



## YSGOL GYNRADD A MEITHRIN STRYD SIORS GEORGE STREET PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Wainfelin Road, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6BX

Friday 04 February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

This half term is flying by and it is great to see the days beginning to grow a little longer every week. As we tip into February it is good to have the thought of spring ahead. There has been no waiting for the days to pass here though - we have enjoyed another busy and exciting week and will be working and playing at full steam in the time that remains before the half term break in two weeks time.



### THE NAUGHTY BUS APPEARS

Our Reception children have recently been thoroughly enjoying a whole series of self-directed activities inspired by the story of The Naughty Bus.

This week the children used the magic of imagination to conjure up a full-size Naughty Bus in our drop off-zone. After placing a toy-sized Naughty Bus in the bus bay, they

chanted the words they had come up with together and waving the magic wands they'd made. Thankfully their magic worked and transformed the model into an actual classic red,

Route master bus that was 'huge with lots of room'! As you can imagine, all of the children (and adults) were very excited.

Everyone then enjoyed an extremely special story time listening to Mrs Williams read the story on the top deck of the real-life Naughty Bus!



### TUMBLE & VAULT GYMNASTIC COMPETITION

After weeks of intensive training, the big day had arrived! A team of 11 gymnasts were so excited to take part in The East Wales Tumble and Vault Competition at Kestrel Gymnastics in Chepstow. Seren Jones, Seren Powell, Amelia Lloyd and Maisie Jenkins formed our girls under 11s team and Colby Carter,



Dayton Carter, Alfie Gardiner, Ollie Gardiner, Morgan Jones, Danny Edwards and Caleb Jenkins represented our boys under 11s team. Everyone made us so very proud, competing with confidence and producing some beautiful work. Coming up against many gymnasts who train week in week out, it wasn't about winning medals but more about providing a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience the event. However, in true George Street style, our gymnasts actually made the podium with Alfie winning a silver medal and Colby, Morgan and Caleb also placing 4th 5th and 6th! We were bursting with pride as always! Congratulations to our team who were absolutely fantastic. Alfie, Colby and Morgan have been invited to compete in the Welsh finals in March. Another wonderful experience for sure! Good luck boys!

### **ONLINE GAMING**

There have been several instances among our older pupils in school lately where children have been upset as a result of fall outs between friends during online gaming. These situations sometimes cause a great deal of hurt that then carries over into following days, for example when one child is blocked by another because of a dispute.

While we talk regularly with pupils in school about online etiquette and how to manage their behaviour in online environments safely, some of these problems will inevitably result. We do ask that all parents try to keep aware of your child's online activity. Where children are accessing platforms at a young age, in particular, it is especially important that they are supported to do so safely.

### **DOGS AROUND SCHOOL SITE**

You will be aware that the school site is a dog-free zone. I have noticed that an increasing number of adults are arriving at school in the mornings or at pick-up times with a dog. I am sure that these pets are friendly and much-loved members of their families however, I do ask all parent/carers to consider that not all young children feel confident around animals – some of which can seem very large to such small people. If you are accompanied by a dog when arriving at or waiting outside the school grounds, please do keep a distance from other children who may well be nervous or anxious, particularly when dogs become excitable or start to bark. Please keep your dog on a lead at all times. Thank you.

Kind regards

*A. Brasington*

Mr A Brasington