



FERN FEDERATION

SPRING TERM 2 – 2025-2026

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

What a fantastic term it has been across the Fern Federation! Our pupils have thrown themselves into every opportunity with enthusiasm, creativity and that unmistakable Federation spirit that makes our schools such joyful places to learn.

We began the term with the magic of World Book Day, with costumes and characters filling our corridors and sparking wonderful conversations about favourite stories. Our community also came together in true Federation style to support **Velindre** and **Y Bwthyn**, raising over £300 through our fitness fundraiser an achievement that reflects the generosity and compassion of our families.

This half term, pupils have also channelled their talents into our Eisteddfod competitions, producing thoughtful creative work that celebrated Welsh culture and the arts. To top it off, both schools united their voices in a rousing rendition of *Sospan Fach*, filling our halls with pride (and perhaps a goosebump or two!).

As a Federation, we are incredibly proud to have supported **Guide Dogs**, **the RNLI** and **Mountain Rescue**, and thanks to the hard work of our pupils and staff and your incredible generosity as families we have raised an amazing **£1,631** so far this year, see the breakdown of the funds raised in the class overviews.

Behind the scenes, senior leaders and I have been busy with literacy and numeracy book looks, lesson observations and intervention reviews. I am delighted to share that nearly all pupils are making strong progress, and overall standards remain at least good, if not better. Our commitment to high-quality teaching and learning continues to shine through in every classroom.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and we will see you after the Easter break.

Regards

Sarah Haggett Executive Headteacher



SPORTS CLUBS SUMMER TERM

Sports Clubs next half term will be as follows:

SPORTS CLUBS	
Monday	Boys Year 3-6 Football (Cefn pupils to travel down to CYH)
Tuesday	Cefn Year 3,4,5,6 Summer Sports
Wednesday	CYH Year 3,4,5,6 Summer Sports
Thursday	Girls Year 3-6 Football - (Cefn pupils to travel 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 2

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		CEFND	
Mrs Evans	82.3%	Miss Smith	87.78%
Mrs Dyer-Knight	86.9%	Mrs Meazey	
Miss Osborne/ Miss Wookey	90.4%	Miss Reardon	94.2%
Mrs Davies	91.8%	Miss Reynolds	91.13%
Miss Najian	89.8%	Miss Brown	88.82%
Miss Andrews	93.1%	Miss Lewis	85.1%
		Mrs Rosser	93%

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 2 Term!

CRAIG YR HESG- MRS EVANS NURSERY

This half term, our class has been busy celebrating many special occasions, including Saint David's Day, World Book Day and Comic Relief. Alongside these wonderful events, the children have taken part in an exciting entrepreneurial project to support our chosen charity, Guide Dogs. As part of this, they helped plan and prepare for our sponsored "Paws for a Cause" walk, showing fantastic teamwork, creativity and enthusiasm as they worked together to raise **£378** for such an important cause. The children have also been working incredibly hard in class. In phonics, they have been strengthening their sound recognition, blending and segmenting skills, while in number work, they have been exploring counting, early calculations and developing their confidence with mathematical concepts through practical, hands-on activities. We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and guardians for your generosity and continued support your contributions make a real difference and are always greatly appreciated.



CEFN- MISS MEAZEY- NURSERY & RECEPTION

This half term, our class has loved taking part in an exciting entrepreneurial project to support our chosen charity, Guide Dogs. We were thrilled to welcome visitors Steve and Sue, along with their guide dogs, Saxon and Skyla, who helped us understand the incredible work these dogs do for people who are blind or partially sighted. We also enjoyed a wonderful session with Mrs Byers and her dog Gertie, learning how to care for a pet and creating helpful lists for her. The children were excited to take part in the sponsored "Paws for a Cause" walk complete with dog costumes and a Crufts-style course followed by a special coffee morning with our wonderful families that raised **£502**. In Literacy, they also planted their own sunflowers and used their experience to write clear, step-by-step instructions. It has been a hands-on and joyful half term filled with creativity, learning and teamwork. A huge thank you to all parents and guardians for your generosity and support your contributions truly make a difference.



