

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

‘Strength Through Knowledge and Faith.’

Friday 4th September 2026

Attendance: %

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to all our pupils, families and staff as we begin a new school year. We hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing summer break and that the children are feeling refreshed, happy and ready for the exciting year ahead.

It has been wonderful to see everyone returning to school, and we are especially delighted to welcome the children and families who are joining our school community for the first time. We hope you will quickly feel at home and become part of our happy school family.

We are also very pleased to welcome Miss Cummings who will job share with Miss Doran as she returns from her maternity leave.

We have lots of special events planned for the year so please remember to check the calendar on the school website or our weekly newsletters for important dates and events.

Our first special event of the new school year will be our **Welcome Back Eucharist** with Rev Roger on **Friday 11th September at 9.15am**, followed by a coffee morning hosted by members of the church. This will be a lovely opportunity for us to come together as a school community, give thanks and ask for God's blessing as we begin the year ahead.

Parents, carers, family members and friends are warmly invited to join us. We would be delighted to see as many of you as possible there to support the children and share in this special occasion.

On **Wednesday 16th September** there will be an **Open Evening until 4.30pm** for you to meet your child's class teacher. The teachers will distribute some information regarding the topics and curriculum for the half term and let you know how your child is settling in.

Breakfast Club – In order to safeguard our children, all children must be handed to breakfast club staff at the door and must not walk into the school grounds on their own.

Car parking – The staff car park is to be used by staff and school transport only.

Lower car park – Can be used by **Breakfast Club** parents until 8.30am only or by parents/carers who have sought permission from school.

Thank you for your understanding.
Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Forster

Acting Headteacher

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

- **Tuesday 1st September:** INSET Day 1 of 6
- **Wednesday 2nd September:** All pupils return to school
- **Friday 11th September:** Eucharist, 9:15am. All parents/carers welcome. Coffee morning to follow
- **Wednesday 16th September:** Open Evening for Parents, 3:30pm-4:30pm (no appt required)
- **Monday 5th October:** Individual and Sibling Portrait Photos
- **Friday 9th October:** Eucharist, 9:15am. All parents/carers welcome
- **Friday 16th October:** Messy Church (Miss Doran / Miss Cummings)
- **Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October:** Half Term
- **Friday 13th November:** Eucharist, 9:15am. All parents/carers welcome
- **Friday 11th December:** Eucharist, 9:15am. All parents/carers welcome
- **Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January:** Christmas Holidays
- **Monday 4th January:** INSET 2 of 6

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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Your Young Carers Conversation



A chance to talk about you 



Being a young carer can be rewarding, but it can also be hard sometimes. You might help look after someone at home because they have an illness, disability, mental health difficulties or problems with drugs or alcohol.

A **Young Carers Conversation** is simply a chance for us to get to know you, understand what's going well, and see if there's anything that could make life a little easier.

This conversation is about **YOU.**

Who will I meet?

You'll usually meet with someone from Early Help, often alongside Jo, our Community Wellbeing Coordinator.



We're friendly, we listen, and we'll go at your pace.

What happens?

We'll have a relaxed conversation with you about things like:



Home and family



Caring for someone



School or college



Things you're good at



How you're feeling



Anything you're worried about



Friends and hobbies

There are no right or wrong answers.

Do I have to do it?

No.

The conversation is your choice.

- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Bring a parent, trusted adult or someone you feel comfortable with
- ✓ Take a break if you need one
- ✓ Tell us if you don't want to answer a question

What happens afterwards?

Together we'll agree what might help you.

This could include:



A Young Carer ID Card



Halo Wellbeing Membership



Joining the Young Carer Network



Wellbeing activities



Extra support in school



Help for your family

Sometimes, you might not need any extra support—and that's okay too.



Will anyone else know what I say?



Most of what you tell us stays private.

The only time we might need to share information is if we're worried that you or someone else **isn't safe**.

If that happens, we'll explain what we need to do and keep you involved wherever we can.



Remember...



This is your chance to tell us what's important to you, celebrate what's going well, and ask for support if you need it.

We're here to listen, support and help you thrive.



Youngcarerswellbeing@bridgend.gov.uk



You're not alone. We're here for you.



PENYBONT —CHURCHES

19TH SEPTEMBER 2026

OPEN DAY

All 8 churches in our Ministry Area will offer an activity and 7 of them, which are historic sites, will be open all day for refreshments 10am - 4pm

HOW MANY CHURCHES

CAN YOU VISIT?

Collect a sticker
from each one -
can you collect
them all?

Each full set of stickers wins a prize!

