



Brynnau Primary School Dosbarth Enfys Reception Class Newsletter Spring Term 2025

We all had a fantastic term last term in Dosbarth Enfys and we are so proud of how much progress the children have made already this school year. We are really looking forward to another amazing term full of learning and fun. **Our theme this term is 'What is Around the Corner?'** We have 'so what' questions or 'big ideas' that we plan our foundation learning around, with the children also influencing our planning and provision with their own ideas and questions. Our theme also has vocabulary that children will learn, supporting them to put their learning into context. Provision will continue to be planned through our themes as well as through the children's interests. Our big ideas for this term are as follows:

"It is cold and icy, so why don't penguins live in Brynnau?" - This big idea will focus on winter, the weather including snow and ice, similarities and differences, freezing and melting and our community.

"Plants and bugs are everywhere outside, so what?" - This big idea will focus on mini beasts, plants and growing, including the lifecycle of a seed and butterfly.

We will encourage the children to develop their language skills by playing a range of different games to encourage listening and speaking and turn taking and we continue to develop our curiosity and an understanding of the world around us through a range of fun adventures. We would like to involve you in our learning too and aim to hold a parent junk modelling workshop this term as an opportunity for you to come and be creative with your child. We will continue to share our learning with you by also inviting you to a workshop where the children showcase their learning at the end of the term. There certainly are lots of adventures ahead with Pip the Penguin and Colin the Caterpillar and it is going to be an exciting term!

Language, Literacy and Communication

We will continue to follow the Monster Phonics programme, and we are currently completing Term 1 with the tricky 'oo' and 'ar' digraphs and moving on to Term 2 this term focusing on 'ow, ee, ur, ai, or, oa, er, igh'. We will be working hard to recognise and write phonemes independently and then segmenting and blending the phonemes in simple words both in our reading and our writing. We will provide plenty of opportunities to develop mark making skills and we will focus on ensuring correct and comfortable pencil grips when we write. We will continue to use fine manipulation activities like cutting and threading to encourage finger strength and fine motor skills and we will practise writing simple words and letters daily including the tricky HFW. Opportunities will also be given to those children who are ready to use emergent spelling to write in short sentences. Children will be encouraged to sit all of their letters on the line, using finger spaces between words, capital letters at the beginning and full stops at the end. Please continue to read with your child at home, as well as segmenting and blending the words also discuss the pictures and build a story together. Please also comment in the reading record about if your child enjoyed the book at home. **Reading folders, when the children are able to recognise and 'hear' sounds to segment and blend words, will be sent home on a Friday.** Please can these be returned on a Monday if possible-Thank you! Enjoy sharing and talking about a range of books with your child and don't forget to read those all-important bedtime stories too!. Some useful websites are as follows:

[Monster Phonics For Parents | Monster Phonics](#)

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Don't forget that Oxford Owl is also a great website to practise reading skills and familiarise your child with the Oxford Reading Tree books and characters. We will answer the register in Welsh and ask and respond to simple questions. We will introduce Welsh animal names and weather vocabulary through songs and games and learn a range of Welsh songs in preparation for our Eisteddfod celebrations. We will also continue to learn basic commands and greetings and simple phrases. As part of our triple literacy approach the children will also be developing their Spanish skills. They will be learning vocabulary around 'colours' 'numbers' and simple greetings and songs.

Mathematics and Numeracy

Throughout the term the children will continue to focus on numbers including- Forming digits correctly, counting reliably up to at least 20 objects, reading numbers up to at least 20, writing numbers to at least 20, comparing numbers to at least 20, and ordering numbers to at least 20. We will continue to recite a range of number rhymes and songs and numbers up to at least 20, forwards, backwards and from different starting points. We will begin to use our number facts up to at least 10 and practise counting in 2's to 20 and in 10's to 100. We will use numbers from 1-20 in our daily play, learn about coins to 10p and explore ways to make bigger values using smaller coins whilst shopping in our community. Our daily 20-minute CLIC sessions will be as follows: **Counting:** Children learn to count forwards and backwards and to 'count on and back' from any number. **Learn Its:** Recalling basic number facts (addition) **It's Nothing New:** Children apply what they have learned to acquire new skills in a simple manner. **Calculation:** Children use and apply facts and knowledge from CLIC.

A useful websites is as follows: [Topmarks: teaching resources, interactive resources, worksheets, homework, exam and revision help](#)

Other information

Please could you ensure that your child has a pair of wellies (That fit!) **clearly labelled with their name** in school. These will continue to be stored in our welly shed for our woodland adventures.

Please remember that children are only allowed to wear small stud earrings and a watch and that all other items of jewellery are not allowed to be worn in school. If you have any concerns please come and see a member of staff as we are always happy to help!

PE

Reception children **WILL NOT** need a P.E kit this term as we will be continuing to take off our shoes and socks for our P.E sessions. Our P.E sessions are daily.

Labels

Please can ALL of your child's clothing be clearly labelled with their name e.g. coats, sweat shirts, trousers, t-shirts, skirts, cardigans, shoes, scarves, hats, gloves, as well as other belongings such as Wellington boots, water bottles, lunch boxes and book bags /backpacks.

Fruit Snack

A **small fruit** snack is required each day-Please place all fruit snacks in a pot or plastic bag clearly labelled with your child's name.

What can you do to help at home?

Ask and answer questions, share stories of your daily experiences and ask your child to do the same. Encourage your child to learn new vocabulary and phrases. Take a walk outdoors. Talk about the things you see and hear and encourage your child to ask and respond to the Who? What? Why? When? questions.

Provide opportunities for "Story time". Talk about the story, ask and answer questions about what they have heard. Encourage your child to retell or join in with a favourite story. If words or sounds are mispronounced, model with correct spoken language.

Practise sounds, tricky words and reading books every day.

Encourage a correct and comfortable pencil grip using index fingers and thumbs - our pinchy crocodile. Practise writing letters, simple words and numbers daily. Ensure that wide lines are being used to sit all the letters on.

Continue working on letter recognition and forming all letters correctly. Ensure that a capital letter is only used at the beginning of a sentence. Encourage the children to practise sounding out and writing words independently.

Continue to work on Term 1 sounds to consolidate any gaps (Reading and writing). s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss, j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu, ch, sh, th, ng,

Encourage your child to count/recite numbers daily in the correct order. You can count the stairs you climb, cars in your toy box, tins in the cupboard etc. Listen to and join in with number rhymes. Many of these can be found on Youtube.

Learn to recognise, name and write numbers to at least 20. Practise the concepts in the CLICS with your child at home.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's time at school, please do not hesitate to ask us. A member of staff is available to talk to you on the gate each morning, or again at the end of the school day and please free to email myself using the email below.

Here's to fun filled term....! We are so excited!

Kind regards,

Dosbarth Enfys

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