



FERN FEDERATION

SPRING TERM 1 - 2026

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

We are delighted to share that this term has been a wonderful journey of learning, creativity and joy across the Fern Federation. Our main focus has been Expressive Arts, and the pupils have truly embraced it with curiosity, enthusiasm and imagination. From welcoming *visiting dragons*, to meeting a *local florist*, to working alongside *voice-over artists*, the children have experienced a rich variety of creative opportunities, many even producing their very own multimedia films!

Alongside their academic learning, pupils have taken part in a wide range of enriching experiences. Our play sports sessions have encouraged teamwork, confidence and physical fitness, while the sound of violins has filled the corridors as our young musicians continue to grow in skill and self-belief.

We are also incredibly excited to see our new school building taking shape. Each week brings another milestone, and it has been inspiring for pupils, staff and families to watch the plans becoming a reality. The pupils have shown huge interest in the build, often sharing their excitement about the cranes, machinery and new structures emerging day by day. As the walls rise and the layout becomes clearer, the sense of anticipation across the Federation is growing.

We are exceptionally proud of everything our pupils have achieved this term and look forward to the many exciting opportunities that Spring 2 will bring.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our Federation thrive.
Mrs Haggett



SPORTS CLUBS SPRING TERM 2

Sports Clubs next half term will be as follows:

SPORTS CLUBS	
Monday	Girls Year 3-6 Football (Cefn pupils to walk down to CYH)
Tuesday	Cefn Year 3,4,5,6 Ball skills
Wednesday	CYH Year 3,4,5,6 Ball skills
Thursday	Boys Year 3-6 Football - (Cefn pupils to walk down to CYH)

Please ensure you have signed your child up via parent hub for all clubs.

If you have not signed up your child will not be able to attend. If your child fails to attend for 2 weeks on a row (other than illness or has been agreed by the school) your child will lose their place and will be given to a child on the reserve list

ATTENDANCE SPRING 1

As a School we are committed to helping ensure that all our pupils are in school nearly all the time. Our target each term across the school continues to be >95%. Attendance shown is for Spring 1
Term Dates:

CRAIG YR HESG		CEFNO	
Mrs Evans	81.5%	Miss Smith	87.8%
Mrs Dyer-Knight	88.4%	Mrs Meazey	
Miss Osborne	91.4%	Miss Lane	92.6%
Mrs Davies	94%	Miss Reynolds	89.8%
Miss Najjan	90.6%	Miss Brown	85.0%
Miss Andrews	93.7%	Miss Lewis	86.3%
		Mrs Rosser	91.3%

These figures are based on Federation expectations.

	95% and above (excellent)
	Between 90%- 94% (good)
	Between 85-89% (below average)
	Below 85% (unsatisfactory)

We will be focussing on punctuality this term in CYH and in Cefn persistent absenteeism. Just a reminder holidays will not be authorised by the school as agreed by the Fern Federation Governing body in Autumn Term.

What learning has been going on in the Fern Federation?

Take a look at just a few examples of what the pupils have got up to over the Spring 1 Term!

CRAIG YR HESG- MRS EVANS NURSERY

This half term has been wonderfully busy in Nursery! We were delighted to welcome our new January intake, every one of them has been a little *Superstar!* They have settled in so well and have already become an important part of our Nursery family. Our topic this half term has been based on the story "*Magi'n Mynd am Dro*", and the children have loved going on Magi's journey with her. Through lots of creative and hands-on activities, we have been learning how to observe carefully, explore colour and shape, and use different artistic techniques to design and make our very own Magi characters. Their artwork has been fantastic! With lots of support and modelling, the children have also enjoyed retelling Magi's walk in a variety of fun and imaginative ways, through talk, play, actions, and storytelling. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they use new vocabulary and express their ideas. To finish off our topic, we've had *great* fun exploring our brand-new vet's role-play area! The children have loved caring for the animals, using real-life props and developing their language through play. What a brilliant half term it has been, well done, Nursery!



