



FERN FEDERATION

AUTUMN TERM 1 – 2025-2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we wrap up this first half term, I'm thrilled to celebrate the incredible learning journeys and achievements of our pupils. It's been a term full of curiosity, creativity and discovery especially through our exciting Science and Design & Technology topic, *"To Infinity and Beyond."*

Our pupils have amazed us with their enthusiasm as they explored space, time and design. Their questions, ideas and imaginative thinking have truly brought the topic to life. The photos included show just how talented and engaged they've been, and we hope you enjoy seeing their brilliant work!

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for the home-to-school meetings this term. We hope you found them helpful and informative. You'll receive your child's report in Autumn 2, which will build on those conversations.

We're always looking for ways to grow and improve, and your feedback is incredibly valuable. If you have any suggestions, ideas or positive news to share, please use the link below—we'd love to hear from you:

👉 Share your thoughts with us <https://forms.office.com/e/mus45JUcvJ>

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together, we're helping our Federation thrive.

Mrs Haggett



Sports Clubs Autumn 2

Sports Clubs next half term will be as follows:

SPORTS CLUBS	
Monday	CYH Football Years 3-6
Tuesday	Cefn Multisports Year 3-6
Wednesday	CYH Multisports Years 3-6
Thursday	Cefn Football Years 3-6

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 that has been agreed by the school) your child will lose their place and will be given to a child on the reserve list.

Reminder there are no clubs on the first week of term or last week of a term.

ATTENDANCE

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 Autumn 1
Term Dates: 2nd Sept – 19th Oct 2025

CRAIG YR HESG		CEFN	
Mrs Evans	84%	Miss Smith	88.8%
Miss Dyer-Knight	90%	Mrs Meazey	
Miss Osbourne	92%	Miss Lane	97%
Mrs Davies	92%	Mrs Reynolds	90%
Miss Najjan	90%	Miss Brown	86%
Miss Andrews	93%	Miss Lewis	91%
		Mrs Rosser	90%

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.

This term the pupils in the Fern Federation have been given the opportunity to participate in lots of amazing learning experiences, from entering the space hub to understanding the importance of donating to the Food bank, they have experienced it all. Take a look at just a few examples of what the pupils have got up to!



What learning has been going on?



GIVE RACISM THE RED CARD ACTIVITIES.

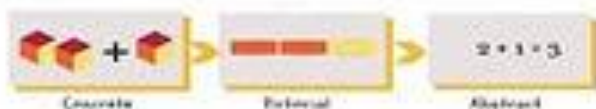


What learning has been going on?



Fern Federation Improvement Targets 25-26

We will use hands-on activities, pictures, and abstract thinking to help everyone understand Maths better.



We will focus on improving reading, phonics, and spelling to help everyone become better readers and writers.



We will have a daily Helpwr Heddiw session to practice Welsh, making it a fun and regular part of our day.

Dwi'n Siarad Cymraeg



Staff will give more helpful feedback to pupils to support their learning and thinking.



Staff will use information and data to track progress and make sure everyone is doing their best.



QR CODE OF FEDERATION



Together We Will Prosper!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AUTUMN 2

DATES	Activity	What do I need to do?
Monday 3rd Nov	Pupils return to school after the half term. -Poppy appeal items on sale	Pupils to wear school uniform. Money if you so wish for poppy appeal items.
Wednesday 5 th Nov	Craig Yr Hesg Individual and Sibling photos	Pupils to either wear Christmas jumpers or uniform.
Wednesday 6 th Nov	Cefn Individual and Sibling photos	Pupils to either wear Christmas jumpers or uniform.
Friday 7 -14 th November	National Baseline Testing Years 2-6	Reassure your child not to worry. Further info: https://www.fernederation.com/personalised-assessments
Monday 10 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Day	Pupils to wear odd socks to school day
Tuesday 11 th November	Cefn- School Nurses in to administer Flu Jabs	Return flu slips to school
Friday 14 th Nov	Children in Need Day	Wacky hair, pyjama day or non-school uniform £1 donation.
Monday 24 th November	Year 5 Ysgol Bro Taf transition day	Pupils to wear school uniform.
Wednesday 3 rd Dec	Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime- CYH-Mrs Davies, Miss Najian, Miss Andrews, Cefn-Miss Brown, Miss Lewis, Mrs Rosser	Pay for trip using parent hub. Pupils to wear uniform Permission given. Pupils to bring their own snacks.
Thursday 4 th December	Family Christmas Craft afternoon. Refreshments available.	Choose a room and make a craft or two with your child, spend as little
Tuesday 9 th December	Christmas Concert 9:30am start CYH- Miss Evans and Miss Dyer-Knight Cefn-Mrs Meazey and Miss Smith	£2 ticket which includes a sale Refreshments will be on sale (further information to follow)
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Concert 1 9:30 start Concert 2: 1:30pm start CYH- Miss Osbourne and Miss Davies Cefn-Mrs Reynolds and Miss Lane	£2 ticket which includes a sale Refreshments will be on sale (further information to follow)
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Concert 1 9:30am start Concert 2: 3:30pm start CYH- Miss Andrews and Miss Najian Cefn-Mrs Lewis and Miss Brown	£2 ticket which includes a sale Refreshments will be on sale (further information to follow)
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Lunch Day	Pupils to wear Christmas jumper.
Monday 15 th December	Santa – Colliers Farm Mrs Evans (plus parents), Mrs Dyer-Knight, Miss Osborne Mrs Meazy (plus N parents), Mrs Reynolds, Mrs Rosser	Pay for trip using Parent Hub. Nursery Parents/responsible adult to accompany pupils on the trip Pupils wear uniform. Permission given.
Thursday 18 th Dec	Pupil Reports sent home.	Read report and respond to survey.
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term	Non-school uniform day.
Monday 5 th Jan	Pupils Return to school	School Uniform

