

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

'Strength through knowledge and faith.'

Friday 5th December 2025

Attendance: 93%

There is a wonderful sense of excitement in school as the children prepare for their Nativity concerts and our upcoming church service. Classrooms are filled with singing, storytelling and costume-making as everyone looks forward to sharing these special moments with you.

As part of our preparations, the children have been learning about the meaning of Advent—a time of waiting, hope and joyful expectation. They have enjoyed exploring the idea of getting our hearts and minds ready for Christmas, both through reflection and through the shared activities that bring our school community together.

This week, the children have also been discovering The Story of Refuge from a rather unexpected perspective—the donkey's view. Seeing the journey of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus through the eyes of the faithful donkey has captured their imaginations and helped them understand the challenges and bravery involved in that long and difficult journey.

We were delighted to welcome Rev. Roger for another inspiring Open the Book worship. He shared the Christmas story from Mary and Joseph's viewpoint, helping the children think about what it might have felt like to place their trust in God and in each other during such an extraordinary time.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

We are also pleased to share that during the Nativity concerts the PTA will continue selling raffle tickets for our beautifully stocked Christmas Hamper, kindly donated by staff. The hamper is filled with a wonderful selection of Marks & Spencer treats, including:

Red wine, white wine, prosecco, winter berry juice, pickled onions, Bramley apple sauce, redcurrant jelly, mini gingerbread biscuits, panettone, Christmas Percy Pigs, iced Christmas cake bar, cocktail nuts, cheese twists, cheese biscuits, shortbread, star tortilla crisps, maple pigs-in-blankets flavoured crisps, a Christmas pudding wreath, after-dinner mints and Christmas crackers.

All proceeds will support school activities and resources for the children. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

We are incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm, creativity and thoughtfulness as they prepare for the festivities ahead. We look forward to celebrating with you at the Nativity performances and church service, where the children will bring these stories to life in their own special way.

With warm wishes,

Mrs L Forster

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 8th December:** Nativity Dress Rehearsal (N - Year 3)
- **Tuesday 9th December:** Nativity Play (N - Year 3) 9:30am
- **Wednesday 10th December:** Nativity Play (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 (see poster below - please purchase tickets on the gateway app by Weds 10th Dec)
- **Thursday 18th December:** Christmas Service in Coity Church (Year 1 - Year 6), 10:00am. All parents/carers are welcome to join us!
- **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

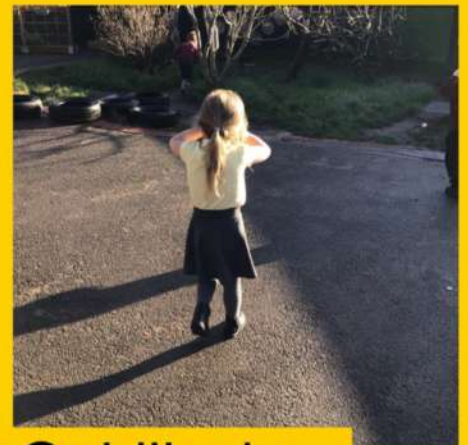


Keep in Touch:

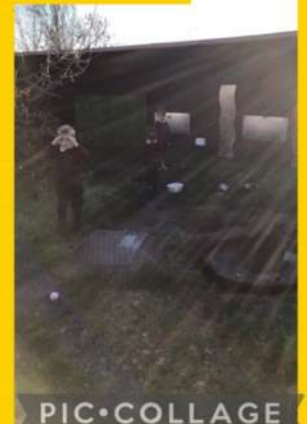
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Goldilocks and the three bear



Looking for Goldilocks







Working with Nottingham Trent University and Cardiff Met on a Welsh Government collaboration to develop reading skills.



Job Vacancy - Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant



**Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-Bont ar Ogwr
Bridgend County Borough Council**

https://jobs.bridgend.gov.uk/tlive_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?

[WVID=2182250PYC&LANG=USA&VACANCY_ID=780516JLpe](https://jobs.bridgend.gov.uk/tlive_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=2182250PYC&LANG=USA&VACANCY_ID=780516JLpe)

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGBIBLE.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.04.2025

Thursday 11th December

Christmas Lunch 2025

CATERING SERVICES



Roast Turkey
with Sage & Onion Stuffing
Mini Sausage
Creamed & Crispy Baked Potatoes
Baton Carrots, Brussels Sprouts & Garden Peas
Accompanied by Traditional Gravy

Christmas Pudding with Winter Warmer Sauce
or a Selection of Festive Desserts

Served with Milk or Water



**Merry Christmas
from your kitchen team**

Whole school show, kindly
funded by the PTA.

Teepee Theatre



Educational Theatre at its Peak

**The Roaming
Gnome**





£1.50

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

PTA CHRISTMAS DISCO

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER

**N - Y1: 4:45PM-5:30PM
(PARENTS TO STAY)**

Y2 - Y6: 5:45PM-6:45PM

**BOOK ON THE APP!
REFRESHMENTS SOLD
ON THE NIGHT**



Stage Right Productions

THE PANTOMIME ADVENTURES OF

PETER PAN

28TH DEC 2025 - 3RD OF JAN 2026

MASONIC HALL, BRIDGEND

[Pantickets.com](https://www.pantickets.com)

Sponsored by...



RELAXED
PERFORMANCE
30.12 @2PM



PENYBONT —
— CHURCHES



YOU'RE INVITED
TO OUR MINISTRY AREA

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

St Mary's Church , Nolton
10th - 14th December

see seperate programme of events - updates on website





The Ministry Area of Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL EVENTS:

Wed. 10th: 1:00pm Festival Opens

2:30pm Maes Yr Haul School

4:30pm Brynteg School

Thurs. 11th: 11:00am Morning Prayer

2:00pm Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr

4:30pm St Brides School

5:30pm Archdeacon John Lewis School

Fri. 12th: 11:00am Morning Prayer

2:00pm Organ Recital

4:00pm Llangewydd Junior School

5:00pm Penyfai School

6:00pm Ministry Area Choir

Sat. 13th: 9:30am Morning Prayer

10:00am Busker Organs Wales

11:00am Trelales School

12:00pm Ministry Area Choir

1:00pm 'A Christmas Three' - Colin, Jo + Richard

2:00pm Carers Choir

3:30pm Festive Ensemble

4:30pm: Festive Favourites - Beth + Dan

Sun. 14th: 2:00pm Carol Singing with the band + raffle draw.

Raising funds for Bridgend Young Carers and our Churches