CRAIG YR HESG- MRS DYER-KNIGHT RECEPTION

This term, our Reception class have been busy exploring the wonderful world of guide dogs. The children showed great enthusiasm as they learned how these special dogs support people in their daily lives, and they loved taking part in activities linked to this theme. As part of our topic, the class helped planned and carried out a sponsored walk to raise **£320** for Guide Dogs, demonstrating fantastic teamwork, kindness and a growing sense of responsibility. We were also very lucky to have a visit from my dog, which gave the children a valuable hands-on experience of caring for a pet. They explored what dogs need to stay happy and healthy, created shopping lists for essential supplies, and even practised measuring out dog food, great real-life maths in action! To celebrate all their wonderful learning, the children hosted a lovely coffee afternoon for parents, proudly sharing their work and achievements. It was a joyful way to round off a topic filled with curiosity, creativity and compassion. We are incredibly proud of every child for the enthusiasm and care they have shown throughout this project.



CEFN- MISS READON NURTURE

This term has been filled with exciting learning and memorable experiences. We were thrilled to welcome Mountain Rescue into school, and the children were incredibly proud to support their charity by raising money through our successful bake sale. For World Book Day, we shared our favourite stories and enjoyed getting creative in our STEM area.

In Literacy, the children have been learning how to follow and write clear instructions, and they have also written their own postcards. In Maths, we have worked on solving missing-number problems, comparing numbers using greater than, fewer than and equal to, and developing our reasoning skills. The progress the children have made has been fantastic, and they have approached every challenge with enthusiasm. We have also loved spending time outdoors, taking part in hands-on learning such as planting seeds and completing gardening tasks. It has been a wonderful term full of creativity, teamwork and hard work!



CRAIG YR HESG- MISS OSBORNE/MISS WOOKEY YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

It's been a fantastic term, full of fun, learning and plenty of laughter! The children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm. A real highlight was raising **£300** with Mrs Davies class for the Mountain Rescue team, showing brilliant community spirit and pride. They also had an unforgettable chance to work with the new school architects, and we enjoyed a VIP tour of our brand-new school site, an experience they'll be talking about for a long time! Music has been a big focus to the children have been learning how to play the violin and proudly recorded a beautiful performance for our families, they are growing in confidence and musical skill each week. We celebrated World Book Day with great excitement, diving into stories and sharing our favourite characters. In literacy, we explored *The Flower Thief* and wrote clear instructions on how to care for flowers. In maths, the children tackled lots of hands-on challenges, including problem-solving, missing numbers, comparing values and exploring money. Their reasoning skills and confidence have grown brilliantly. It has been a joyful, busy term filled with creativity, discovery and hard work. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved!



CEFN- MRS REYNOLDS YEAR 2 & YEAR 3

The Paddingtons have had a wonderfully busy and exciting term! We proudly took part in the Eisteddfod, singing our hearts out and celebrating Welsh culture together. The children also showed amazing community spirit by dancing to raise money for Velindre and Y Bwthyn two charities that mean so much to us. A real highlight was meeting the incredible Mountain Rescue team. The children were fascinated to learn how these heroes help people in emergencies and were inspired to take action themselves. Together, they decided to hold a bake sale and what a success it turned out to be! They worked brilliantly as a team to bake delicious cakes, decorate biscuits and welcome families to support the cause. Thanks to their hard work and your generosity, they raised an impressive **£71**. We are so proud of the Paddingtons for their enthusiasm, kindness, creativity and teamwork throughout the term. What a fantastic effort from everyone!



