

# OGMORE VALE WEEKLY NEWS



## Headteachers Message

Firstly I want to wish all of our families a very Happy New Year and hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas holidays. We have a packed Spring Term ahead with lots of exciting and engaging learning experiences and events. See the next page to find an overview of what Year groups will be exploring during this terms topic 'Earth Guardians'.

This term we will be holding our 'INNOVATE' curriculum open sessions for families. As previously discussed via feedback from the parental questionnaire we will only be holding one of these for each class during the academic year. It is a great way for families to get engaged in the learning that has taken place but we also want it to be manageable to attend for our families.

### **Staff updates:**

Mrs Carson (Year 4 ) will now work 4 days a week. Mr Hanford our new Deputy Headteacher will be teaching Year 4 on a Friday.

Mr Hanford and Mrs Carson will work closely to plan together and share class information. They have been working together this week to plan exciting learning experiences.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting term with lots of great learning experiences. Don't forget to send in your Christmas cards for recycling before the end of next week for The School Rangers. Please have a look at the family engagement pages at the end of this newsletter we have a new nurture course starting for our families to attend.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Leanne Brown (Headteacher)

## SPRING 1 WK 1

### The Week Ahead

#### **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January:**

HT Assembly- 'New beginnings'

Open Coffee Morning- All welcome  
9am in The Lounge.

#### **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

Baby and Toddler Group 9am.

After school clubs start up again:  
Tip-top dance Yr2-6  
Football Club Yr5-6

#### **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

Savers Club

After school Family yoga and  
mindfulness starts

#### **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

Multi-Sports starts

# TOPIC

## SPRING TERM 2026



### Earth Guardians

‘Learning in this broad theme will instil pupils with a passion for sustainability, environmental conservation, and caring for the planet. They will explore how their actions impact the environment and discover ways to protect it for future generations. Through this, pupils will develop an understanding of their ethical roles and responsibilities as both producers and consumers, enabling them to make informed, responsible choices’.

Year groups will send out newsletters explaining a little more about the topic for the Spring Term.

A colorful template for a 'NURSERY NEWSLETTER' for the Spring Term 2026. The header features the title 'NURSERY NEWSLETTER' in green, with 'Spring Term 2026' below it. The page is decorated with illustrations of bees, butterflies, and a yellow chick. The content is organized into three sections: 'Welcome Back', 'Reminders', and 'Seesaw'.

**Welcome Back**

Happy New Year! Welcome back to you all and a very warm welcome to our new families. We hope you have had a fantastic Christmas break.

In Nursery this term, our whole school theme is 'Earth Guardians' with our topic being -Trash or Treasure. We will be focusing on recycling, caring for our planet and caring for animals. As always, we do this through a literacy lens so will be using books including Hodge Podge Lodge, Peppa's Recycling Adventure, The Three Little Pigs and The Very Hungry Caterpillar as a hook for our learning. In addition to this, we will spend time learning about topical themes such as Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday, seasonal changes and Easter.

We will continue to focus on developing children's communication skills through rich, play-based learning experiences. Our activities are designed to encourage speaking, listening, and interaction in a fun and engaging way, helping children build confidence and express themselves while exploring and learning through play.

**Reminders**

- \*We provide a healthy snack for all children for a contribution of £1 per week. You can either pay weekly or for the whole term at once.
- \*Please send children to school with a drink - either water or squash - daily.
- \*PE is on a Thursday -please ensure children are wearing trainers.
- \*We access our outdoor learning environment in all weathers so please ensure children have a warm, waterproof coat.
- \*Please label absolutely anything your child can take off or put down, including shoes and water bottles.

**Seesaw**

We will continue to post key learning moments and informal messages on our Seesaw. Make sure you have linked to their page.



School is putting together the Spring dates for families this will be presented in calendar months and will be sent out next week .

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPRING 2026



## Extra- Curricular Activities

### Spring 1 (2026)

Times	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Chess Club (Year 3- 6)	Lego Club (Rec/YR1/YR2) On rotation	Puzzle Club (Year 3-6)		Criw Cymraeg (Pupils have been selected)  Homework Club (Year 3-6)
After-school		Tip-Top Dance (Year 2-6)  Football Club (Year 5 and 6)	Yoga and Mindfulness (Rec- Year 2) Can bring a family member	Multi-Sports (Year 3-6)	

Letters were sent home with pupils yesterday regarding permission for anyone attending an **AFTER-SCHOOL** club. The section to complete is on the back of the letter.