All Saints Church, Pen-y-fai
Heol Eglwys, Pen-y-fai,
Bridgend CF31 4LU

Historical display
Bell ringing at 10:00 to
celebrate the restoration of
the bell tower
Refreshments all day

St David's, Laleston
Wind St, Laleston,
Bridgend CF32 0LB

St David's 800 display
Bell ringing at 11:30
Refreshments all day

St Tello's, Merthyr Mawr
Merthymawr Rd, Bridgend
CF32 0LS

Historical talks
Cefn Cribwr tune band
Wedding celebration display
Welsh cakes baked in front of
you!
Refreshments all day

St Illtyd's, Newcastle
11 The Square, Bridgend
CF31 4HA

Bell ringing at 10:00
Organ recital at 15:00
Flower demonstrations
Refreshments all day

St Mary's Church, Nolton
Merthymawr Rd N, Bridgend
CF31 3NH

Bell ringing at 10:00 and 15:00
Historical Talks on Irish Row at
11:00 and Island Farm at 14:00
Juke Box Hymn requests
12:00 - 14:00
Messy church session run by St
Mary's Church, Brackla
Refreshments all day

St Crallo's, Coychurch
The Court, Coychurch,
Bridgend, CF35 5EL

Find out about your church
quiz
Memories of St Crallo's
Music from Jo, Colin + Jeff
Refreshments all day

St Mary's Church, Brackla
Sited inside Archdeacon
John Lewis School

Providing a Messy Church
activity at St Mary's, Nolton

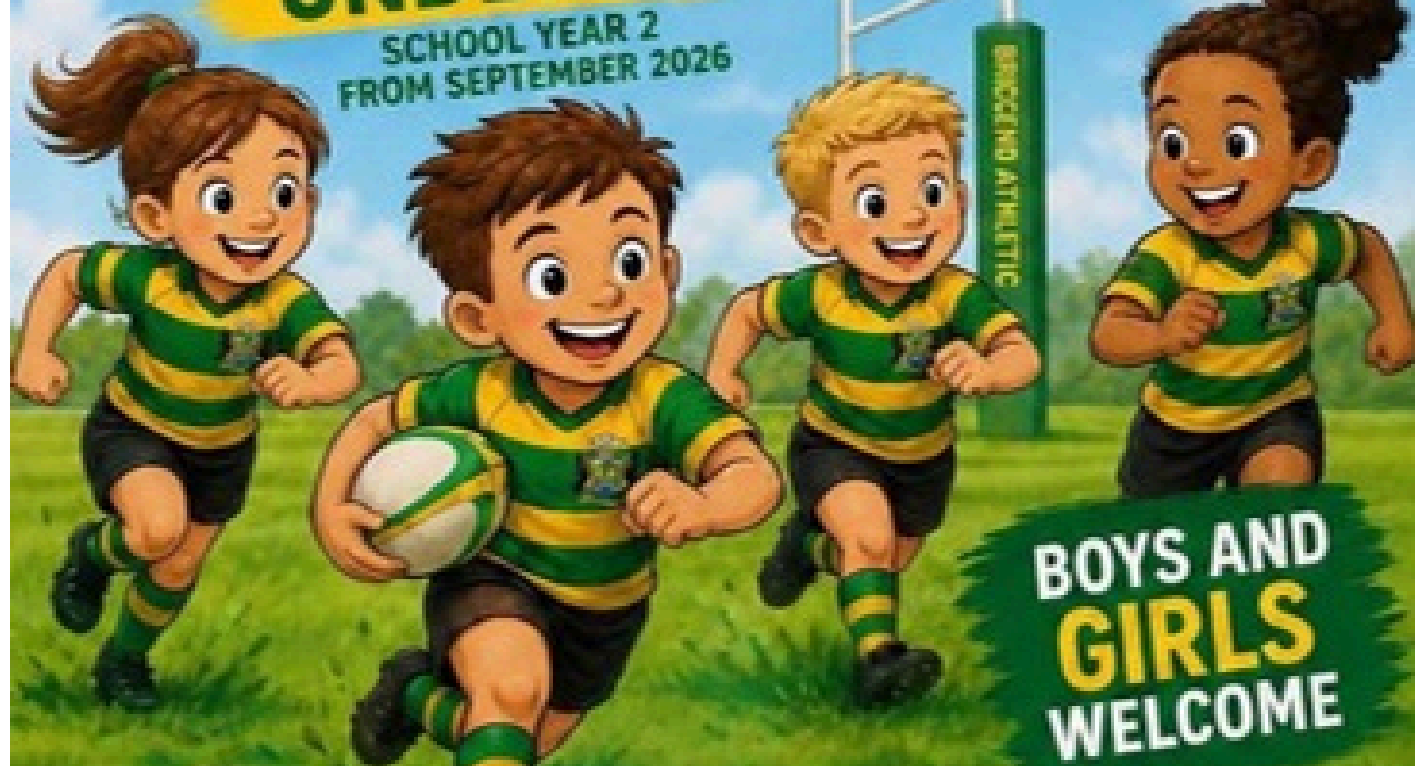
St Mary's Church, Coity
Heol Yr Eglwys, Coity, Bridgend
CF35 6BG

Guided tours of the church
Parish Records on display
Bell ringing all day celebrating
300th anniversary of current peal
Refreshments all day

JOIN THE BRIDGEND ATHLETIC FAMILY!

UNDER 7s

SCHOOL YEAR 2
FROM SEPTEMBER 2026



BOYS AND
GIRLS
WELCOME



TRAINING
MID-WEEK



GAMES
SUNDAYS



BOYS AND
GIRLS
WELCOME



NO PRIOR
EXPERIENCE
NEEDED.
WE'LL COACH
YOU AND
HAVE FUN.



INTERESTED? CONTACT TAE
07388913152