

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

'Strength through knowledge and faith.'

Friday 7th November 2025

Attendance: 93%

This half term, our school will be focusing on the two important Christian values: **learned** and **wise**. These values remind us that education is not just about gaining knowledge, but also about using that knowledge in ways that reflect God's love and truth.

Throughout this half term, the pupils will explore these values in worship, class reflections, and daily activities. From helping others in the playground to showing perseverance in their studies, our pupils are learning that wisdom and knowledge grow together when grounded in faith.

As we continue to nurture these values together, we warmly welcome all parents to our Parent Consultation Evenings next week. These meetings provide a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your child's progress, discuss their learning journey, and share how we can continue to support them in becoming both learned and wise.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs L Forster

Acting Headteacher



Children in Need - Friday 14th November 2025

We will be 'challenging ourselves' with various sporting activities throughout the day.

Pupils are welcome to wear sports clothes and/or Pudsey clothes. Please ensure pupils are appropriately dressed for school and to take part in sports activities (i.e no crocs or sliders).

If you'd like to contribute to our CiN fundraising please do so via this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/ajl-childreninneed25>



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

- **Monday 10th November:** Applications for Reception September 2026 open
- **Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th November** - Parent's Evenings
- **Friday 14th November:** Children in Need and PTA Matinee
- **Friday 21st November:** Messy Church (Miss Conlon's class)
- **Friday 21st November:** Sparkle & Sweets PTA event
- **Thursday 27th November:** Sparkle & Cake PTA event
- **Friday 28th November:** Eucharist, 9:15am. All welcome
- **Friday 28th November:** PTA Christmas Fayre and Class Enterprise Stalls
- **Monday 1st December:** Audio tests for Year 1 pupils with the School Nursing team
- **Monday 8th December:** Nativity Dress Rehearsal (N - Year 3)
- **Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December:** Nativity Plays (N - Year 3) 9:30am
- **Thursday 11th December:** Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day
- **Thursday 11th December:** 'The Roaming Gnome' Christmas show (kindly funded by the PTA)
- **Friday 12th December:** PTA Christmas Discos (more info to follow)
- **Thursday 18th December:** Christmas Service in Coity Church (Year 1 - Year 6), 10:00am
- **Friday 19th December:** Last day of term
- **Monday 5th January:** INSET Day 3 of 6
- **Tuesday 6th January:** All pupils return to school

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



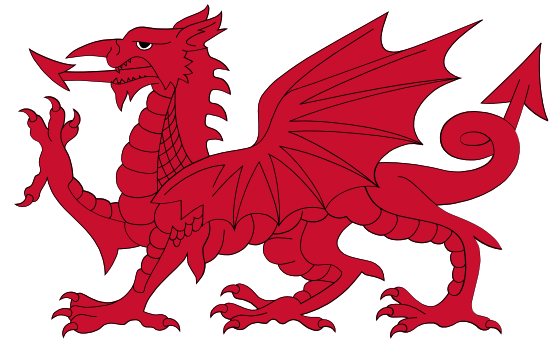
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Criw Cymraeg



Star of the Week



Values Certificate



Switch Off

Fortnight



We're taking part on:

Monday 10th November

Learn how to save energy at jointhepod.org/SOF

ECO Schools Home Challenge 2025

We are challenging you to give up your screens, your computers, your phones, your televisions and save the planet for two weeks!

Your actions have a BIG impact on our world!