Key Dates: Autumn Term 2:

Starts: Monday 3rd November 2025

Ends: Friday 19th December 2025

Christmas Holidays: Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026. **Pupils return to school:** Monday 5th January 2026

INFORMATION

SAFEGUARDING

At the heart of everything we do is a commitment to keeping your children safe, happy and supported. That's why, this academic year, every member of staff across our Federation has taken part in a series of important training sessions designed to strengthen our care and understanding of the pupils we work with every day.

Here's what we've been learning:

- **Safeguarding Training**
Ensures all staff can spot signs of harm or neglect and know exactly how to respond, keeping children protected and supported.
- **Team Teach Training**
Focuses on positive behaviour strategies and safe handling techniques, helping us create calm, respectful and nurturing classrooms and environments.
- **Prevent Training**
Helps staff recognise when a child may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know how to offer the right support early on.
- **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Training**
Builds understanding of how difficult experiences can affect children's behaviour and development, so we can respond with empathy and care.

These sessions are vital in making sure our team is fully equipped to support every child's safety, wellbeing and learning. Thank you for trusting us with your children we're proud to work together to give them the best possible start.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES AUTUMN 2

Humanities AOLE -Geography focus

Progression Step 1: Green, green, grass of home - Where is special to me?

Progression Step 2: Green, green, grass of home – Green, grass, and bright lights.

Progression Step 3 Lower: Green, green, grass of home- Wales and the wider world.

Progression Step 3 Upper: Green, green, grass - Wales and the wider world.

HEALTH AND SAFETY- FIRE DRILLS

This half term, both schools took part in fire drills to practice safe and speedy evacuation procedures.

- At Craig Yr Hesg Primary School, the drill took place on Wednesday 1st October
- At Cefn Primary School, it was held on Wednesday 22nd October

We're proud to share that every pupil exited the building calmly and sensibly and, in both schools, everyone was safely outside and registered in **under two minutes!**

A huge well done to all our pupils and staff for their brilliant teamwork and focus.

Go Team Fed!

HEALTH AND SAFETY- BUILDINGS

Over the past few weeks, members of our Senior Leadership Team, Governors, and our dedicated caretaker Anthony have been busy carrying out health and safety walks across both schools. These checks took place on 30th September at Cefn Primary School and 1st October at Craig Yr Hesg primary School.

The aim was to spot anything that might need fixing or improving to keep our learning environments safe, welcoming and well-maintained. Following these walks, we've put together an action plan to address the areas identified—and work is already underway to make sure everything is sorted.



FERN FEDERATION

Autumn 2
Humanities
Green, green, grass of home!

COMMUNITY LINKS

POPPY APPEAL

We're proud to once again support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal across our Federation. Pupils will have the opportunity to purchase poppy-themed items each day, while stocks last.

This is a wonderful way for children to learn about remembrance and show their support for those who have served.

Items and prices will be available as follows:

Item	Price
Poppy enamel pin	£2
Adjustable Bracelet	£2
Wooden Cross	£1.50
Snap Wristbands	£1.00
Poppy Reflector Tags	50p
Poppy	Donation

Thank you for helping us support this important cause.



GLYNCOCH FOOD PANTRY

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated food to support the Glyncoch Pantry through our Federation. Your generosity made a real difference, and the Pantry team in the Community Centre were absolutely delighted with the donations!

They've asked us to pass on their sincere thanks for helping so many families and individuals in our local community. It's wonderful to see our school community coming together to support others.

If you'd like to learn more about the Pantry or how you can continue to support their work, please email @glyncochregeneration on Facebook.

Together, we're making a meaningful impact thank you!



Shwmae, Shwmae Day

This half term, our pupils across the Federation proudly took part in Shwmae Shwmae Day, celebrating the Welsh language with enthusiasm and creativity. The pupils enjoyed learning and using Welsh phrases throughout the day and week and worked together to create a special video showcasing their efforts. We are excited to share this video with you as it's a wonderful reflection of their pride in Welsh culture and language!



