



Blaenhonddan Primary School

Ysgol Gynradd Blaenhonddan

Main Road / Heol Fawr
Bryncoch / Bryncoch
Neath / Castell-nedd SA10 7PE

Tel / Ffôn: 01639 644366

E-mail / E-bost: blaenhonddanprimary@npt.school

Gwefan / Website : blaenhonddanprimary.co.uk

Headteacher / Pennaeth: Mrs Gayle Major

E-mail / E-bost: MajorG4@hwbcymru.net

Chair of Governors / Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr: Mr Andrew Collins

Blaenhonddan Bulletin 7 - April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had an enjoyable Easter break. Staff and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back for the final term this year. Our learning for the summer term is going to be 'Music Through the Decades'. Miss Morgan and Mrs Prothero our Expressive Arts Leaders, have planned the learning and you will be informed of the decade next week. Summer term will be filled with fun, exploration and creativity.

Key Reminders for Summer Term 2026

Weather Readiness – The weather is finally changing and hopefully, we will be able to start to reduce the layers of clothing. Children will be using the outdoors for large parts of the day, weather permitting, so please can you ensure that they are dressed appropriately.

Uniform – Please ensure that all uniform items meet our school policy for the new term. Dresses or black shorts and polo shirts for the girls and black or grey shorts for the boys with black footwear. Can I politely remind you, that short black branded shorts, for example, Nike Pro are not part of our school uniform policy.

Jewellery and make up should not be worn to school.

The spare uniform racks will be put out this Friday and every Friday, so if your child needs a top up, please take what you need, we have lots of items in school.

Water Bottles – Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle with either water or squash to school every to maintain hydration. Sparkling, fizzy or flavoured waters are not allowed, please provide a refillable bottle of a regular size not Stanley. We have limited space on tables and cupboards and children are unable to refill bigger bottles using the water stations.

Attendance – Individual attendance data for last term will be sent home with your child on Tuesday. There are 2 sessions in a day, am and pm. If a child is off all week, 10 sessions will be missed, this does not mean he/she has had 10 days off. The target attendance for every child is 95%+.

Our attendance for the year is currently 92.7%. The 'Flu' virus has impacted negatively on our attendance, which is lower than usual. However, January – March have been very positive, thank you!

Sept – 93.6%

Oct – 94.9%

Nov – 85.9%

Dec – 91.5%

Jan – 95.7% – Thank you

Feb – 95.0% – Thank you

March – 94.2%.



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Punctuality

Our drop off time for pupils is 8:50am – 9:00am. Lessons start promptly immediately after 9am. Please can you ensure that you aim to arrive at school before 9:00am to enable your child to be in the class and ready to start the sessions. Every morning, teachers will provide a warm welcome, check in with pupils, discuss the activities for the day and address any misconceptions from the day before. Prompt arrival ensures your child has the best start to the day.

Important Dates for Your Diary

Monday April 13th – INSET Day

Tuesday April 14th – Return to School

Tuesday April 14th – Year 6 – Transition – After School Club at Dwr-Y-Felin – Pick up at 2:45pm

Monday 20th April – Year 6 visiting DYF to watch Shrek (am)

Friday 22nd May – Last Day of Half Term

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May – Half-Term break

Thursday 21st May – Sports Day provisional date 1 – weather permitting

Friday 5th June – Sports Day provisional date 2 – weather permitting

Wednesday June 10th – Neath Cricket Club Festival – Teams TBC

Friday June 12th – Sports Day provisional date 3 - weather permitting

Monday June 15th – Personalised Assessments Y2 – Y6 – Numeracy

Tuesday June 16th - Personalised Assessments Y2 – Y6 – Reasoning

Wednesday June 17th - Personalised Assessments Y2 – Y6 – Reading

Thursday June 18th – Welsh Bronze Award Verification

Friday 19th June – Additional Learning Needs Process & Procedures Information Session – Hall 9:15am – 10:00am

Friday June 26th – School Fete

Thursday July 9th – Year 6 Transition Day to DYF – Parents drop off and pick up at DYF

Thursday July 9th – Moving up Morning - transition for all pupils from Nursery-Class 5

Friday July 10th – End of Year Reports sent home

Friday July 10th – Leavers Assembly 1:30pm

Friday July 17th – Last Day of School

Monday July 20th – INSET DAY

There will be additional dates for the remaining Class Assemblies, trips and activities added to the Dojo calendar once they have been confirmed.



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Feedback from Parental Consultations – March 2026

What year group is your child in? Percentage of forms returned in each class – 89 Responses

Nursery / Reception – 18%

Class 1 / Class 2 – 31%

Class 3 / Class 4 – 18%

Class 5 / Class 6 – 18%

Class 7/8/9 – 15%

Are you happy with the standard of work? Is your child working at the expected level for their stage of learning?

Yes

94%

No

1%

Somewhat

4%

Is there evidence that your child is making progress in phonic acquisition and spelling?

Yes

96%

Some

3%

No

1%

Is there evidence that your child is making progress from their starting point in their reading?

Yes

91%

Maybe

8%

No

1%

Is there evidence that your child is making progress in their maths and numeracy skills?

Yes

94%

Maybe

3%

No

2%



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Can you see progress in your child's books from September to March?

Yes
92%
Maybe
4%
No
3%

Are the books marked up-to-date with informative comments for progress?

Yes
94%
No
6%

Is the standard of presentation good?

Yes
89%
Maybe
7%
No
4%

Additional Comments

The comments were overwhelmingly positive in terms of the information we provided and the standards of attainment and achievement across the school. Some suggestions/concerns raised were: -

- Provide phonic, spelling and reading data on a form that parents can take home.
Action – Parents will be provided with written information.
- Provide parents with information on gaps in phonic learning.
Action – a list of the phonics to work on will be included on the proforma above.
- Provide childcare through FABs whilst parents attend the parental consultation meetings or give out appointments in a timelier manner.
Action – childcare is not possible as children cannot be left with people who have not got a DBS unsupervised, but we can give out times much earlier.
- Allow Year 6 pupils to walk to DYF transition clubs
Action – Due to safeguarding constraints, we are not allowed to dismiss children to walk to DYF independently.



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- All classes to have a designated reading day.
Action – All classes in FP have designated reading days. I will discuss this with the two classes identified and provide more information upon our return to school.
- Request for more outdoor learning; Forest School.
Action – This is something the school is looking at for 26/27.

Thank you for the providing such valuable feedback. The staff and I are looking forward to another productive term working in partnership with you. As always, if there is anything you are concerned about or unhappy with, please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher or myself.

Kind regards,
Cofion cynnes,

Gayle Major
Headteacher



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