



Learn, Live, Believe

*St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig Santes Bernadette
We are a Christ centred community reaching out to others. We learn, grow and celebrate together.*

Weekly Newsletter

7th Mawrth 2025

March is a very busy time , especially in Welsh Catholic Primary schools. This week we gathered together to celebrate Mass on Ash Wednesday and as March 1st was in half term , on Thursday we celebrated our Eisteddfod and St David's day. We will then come together again as a school on Monday to enjoy World Book Day or as we are calling it Our Word Day. We then have CAFOD Family Fast Day on 14th March when we will be asking our families to contribute to the Big Lent Walk

ASH WEDNESDAY—Fr Keith and Deacon Steve came to St Bernadette's on Wednesday so we could celebrate Mass as a school community, with children, staff, Governors, friends and families. Fr Keith told us that Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent—reminding us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert. It is a good time to reflect and get close to God. As Catholics we are asked to use this time to fast, pray and to help others. We all received our ashes in the sign of a cross on our foreheads and the words 'repent and believe in the Gospel'. The ashes are an outward sign of an inner step.



EISTEDDFOD —what an amazing day we had! The children were fabulous and what outstanding talent we have at St Bernadette's. Our judges had such a hard time deciding on the winners! Please see p2 of our newsletter to see our Bard and just some of the pictures of the day.

WORD DAY/WORLD BOOK DAY—MONDAY 10TH MARCH— A reminder that it will be St Bernadette's Word day on Monday 10th March. Children are invited to come to school as an exciting and/or adventurous word they have chosen—remember they need to have a clear understanding of what the word means. Please check your parentmail or contact the school office for further information . We are also asking the children to bring their favourite book from home to share with their peers during the day.

Attendance and Punctuality this Week:

Class	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	92.9 %	87.7%	94.8%	98.7%	96.7%	93.7%	97.3%	93%
Late	1 pupils	1 pupils	6 pupils	2 pupils	3 pupils	10 pupils	1 pupils	8 pupils

Da iawn BI 2 for having the highest attendance this week. Let's see what we can do next week.

EISTEDDFOD 2025

We were delighted to crown Seb Facey-Davies as our Bard for 2025. Seb's enthusiasm, his attitude, his cynefin, his pleasure in the success of others all make him the perfect candidate for the Chair. His poem 'Dragon's Bones' was exceptional and the highlight of the day!



Dragon's Bones

In Ireland no legendary beast roams the sky,
In Scotland no dragon will ever catch your eye,
In England the dragons died out years ago,
Yet in Wales, there is a magical beast to show.

Under the waves of Wales lay a pile of bones,
Sleeping on the sand like shells, all alone.
Yet the bones are ready for when disaster strikes our land,
When this happens they'll rise off the sea sand.

The bones will reform with scales anew,
And a dragon will rise from the biny blue.
It shall drop to the ground and fight with King Arthur,
Courageously battling as the fight gets harder and harder.

The dragon once awoke millenia ago,
It's a good story, I'll tell you what I know.
The dragon rose from the sea as I described,
With scarlett scales and fiery eyes.

It gracefully glided before landing with a thud,
In front of a dragon, thirsty for blood.
The dragon from the sea was a flash of courage and crimson,
The other a flash of white, there with no permission.

One dragon from England, one from Wales,
An event that will be told in many tales.
But who will win the frightful fight,
What dragon, the Red one, or the White.

On the days dawn the white dragon fled,
Chased the roar of the dragon that was red.
The English dragon went to his very home,
A land of fairies, dragons and gnomes.

And as for the Welsh dragon, he went back to sea,
Turned into bone and ready to protect you and me.
And then there's us, so lucky to live here,
With a dragon protector, so very near.





As part of our Lenten journey at St Bernadette's, we will be supporting the work of CAFOD. Friday 14th March is CAFOD Family Fast Day. This Jubilee year, [Pope Francis has called on us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'](#). This is CAFOD's mission - to bring your love for your neighbour to people suffering the impacts of war, global debt and climate change and to give them the support, skills and tools they need to find their hope for the future. We are inviting our families to take part in Family Fast Day this year by making a small donation to CAFOD.

Further information about Family Fast Day is available on the Cafod website and donations can be made either by clicking on the link or by scanning the QR code.

<https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day>



A promotional poster for Family Fast Day. The top half has a green background with the text "FAMILY FAST DAY" in large, bold, dark blue letters, and "FRIDAY 14TH MARCH" in white below it. The middle section has a white background with the text "Give mums like Lokho a safety net this Lent" in a dark blue, italicized font. Below this, there is a photograph of a woman in a patterned orange and black dress carrying a child on her back, working in a field. A small caption above the photo reads "This shade netting protects plants". In the bottom left corner of the poster, there is a QR code and the text "Make your Lenten donation today using our online envelope". The entire poster is framed by purple vertical bars on the left and right sides.

Meithrin

Nursery are currently reading the tale Chicken Licken. In their outdoor learning session this week, Chicken Licken lost her eggs and the children had to find them and count up to 20 eggs to make sure we had found them all. We then made a nest for Chicken Licken out of twigs and sticks! What fun!



Stars of the week: Emilio & Arthur

Emilio has been very polite with his manners this week, and he has been an amazing friend and helping others in nursery.

Arthur has been working really hard on his Welsh and has been enjoying the Eisteddfod activities.

