

Headteachers Message

Monday's assembly marked the launch of the Great Athletes Challenge, which all pupils are really looking forward to. You can find out more about this exciting event on the next page.

It has been an incredibly busy half term, and I have spent a great deal of time visiting classrooms across the school. It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled into their new classes. The first half term is particularly important, as it allows us to establish clear classroom routines, expectations and positive learning behaviours before the festive season begins.

After half term, pupils will take part in their class baseline assessments, including the National Personalised Assessments. These assessments help us identify each pupil's current strengths and areas for development, enabling us to tailor support and interventions appropriately. This ensures that every child is given the best possible opportunity to make strong progress throughout the year. As an advanced reminder, all dates for Christmas concerts, the Christmas Fayre and Breakfast with Santa were included in the Autumn Calendar, which was emailed to families earlier this term. The calendar is also available on the school website. I wish everyone a relaxing half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school.

Mrs Leanne Brown (Headteacher)

Week Ahead

Assessment week pupils will be undertaking a range of assessments in class.

Monday 2nd November

**Open Coffee Morning - All welcome
Great Athletes Challenge**

Tuesday 3rd November

Baby and toddler group

Wednesday 4th November

Saver Club

Thursday 5th November

**Cricket Wales assembly for KS2
and cricket sessions for Year 3-6**

Friday 6th November

**PCSO visiting Year 2 and Year 6
Year 2- The dangers of smoking
and Vaping**

**Year 6- Use of social Media and
Whatsapp**



Great Athletes Challenge

You would have received a letter via email on Monday regarding our Great Athlete Event. This will take place on **Monday 2nd of November** the first day back after half term. The children will have brought home a sponsorship form for the event. We make it clear to pupils in assembly there is no pressure to collect sponsorship at all.

We do ask that all children wear PE kit that day to ensure they can engage in the fitness circuit which will be set up by the athlete.

LEIF THOBROE PARA TAEKWONDO



LEIF GREW UP IN SOUTH WALES WITH A PASSION FOR SPORT FROM AN EARLY AGE. AFTER DEVELOPING A DISABILITY FOLLOWING A RUGBY INJURY, HE TURNED TO MARTIAL ARTS, BECOMING A BRITISH NATIONAL PARA TAEKWONDO CHAMPION AND REPRESENTING TEAM GB INTERNATIONALLY. A BLACK BELT IN KICKBOXING AND TAEKWONDO, LEIF NOW INSPIRES OTHERS THROUGH SPORT.

OGMORE VALE WEEKLY NEWS



**We are currently above
our school target of 93%.
Thank you for helping us
achieve this excellent
start to the year!**

**CURRENT
ATTENDANCE!**

93.4%



Good attendance helps children achieve better results.



Regular attendance builds confidence and readiness to learn.



Coming to school every day helps children develop strong friendships.



Being in school every day gives children the best opportunity to reach their full potential.

OGMORE VALE WEEKLY NEWS



Attendance Matters



Dont DUCK out of DUCK day!



As we welcome you back after the half-term break, we are excited to introduce our new 'Don't Duck Out of Duck Day' attendance initiative. Throughout the year, there will be nine surprise 'Duck Days'. On these days, every pupil present in school will receive a miniature duck to add to their attendance card.

These days will be kept top secret, with no prior notice. These secret days encourage daily attendance, not just at special time. The use of surprise reward days combined with the collectible ducks aims to motivate pupils and make attending school a fun and engaging experience. Let's work together to celebrate regular attendance, recognise dedication, and create positive milestones that foster confidence and a genuine love of learning.

OGMORE VALE WEEKLY NEWS



Kindness Week and Raising Money for the NSPCC

It is so great to see so many of our pupils have completed their kindness pledge cards and earned their KINDNESS BADGES. All the money collected from the badges will be donated to NSPCC.

We have managed to raise : £192.00



JOIN US FOR FAMILY BINGO

O V P S !

★ Reception to Year 6 ★
All pupils must have a family member with them

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month
starting Tuesday 10th November

Eyes down
3.15pm - 4pm

£1
INCLUDES ALL
Your Bingo Cards



WHERE: SCHOOL MAIN HALL

No need to book just come along

Idea suggested by Mini SLT #pupilvoice



Mad Science Club is back

All pupils attended an engaging Mad Science assembly on Wednesday. We know many families were interested in their children joining the club after half term. It will begin the first Thursday after half term.

To register scan QR code on leaflet brought home by pupils or book online using the address
<https://madsciencesw.ipalbookings.com/>

They can accommodate a maximum of 15 pupils. It will be done on a first come first served basis.

Our next Family Bingo session



Our first Family Bingo session on Tuesday was so much fun. Lots of our staff joined in too making it a real community event. We are super excited for the next one and so are our pupils.

AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB

HERE AT
YOUR
SCHOOL

The Club

Mad Science Afterschool Clubs provide the perfect mix of fun, interactive, educational content. Taking aspects of physics, chemistry and some biology to engage and excite all children enrolled. Our hands-on, enquiry based sessions encourage independent learning skills and discovery at their pace. They'll be immersed in a fully unique and different topic each week during the course, so there's plenty to explore as they get to grips with key science concepts and fun STEM based explorations.

They'll have so much fun, they forget they're learning

Booking

Scan QR code to access registration.

1. Create your parent account
2. Add your child's details
3. Book Your Course

Club Information

**OGMORE VALE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
THURSDAY
5th, 12th, 19th, 26th November
3rd, 10th December 2026

Extended Deadline
21st October

6 Week Course
HANDS ON SCIENCE
£60 PER CHILD
Spaces are Limited
First Come First Served - Sibling Discount Avail.

<https://madsciencesw.ipalbookings.com/>
BOOK ONLINE TODAY

1 Hour
Term and
of the school day

All Staff
Enhanced DBS
Safeguarding Trained

All Materials
& Consumables
provided

Spark Their Curiosity
REGISTER & BOOK TODAY!

office@madscienceSW.co.uk • 01792 348205 • www.madscienceSW.co.uk

NEURODIVERGENCE & TOILETING

Understanding. Noticing. Supporting with empathy.

Toileting can be harder for some neurodivergent children and young people. What looks like refusal may actually be difficulty noticing body signals, sensory discomfort, anxiety, constipation or trouble switching tasks. Understanding the reason behind the struggle can help us respond more effectively.

WHY TOILETING CAN FEEL HARD



Interoception differences

Some children may not notice bladder or bowel signals early enough, or may only notice them when the need feels urgent.



Sensory sensitivities

Toilet seats, smells, lighting, echoes, hand dryers, clothing or flushing sounds can all make bathrooms feel uncomfortable.



Anxiety or fear

Fear of flushing, falling in, unfamiliar toilets or previous pain can make toileting feel unsafe.



Constipation or pain

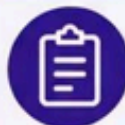
Painful poo can lead to withholding, accidents and more anxiety around using the toilet.



Transitions and focus

Stopping a preferred activity or switching tasks can be hard, especially when a child is deeply focused.

WHAT CAN HELP



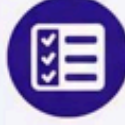
Look for patterns

A simple toileting diary can help you notice links between food, drinks, constipation, accidents and difficult times of day.



Make the bathroom feel safer

Try a footstool, softer lighting, reduced noise, easy clothing or flushing after they leave if needed.



Keep the steps predictable

A simple visual routine can make toileting feel clearer and less overwhelming.



Use calm, neutral prompts

Gentle reminders work better than pressure or repeated questioning.



Start with small steps

Progress may begin with entering the bathroom, sitting briefly or feeling more comfortable in the space.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Accidents are information

Accidents are not misbehaviour. They can tell us something about timing, comfort, anxiety or body awareness.



A child may not be ignoring their body

They may genuinely struggle to recognise or act on the signal in time.



Different places can feel very different

A child may manage at home but struggle in school or public toilets because the environment feels different.



Progress may be uneven

Toileting can improve, wobble or regress, especially during stress, illness, change or constipation.



Know when to seek help

Persistent constipation, pain, frequent soiling, urine infections or sudden changes should be discussed with a professional.



REMEMBER:

Before asking 'Why won't they use the toilet?', ask 'What might be making toileting difficult for them?'



You are not failing if toileting feels hard. Progress can be slow – and calm, small steps can make a real difference.



**Behaviour
Support Hub**
Empowering Parents since 2014



www.behavioursupporthub.org.uk



info@behavioursupporthub.org.uk



07535 040 830



@behavioursupporthub

HALLOWEEN EVENT

Richard Price Centre
Llangeinor

 Wednesday 28th October
 11-1pm

Halloween
crafts

Special
guest reader



Suitable for ages 4-11

FREE EVENT



Adult supervision
must be provided



In the Community

OCTOBER HALF TERM ACTIVITIES!

AT CENTRES AT BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH

FAMILY SWIM

Maesteg Swimming Pool | Pencoed Swimming Pool | Ynysawdre Swimming Pool

JUMPINGYM

Bridgend Life Centre | Maesteg Sports Centre

ACTIVE4LIFE

Ogmore Valley Life Centre

BOUNCE & PLAY

Ogmore Valley Life Centre

INTENSIVE SWIM LESSONS

Bridgend Life Centre | Pyle Swimming Pool

STROKE IMPROVEMENT DISTANT BADGES

Pyle Swimming Pool



CAN TO VIEW THE FULL TIMETABLE

visit: haloleisure.org.uk/whats-on