CRAIG YR HESG- MRS DAVIES YEAR 2 & YEAR 3

What a wonderful half term we've had in Year 2/3! We were thrilled to welcome Mountain Rescue into school, where the children asked fantastic questions and enjoyed trying on some of the specialist equipment. This linked brilliantly with our learning about 999 and understanding who can help us in an emergency. In maths, we have been practising budgeting as we planned our project which raised **£300** for Mountain Rescue. We also took part in a special fitness session to support two charities close to our hearts Velindre Cancer Care and Y Bwthyn with the children showing incredible energy, enthusiasm and pride. In RVE, we explored and retold the Easter story, deepening our understanding of its key messages. We also enjoyed a fantastic session with architects from Stride Treglown, who helped us design our own dream school. A real highlight was visiting the building site to see how our new school is taking shape an unforgettable experience! We ended the half term with a brilliant World Book Day, diving into Oliver Jeffers' book *Stuck*. The children wrote imaginative list poems and created their own short animations inspired by the story. It has been a busy, happy and creative half term. Well done, Year 2/3!



CEFN- MISS BROWN YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

It's been a short but incredibly busy second half of the spring term! The children have amazed us with their writing, producing thoughtful diary entries, non-chronological reports and letters linked to our exciting *999 Emergency* topic. As part of this, they've taken part in an entrepreneurial project to raise **£60** for the RNLI. After researching the charity's vital work, the children were inspired by a visit from John, an RNLI volunteer, who spoke to them about water safety and the lifesaving role of the organisation. Working in teams, the children developed creative fundraising ideas, pitched them to their classmates, and voted on a final project. They also strengthened real-life skills by creating digital posters, writing persuasive emails, exploring profit and loss, comparing supermarket prices and planning every step of their event. Alongside this, we have learned about online safety and enjoyed a range of special experiences, including time with the construction team of our new school, World Book Day, Red Nose Day and much more. It has certainly been a fun-filled, hands-on and productive half term for everyone!



CRAIG YR HESG- MISS NAJIAN YEAR 4 & YEAR 5

This term, the children have shown exceptional dedication, creativity and teamwork. As part of our Expressive Arts topic, they immersed themselves in the legend of Cantre'r Gwaelod and brought the story to life using the Stop Motion app. After choosing the key moments they wanted to animate, the children designed and created their own characters, props and backgrounds before working together to film each scene. They grew in confidence using the app and demonstrated brilliant collaboration as they reviewed, refined and proudly shared their finished animations. Alongside their creative work, the children have been thoroughly engaged in learning about the important work of the RNLI through our entrepreneurial project. Their visit from the RNLI was a real highlight, sparking thoughtful questions and inspiring the children to make a difference. After discussing a range of ideas, they voted on their favourite fundraising project and worked as a team to plan it. Throughout the process, they developed a wide range of real-life skills, including writing persuasive letters to the RNLI, comparing costs, and calculating profit. It has been a dynamic and exciting term full of purposeful learning, imagination and teamwork. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved!



CEFN- MRS ROSSER SEBD

What a lovely and incredibly busy half term we've had in Dosbarth Narnia! The children have thrown themselves into every activity with enthusiasm. We loved celebrating World Book Day, sharing stories, and dressing up, and our Comic Relief non-uniform and funky hair day brought plenty of smiles and creativity to the classroom. In Literacy, we've been working hard on two wonderful pieces of writing. The children wrote thoughtful letters inspired by our class story *My Shadow Is Pink*, and they also produced a fantastic discussion based on *A Fall at the Quarry*. Their ideas, vocabulary and growing confidence have been brilliant to see. In Maths, the class has tackled lots of new and exciting concepts, including angles, capacity, and the area and perimeter of shapes. The children have enjoyed exploring these topics through hands-on activities and problem-solving challenges. One of our biggest highlights has been learning all about the RNLI. The children were fascinated to discover the important work this charity does and came up with lots of creative fundraising ideas. Together, they decided to hold a charity bake sale, and what a success it was! They absolutely loved baking and decorating their delicious cakes, and even more so selling them to families to support a brilliant cause. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work, kindness and enthusiasm this half term. Well done, Dosbarth Narnia!



