



Summer 1 - 2024

Newsletter

An extremely warm welcome to the Summer Term 2024! Although the weather hasn't been the 'best', we hope that it improves over the next few weeks. All staff have continued to be impressed by our children who have continued to show such positive attitudes to their learning, along with wonderful levels of excitement and enthusiasm.

We have lots of exciting activities planned for the summer term, and look forward to welcoming our whole community to our Colour Run, Sports Day and Summer Fete.

We will continue monitor attendance this term. Remember every day that your child misses impacts on their education. If you are keeping your child home, please contact us at the school office. Fixed Penalty Notices are now being issued for holidays absences over 10 days.

#MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT

Start and End Times

Foundation Phase

9.00 - 3.20

Nursery/ Reception - Collect from class

Foundation Phase - Collect on School Yard

KS2

9.00 - 3.30

Junior Children - Collect at the walking gate



Important Email Addresses

School Office

office@gwaunfarren.merthyr.sch.uk

Mr Lewis

head@gwaunfarren.merthyr.sch.uk



Transition days

There will be various transition activities during this term. There will be days where the children will spend time in their new classes in readiness for September 2024. These dates are to be confirmed. There are also transition days for year 6 pupils going to their chosen comprehensive schools.

Term time holidays

Please note the school policy on Fixed Term Penalties has recently changed. If your holiday is over 10 days a FPN will automatically be issued. Only those who work for the armed forces are exempt (Welsh Government Guidance). FPNs can be issued termly.

Lateness

The number of children arriving late seems to be increasing. When a child arrives late to school they may have missed important lessons/ activities which creates difficulty for them and the staff. Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives at school on time. Children should be in school for a 9:00am start.

School Uniform

A number of children are coming to school without the correct school uniform. We greatly appreciate your support with this matter. We are seeing a growing number of pupils wearing false nails - these are not permitted as they are dangerous to all pupils. The only jewellery permitted in school are stud earrings and a watch. If your child is wearing other jewellery your child will be asked to remove them and they will be kept safely by staff until the end of the day.

Sports Day

Please see the events table below for dates. However, we are issuing our usual warning, that dates as always are reliant upon good weather conditions. Should there be adverse weather conditions we will rearrange for another date.

Parents evening at the end of term - Tuesday July 16th - 3.30 - 4.30

Please note that the final parent's evening is for pupils to share their work. The children's work will be on display in the classroom. Please bring your child along for them to discuss their learning with you.

Parking

We continue to receive complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking by parents / carers at the start and end of the school day. Please refrain from parking on any double yellow lines and refrain blocking access to any private property around the school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

On-line safety

We continue to receive reports of children engaging in on-line activity where inappropriate messages are shared. Please monitor your child's devices closely and encourage them to be responsible when on-line. More information on safer internet use can be found on <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>



COLOUR RUN
WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY

All children will take part in our sponsored colour run on Wednesday 22nd May.

Please can the children wear a White T-Shirt.

All children will need to wear a pair of Sun glasses.

The colour run will begin at 2.15pm.

Parents are more than welcome to come and watch.




**GWAUNFARREN
PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA**

**FAMILY
SUMMER
NIGHT**

Party

FRIDAY JULY 5TH
@
THE WEST END BOWLS CLUB

FOR TICKETS CONTACT
gwaunfarrenpta@gmail.com

**FAMILY
TICKETS
£5
(4 PEOPLE)**

**ADDITIONAL TICKETS
£1**

Over the next week every pupil will bring home a colour run sponsor form.

All information about our colour run can be found at

<https://www.gwaunfarrenprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Colour+Run+2024&pid=105>

Further information regarding permission will be sent out shortly.

All Summer Trips are now booked and on ParentPay. Please log in for more details.

Nursery - 17th July - Colliers Farm

Reception & Year 1 - 8th July - Parc Play

Year 2 & Year 2/3 - Techniquest - 18th July

Year 3 & Yea 4 - 30th April - SWAM

Year 4/5 and Year 5 - 25th June - Heatherton

Year 6 - 4th July - Vertigo and Bowling

INSET Days 2024/ 25

Monday September 2nd

Friday October 4th

Friday October 25th

Monday January 6th

Two other dates TBC

Siarter Iaith Silver Award

The Siarter Iaith, is a project introduced by the Welsh Assembly to all schools in Wales, to promote the Welsh language, to develop a Welsh ethos and encourage pupils to improve their Welsh language skills. The Charter provides a framework for schools to follow in order to achieve the awards. There are three levels of Award, Bronze, Silver and Gold.



