

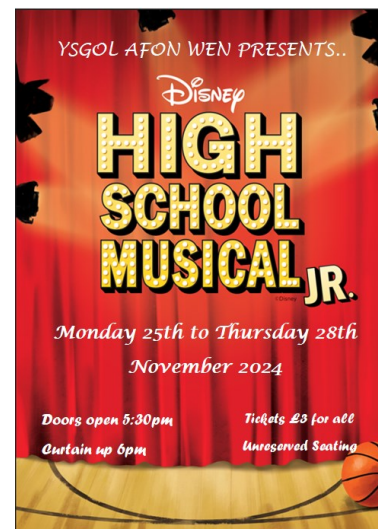
Right of the month: Article 12 - To say what you think should happen and be listened to.

Dear Parents & Carers,

We look forward to opening our doors to the community for the first Ysgol Afon Wen school production, High School Musical. The pupils have been working really hard in preparation for their opening night. Door open at 5.30pm and the curtain goes up at 6.00pm Monday through to Thursday this week.

## Dates for your diary

- ⇒ Monday 25th November (for 4 nights): School production
- ⇒ Monday 2nd December: Year 11 Mock exam week (see letter sent via CC)
- ⇒ Wednesday 4th December: Yr 7—11 Vaccinations
- ⇒ Christmas information below (with a correction to published nursery performance dates/times)



Date	What's happening?
Wednesday 4th December	Visit from Santa
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Dinner
	Reception/Year 1 Wriggly Nativity Performance 1 (9.30am)
	Year 2/3 Christmas Counts Performance 1 (2.15pm)
Thursday 12th December	Reception/Year 1 Wriggly Nativity Performance 2 (9.30am)
	Year 2/3 Christmas Counts Performance 2 (2.15pm)
Friday 13th December	(Yr 4-6) "No one raps like an elf" Nativity performance 1 (10.00am)
	(Yr 4-6) "No one raps like an elf" Nativity performance 2(2.00pm)
Saturday 14th December	Pontypridd Festive Town Takeover
Monday 16th December	Christmas Carol Concert 6pm
Tuesday 17th December	"No one raps like an elf" (Yr 4-6) Nativity performance 3 (10am)
	"No one raps like an elf" (Yr 4-6) Nativity performance 4 (2pm)
Wednesday 18th December	Nursery Christmas Nativity Performance 1 (1.00pm) and Performance 2 (2.30pm)
Thursday 19th December	Nursery Christmas Nativity Performance 3 (1.00pm)
Friday 20th December	Jolly jumper day





YSGOL  
AFON WEN

# Newsletter 21.11.24

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## Christmas Dinner

*Christmas menu*

**ROAST TURKEY & MINI SAUSAGE**

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**QUORN FILLET & VEGGIE SAUSAGE**

served with a rich gravy, stuffing, creamed and crispy roast potatoes and a medley of seasonal vegetables

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**DESSERT**

Christmas Ice cream Tub

**MEAL DEAL**  
TURKEY & STUFFING BAGUETTE & CHRISTMAS ICE CREAM TUB

**CHRISTMAS MEAL DEAL**

**HOT TURKEY STUFFING & GRAVY BAGUETTE & CHRISTMAS ICE CREAM TUB**

**£2.00**

Christmas Dinner Day will be Wednesday 11th December. The price will be the same price as a Set Meal £2.90 without dessert or £3.10 with dessert.

*Bwydlen y Nadolig*

**TWRCI RHOST A SELSIG BACH**

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**FFILED QUORN A SELSIG LLYSIEUOL**

wedi'i weini gyda greffi blasus, stwffin, tatws hufennog, tatws rhost a llysiau tymhorol

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**PWDIN**

Twb Hufen Iâ Nadoligaidd

**BARGEN BWYD**  
BAGÉT TWRCI, STWFFIN A GREFFI POETH A THWB HUFEN IÂ NADOLIGAIDD

**BARGEN BWYD NADOLIGAIDD**

**BAGÉT TWRCI, STWFFIN A GREFFI POETH A THWB HUFEN IÂ NADOLIGAIDD**

**£2.00**



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## Fibonacci ACE Day

Our ACE Day (Alternative Curriculum Experience Day) immersed pupils in the fascinating world of Fibonacci, the 13th-century mathematician known for his remarkable contributions to mathematics. Fibonacci introduced the famous sequence where each number is the sum of the two preceding it (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8...), a pattern that appears throughout nature, art, and design.