CRAIG YR HESG- MISS ANDREWS YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

Year 5/6 have had an incredibly exciting and productive few weeks! The children have thrown themselves into our Design and Technology projects with real enthusiasm. They have been fully immersed in the F1 in Schools challenge and have also begun building our very own Greenpower electric car, ready to race later this year. From testing aerodynamics to assembling real components, their teamwork, problem-solving and engineering skills have been fantastic to see. In Maths, pupils have been developing a strong understanding of angles, exploring nets of 3D shapes, and applying their knowledge of area and perimeter to real-life problem-solving tasks. Their reasoning skills are really beginning to shine through. In Literacy, we've been diving into the action-packed story *The Rugby Zombies*, using it as inspiration to write our own dramatic newspaper articles. The children have shown great imagination and flair while learning how journalists' structure and present information. It has been a brilliant effort from everyone, and we are feeling very ready and excited for our last term together!



CEFN- MISS LEWIS YEAR 5 & YEAR 6

What a half term it has been for Year 5/6! Time really has flown by because we've been so busy. As part of our Formula 1 'Ready, Set, Go!' project, the children have been challenged by our cluster schools to design and build a rally car ready to race in the summer. To prepare, they've been learning all about how F1 cars work how they move, what makes them so fast, and the engineering behind their design. They even built their own wooden prototypes, and their enthusiasm and teamwork have been fantastic to see. We can't wait for the next stage of the build! In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of area, perimeter and volume, applying their knowledge to real-life style problems with growing confidence. In Literacy, we have been diving into the action-packed story *The Rugby Zombies!* following our meet-and-greet with author Dan Anthony at Pontypridd Library. Inspired by the book, the children created lively rugby commentaries, explored tripling, and crafted brilliant newspaper reports based on the big match. We've also enjoyed a range of special experiences this half term, from celebrating our school Eisteddfod and World Book Day to exploring Lent, Eid, and discussing digital footprints and the pros and cons of AI. It has been a fun-filled, fast-paced and hardworking few weeks and Year 5/6 have definitely earned a well-deserved break. We're excited to see what the next half term brings!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wk	DATES	Activity	What do I need to do?
1	13 April	All pupils return to the Federation	Pupils return to school, uniform to be worn please.
1	14 April	Year 6 boys Football Tournament '9 a side'. Pentre Park. Minibus pick up and drop off.	Football boots, packed lunch, water, any medication if needed. Kit will be given day before.
1	16 April 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	16 April 26	Animal Encounters Visit to schools, Mrs Reynolds, Miss Osborne/Wokey, Mrs Davies & Mrs Reardon	
1	17 April 26	Year 5 and 6 Cardiff Museum Trip	All pupils to pay £5 towards cost of trip. All pupils to wear school uniform.
3	28 April 26	Informal parents' drop-in session to classes. Come in and take a look at your child's work and speak to your child's teacher	Straight from school until 4:30pm, walk around the school.
4	4 May 26	Bank Holiday Monday	No school for staff or pupils
4	7 May 26	INSET DAY	Schools closed to pupils, staff training day.
5	11th, 12th, 13 th May	Year 5 and 6 Residential, Manor Adventure	All funds paid, all consent forms completed.
6	20 th May	Craig Yr Hesg Sports Day	Times and Further information to follow
6	21 st May	Cefn Sports Day	Times and Further information to follow
6	22 nd May	Last Day in school	Pupils and staff break up for half term.

Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

What another busy and rewarding half term it has been across the Federation. Staff and pupils have been working hard to support a number of charities, including the RNLI, Guide Dogs and the Mountain Rescue Team. Thank you to all parents and family members who contributed whether through donations or by providing cakes to help raise funds your support is truly appreciated.

Behind the scenes, pupils, governors and staff have also had the exciting opportunity to visit the new school site and see the progress being made. *Wow, what a school it is becoming!* Ysgol Gynradd Glyn-Coch is shaping up to be something very special, just as our pupils, staff and community deserve.

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and that the weather is kind enough for you to enjoy some quality family time outdoors.

On behalf of the governing body, thank you for your continued support.



Warm regards,
Councillor D. Williams