101 Fun Activities For Kids That Don't Involve Screen Time

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a Bug Hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant some seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a musical instrument |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Measure a tree | <input type="checkbox"/> Sort out your toys | <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a sound hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant some seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> Draw your town | <input type="checkbox"/> Do 25 star jumps or burpees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a secret code | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a play | <input type="checkbox"/> Make play dough |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create a time capsule | <input type="checkbox"/> Make sun shadows | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint a rock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make marshmallows | <input type="checkbox"/> Do some birdwatching | <input type="checkbox"/> Sort out your LEGO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create a collage out of magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> Play a game of Beggar My Neighbour | <input type="checkbox"/> Make some soap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make paper people | <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph a rainbow of things | <input type="checkbox"/> Sing some songs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Read a book | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a Fortune Teller | <input type="checkbox"/> Go on an alphabet hunt |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Run around the garden 10 times | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a fairy garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Make ice pops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make bubble mix and blow bubbles | <input type="checkbox"/> Make pizza dough | <input type="checkbox"/> Fold napkins into fan shapes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a treasure hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Build a card house | <input type="checkbox"/> Skip 100 times |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a bird feeder | <input type="checkbox"/> Bake some cookies | <input type="checkbox"/> Write in an ancient language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learn a new instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Play Paper, Scissors, Stone | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview your grandparents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a treasure hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a family newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Make invisible ink |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write a Haiku | <input type="checkbox"/> Make jelly/jello | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a fairy catalogue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draw on the sidewalk with chalk | <input type="checkbox"/> Brush or walk the dog | <input type="checkbox"/> Make up a new dance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create a weather station | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn a magic trick | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a miniature book |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make slime | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a marble run | <input type="checkbox"/> Make s'mores |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dress up | <input type="checkbox"/> Play solitaire | <input type="checkbox"/> Listen to a podcast or story |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draw a fun factory | <input type="checkbox"/> Try blow art | <input type="checkbox"/> Build an obstacle course |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make a paper airplane that flies | <input type="checkbox"/> Create a self-portrait | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn to sew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design paper airplanes | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a short story in 100 words | <input type="checkbox"/> Play hopscotch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have a scavenger hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Build a new Lego creation | <input type="checkbox"/> Do some gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make garden perfume | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a flick book | <input type="checkbox"/> Wash the car |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jump on the trampoline 100 times | <input type="checkbox"/> Learn a card trick | <input type="checkbox"/> Make lemonade |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draw a comic book | <input type="checkbox"/> Go for a bike or scooter ride | <input type="checkbox"/> Draw your family tree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paint a picture | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a smoothie | <input type="checkbox"/> Help make dinner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have an arm-wrestling match | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly a kite | <input type="checkbox"/> Draw around your hands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make finger or sock puppets | <input type="checkbox"/> Play marbles | <input type="checkbox"/> Make gingerbread men |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do some colouring | <input type="checkbox"/> Tidy your room | <input type="checkbox"/> Build a den or fort |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Play hopscotch | <input type="checkbox"/> Make mudpies | <input type="checkbox"/> Make a sun catcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make honeycomb | <input type="checkbox"/> Write a letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Have a disco |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Go on a nature hunt | | <input type="checkbox"/> Look at old photo albums |

65 INDOOR KIDS ACTIVITIES ...that don't involve screens

Be Creative

- Design cards for your friends
- Make your own play dough
- Make play dough sculptures
- Make slime
- Make a necklace out of beads or pasta
- Choreograph a dance
- Plan and perform a play
- Make shadow puppets
- Mix shaving cream & food coloring
- Use recycled materials for sculpture
- Baking soda and vinegar eruption
- Create a design with popsicle sticks
- Paint rocks
- Create something from a large box
- Create a secret code
- Create a giant paper airplane
- Build with blocks
- Create an art gallery with your artwork
- Make a collage
- Sew something with fabric
- Make sock puppets
- Write a poem
- Take photos
- Record a video
- Paint with sponges
- Build a structure with playing cards
- Use craft supplies to create animals
- Draw a picture of a person
- Cut out paper snowflakes
- Make something with pipe cleaners
- Make bookmarks

Stay Active

- Create an indoor obstacle course
- Plan an indoor scavenger hunt
- Build a fort with couch cushions

Play a game

- Play a card game
- Play a board game
- Have paper airplane races
- Line up dominos and watch them fall
- Play string games (Cats in the Cradle)
- Solve a crossword puzzle
- Put a puzzle together
- Play 20 questions
- Design a board game and play it
- Play with Legos

Imaginative Play

- Play dress up
- Play school
- Play farm
- Play family
- Play zoo
- Put on a puppet show

Cook & Bake

- Bake a snack
- Make ice cream
- Make popicles
- Cook a meal
- Do a blind taste test

