

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

‘Strength through knowledge and faith.’

Friday 20th December 2024

Attendance: 92%

A Message from the Chair of Governors – Advent 2024

The month of December has been a very busy and enjoyable time of preparation for Christmas. The children and staff have produced work and performances of a very high standard, bringing the Christmas message into the lives of so many with their Nativity play ‘Christmas Counts’, Carol Service in Coity Church as well as the choir singing at the Christmas Tree Festival in Nolton and a visit to Bryn y Cae Residential Home.

It is encouraging to see that during this Advent time children have not only prepared for Christmas and all that means in the Christian calendar but have also been made aware of the Christmas story and celebrated the Christmas gift of Jesus with others.

The people who enable these activities to take place deserve great credit and I wish to thank all staff at Archdeacon John Lewis Primary School whose professionalism and dedication to our school community has been outstanding. I would also like to thank all parents for the support given to the school as working together as a team is essential if a successful outcome is to be achieved for pupils.

Our children continue to make good progress in their learning which has been verified by visits from the Central South Consortia and many visitors comment on the remarkable friendliness and courtesy they experience from pupils and staff when visiting AJL.

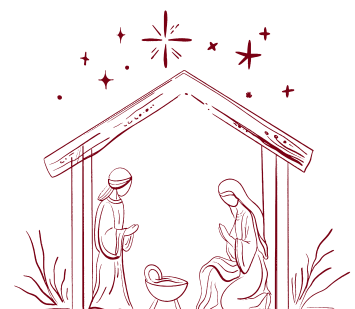
I was pleased to see the completion of the Forest Schools building in our field that will enable more outdoor activities in the spring and summer months next year.

Advent time is very busy, and our heads become filled with the festivities, yet it is also a time to wait with hopeful hearts.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, we are encouraged to share ‘tidings of comfort and joy’ and pray that the peace of Christ will dwell amongst us and across all parts of the world.

I wish you all joy and peace at Christmas, described by the angel to the shepherds as, “I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.” (Luke 2.10)

M J Hawthorne
Chair of Governors



Keep in Touch:

www.ajlprimary.co.uk | 01656 815520 | admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru | Message us using the School Gateway app



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the staff at Archdeacon John Lewis Primary School. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda oddi wrth holl staff Ysgol Gynradd yr Archddiacon John Lewis. Diolch am eich cefnogaeth barhaus.

This week, pupils in Mrs Hodges' and Mrs Bowen's class enjoyed some virtual workshops with St Fagans.



Some parents/carers might find this programme interesting. It highlights effects of mobile phone use in children.

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/swiped-the-school-that-banned-smartphones>



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We hope you have enjoyed our recent performances both at Coity Church and Nolton Church.
We are so proud of all of the children!



New Audio/Visual Equipment

We were very fortunate to secure a grant from the Welsh Government for some new audio/visual/ICT equipment. This grant has allowed us to purchase 5 new interactive, smart TVs which have been placed in areas of the school that are used by all pupils.

There has been a lot of excitement as the children watched them be installed over the last few days and I'm sure that all pupils will benefit from these upgrades.

Senedd Committees

Today, our Senedd Committees met to agree their action points for the New Year. It is always a pleasure to see and hear the children so enthusiastic and passionate about their committees.

You can see more information about what each Senedd Committee will be focusing on on our website: <https://www.ajlprimary.co.uk/about-us/our-senedd-committees>

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Upcoming Events

- Monday 6th January: All pupils return to school.



Hwb Microsoft

Get FREE Microsoft Office and Minecraft at home!

Download and install the latest Microsoft Office tools including **Word, Excel and PowerPoint** as well as **Minecraft: Education Edition**

To learn more and access your **FREE** software visit:
hwb.gov.wales/microsoft

The banner features the Hwb logo, the Microsoft logo, and an illustration of a teacher and four students sitting around a table with laptops. Speech bubbles above them contain icons for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Minecraft.



Microsoft 365 is FREE to learners and teachers in maintained schools in Wales!

Simply log in to Hwb and download Microsoft Office on up to 15 of your personal devices. Office includes: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access, OneNote, Outlook and Skype for Business.

You can also access Minecraft: Education Edition for free too!

Minecraft: Education Edition is an open-world game that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive environment.

In order for your family to benefit from a FREE Microsoft 365 licence, you or your child (if over 13 years of age) must tell the school that you give consent for them to access Hwb Additional Services. If you are having trouble downloading the software at home, please contact your child's school to find out how to give consent.

Please Keep Us Updated!

Please ensure that your details are kept up to date with the school office. It is essential that we hold up to date address details, phone numbers and email addresses for all parents/carers and emergency contacts.

Any updates to personal information can be submitted on the Gateway app or by email to admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru



Keep in Touch:

RECYCLE YOUR TREE



Tŷ Hafan

CHILDREN'S HOSPICE
HOSBIS I BLANT



TO REGISTER

SCAN HERE!

www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

- Registration Opens 15th Nov 2024
- Registration Closes 5th Jan 2025
- Collecting 9-11th January 2025

giftaid it



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

After costs, 85% of monies raised will go to Tŷ Hafan Children's Hospice. The remaining 15% will be distributed to charities in the local community.

JustHelping supports volunteers, businesses, and charities to contribute to their community and the environment. Our national Christmas tree collection raises essential funds for charities in the local community.

