

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

'Strength through knowledge and faith.'

Friday 6th June 2025

Attendance: 92%

It's been a relatively quiet week here at school, but sometimes a calm week is just what we need to recharge and stay focussed. Even without major events, the classrooms have still been full of curiosity and creativity and we have been setting the stage for some exciting activities coming up before the end of term.

We have been treated to some lovely weather since Easter and although a little rainy this week, the children have enjoyed preparing for our Sports Day, next Friday, with great enthusiasm. Fingers crossed the weather will be good and we can look forward to a fun, energetic afternoon full of school spirit, teamwork, and healthy competition.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend and a sunny next week.

Mrs Forster

Miss school, miss out!

Attending school on time, every day, is not only important for a child's learning, but also for their wellbeing, achievement, and overall development.

In a new, short film produced by BCBC, the children discuss the reasons why regularly attending school is vital for their happiness and wellbeing, further education, and job opportunities.

<https://youtu.be/1usZSODHYqo>

If you're concerned about your child's attendance, it is important to seek help and advice from school staff as soon as possible. We are there to help and provide necessary support and guidance to you and your child.

www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-attendance/

Keep in Touch:

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

Safeguarding and Child Protection information can be found here: <https://www.ajlprimary.co.uk/whos-who/safeguarding-and-child-protection>

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 11th June: Brake Kid's Walk (more info on the poster below)
- Friday 13th June: Pre-Loved Uniform stall during Sports Day (see poster below)
- Friday 13th June: Sports Day. **Parents/Carers welcome onsite from 1:00pm**
- Monday 16th June: Eucharist, 9:15am. All welcome! ✝️
- Tuesday 17th June: Family Engagement Officer Drop-In Session, 8:45am-9:15am
- Tuesday 24th June: Family Engagement Officer Drop-In Session, 8:45am-9:15am
- Friday 27th June: Messy Church (Mrs Richards - Year 5/6)
- Tuesday 1st July: Family Engagement Officer Drop-In Session, 8:45am-9:15am
- Friday 4th July: Sports Day (2nd date in case the weather is bad on 13th June!)
- Monday 7th July: Year 6 Leavers Service, Llandaff Cathedral (for pupils/staff only)
- Tuesday 8th July: Family Engagement Officer Drop-In Session, 8:45am-9:15am
- Tuesday 15th July: Family Engagement Officer Drop-In Session, 8:45am-9:15am
- Thursday 17th July: Year 6 Leavers Service, at school (parents/carers/families welcome)
- **Monday 21st July: INSET Day 6 of 6**

Sports Day



- Parents/carers are welcome on site from 1pm.
- The PTA will be selling ice lollies (50p), soft drinks (50p) and sweet cones (£1) - cash only.
- A pre-loved uniform stall will also be running.
- Photos/Videos for personal/family use only. Please do not share photos of other children on social media.
- Reserve date: Friday 4th July.

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



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Groups

Small groups of children will come together to enjoy bespoke activities with the family engagement officers who will support them in accordance with their needs.

Groups are tailored to different areas of need such as self-esteem, wellbeing, managing emotions, friendships, transition and attendance.

Groups will be an hour long, once a week, for up to six weeks.

Family Engagement Officer process

Referrals can be made via the school or a self-referral using our referral form.

The family engagement officer will arrange to complete a family assessment to look at what strengths the family has and how these can be built upon to ensure the best outcomes for the whole family.

The family engagement officer will support the family to address any concerns/questions the family has regarding their child/children.

They will collaborate with the family to develop a support plan that will identify support needs and outline the direct work needed, they will also keep the family updated on how sessions are progressing and will share any advice, resources and strategies.



Bridgend County Borough Council

Education, Early Years and Young People Directorate

Pupil Support Services



Pupil Support Services

Bridgend Pupil Support Services (PSS) is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of Family Engagement Officers (primary school age), Lead Workers (secondary secondary age) and Counsellors (age 10 to 25). These teams support the improvement of pupil wellbeing, attendance, attainment, and a reduction in the number of children not in education, through targeted and needs-led interventions.

