

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting and festive week it has been at Ysgol Afon Wen! The school has been buzzing with energy as pupils across all year groups have thrown themselves into rehearsals for our much-anticipated Christmas shows. Songs have been sung, lines have been practised, and props and costumes are being perfected. The children cannot wait to share their hard work and talent with you next week, and we are sure you will be incredibly proud of their efforts.

This week, our *Thought for the Week* was **“The simple act of paying attention can take you a long way.” – Keanu Reeves**. Pupils discussed what this means in everyday life—whether it’s focusing during lessons, listening carefully to friends, or noticing when someone may need a little help. It has been a wonderful reminder that small actions can have a big impact.

We have also continued to celebrate and reward positive attendance. Each day, pupils have eagerly opened our special Christmas Advent calendar, with a number of lucky winners receiving festive treats and small prizes. It has been delightful to see the excitement this brings and the encouragement it offers as we move towards the end of term.

Alongside the festivities, our charitable spirit has been shining through. We are continuing to collect toys, food, and bedding/toiletries for our Christmas charity appeals in support of Shelter Cymru and the Santa Appeal. The generosity of our school community has already been heart-warming, and any additional donations will make a real difference to families in need this Christmas.

And the excitement doesn’t stop there—next week we are expecting a very special visit. Word has reached us that Santa himself, along with his reindeer, will be stopping by Ysgol Afon Wen to spread some Christmas magic. The children are already buzzing with anticipation, and we are sure it will be a highlight of the season.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support and involvement in school life. We look forward to welcoming you into school next week for the performances and to sharing all the festive joy that this time of year brings.

Key dates

Date	Event
Monday 8th December 2025	Year 4, 5 & 6 Christmas show 2.15pm
Tuesday 9th December 2025	Year 4, 5 & 6 Christmas show 2.15pm
Wednesday 10th December 2025	Year 2 & 3 Christmas Show 9.15am
Wednesday 10th December 2025	Year 4, 5 & 6 Christmas show 2.15pm
Thursday 11th December 2025	Reception & Year 1 Christmas Show 9.15am
Friday 12th December 2025	Nursery Show 9.15am & repeated at 11am
Tuesday 16th December 2025	Year 4, 5 & 6 Cinema Trip
Wednesday 17th December 2025	Year 7 & 8 Cinema Trip
Thursday 18th December 2025	Year 1 & 2 Christmas cinema on site
Thursday 18th December 2025	Christmas Pantomime Year 3-7
Thursday 18th December 2025	Year 9 –11 Cinema trip
Friday 19th December 2025	Last day of term
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET DAY (school closed for pupils)
Tuesday 6th January 2026	Pupil return for Spring Term

Newsletter 05.12.25

Right of the month: To follow your own religion (Article 14)

Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been commended by their Progress leader or teachers. Well done!

Nursery	Albie Lewis & Ashton Jones	Year 4	Matilda Brookman & Gwenny Ryan	Year 9	Chanuga Atapattu & Lacey Marriott
Reception	Toby Whittington & Archie Barnes	Year 5	Saffia Price & Thomas Davies	Year 10	John Moore & Gwen Owen
Year 1	Raya Davies & Finley Rees	Year 6	James Davies & Oscar Williams	Year 11	Imogen Roberts & Finnley Williams
Year 2	Hunter Oliver & Sophia Elley	Year 7	Huson Booker & Sumayyah Alabi		
Year 3	Keelan O'Brien & Delilah Ford-Thomas	Year 8			

GCSE Success Evening



We are incredibly proud of Oliver in Y10. Oliver is a keen swimmer and this week, brought in his trophy and presentation shield to show staff his achievements. Da iawn, Oliver!

It was a pleasure to welcome back last year's Year 11 pupils into Ysgol Afon Wen to celebrate their success at GCSE and collect their certificates. We are so proud of you. Thank you to Tehila for her amazing musical performances to celebrate the evening and we hope you enjoyed watching the photo real of your all throughout your school career.

If any pupils have not collected your GCSE certificates, please come to reception between 8am and 3pm.



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Attendance this week

Nursery	81%	Year 4	88%	Year 9	85%
Reception	87%	Year 5	88%	Year 10	80%
Year 1	86%	Year 6	88%	Year 11	81%
Year 2	89%	Year 7	92%		
Year 3	90%	Year 8	86%		

Attendance Advent

A Big Well Done on Your Attendance!

A massive **congratulations** to all the pupils in Year 7-11 who have earned breaktime vouchers for their fantastic attendance during this first week of December!

Your commitment to being in school every day shows dedication and is truly paying off. Enjoy your well-deserved reward!

Keep up the great work in the run up to the festive break!