CEFN- MISS MEAZEY- NURSERY & RECEPTION

This half term, our class has had a fantastic time exploring our topic "*Magi mynd am dro!*" Our learning has been rooted in the Expressive Arts AOLE, with an exciting focus on film and digital media. Each week, the children sent Magi on a brand-new adventure, travelling to places like the beach, the town, the farm and even the zoo! The pupils loved imagining what Magi might see and do, and they used these ideas to inspire lots of wonderful creative work. Every week, the children produced a new piece of art linked to Magi's journey. They experimented with different materials and techniques, and all of their creations will come together to form our very own class video a lovely celebration of their hard work! In Literacy, the children followed a structured writing journey to deepen their understanding of the story. They practised using nouns, created colourful story maps, and sequenced the key events. By the end of the unit, the pupils were confidently writing simple retell sentences about Magi's adventures, showing brilliant progress in both their sentence writing and storytelling skills. In Maths, we explored addition and subtraction through fun, hands-on activities. A particular highlight was our problem-solving mission from Police Officer Tom, who needed our help cracking a secret code to save the animals! The class showed amazing teamwork, creativity and enthusiasm as they worked together to solve the mystery. We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked this half term, they have shown curiosity, confidence and a real excitement for learning. Da iawn pawb!



CRAIG YR HESG- MRS DYER-KNIGHT RECEPTION

This half term, our reception class has been wonderfully busy learning through play, creativity and lots of hands-on exploration! In Expressive Arts, the children have been experimenting with a range of tools and techniques, painting, printing, exploring texture and using collage materials, to create their own fantastic pieces of artwork. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they explored colour, shape and pattern in new and exciting ways. We also stepped into the world of Film and Media, where the children worked together to create their very own mini-movie! This project was a brilliant opportunity for them to use their imagination, practise teamwork and share ideas as budding young filmmakers. Our Welsh story, '*Magi'n Mynd am Dro*', has been at the heart of our learning this term. The children enjoyed following Magi's journey, using the story to explore new vocabulary, develop early storytelling skills and build their understanding of the world around them. In Maths, we put our addition and subtraction skills to good use by helping Magi plan a pizza party for her friends. The excitement didn't stop there; the children then made their very own pizzas! This tasty activity was a wonderful way to bring our learning to life and practise real-world maths in a fun, memorable way. It has been a joyful, creative and very tasty half term in Reception, well done, everyone!



CEFN- MISS LANE NURTURE

Gruffalos have had a wonderfully busy half term in class! In Maths, the children have been exploring *time* and *shape*, using lots of practical activities to help them build confidence and deepen their understanding. From sequencing daily routines to spotting shapes around the classroom, they have approached every challenge with enthusiasm and curiosity.

We have also been getting wonderfully creative with our new story, *I Wish I Had a Dragon*. Inspired by the book, the children have been designing and making their very own dragons. They have experimented with colour, texture and different materials, sharing ideas and developing their design skills along the way. Their imagination has truly shone through every dragon they have created!

One of the most magical moments of the term was when a real dragon came to visit Cefn, and even Craig Yr Hesg joined us for the excitement! The children were absolutely thrilled. The visit sparked lively discussions, imaginative play and even more creative ideas for their dragon designs. Alongside all of this, the children have been working hard on their social skills, teamwork and independence through a variety of classroom activities, showing real pride in their learning. It has been a fun-filled, imaginative and exciting half term in Gruffalos, well done, everyone!



CRAIG YR HESG- MISS OSBORNE YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

This term, the children have been wonderfully busy bringing our class story, *Izzy the Dragon*, to life through art, imagination and animation!

After a magical visit from Izzy herself, and a special story told by a friendly fairy, the children were inspired to explore how Izzy made new friends. Their ideas blossomed into a fantastic, animated tale created completely by the class.

The children designed their own dragons using natural materials, created vibrant background scenes, and worked in teams to animate each part of the story using JIT Animate. They showed brilliant teamwork, creativity and problem-solving as they carefully moved characters, snapped photos and brought each moment to life. When we combined all the scenes together, we ended up with a wonderful whole-class animation telling Izzy's story from start to finish.

It has been a joyful blend of storytelling, imagination, digital skills and collaboration, and the children are incredibly proud of what they've created. Well, done, everyone!



CEFN- MRS REYNOLDS YEAR 2 & YEAR 3

This half term has been filled with creativity, imagination and excitement in our classroom!

We began with a truly magical experience when Mythic Adventures visited the school and introduced the children to *two incredible dragon friends*. This unforgettable encounter ignited their curiosity and inspired rich learning across the curriculum. The children were buzzing with questions and ideas, and their enthusiasm for storytelling and mythical creatures has been wonderful to see.