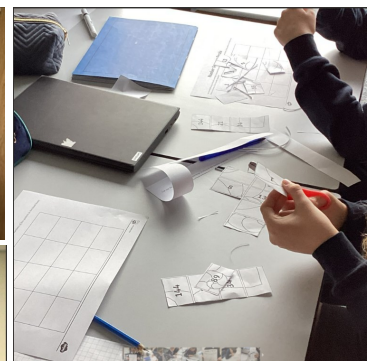
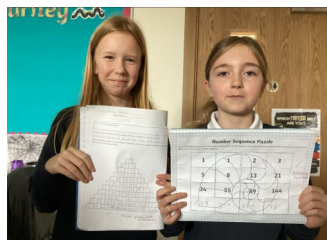
Pupils in Nursery to Year 9 were engaged in a range of exciting activities, from patternmaking and exploring number sequences to storytelling and nature walks to discover Fibonacci patterns in and around our school environment. This cross-faculty day promises to spark curiosity, creativity, and a deeper appreciation for the mathematical beauty that surrounds us.



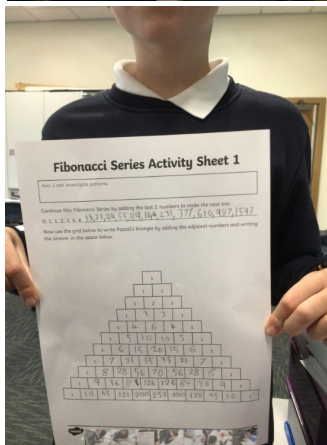
Year 1 Fibonacci patterns



Year 2 Fibonacci patterns



Year 6 Fibonacci patterns

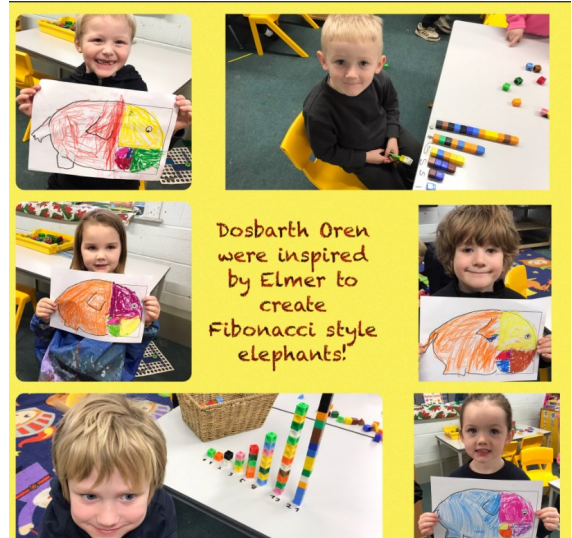
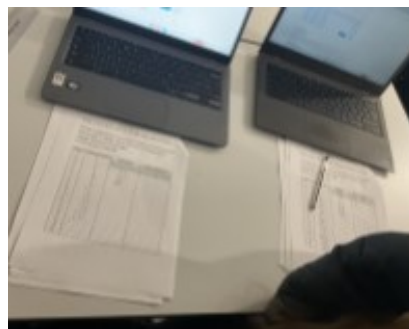


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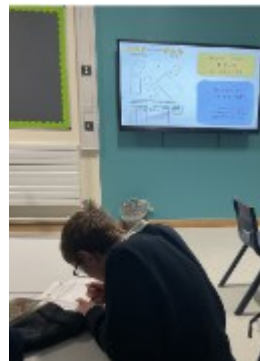
## Fibonacci ACE Day

To celebrate Fibonacci Day across all phases of our school, with students from the Activate, Advance, and Achieve Phases engaging meaningfully in the exploration of this fascinating topic.

In Year 7, students discovered the Fibonacci sequence and delved into the history of the mathematician Leonardo of Pisa, more commonly known as Fibonacci. This exploration allowed them to appreciate how his work has had a lasting impact on various fields, from mathematics to the natural sciences.



Year 8 students investigated the concept of the Golden Ratio and showcased their creativity by crafting Fibonacci-style poems. This activity facilitated a unique fusion of mathematics and literature, allowing students to express their understanding in a different and engaging way.