Children, young people and their families sometimes need a little extra help and support to have happy, healthy and successful lives.



Family Engagement Officers

Family Engagement Officers work with children of primary school age and their families to improve confidence, self-esteem, resilience and attendance.

Support with children is usually delivered in a school setting and can involve one to one interventions or group-based sessions. Children are supported to manage their emotions, develop friendships, improve family relationships and to transition into new year groups, which in turn has a positive impact on school attendance, attainment and wellbeing.

Additionally, they offer parents/carers the opportunity to receive parenting support around routines, boundaries and behaviours.



Your Family Engagement Officer is:

Sara-Jayne Thomas

Drop in sessions:

Tuesdays 8:45am-9:15am

You can contact them on:

07977609433

School Essentials Grant 2025-2026

The School Essentials Grant is available to children and young people eligible for free school meals (eFSM) who will be in year groups Reception to Year 11 in September 2025. It is also available for all children looked after by the local authority.

You are eligible if your child is currently in receipt of free school meals, **but it does not extend to pupils who receive free school meals under the transitional protection or universal primary free school meal scheme.**

Funding of £125 is available for each eligible learner with the exception of those going in to Year 7 who will be entitled to £200 (to reflect the increased cost of starting secondary school).

You can use the grant to pay for:

- school uniforms and footwear
- sports equipment and kit
- school activities, including musical lessons, school trips and after school clubs
- classroom essentials, including pens, pencils and school bags
- laptop or tablet if you cannot loan it from the school.

The scheme for the 2025-26 academic year will begin on 1st July 2025 and end on 31st May 2026.

No payments will be made until after 1st July 2025, and/or until the school has completed eligibility checks. Only one claim per child, per academic year can be made even if the child moves schools.

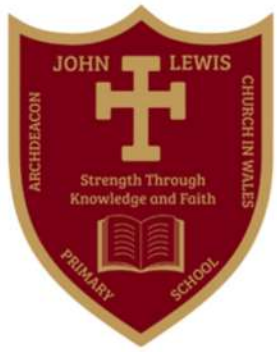
Parents/Carers will be able to apply for the School Essentials Grant 2025-2026 via this link once BCBC have updated the page with the 2025-2026 information and form:

www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/grants-for-school-pupils/school-essentials-grant

Paper copies of the form are available from the school office by request or can be downloaded from our website [here](#).

For pupils going into Year 7 in September, the form should be sent to the Comprehensive School that they will be going to. All other forms should be returned to the school office. Forms completed online will be automatically emailed to us.

If you have any queries about the School Essentials Grant please don't hesitate to contact the school office and Mrs McCall will be happy to advise you.



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PRE-LOVED UNIFORM & LOST PROPERTY WILL BE PERIODICALLY DONATED OR RECYCLED IF WE ARE SHORT ON STORAGE SPACE.

We're taking part



Brake's Kids WALK

for safe and healthy journeys

Run by  **Brake**
the road safety charity

Sponsored by

esure

Sheilas' Wheels

The Healthy Schools Ambassadors will be holding a special assembly and pupils are welcome to join in the theme from Brake by wearing stripes (like a zebra crossing!) on Weds 11th June



FIT 4 CHANGE



IMPACT

Wellbeing Solutions LTD

**GET READY TO MOVE,
GROW, AND ACHIEVE—TOGETHER!**

What we do..

The Fit 4 Change Project is a fun, **FREE** programme for families, parents, carers, and children (ages 8+) in Port Talbot and Bridgend.

Boost your fitness, build confidence, strengthen self-awareness, and learn to push and support each other as a team.

Through goal setting, group workouts, and positive habits, we're creating stronger families and connected communities.

Contact Us:



info@Impact-raw.com



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



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LEARN TO SWIM

AT HALO LEISURE



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first 2 months
Direct Debit!

Offer available between
1st - 30th June 2025

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Working in partnership for the people of Bridgend County Borough

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