Derbyn

This week we have been talking about how we try to grow closer to Jesus during Lent. We received ashes after Mass on Ash Wednesday. We made our own promises for Lent and together we made two prayer phones so we can speak to Jesus in prayer.



"Be kind" - Sophia R
"Be like Jesus" - Sophia C
"I will pray" - Maisie



Stars of the week: Frankie, Isabelle & Nainsi



Frankie has impressed us with her super listening skills this week. Da iawn Frankie!

Isabelle has impressed us with her number work this week. Gwaith da Isabelle!

Nainsi really impressed us with her mature attitude using her super new glasses this week!

Blwydynn 1

The children in Bl 1 had been very busy over half term preparing themselves for our Eisteddfod. They were given the option to take part in as many competitions as they wished and we were so proud of how many entries we received!

One of the home tasks set was to create a 'Cynefin' board that represents them and highlights how they feel they belong. The children were so proud to share their boards in class and it really helped the adults learn so much more about the children and their families. The boards were colourful, informative and displayed the most beautiful photographs.

The children were also set the challenge of taking a photograph of one of their favourite places in Wales. The photographs were so creative and we feel that we have some talented photographers amongst us!



A big thank you to all of our families for supporting your child in taking part in this year's Eisteddfod.



Star of the Week: Esha - Esha has settled extremely well into Bl 1 after joining us in the new year. She has made good friends with her peers; she works hard and is polite and respectful always! Esha you are a great addition to St Bernadette's and we are so glad you are with us. Bendigedig!

Blwydynn 2

Our Year 2 pupils have been learning about landscape artists and painting during the Creative Arts lessons. We have learned about the importance of the background, middle ground and foreground of a landscape painting.



"We looked at lots of different landscape paintings from different centuries". Jacob Z

"We divided our paper into 3 equal sections". Theo

"We have used black and grey marker pens to draw the outline of our landscape". Ravi

"We made sure that the foreground had the most detail". Tommy

"We did some research on the sisters who collected lots of pieces of art". Amina

"They were called Gwendoline and Margaret Davies". Petra

"They lived in mid-Wales and had the greatest art collection of the Twentieth Century". Esme

"They donated many Impressionist paintings to the National Museum of Wales". Lilly-Mae

Our landscape paintings were judged as part of our Eisteddfod celebrations.

You can find out more about landscape painting if you follow this link.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrnb9ty#z24n3qt>



Stars of the week: Treasure gives all of her attention to the teaching in class. She can share lots of her ideas in group and class discussions and is always keen to improve her understanding. Treasure is a great role model, showing us all how to work hard at school. Ti'n seren Treasure.

Blwyddyn 3

This week B13 have been putting their scientific skills to the test! We used our investigation results to help us identify that aluminium foil was the best material to make shadow puppets. Using this material, we moulded our very own gladiators!

In small groups, we used torches, aluminium foil and iMovie to create our own battles!



We have also been showcasing our talents in the Eisteddfod. We had singers, musicians, handwriting, IT and creative tasks! In our colour houses, we cheered and took part in our schools Eisteddfod. We thanked God for the gift of St David and wrote a prayer of thanks.



Seren yr Wythnos: This week in BL3 our star of the week is Kingsely. He has worked exceptionally hard with his fractions and time numeracy. Keep it up! We are so proud of you.



Blwyddyn 4

Year 4 had a fantastic time during our Eisteddfod celebration. We were supportive of everyone who was chosen to be on stage to perform and congratulated everyone who took part. We had a brilliant time seeing the different traditional costumes and spending a day together as St Bernadettes.



Lucia: "I enjoyed that during the Eisteddfod we all gathered together as a whole school. I enjoyed the crowning of the Bardd at the end. It was very exciting that the winner got 50 house points for their house".

Amelia Burley: "I enjoyed all the competitions leading up to the Eisteddfod. I enjoyed being in the hall with the whole school during the Eisteddfod. It was really nice listening to everyone's singing and their recitations".



Rory: "I enjoyed the art competition and Cynefin projects leading up to the Eisteddfod the most. The Eisteddfod was really fun because I liked seeing how everyone had dressed and hearing all their poems. It was fun cheering for my house and clapping for the other houses".



Daniel-Lee: "I enjoyed cheering on all the houses during the day and cheering on everyone who won a competition or were reciting poems on the day."



Star of the Week: Cassie and Amelia

Cassie has worked extremely hard towards all competitions in the Eisteddfod. We are super proud of all the hard work Cassie puts in to all areas of her learning. She always arrives at school with a positive attitude and shares this with her peers. Da iawn Cassie



Blwyddyn 6

Ongl Project - Junior Designers

This week the pupils looked at creating their own concept boards in response to the words generated from their collective mind maps. The challenge was to create their concept board using collage. In the afternoon the children then worked in groups to update their 3D designs for the outside area.



Cynefin

As part of our Welsh week tasks we have enjoyed listening to each other present our Cynefin projects. It was really interesting to find out about our different families, hobbies and how we feel we belong.



Star of the week: Longyfarchiadau to Grace for all of her efforts. Grace, you are a fantastic role model and always take on new tasks with such enthusiasm. You impressed us this week with how you worked collaboratively in a group and presented your concept board to the class. Da iawn Grace!



Seren Yr Wythnos

Nursery - Emilio & Arthur

Reception– Frankie, Isabelle & Nainsi

Year 1– Esha

Year 2– Treasure

Year 3– Kingsley

Year 4– Cassie & Amelia

Year 5– Louie

Year 6— Grace