Year 1 were thrilled with their attendance prizes



Jensen,
Nathan,
Georgie,
Nia, Caitlin.
From Year 6

There will be lots of opportunities to win daily and weekly prizes during the last three weeks of term. All pupils who attend school for the 15 school days in December will also be entered to our GRAND DRAW, which will be drawn on Friday 19th December.





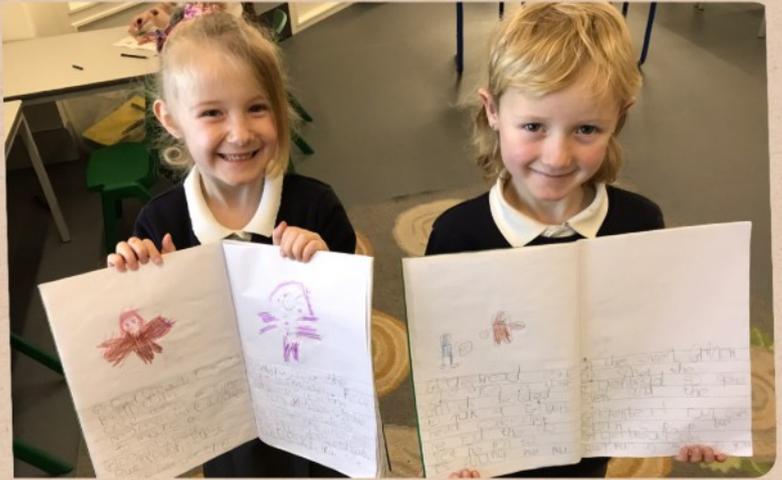
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Celebration of Success

Year 1 have worked incredibly hard creating disguises for their Gingerbread Men, and using them to re-write different versions of the story. Ardderchog!



A big thank you to
Trish for a fantastic
Advent assembly



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Green Day

It's Green Day!

What Is Green Day?

Green Day is an event being held by the Eco subcommittee designed to bring awareness to the beauty of nature and encourage our younger peers to help it thrive!

When Is It? - Thursday 11 Dec

What's Happening?

- One green item of clothing to be worn with your school uniform for the small fee of £1!
- Eco Club will be in the canteen break and lunchtime for questions!
- Eco Initiatives with the younger years. Eg. Sunflower Planting!

£1

We will use your donation to fund new litter-pickers and planting trees around the grounds!



Year 7-11 Menu

Spud Station



CLASSICS

1 TOPPING £2.00

- Cheese V GF
- Baked Beans V VE GF
- Tuna Mayo GF
- Chicken Mayo GF
- *Salmon Mayo

2 TOPPINGS £2.20

- Cheese & Beans V GF
- Cheese & Coleslaw V
- Tuna & Cheese GF

DAILY SPECIALS £2.50

MONDAY
BBQ Chicken GF

TUESDAY GF
Chilli 'Non' Carne V VE

WEDNESDAY
Pulled Pork GF

THURSDAY
Chicken Curry GF
Vegetable Curry V GF

FRIDAY
Bolognese GF

ADD CHEESE

to a daily special for an extra 30P

V Vegan
V Vegetarian
GF Gluten Free
*Please pre-order

All spuds served in a tray with salad





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Christmas Appeals



A quick reminder about our Christmas Charity Appeals!

We're collecting donations for **Shelter Cymru** and the **RCT Santa Appeal** to support local families and individuals this festive season. Please bring any items or gifts to the collection stations to Reception or give to the team collecting each morning and evening. Every contribution counts—let's make a real difference together.



Jolly Jumper Day

Pupils will be invited to wear a jolly jumper on the last day of term—Friday 19th December.





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Year 4, 5 and 6 Christmas Concerts

Dear Parents/Carers,

Enclosed in the envelope that came home from school with your child, you will find **two tickets** for our Christmas production *Bah Humbug!*

To help us carefully manage the number of adults attending, and to maintain a calm and comfortable environment for all pupils, each child has been allocated **one ticket for each performance** on Monday 8th December at 2.15pm and Tuesday 9th December at 2.15pm. An additional performance has been added on Wednesday 10th December at 2.15pm on a first come first serve basis. To attend please complete the Google Form using the QR. If successful, you will be allocated a ticket/s.

There are a small number of additional tickets available each day also, on a first come, first serve basis. Please see Mrs Geach. Alternatively, you do not require your tickets, please return them to the school.

We appreciate your support and understanding as we work to ensure the best possible experience for the children. They have been working incredibly hard, and we can't wait for you to see their amazing performance.

Thank you for working with us to help ensure the event is safe, enjoyable and festive for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you to the show.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Geach
Progress Lead



Christmas Dinner: 10th December

This is a reminder that Christmas Dinner will be served on Wednesday, 10th December in both canteens (Nursery to Year 11).

Please note: there will be no alternative cooked meals available on this day.

If your child does not wish to have Christmas Dinner, please ensure they bring a packed lunch.