In our digital learning sessions, the children have been exploring the fascinating world of animation. They have learned how to design detailed backgrounds, develop their own imaginative characters, and bring their ideas to life through movement and narrative. Using *J2e Animate*, they are now working on their very own short, animated story all about *Izzy the Dragon*.

The level of creativity, focus and pride they have shown has been fantastic, and we are incredibly excited to share their finished animations during our Eisteddfod celebration.

It has been a joyful, inspiring and truly magical half term, well done, everyone!



CRAIG YR HESG- MRS DAVIES YEAR 2 & YEAR 3

This spring term in Class 2/3 has been full of creativity, curiosity and a touch of Welsh magic! Our Welsh Legends topic has been at the heart of our learning this term, and the children have absolutely thrown themselves into exploring the enchanting story of **Blodeuwedd**. They have become brilliant digital storytellers, planning, designing and creating their very own animations using MetaSketch, Adobe Express and iMovie. It has been wonderful to watch their confidence grow as they experimented with new tools and techniques. Their imagination and technical skills have truly shone! One of the standout moments of the term was welcoming a local Pontypridd florist, Sweetpea Florals, into our classroom. The children were mesmerised as they learned about a range of different flowers, their colours, textures and scents. They then worked together to create a stunning real-life Blodeuwedd, an unforgettable, hands-on experience that brought the legend vividly to life and left the classroom smelling absolutely beautiful! Our PE sessions have been just as exciting. With dance as our focus, Class 2/3 have approached each lesson with enthusiasm and creativity. Through movement, we explored the journey of a flower from seed to bloom, thinking carefully about how each stage might look and feel. The children also learned the traditional *D'awns y Blodau'* folk dance, embracing Welsh culture with pride and energy. We can't wait to perform it and showcase our animations in the Eisteddfod; it promises to be a real highlight! It has truly been an imaginative, vibrant and inspiring term in Class 2/3. The children have worked so hard and brought such joy to every lesson. Roll on the next one!



CEFN- MISS BROWN YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

This half term has been wonderfully busy and creative in our classroom as we explored our Digital Media topic! The children have thrown themselves into their learning with enthusiasm and imagination, taking inspiration from the Welsh legend '**Cantre'r Gwaelod**' to create their very own *stop-motion films*. We began by planning our ideas through detailed storyboards, choosing the key parts of the story we wanted to bring to life. The children learned how stop-motion animation works by thinking carefully about how each background stays still while characters move frame by frame. Their creativity really flourished as they designed and painted their own backgrounds, made split-pin puppets, captured a sequence of photos, composed background music and even recorded voice-overs for their films. Their teamwork and pride in their finished animations has been wonderful to see. Alongside this, we enjoyed some brilliant enrichment experiences. The children loved working with Rhys Williams, who introduced them to programming in a fun and accessible way. We also took part in NSPCC PANTS Day, helping the children understand important messages about staying safe. Our visit from Experimental Science brought even more excitement as the children created paper rockets and tested how far they could launch them using just a straw, a huge hit! It has been a busy, fun-filled and inspiring half term. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved!



CRAIG YR HESG- MISS NAJIAN YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

This term has been a wonderfully busy and creative one for our class, with the children throwing themselves into every area of learning with enthusiasm and imagination. In Literacy, the children produced a fantastic retell of **The Magic Hat**, adding their own imaginative twists and endings. Throughout this writing journey, they learned how to make their stories more captivating by using nouns, adjectives, time connectives and adverbs. They also impressed us with their thoughtful discussions around the big question: "Should children work in quarries?" The maturity they showed, presenting balanced arguments, justifying opinions and considering different viewpoints, was outstanding. In Maths, the children tackled a range of challenging concepts, including time, percentages and fractions. Their confidence has grown noticeably, and they have developed strong problem-solving skills through practical tasks and reasoning activities. Our topic sessions have been just as exciting. This term, the children showcased their creativity through digital media by producing an impressive slow-motion video inspired by the legend of **Cantre'r Gwaelod**. They planned scenes, worked collaboratively and brought their ideas to life with real flair. It has been a wonderful term full of learning, imagination and teamwork. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved!



