

# Newsletter

## St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig Santes Fair

Friday 27th Feb '26

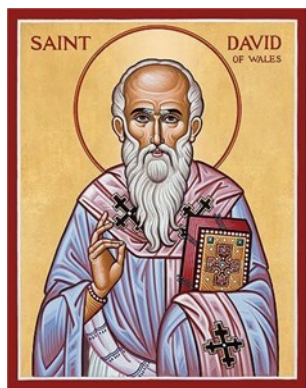
**CROESO! Welcome!**

**Our Faith...**



Today we hear about the **Transfiguration** of Jesus. Something very special happened to Jesus while He was on a mountain with three of His friends. His appearance changed and His face and clothes shone like the sun. This also changed the lives of His friends as they realised that Jesus was the Son of God.

On Wednesday, Fr Tim led a beautiful Para-Liturgy for Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of our Lenten journey. We were reminded of Jesus going into the desert to be closer to God, and that Lent is a time for us to pray, fast, and think of others. Fr Tim burnt last year's Palm Sunday palms to create the ashes that were distributed. The children listened with great reverence and sang beautifully. It was wonderful to welcome the families and friends who joined us. Our sincere thanks go to Fr Tim and Deacon Phillip.



Heavenly Father,  
we thank You for the life of *Saint David*,  
for his faith, his humility, and his love for You.  
Help us to remember his words and to do the  
little things well,  
with great love, patience, and faithfulness.  
Amen

### St. Mary's Welsh Phrase

Dydd Gŵyl  
Dewi Hapus!  
Happy St. David's  
Day!



# Our Faith in Action...

Today, the Mini Vinnies shared our Lenten Appeal with our school community.



As a school community, we will be walking over 1000km on a pilgrimage from our school Chapel to Fatima. Children will bring sponsorship forms home to raise as much money as possible for our 3 chosen charities – CAFOD, Diabetes and HCPT.

When children bring their sponsorship money into school, the Mini Vinnies will present them with a special pin badges. Thank you, in advance, for your support.



Today, we introduced prayer bags in every class. Over the course of the year, each child will have the opportunity to take their class prayer bag home. We warmly invite families to spend time in prayer together with their child. Children are also encouraged to add a prayer to the class prayer book.

## Look at our Learning

Our Pupil Profile Virtues:



We are called to show that we care.  
~ Solidarity

Catholic Social Teaching Principle



'Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day' (1 Cor 15:3).

It was a joy to welcome the children back to school this week. They settled back into their learning quickly and have all started the new branch of learning in RE; Desert to Garden.

In this branch, children will study the season of *Lent* and its culmination in the events of Holy Week. They will learn about the Paschal Triduum at the heart of the Catholic Church's Liturgy and life. The title of this branch points both to the liturgical journey from the desert of Lent to the garden of Resurrection, but also to the Paschal journey from darkness to light, barrenness to fruitfulness, death to life.





Beautiful painting in Y1 of our *National flower*.



Y3 enjoyed exploring *Celtic patterns* and then drew letters with Celtic patterns. More super Daffodils!

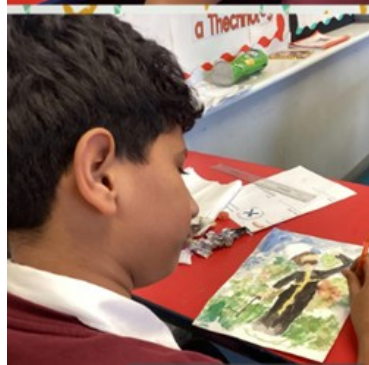


A super *Welsh Lady*, designed on Minecraft!

Y4/5 have been learning about the devastating impact of *coal mining* on the environment and habitats.



More fantastic *Welsh art* in Y5/6 in preparation for St David's Day.



Y6 have been learning about the *Mari Lwyd*, a Welsh wassailing tradition. The class considered the pros and cons of the tradition, culminating in creating a balanced argument.





# NOTICES



## Open Afternoon

You are invited to share your child's learning with them on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** from 2:30pm. Your child's books will be available for you to explore their learning together. Books can be viewed until 5:00pm. Thank you for joining us in celebrating their achievements!



## Certificates

This week's certificates were awarded to children who are **resourceful** in their learning. It was wonderful to hear lots of examples of children who are independent in finding and using resources to support their learning. Da iawn!

## Remember:

Please note that the lunch menu will change on Monday 2nd March when we celebrate St. David's Day (Sunday). Please speak with your child about their meal choice for this day. The only option for the majority of children will be to have the minted lamb burger. Please see the menu at the end of the Newsletter.