Year 9 took their learning further by applying the Golden Ratio to explore golden rectangles. They also examined Fibonacci's life and the significant contributions he made to the world of mathematics. Through these activities, the students developed a deeper appreciation for how mathematics is woven into the fabric of our lives.



The collaborative efforts across all year groups made Fibonacci Day a meaningful occasion for our school community. It was gratifying to witness students not only enhancing their mathematical skills but also engaging in creative expression. We anticipate many more opportunities for interdisciplinary learning in the future.



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## Celebration of success



A huge well done to four of our learners who helped a member of the public having a medical incident in Pontypridd last week.

The quick-thinking quad witnessed the man having an angina attack in the street. Seth, a St. John's Ambulance first-aider, performed a check on the man and made the decision to call an ambulance. The learners kept him warm, gave him water and some reassuring words. With no ambulance immediately available, they decided to get him a taxi and into the warm.

Ardderchog! We are all really proud of you!

### LOCAL RESTAURANT OWNER PRAISES YOUTHS FOR HELPING COLLAPSED CUSTOMER 🌸

A local restaurant owner has taken to social media to applaud the efforts of a group of local youths in [#Pontypridd](#), after they went above and beyond to help a customer that had collapsed.

Seth Kemlo and his friends acted swiftly as they seen the man collapse due to an angina attack, by calling an ambulance, but unfortunately that would have taken several hours, so they opted to get him a taxi.

The owner of Rustico restaurant said:

“Just a little shout out to Seth (aged 15) and his gang of hoodie wearing mates who were hanging about Taff Street just now as I was locking up. On closer inspection they were looking after one of my regular customers who had collapsed. They bought him water and kept him warm and engaged. They also called an ambulance which unfortunately was a 7 hour wait! In an effort to avoid hypothermia they opted for a taxi which is when I turned up. They managed to get him into my car and I got him home safe. Just a gang of local kids looking after an older man in need of help. Seth boy, next time you're in Ponty come and see me for a pizza.”

Well done to everyone involved! Not all heroes wear capes! 🍕🍕🍕

## Alfie Warner- Youth Parliament

As you will recall from this week's newsletter Alfie Warner presented on issues that he will be standing for as a potential member of Wales' Youth Parliament.

Please encourage learners to vote for Alfie.

### How to Vote

- Register before 20th **November 2024**
- You'll be asked for your name, email address, date of birth and postcode to register to vote
- Select candidates in the **SOUTH WALES - WEST Pontypridd** category
- Voting closes on **25 November 2024**





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## Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved the most positive points this week. Well done!

<b>Nursery</b>	Jonah Mansfield	<b>Year 4</b>	Olivia Bogocz	<b>Year 9</b>	Mckenzie Mills
	Bodhi Nicolas		Oliver Morgan		Lauren Evans
<b>Reception</b>	Issac Jenkins	<b>Year 5</b>	Darcy Cox	<b>Year 10</b>	Gwynedd Rothwell
	Alethea Coomber		Cody Pitman		Deagan Dragon-Shmylo
<b>Year 1</b>	Harper Meaney		<b>Year 6</b>	Nathan Ugochukwu	<b>Year 11</b>
	Edward McFadden	Sharon Matthew		Conrad Phillips	
<b>Year 2</b>	Elijah Manfielfd	<b>Year 7</b>		James Chipps	
	Logan Williams		Elaina Loveridge		
<b>Year 3</b>	Aneira Johns	<b>Year 8</b>	Logan Winfield		
	Elliot Williams		Maliq Olatunbi & Madison Herbert		

## Winners of TT Rock Stars Competition

As a reward for their hard work and commitment during the Timetable Rock Stars Competition Class 6A and 7BWN pupils will enjoy a movie afternoon, scheduled for the 29nd of November 2024. This event promises to be a delightful opportunity for our children to relax and celebrate their achievement together.

We look forward to this celebratory event and commend the pupils for their efforts in the competition. Thank you for your continued support in fostering a positive and engaging learning atmosphere.

## Ski Trip

2025

YSGOL AFON WEN  
YSGOL AFON WEN AUSTRIA SKI TRIP 2025

Ysgol Afon Wen invites parents and carers of learners attending next February's ski trip to a meeting on **Friday 29th November 2024 at 4pm** in the **Theatre**. Should you be unable to attend, a recording of the meeting will be available on the ski trip Google Classroom.