CEFN- MRS ROSSER SEBD

This half term has been wonderfully busy and full of excitement in Dosbarth Narnia! We began the term by baking our very own delicious Welsh Cakes, an activity the children loved. Not only did they enjoy mixing, rolling and tasting, but they also applied their measuring skills from maths, putting their learning into real, hands-on practice. Alongside this, the children have had great fun using our social and emotional board games. These sessions have given them valuable opportunities to build turn-taking, teamwork and emotional awareness, all in a relaxed and enjoyable way. Our literacy work has been equally creative. We have been retelling the story of **The Magic Hat Shop**, and the children were thrilled to use AI tools to design new settings and characters. Their imaginations truly came to life as they reshaped the story with their own unique ideas. In maths, we have tackled lots of new concepts, including time, measuring and length. The children have shown fantastic perseverance, and it's been lovely to see their confidence grow throughout the term. One of our favourite projects has been creating our own stop-motion film based on the legend of **Cantre'r Gwaelod**. The children worked incredibly hard planning scenes, building props and capturing frames. Their creativity and enthusiasm have absolutely blown us away! We also enjoyed taking part in the Experimental Science assembly and completing a physics investigation, which sparked plenty of curiosity and excitement around scientific enquiry. It has been a truly magical and inspiring half term in Dosbarth Narnia, and we couldn't be prouder of everything the children have achieved.



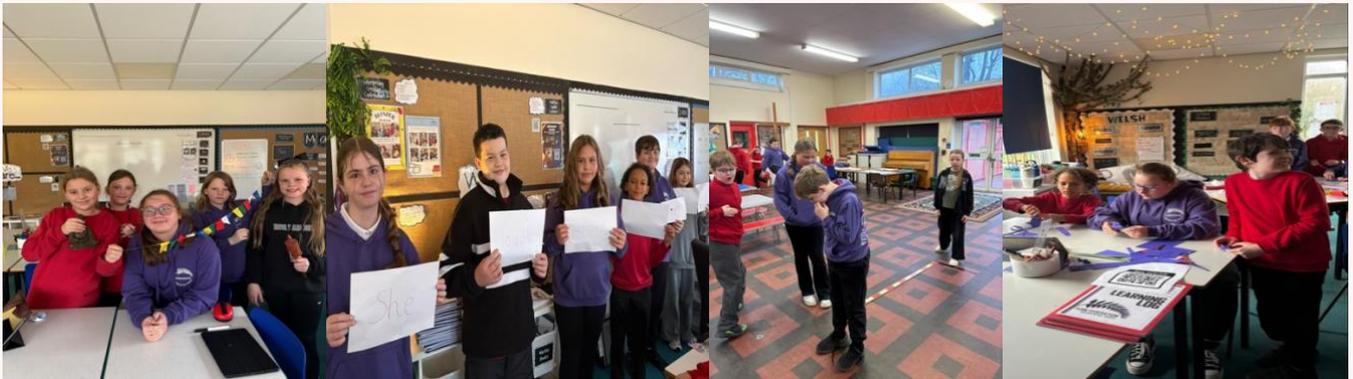
CRAIG YR HESG- MISS ANDREWS YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

We've had another wonderfully busy half term in Dosbarth Pili Pala! We started the term with an exciting trip to Bro Taf, where the children got a sneak-peek at our upcoming F1 project. The class was buzzing with curiosity, and we can't wait to reveal what they'll be creating with it next half term, watch this space!

In Maths, we have been learning all about different types of measuring. The children loved getting hands-on with lots of practical equipment to measure length, capacity, weight and temperature. They have shown great enthusiasm and growing confidence as they explored these real-life skills.

Our Writing Journeys have taken us on some brilliant storytelling adventures. Through **The Magic Hat Shop**, the children explored narrative writing and even adapted the story with their own imaginative ideas. We also delved into recount writing by creating diary entries from different character perspectives in **The New Girl**. The creativity and empathy shown in their writing have been fantastic.

A real class favourite has been our Film & Digital Media work based on the Welsh legend of **King Arthur**. We've explored characters, settings and legendary themes, all of which have helped the children plan and write their very own scripts. They are now well on their way to creating their own exciting King Arthur adaptations, full of drama, imagination and adventure! It has been a fun-filled, creative and inspiring half term, and we are so proud of everything Dosbarth Pili Pala has achieved.



CEFN- MISS LEWIS YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

We've had another busy and memorable half term in Secret Garden!

In Maths, the children have been developing their measuring skills by exploring *time*, *length*, *capacity*, *weight*, and *temperature*. They loved getting hands-on with different equipment and became much more confident using these skills in real-life contexts.

