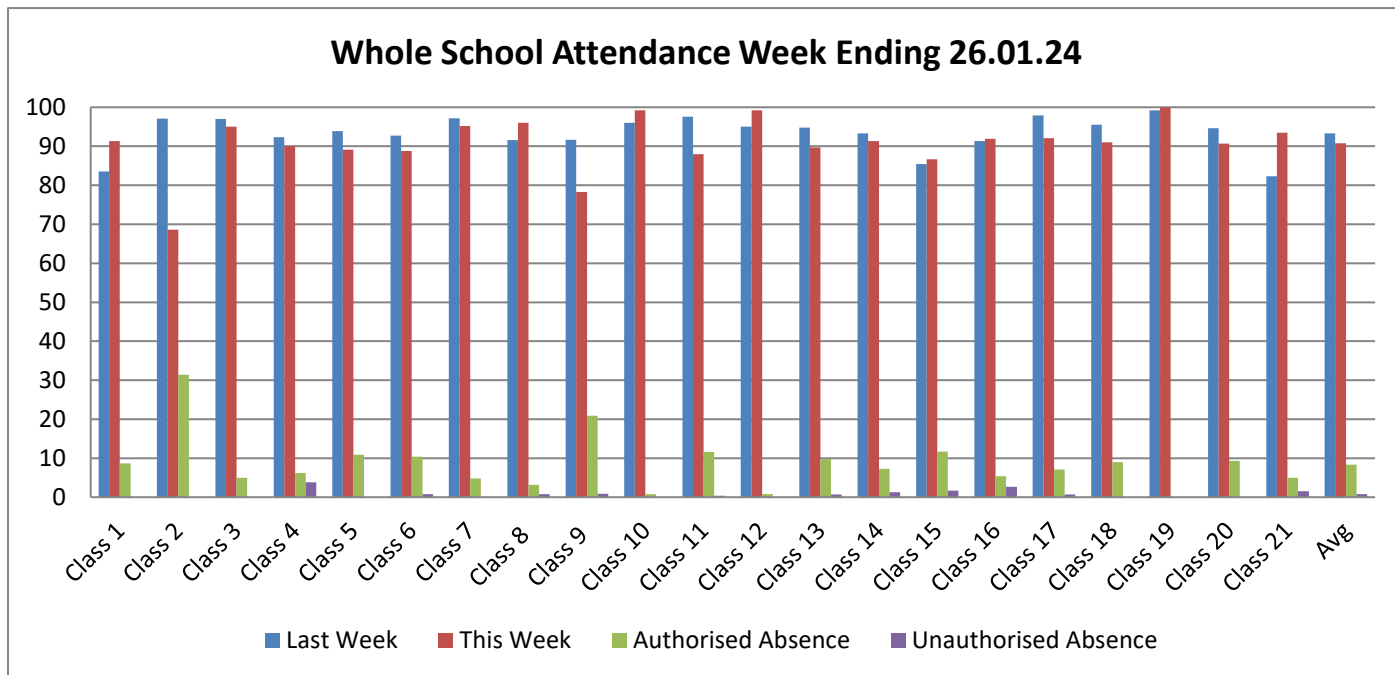




**Parent Information Sheet – Thursday 1st February 2024**

**Attendance**



Our target for the academic year is **95.7%**. Look at the graph above to see how your child’s class is performing. The average attendance across the school last week was **90.9%**, this is below our whole school target and a slight decrease on the previous week. Unfortunately, we have had a number of viruses in school which has impacted attendance.

Authorised absences were: **8.30%**

Unauthorised absences were: **0.80%** - Let’s aim to get unauthorised absences to 0% next week. If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office and inform them of the reason.

It is imperative that all absences from school are reported to the school office. This will help to reduce the percentage of unauthorised absences at the school. Failure to report your child’s absence from school could result in a prosecution from the educational welfare officer.

**Estyn**

You will be aware by now that Estyn are visiting us from Monday 5th to Thursday 8th February.

Parents play a crucial role, as they are able to tell inspectors what the school is really like. I know what lots of parents think about the school because they tell me. Whilst I know that the vast majority of parents recognise just how hard we have all worked to improve our school, it is important they tell the inspection team!

You are invited to meet the inspectors at the school on **Monday 5th February**. The meeting will take place in the school hall at 3:45pm. Please do all that you can to attend the meeting with the inspection team. I am hopeful that our school hall will be every bit as full as it is for Christmas concerts. What we achieve at the school is only possible through working closely with parents. Children should not attend the meeting but a classroom will be made available should you have any childcare issues.

### **I.T. Provision**

I am delighted that we have been able to add an additional 30 Chromebooks this week to our I.T. provision for pupils. This will enhance opportunities for children to use I.T. throughout the school day in their curriculum work.

In addition to the Chromebooks, we have also taken delivery of BBC:Microbits. These will be used to develop computational thinking in the upper school.