## Are you having a spring clean?

We are appealing for donations of **costume jewellery** to support the HCPT Group 55. HCPT Group 55 take groups of vulnerable children on a Pilgrimage to Lourdes every Easter. We are hoping to help our Friends from St Mary's Church, HCPT Group 55 raise money towards their next pilgrimage at Easter. Friends from our Church will be selling costume jewellery at our next School Mass (15<sup>th</sup> March). Children will be able to purchase a treat for themselves or for a loved one; maybe a Mother's Day gift.

Please send in any unwanted costume jewellery – necklaces, bracelets, brooches (no earrings please) – for us to pass on to Mrs Devine in Church.

Thank you for your support.

# Diary Dates

<b>Thursdays</b>	Mr Carpenter (Chippy) from Spanish Soccer is working with Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y6.	Multisports Club is for Y4 and Y4/5 this term. The club is currently full and we are operating a waiting list.
<b>Fridays</b>	Miss Nikki from New You Dance (NYD) is back with us this term (Y5/6 and Y6).	We will continue to use proceeds from the Nativity Ticket sales to cover the cost of this excellent provision. Thank you for your support.
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Ash Wednesday Para-Liturgy	All welcome – 9am Fr Tim will join us to distribute ashes.
<b>Monday 2nd March</b>	St. David's Day Celebrations   Gwyliau Dydd Dewi Sant   Eisteddfod	Children are invited to wear traditional dress or red tops/ rugby tops etc. to school (with uniform). We will hold our Eisteddfod on this day too.
<b>Wednesday 11th March</b>	Welcome Meeting Nursery September 2026	We will hold a Welcome Meeting for our new Nursery pupils who will be joining us in September. 6pm - School Hall.
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	School Mass	St Mary's Catholic Church, Ewenny Road, 11am.
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Reconciliation	Fr Tim will join us for Lenten Reconciliation.
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Open Afternoon	Books available for children to share with family, 2.30 – 5pm.
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	 Easter Eggstravaganza / Bake Off / Coffee Afternoon / Bonnet Parade	Friends will provide further details.  Arrival from 2.15pm for a Coffee afternoon. Easter bonnet parade will begin at 2.30pm.
<b>W/C 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Holy Week Reflections  All begin at 2.30pm	Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>   Atelier   Palm Sunday Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>   Y1 and 2   Maundy Thursday Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>   Y3 and 4   Garden of Gethsemane Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>   Y4/5, Y5/6, Y6   Good Friday
<b>W/C 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Swimming blocks begin.	Poster attached - letters will be sent out closer to the time.
<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Film Night 	More details to follow.

*As a Catholic Family, we will do our best; to live and learn as Christ taught us.*

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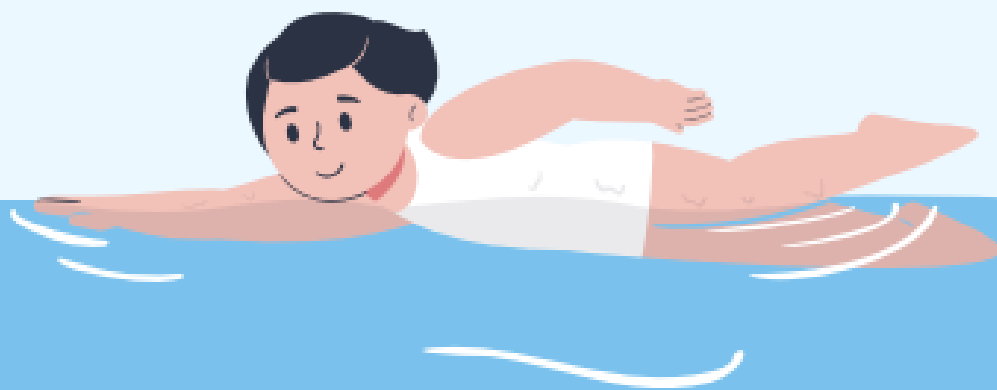
**Headteacher:** Mrs. Rachel Azzopardi, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH.

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs Kathleen Williams, BEd (Hons).



ST. MARY'S

# SWIMMING LESSONS



## PYLE SWIMMING POOL

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Bus leaves school @ 9.30am

Lessons start @ 10am

Bus leaves pool @ 11am

**YEAR 6 - 23<sup>RD</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**YEAR 5/6 - 13<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**YEAR 4/5 - 20<sup>TH</sup> - 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**YEAR 4 - 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY**

**YEAR 3 - 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

# ST DAVID'S DAY

## Menu

Week Commencing 2nd March 2026

Minted Lamb Burger  
or  
Glamorgan Sausage  
or  
Vegan Dippers

Served with  
Sweetcorn, Peas & Broccoli  
Herby Diced Potatoes

Welsh Ice Cream  
or Welsh Cakes or Fresh Fruit Salad  
or Welsh Llaeth y Llan Yogurt



CATERING SERVICES