In Literacy, we enjoyed diving into **The Magic Hat Shop**. The children created imaginative characters inspired by different hats and even adapted the story so their heroes could save the town from turning evil! We then explored culture and diversity through **The New Girl**, writing diary entries from the perspectives of different characters. The children did a brilliant job showing empathy and understanding as they wrote in role.

Our Film & Digital Media lessons have been a real highlight. We explored the Welsh legend of **King Arthur**, learning about characters, plot, mood and setting. Inspired by this, the children collaborated to create their own storyboards, scripts and short films. They cannot wait to share their fantastic work with the rest of the school during the Eisteddfod!

It's been a jam-packed half term full of exciting learning, teamwork and creativity. Well, done, Secret Garden!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wk	DATES	Activity	What do I need to do?
1	23 Feb 26	All pupils return to the Federation	Pupils return to school, uniform to be worn please.
1	26 Feb 26	Year 5 & Year 6 Mixed Rugby Tournament - Sardis Road (all day) Minibus pick up and drop off	Rugby kit, mouth shield, drinks, boots, packed lunch, change of clothes, including coat, water, any medication needed. <i>Parents and family can attend if you so wish.</i>
1	26 Feb 26	Pupils Eisteddfod Entries to be brought in for Pupils Eisteddfod Celebration	All entries to be brought in, in readiness for the Federations Eisteddfod celebrations today. Pupils to wear red.
1	26 Feb 26	Pupils to take part in a fitness fundraiser for Velindre and Y Bwthyn	Pupils to wear red and bring in a £1 to support two amazing Cancer charities.
2	2 March 26	Special St Davids Menu	Take a look at the menu below. Please note there will be no jacket potatoes available today
2	2-4 March 26	Balance Bike Training Miss Evans, Mrs Dyer-Knight & Miss Osbornes class	Wear sensible shoes, preferably trainers and tracksuit bottoms
2	5-6 March 26	Balance Bike Training Mrs Meazey & Mrs Reynolds class	Wear sensible shoes, preferably trainers and tracksuit bottoms
2	5 March 26	World book Day	Pupils can dress up as their favourite book character and bring along the book.
3	9 March 26	Cefn parents' workshop- Maths Seeds and Reading Eggs 3:05-4pm	Come along and find out all about how you can help your child at home using Maths Seeds and Reading Eggs. School Hall.
3	10 March 26	Craig Yr Hesg parents' workshop- Maths Seeds and Reading Eggs 3:05-4pm	Come along and find out all about how you can help your child at home using Maths Seeds and Reading Eggs. School Hall.
5	26 March	Pupil Reports out	Complete the google form on your child's report
5	27 March	Last day of term. Pupils return on Monday 13th April.	Pupils return to school, uniform to be worn please.

PRIMARY 2ND MARCH 2026 ST DAVID'S DAY

Welsh Pork Sausage (Gluten, soya, sulphur dioxide)
Gluten-free Pork Sausage (Soya, sulphur dioxide)
or Quorn Sausage (Gluten)

Served with Welsh Cheesy Mash (Milk, *may contain: gluten, sulphur dioxide)
or Homemade Plain Mash,
Peas & Baked Beans,
Welsh Marios Caramel Swirl Ice-Cream (Milk)
or Mango Sorbet Tub

V Vegan
V Vegetarian

Amser Clai Clay Time

£4
y plentyyn/
per child
Oed
Age 6+

Dydd Mawrth 17eg Chwefror
11:00 - 12:30

Byddwch yn greadigol ac yn flêr gyda'n sesiwn clai sych-aer sydd wedi'i chynllunio ar gyfer plant yn unig! Yn y gweithgaredd ymarferol hwn, bydd cyfle i blant archwilio eu dychymyg a'u creadigrwydd wrth weithio gyda chyfrwng cyffyrddol ac amlbwrpas.

Tuesday 17th February
11:00 - 12:30

Get creative and messy this half term with our air dry clay session designed just for kids! In this hands-on activity, children will have the opportunity to explore their imagination and creativity while working with a tactile and versatile medium.

Scan to book!
Scaniwch i archebu

I darganfod mwy/Find out more at: www.ymaonline.wales
Ffônïwch/Call: 01443 490390

Cymor Celfyddydolau Cymru Arts Council of Wales
 LOTTERY FUNDED

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



YEAR 5/6 NEED YOU!



Our Year 5/6 pupils in the Federation are taking on an exciting challenge: building our very own F1 Greenpower racing car.