### **Baroness Wilcox – Learn with the Lords**

On Friday 9th February, Baroness Wilcox will be visiting our school. Learn with the Lords is a unique opportunity for the school to have a member of the House of Lords to visit and deliver a presentation to pupils. By engaging and interacting with Baroness Wilcox, our pupils will learn more about the vital role of the House of Lords in the UK Parliament.

### **Six Nations**

This weekend we welcome our Celtic cousins, Scotland, to the Principality Stadium in Cardiff. In assembly tomorrow, we will be finding out some interesting facts about Scotland. Be prepared to be challenged when children come home from school!

### **School Carpark**

Please be considerate when parking in the school carpark. The disabled parking bays are reserved for 'blue badge' holders and vehicles should be parked in accordance with this. We have a number of disabled children and adults at the school who require access to these parking bays.

The staff carpark is for staff parking only. No parent vehicles should access this area as this is in breach of our school traffic risk assessment. Please do not access this area.

### **Maes Y Garn Road**

I have been made aware of a number of concerns regarding traffic along Maes Y Garn Road. Parents have been witnessed mounting the kerb on the pavement and performing three point turns in the street. This poses a serious health & safety risk for our children. Please think carefully about where you park your vehicle. I have been informed that the police will be putting additional patrols into the local area to monitor the situation.

The situation has been made more challenging by the road works currently taking place. I can only apologise again that we weren't made aware of these works prior to them taking place. Please be assured that I have raised my concerns with the relevant department at the local authority.

### **Food Bank**

We are still collecting items for the local food bank in Blackwood. If you would like to donate any items, please bring these to the main reception area or send them into school with your child. I am extremely proud of the number of items you have donated in the past. Thank you for your continued support.

## Respect Share Determined Passionate Successful

### Mother's Day Gifts

Your child will be bringing home a letter from the Friends of Rhiw Syr Dafydd explaining how you can order a Mother's Day gift in school.

### LoveLy Disco

Due to the school inspection taking place next week, the planned disco has been postponed. The Friends of Rhiw Syr Dafydd have rearranged the disco for Thursday 22nd February.

### School Dinners

Please check with your child that they like the school menu option before they come to school. Next week, we will be on Week 2 of the menu.

### Week 2

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choice 1	Lasagne/Pasta Bake	Minced Beef Pie & Gravy	Sliced Pork & Seasoning Served with Gravy	Chicken Curry	Fish Portion
Choice 2	Margherita Pizza (V)	Ravioli & Cheese (V)	Cottage Pie (V)	Pizza Bagel (V)	Cheese & Potato Pie (V)
Accompaniments	Savoury Herb Diced Potatoes Potato Croquettes Garlic Mushrooms Baked Beans	Parsley Potatoes Mashed Potatoes Carrots Peas	Sage & Thyme Dry Roast Potatoes Boiled Potatoes Broccoli, Carrots, Cauliflower	Rice Potato Croquettes Sweetcorn & Peas Baked Beans	Chipped Potatoes Served with Ketchup Boiled Potatoes Baked Beans Tomatoes
Desserts of the day (fruit available daily)	Yoghurt	Delight & Fruit Juice	Raspberry Mousse Slice	Fruity Flapjack	Chocolate Cookie & Fruit Juice

### Half-Term

School will close for half-term on Friday 9th February 2024 and will reopen on Monday 19th February 2024.

### Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Year Group</u>
Estyn Inspection	Monday 5th – Thursday 8th Feb	Whole School
Half-Term	12th – 16th February 2024	Whole School
LoveLy Disco	22nd February 2024	Year 1 – Year 6
Eisteddfod	1st March 2024	Whole School
Parent Teacher Consultations	19th & 21st March 2024	Whole School
Easter Holidays	25th March – 5th April 2024	Whole School
Cardiff Bay Trip	18th & 19th April 2024	Year 4
Summer Disco	2nd May 2024	Year 1 – Year 6
May Day Bank Holiday	6th May 2024	Whole School

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Half Term	27th – 31st May 2024	Whole School
Nursery Sports Day	11th June 2024	Nursery
Reception Sports Day	12th June 2024	Reception
Year 1 Sports Day	12th June 2024	Year 1
Year 2 Sports Day	12th June 2024	Year 2
Year 3 / 4 Sports Day	13th June 2024	Year 3 / 4
Year 5 / 6 Sports Day	13th June 2024	Year 5 / 6
Rising 3s Sports Day	14th June 2024	Rising 3s
Reserve Sports Day	14th June 2024	
Reserve Sports Day	18th June 2024	
PGL Residential	19th – 21st June 2024	Year 6
Transition Day	26th June 2024	Whole School
School Reports	5th July 2024	Whole School
PTA Summer Fayre	12th July 2024	Whole School
Year 6 Leavers' Evening	16th July 2024	Year 6

**Mr C George**  
Headteacher

**Mr G Jones**  
Chair of School Governors