



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 (4) - November 2025

Dear Blaenhonddan families,

Please see the information below, summarising some events from the first half of the term, with important information and reminders for this term.

House Captains

Year 6 pupils have been busy casting their votes for House Captains.

The pupils discussed the qualities, skills and attributes that would be needed to fulfil the roles.

Staff set the children off to think about their decision, prior to the secret ballot taking place.

I am delighted to announce that **Dexter Harris - Coch**, **Morgan Jones – Gwyrdd** and **Evan Morgan – Melyn**.

Congratulations to you all and I am looking forward to working with you throughout the year.

Prefects and Buddy roles have also been allocated. Thank you to all of our Year 6 learners, who are making a difference in our school.

Parental Consultations

I hope you enjoyed looking at your child's books and found the time with the class teacher beneficial. The attendance once again was fantastic 98%, and the feedback has been extremely positive. We value your participation and honest views about how we can further improve.

Below is a summary of the feedback from the 96 responses received: -

Question 1 – What class is your child in?

N/R – 16 – 17%

C1/2 – 24 – 24%

C3/4 – 26 – 26%

C5/6 – 22 - 22%

C7/8/9 – 8 – 8%

Question 2 – Standards and expected level of work.

Yes – 92%

No - 7%

Maybe-1 %

Question 3 - Progress in literacy and numeracy.

Yes – 88%

No - 11%

Some – 1%



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Question 4 – Books marked with informative comments for progress.

Yes – 97%

No - 3%

Some – 0%

Question 5 – Standard of presentation.

Yes – 99%

No - 1%

Some – 0%

Question 6 – Use of information.

Yes – 99%

No - 0%

Some – 1%

Question 7 – Feedback – You feel that we could be even better if...

- There were more updates and photographs of learning activities in KS2.
- Reading and spelling ages were included on the feedback form.
- We shared the phonic sheets which identified which sounds a child was struggling to read and write so you could work on these at home.
- There were three parents' meetings per year and not always on a Monday.
- There was improved communication about activities and events at class level.
- Dojo was applied consistently and fairly in all classes.
- We could also include a meeting with the ALNCo during this time.
- The school used Dojo calendar for events.

Actions for the school

1. Mrs Major to request that staff think about communicating learning activities more regularly.
2. A question relating to spelling and phonics will be included on Microsoft Forms.
3. I will consider the 'timings' of the meetings to ensure that collaboratively we can have the greatest impact following consultations.
4. Parental consultations will take place on a Tuesday – Week 1 and Monday and Wednesday Week 2 (Please remind me if I get this wrong on the next date).
5. School will trial using Dojo calendar for the rest of this term.



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Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate a meeting with the ALNCo during parentals as we do not have the capacity with so many children on our register with ALN. Prior to the meeting, teachers gather information from TAs and the ALNCo.

Homework Reminder – Reading, Phonic and Spelling work will continue to be provided weekly. It is important that by the end of Year 6, that all children achieve the highest possible reading and spelling ages, based on their ability. Books need to be returned to school on reading days, for staff to listen to the children read and change the books. Spelling challenges will also be completed weekly, where applicable. Once again, it is important that children are supported at home to become familiar with the patterns. We expect children to get high marks in the tests, but more importantly, we need to see that the children are writing words correctly in their independent writing.

Maths – Mr. Jones has set up TT Rockstars children from Year 2 to Year 6. This is a fun way for the children to learn their tables. Evaluation has shown that many children in KS2 are struggling to solve mathematical problems because they are unable to recall their tables. Using TT Rockstars, we are already seeing a positive impact.

Personalised Assessments – Pupils from Class 2 – Class 6 completed the assessments prior to half term. The results of the tests are available on Hwb. The results show a snapshot of your child's learning on the day they did the test. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

Class 8 and Class 9 have been visited by an officer from the LA to assess and evaluate the classrooms and teaching. Both classes have received very, very positive feedback, and it has been confirmed that Blaenhonddan is doing a very good job at meeting the needs of our learners with Social Communication Difficulties. Well done and thank you to the children, staff and families.

Class Assemblies

As a result of feedback from parents requesting more visits to the school, Class Assemblies have been reinstated. Thank you for your fantastic support and we hope that you have enjoyed Class 4, Reception, Class 5 and Class 2 (on Friday) performances. The assemblies give an insight into a typical school day at Blaenhonddan. The children really enjoyed performing and enjoyed your attendance at the school, diolch. Assemblies will pause now, until after Christmas.



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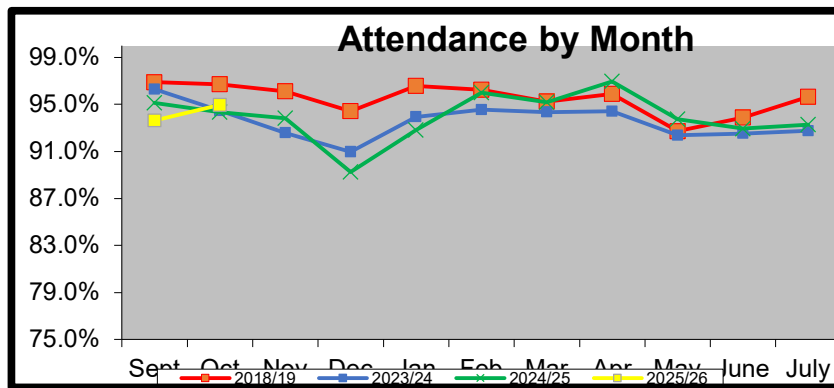
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Attendance and Punctuality

Thank you so much for responding so well to my plea for improved attendance. In September it was 93.63% and October was 94.96% - 1.3% increase. Please continue to support this area for improvement. We are now third in the cluster of schools.



Please can you ensure that your child is in school by 9am. Lessons start promptly between 9:05-9:10 and it is very important that all children are in the class and ready to learn. If your child arrives after this time, please sign your child in at the office. A printout of your child's attendance will be sent home this week.

FABs

Thank you to our fantastic FAB for the Spooky Day. I know they are very busy arranging the events for Christmas, so please be prepared for the Christmas communications that will be sent.

Christmas Concerts

Children and staff are busy preparing for the concerts.

Nursery will be doing Wiggly Nativity

Classes R, 1, 2 8 – Christmas with the Aliens

Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 – It's Christmas!

Auditions have taken place, and parts will be allocated by the end of this week.

Gayle Major
Headteacher



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