To make this project truly inspiring, we would love support from anyone with skills in;

- Mechanics
- Engineering/Electronics
- Design making
- Practical making.

IF YOU CAN OFFER GUIDANCE, SHARE EXPERTISE, OR LEND A HAND AS WE BUILD AND PREPARE OUR CAR FOR RACE DAY, WE WOULD BE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL. YOUR INVOLVEMENT WOULD MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO OUR YOUNG ENGINEERS AS THEY LEARN, CREATE, AND BRING THEIR F1 CAR TO LIFE.



EISTEDDFOD



HALF TERM HOME TASK

This half term, we'd love you to get creative and make your very own piece of art inspired by our chosen topics. You can paint, draw, build a 3D model, or use any other art style you enjoy. Let your imagination run wild, the more creative, the better! We can't wait to see what you come up with.

<p>Mrs Meazy, Mrs Evans, Mrs Dyer-Knight</p>		<p>Places or Landmarks in Wales, Cardiff, Brecon, etc</p>
<p>Mrs Reynolds, Miss Lane, Miss Osborne</p>		<p>The Welsh Dragon</p>
<p>Mrs Davies</p>		<p>Blodeuwedd-The Welsh Goddess of Flowers</p>
<p>Miss Brown, Mrs Rosser, Miss Najian</p>		<p>Cantre Gwaelod- The Welsh sunken kingdom West Wales, known as the Welsh Atlantis</p>
<p>Miss Lewis, Miss Andrews</p>		<p>King Arthur</p>

Eisteddfod & Six Nations Fundraiser

IN SUPPORT OF VELINDRE CANCER TRUST
& Y BWTHYN

Children need to wear Red on Thursday 26th of February for the this year's school Eisteddfod and our Get Moving Session!



Children will need to bring in £1 each, this money will be donated in support of Velindre Cancer Trust & Y Bwthyn. You are more than welcome to make an extra donation, as little or as much as possible!



We are delighted to share that both Craig Yr Hesg and Cefn have been receiving free fruit donations from Tesco to support our tuck shops. This generous contribution helps ensure that all pupils have daily access to healthy snack options, while also helping us keep costs as low as possible for families across the Federation.

Eating fruit every day has so many benefits for pupils. It provides essential vitamins and minerals, boosts energy levels, supports concentration in class, and encourages lifelong healthy eating habits. By offering fruit as part of our tuck shop provision, we hope to make it easier for pupils to make nutritious choices throughout the school day.

As a Federation, we are committed to supporting our families during a time when the cost of living continues to rise. Partnering with organisations like Tesco enables us to provide high-quality, healthy options at minimal or no cost, ensuring every pupil can enjoy a positive, nutritious start to their day.

We are incredibly grateful to Tesco for their continued support and look forward to building on this partnership throughout the year.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

It has been a pleasure for the Governing Body to see pupils across the Federation so engaged and enthusiastic in their learning this term. During our visits and meetings with staff, it has been wonderful to witness first-hand the excitement, creativity and determination shown by our pupils in every year class across the Federation.

This half term, governors have also been busy reviewing standards across the Federation. Federation leaders presented detailed reports on pupils' literacy, numeracy and wellbeing data to our Standards and Achievement group. These findings were further validated by our external improvement partner, who provided an additional layer of scrutiny and confirmed the accuracy and robustness of the Federation's assessments. We are pleased with the strong progress being made and the clear commitment from staff to ensuring high quality learning experiences for all pupils.

Governors have also played an active role in helping us appoint several key members of staff for the new school. We are pleased to let you know that the interviews for our new Deputy Headteacher have now taken place, and we are delighted to announce the successful appointment of Mrs Emma Byers. We have also appointed four new TLR post holders who will help strengthen our leadership team as we move into the next exciting phase of the Federation's development. These are Miss Andrews, Miss Lewis, Miss Lewis and Mrs Reynolds, and we are also pleased that Miss Brown will be joining the Senior Leadership Team.

In addition, we have appointed the following class teachers for the new school year: Mrs Meazey, Miss Wookey, Miss Dyer-Knight, Mrs Davies and Mrs Najian.

We are incredibly excited about the talented team we are building and look forward to the positive impact they will have on our school community.

As always, I would like to thank you for your continued support. It is a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated Federation community, and we look forward to the many opportunities the coming months and our new school will bring.



Warm regards,
Councillor D. Williams
Chair of Governors Fern Federation

