswm</b>	<b>1,452,322</b>
Actual Expenditure/Gwariant Cyflawnedig	1,525,856

Less change in investments/Llai'r newid mewn buddsoddiadau	0
Less Movements in Temporary Loan/Llai'r Symudiadau â Benthyciadau Dros Dro	0
Less variance in earmarked rates/Llai'r amrywiant â chyfraddau a glustnodir	0
<b>Total balance carried forward to 2025-2026/Cyfanswm Balans a ddygwyd ymlaen i 2025-2026</b>	<b>-73,535</b>

**Statement of Balances  
Held/Datganiad Balansau**

	£
Uninvested Balance as at 31st March 2025/Balans na fuddsoddwyd ar 31 Mawrth 2025	-73,535
Invested Balance as at 31st March 2025/Balans a fuddsoddwyd ar 31 Mawrth 2025	0
Outstanding Loans as at 31st March 2025/Benthyciadau dros ben ar 31 Mawrth 2025	0
<b>Total Balances held as at 31st March 2025/Cyfanswm Balansau ar 31 Mawrth 2025</b>	<b>-73,535</b>

There is a real strategic focus on reducing the deficit budget. Savings have been made in running costs and additional revenue raised through lettings. However, the reason for the deficit is the lower number of pupils entering the school due to a declining birth rate. There is a focus on promoting the school and the benefits of Welsh language education to the local community in line with Welsh Government policy to increase the number of Welsh speakers.