We have a new football club starting for Year 5/6 pupils.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Our Attendance Team have been looking at some historical data regarding attendance at Ogmores Vale. It is showing us our attendance for the Autumn Term has improved for the whole school compared to the previous 2 years.

All the hard work and focus we are placing on good attendance is paying off.

What next...

- Our BCBC FEO who visits on a Tuesday will undertake weekly workshops with pupils in Year 3-6.
- We will continue with our class sticker charts and weekly targets.
- Our Termly Prize draw to win a £50.00 voucher for anyone with the Government attendance target of 92% for the term will continue.
- We will have an 'ALL IN DAY' each half term.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
2023-2024 →	92.30%	89.10%
2024-2025 →	90%	89.70%
2025-2026 →	92.80%	92.20%

# Family Library

Our Family Library is open every  
Tuesday after school  
3pm-4pm/

Pupils can choose up to 3 books to  
to borrow. Come and make use of  
this wonderful resources we have.



## Pippa has been to visit



### Pippa our Therapy Dog

On Wednesday our new Therapy Dog Pippa came  
to visit and have a sniff around! She ended up  
falling asleep in the school office. In the next few  
weeks she will be getting trained ready to work  
with our pupils, she is very energetic and a real  
cutie!

# Family Nurture Parenting Course

## What is the Nurturing Programme?

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging.

The Nurturing Programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer, happier life.

A tried and tested programme, it helps us think about what we do, why we do it and how it makes us feel.



## Practical information

Partners are welcome and it's also fine to come on your own or with a relative or friend

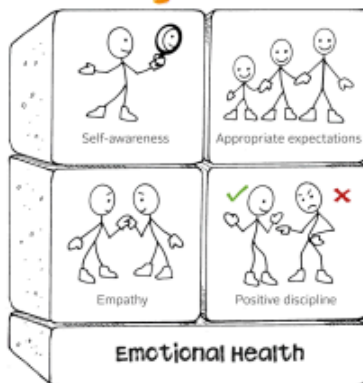
There are ten 2-hour sessions with a tea and coffee break

8-10 parents are invited and there are two Family Links trained group leaders

Some groups provide a creche; check with group leaders beforehand

You need to come to all ten sessions as they fit together like a puzzle

## The Building Blocks of the Nurturing Programme



## What does it cover?

Over the 10-week Programme, you will look at lots of different topics, including

**Understanding**  
why children behave as they do

**Recognising**  
the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)

**Exploring**  
different approaches to discipline

**Finding** ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children

**Learning** the importance of looking after ourselves



This term we will be holding a parenting support programme for parents and carers of all children run by Early Years and Young People Support Services.

The Nurturing programme is like a jigsaw puzzle. All the topics are individual pieces, but when start putting them together then the puzzle starts to make sense. Working your way through it a piece at a time, completing activities along the way.

If this is something you are interested in attending please email our Family Engagement Officer Mrs Maria Balchin at

[maria.balchin@ogmorevaleps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:maria.balchin@ogmorevaleps.bridgend.cymru)

This is always a very popular course so sign up early to avoid disappointment.

# FAMILY SUPPORT AT OVP

## NEW AREA OF SUPPORT

## CITIZENS ADVICE SCHOOL FAMILY SERVICE

### SCHOOLS FAMILY ADVICE

### SOUTH WALES

Citizens Advice Bridgend provide free, confidential and impartial advice on a range of areas including debt, benefits, housing, employment and family.

If you or your family need help to find your way forward, speak to one of our advisers:

Every other Thursday  
at  
Ogmore Vale Primary

#### CONTACT US

01656 762800  
Monday - Friday 9am - 3.30pm



Sirrol Pen-y-Bont  
ar Ogwr  
Bridgend  
County Borough



The first session was this Thursday and it was great to see some of our families making good use of the service.

The next open session will be Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

If you would like to book a 1:1 session with the advice service please contact the office or Mrs Balchin our Family Engagement Officer who can support you in this.

[maria.balchin@ogmorevaleps.bridgend.cymru](mailto:maria.balchin@ogmorevaleps.bridgend.cymru)