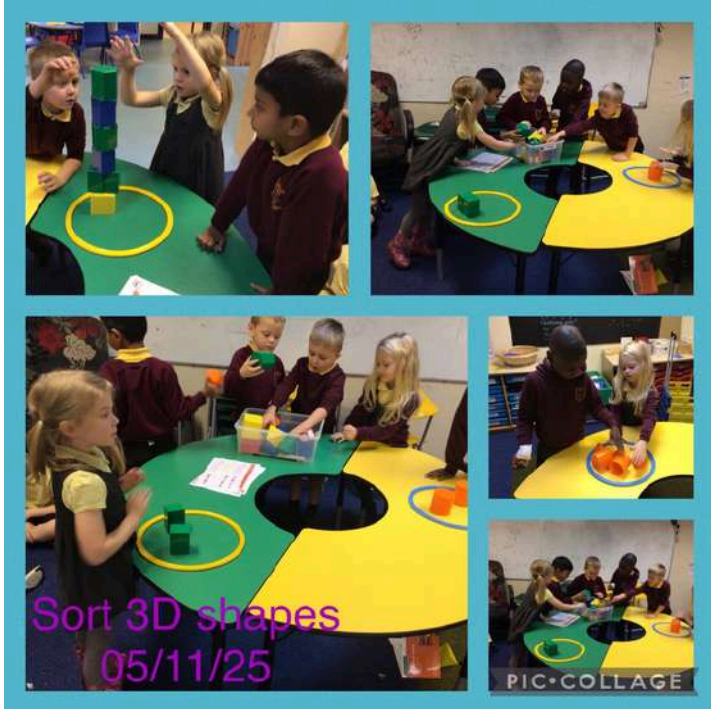
Other

- Write letters to family or friends
- Write in a journal
- Leave notes or gifts in neighbor's mailboxes
- Create and bury a time capsule
- Read a book
- Read a magazine
- Do a random act of kindness
- Turn on music and have a dance party
- Stack cups and knock them down
- Tell or write a story

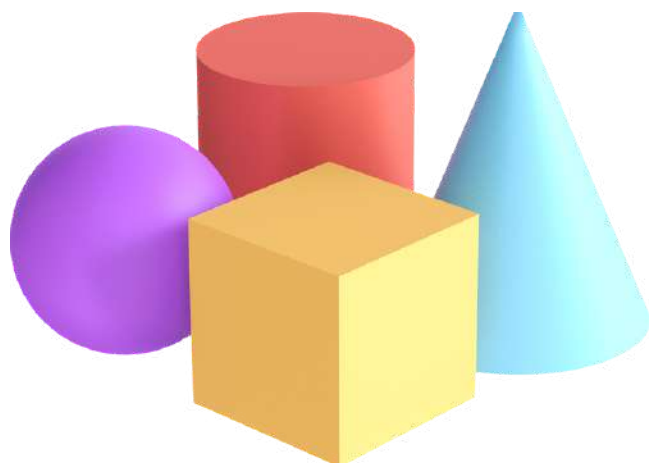


Dosbarth Mrs Bowen enjoyed a great day out at St Fagans. They took part in a workshop all about toys.





Dosbarth Mrs Hodges have been working on recognising, naming and sorting 3D shapes.



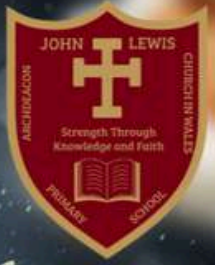
Super Ambassadors



Just before half term our Super Ambassadors took part in a zoom meeting with children across Wales to meet the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Rocio Cifuentes. We found out she started in her role in 2022 and will hold the post for 7 years. We found out that she enjoys swimming in her spare time as she finds it so relaxing.

Our Ambassadors asked her the following question:

"What is the most difficult part of your job?" Her answer was: "The most difficult part of my job is when Welsh Government don't listen to all the suggestions that my team and I share to try and make life better for all the children in Wales." What a great question.



£3.50

YEAR 2 - YEAR 6

PTA MATINEE

FRI 14TH NOV, 3.20PM-5.30PM

TICKET INCLUDES: FILM (TBC), POPCORN, DRINK AND A HOT DOG
PLEASE BOOK ON THE GATEWAY APP!

TICKET

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