Show Racism the Red Card

As part of Show Racism, the Red Card, our pupils took a powerful stand against racism by wearing red to show their solidarity with this important cause. They have worked hard to produce powerful resources that send a clear message: racism has no place in our Federation or society. We are incredibly proud of their commitment to making a difference and look forward to sharing their work with you soon on the Federation website.

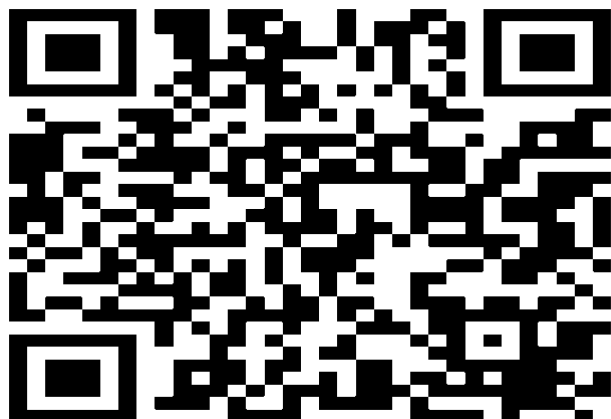


INFORMATION

HELP US NAME OUR SCHOOL!

Exciting times are ahead as we prepare for the launch of our brand new school and we want your help in choosing its name! Every pupil, parent, staff member and governors has a voice, and this is a wonderful opportunity to make it count.

Simply scan the QR code below to view the shortlist and vote for your favourite name. Your input matters, and together we can choose a name that reflects the spirit and values of our community.



FERN CRIW 2.0

Click the link to check out the new video from the new Fern Criw 2.0.

After a summer full of sunshine (and mud.....so much mud), our brand new Fern Criw Youtubers are here to give you the latest update on our new school build.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFYyk1cwpmk

Don't forget to Like, comment and Subscribe!



LOCKS FOR CANCER

We are incredibly proud of one of our amazing pupils Maggie who is making the truly selfless act of cutting off her beautiful locks to donate to children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment. Maggie's gift will go the Little Princess Trust, helping to create real hair wigs and restore confidence and hope to children going through unimaginably tough times.

This act of kindness is more than just a haircut it's a powerful message of empathy, generosity and solidarity. Maggie is showing us all what it means to make a difference and we couldn't be more inspired.

If you would like to support Maggies mission, donations can be made via her JustGiving page or dropped into a donation box in either school office.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-donate-for-maggies-big-hair-cut-to-support-children>



FREE FRUIT SNACKS -TESCO

We are delighted to share that once again pupils across the Federation will receive FREE healthy fruit snacks next half term, thanks to a generous grant awarded to the Federation by TESCO. This wonderful initiative ensures that every child across our Federation has access to a nutritious snack throughout the day, supporting their energy, focus and overall wellbeing.

Healthy eating plays a vital role in children's development, and this support means no child misses out. This is a small but powerful way to promote good habits and help our learners thrive.

A huge thank you to TESCO for helping keeping our pupils fuelled and focussed!

TESCO
Every little helps

KIDS EAT FOR FREE OR FOR A £1 THIS OCTOBER ½ TERM

ASDA Café

Kids eat for £1 all day, every day, not just half term – no adult spend needed.

Bill's-Two kids eat free on weekdays during half term when an adult orders a main.

Burger King- Kids eat free with every adult meal purchased via the Burger King app.

Harvester-Kids eat for £1 with an adult main meal.

IKEA-Hot kids' meals start from just 95p daily from 11am.

Sainsbury's Café- Kids eat for £1 when an adult hot main is purchased from 11:30am.

Subway

Valid 25 - 31 October. A 4" sub, snack and drink is free along with purchase of any full price footlong Sub. At participating restaurants so check before you order.

Tesco Café-Scan your Clubcard and get a free kids' meal – valid during school holidays.

Toby Carvery- £1 kids' meals on weekdays with an adult meal purchase.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents, guardians and carers,

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to you all for your continued support during this exciting time of change.

Behind the scenes, we the Governing Body have been working closely with the Local Authority to shape the future of our new school and are thrilled to be part of this momentous journey with you all.

We hope you and your child have taken the opportunity to vote for the new school's name. A huge thank you to everyone who has, a QR code was sent out to you all to make this process as easy as possible.

We would also like to warmly welcome all the new families who have joined us from both schools. It has been a pleasure to see how quickly the children have settled into our Federation community. Your presence and involvement are already making a positive impact, and we look forward to growing together.

As governors we remain committed to supporting the Federation leadership and staff in creating a nurturing, inclusive and inspiring environment for all our pupils. Thank you once again for your trust, engagement and enthusiasm it truly makes a difference and 'Together We Will Prosper!'

Warm regards,