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## Attendance

Congratulations to **Year 4** who have the highest attendance this week.

Nursery	77%	Year 4	95%	Year 9	80%
Reception	83%	Year 5	90%	Year 10	85%
Year 1	83%	Year 6	89%	Year 11	81%
Year 2	88%	Year 7	85%		
Year 3	88%	Year 8	88%		

## Punctuality

Please could the school ask all parents to ensure that pupils get to school on time. Learning starts at 8.30am for Year 7 through to Year 11 and at 8.50am for Nursery through to Year 6.

### Impacts of lateness for school include

- Lower grades and lower scores on standardised tests.
- Development of the notion that tardiness is acceptable behaviour.
- Negative impact on future work ethic and employment opportunities.
- Penalties from schools for frequent lateness.
- Disruption of class flow and distraction to other students.

## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS

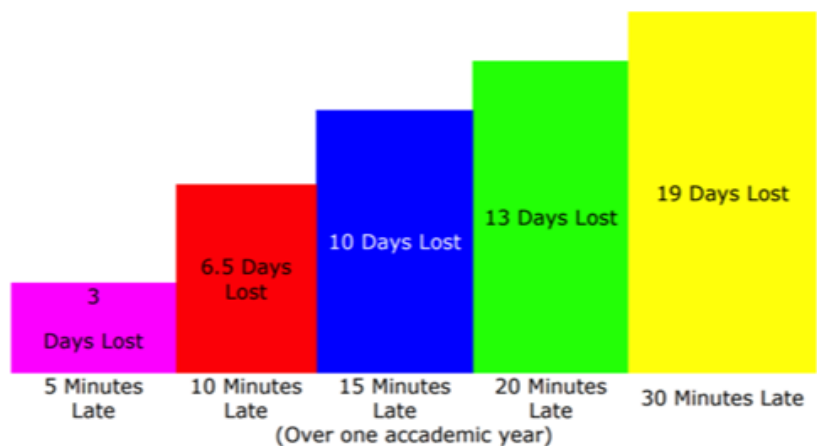
## Every Minute Counts

### What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total.

The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.

If you arrive late to school everyday your learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school everyday over a school year adds up to lost learning time.





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## Additional Learning Needs

Here at Ysgol Afon Wen, Learners with additional Learning needs (ALN) enjoy an inclusive educational offer irrespective of their age or ability. Learners with ALN have full access to our curriculum which is appropriately differentiated to meet the needs of the learner. We have high expectations for all of our learners with an emphasis on making sure every learner is proficient in their cross-curricular and integral skills. To support with this, we have a range of provisions at each phase to nurture and develop our learners in line with the four broad areas of need:

- Cognition and Learning
- Communication and Interaction
- Behaviour, Emotional and Social Development
- Sensory and/or Physical

The majority of pupils' needs within the school will be met through our universal and inclusive provision. Teachers plan and use adaptive teaching approaches and may provide temporary scaffolds to support Learners in making progress. This quality first teaching approach is the foundation on which our graduate response is built. Our graduate response not only informs our provision but also how we identify and assess the level of need for each of our learners. When assessing whether a learner has ALN the school enacts its policy in line with *The Additional Learning Needs Code of Wales 2021* which states that the school accepts that a young person has additional learning need if they answer yes to the following two part test as outlined from section 2.5 – 2.11 in *The Additional Learning Needs Code of Wales 2021*:

- Does the child have a learning difficulty or disability?
- Does [the learning](#) difficulty or disability call for Additional Learning Provision (ALP)?

When deciding whether ALP is required, we must analyse the frequency and intensity of the provisions in place for the learner and consider whether this is above and beyond our inclusive provision. It is common for learners to access provisions outside of the classroom environment without being considered a learner with ALN. Nor does a diagnosis of need automatically qualify a learner as ALN as their needs may be met within the schools universal and inclusive offer.

We believe that transparency and co-operation between school and home is paramount to the success of all our learners. We aim to give parents and carers regular updates on the progress of their child. If there are any concerns, in the first instance parents and carers should contact their child's teacher or progress lead. If the concerns remain unresolved or there are queries around provision an appointment can be made with an appropriate member of the ALN team.

Our triple A promise ensures that we will activate, advance and achieve with all our learners during their time at Ysgol Afon Wen.

ALNCO: Mr S Lock

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