At Gwaunfarren Primary School, we have worked as a whole school team,

teachers, support staff and pupils together, to achieve the targets set for the Silver Award. We are delighted and proud to announce that in April, Mrs Davies, from CSC, conducted an assessment of our progress and recently presented us with the Silver Award.

Our Criw Cymraeg and Mr Jones have worked extremely hard to gather evidence for this award. They have worked collaboratively with all staff across the school to monitor the

use of Welsh and to raise standards of Welsh across the school. We look forward to start planning our journey towards the Gold Award.

Heart of the Community Bronze Award

As we know engaging and empowering our school communities has never been ^{SEP} more important.

Over the last year we have worked hard to engage with our community both in and out of school. We are continually looking at ways to support our families and have increased support sessions in addition to making greater links with external agencies.

We are proud to announce we have achieved the Heart of the Community Bronze Award. Thank you to our whole school community for your fantastic engagement, and thank you to all of our community partners for your valued support. We greatly appreciate everyone's efforts for our children, families and our school.

We will continue our journey and now start to plan the next steps towards our silver accreditation.



Summer Term Topic - May the force be with you!

During the summer term the children's learning will be generated within the STEM Area of Learning. Each year group will focus on a different 'Big Question' within their science topic.

Year 1	-	How do different forces affect me?
Year 2	-	How do different forces affect how things move?
Year 2/3	-	How do different forces affect how things move?
Year 3	-	How do different forces affect how things move?
Year 4	-	How do different forces affect how things move?
Year 4/ 5	-	How do forces affect our world and our solar system?/ How do forces make life so difficult to live in Space?
Year 5	-	How do forces affect our world and our solar system?
Year 6	-	How do forces affect our world and our solar system?

Why not start the conversation at learning with your child based on the questions above? It would be amazing to see of the children's home learning - please send in any work with your child.

Key Dates

Monday 6 th May	-	Bank Holiday
Monday 7 th May	-	Mrs Stephens/ Mrs Bibby - A465 Trip
Wednesday 22 nd May	-	Colour Run (2.15pm)
Friday 24 th May	-	Last Day of Term
Monday 3 rd June	-	Children return to school
Thursday 20 th June	-	Sports Day
Wednesday 26 th / Thursday 27 th June	-	Year 6 Penydre Transition Days
Thursday 11 th July	-	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 12 th July	-	Summer Fete - 1pm
Tuesday 16 th July	-	Open Parent Evening - Book Looks
Friday 19 th July	-	Last Day of Term

Coffee morning at the Gwaunfarren Bungalow on Friday the 17th of May 2024 at 9am for parents and carers.

Come and meet your Community Focused team to tell us what matters to you.

For more information, please contact Huw Williams on 07926698859



PLAYGROUP

@
Gwaunfarren Primary School

COME AND JOIN US!

TUESDAYS DURING SCHOOL TERMS
9.15AM - 10.15
STARTING 7TH NOVEMBER
GWAUNFARREN PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHILDREN AGED 0 - 3 (£1 PER CHILD)

FRIENDSHIP & COMMUNITY
CREATIVE ACTIVITIES
REFRESHMENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE SCHOOL
ON 01685351810
OR
HUW ON - 07926698859



The Shine team will be in school every other Wednesday and will be holding parent drop ins between 9 and 10am, in the school bungalow.



Please pop along if you would like some more information or additional support for your child.

A NEW INITIATIVE

We are excited to introduce to you a new initiative working collaboratively with Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), schools and other multiagencies. This has been inspired by the Children's Commissioners "No wrong door" report and in-line with the Nest framework. Our "nip-it-in-the-bud" service aims to embed the whole-school approach to emotional wellbeing and mental health, across Merthyr, Rhonda Cynon Taf and Bridgend.

Shine will be onsite from 8th May



Please keep up to date with our social media posts...



Twitter - @GwaunfarrenSch

Facebook - Gwaunfarren Primary School

Parent Pay - Please download the Parent Pay app - you will need to book your child's lunch on this even if they are Free School Meals

Website - <https://www.gwaunfarrenprimaryschool.co.uk/>

Text Messages - Please ensure we have your correct contact details at the office, as we send regular messages