



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***

***12th Rhagfyr 2025***



Festivities are in full swing at St Bernadette's! Our younger children, B1 and B2 astounded us with their clear, loud voices and acting skills, in their incredible production of 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw'.

We had our delicious Christmas dinner and were allowed to wear our Christmas jumpers on Thursday

Today Meithrin & Derbyn, our youngest children, shared their amazing talents with us in their delightful 'Wriggly Nativity'. Da iawn bawb for being such superstars!

### **Upcoming Christmas Events**

*16th December - City Hospice Reindeer Run*

*17th December - Y5 & Y6 Christmas Carol Concert 2.15pm*

*18th December - Peripatetic Concert for all our musicians learning an instrument at St Bernadette's 9.30am*

*18th December Class Christmas parties pm*

This Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday, it is when we light the third candle, the pink candle, on our advent wreaths. It symbolizes **joy**, representing the shepherds' joy at Jesus' birth and the anticipation of Jesus' arrival.



## News from St Philip Evans Church - Spring

### First Holy Communion sessions:

The next First Holy Communion sessions at St Philip Evans Church, will be taking place after Christmas. Sessions are open to all pupils entering year 3 in the 25/26 school year and any older children who still wish to take their first Communion.

Sessions will run on Tuesday's from 6pm and Saturday's from 4:15pm. The sessions will typically last between 30-45 minutes.

Sessions begin on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January and Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January for 5 weeks at the times above. Children will need to attend mass every weekend during the duration of the course.

First Holy Communion dates will be spread over two weekends, the 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> February and the 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> of February.

Contact Teresa the church secretary for a form to enrol your child onto the above courses.

If you have any further questions then please email Teresa (the parish secretary): [secretary@stphilpevans.co.uk](mailto:secretary@stphilpevans.co.uk)

# Top Tips for SETTING UP PARENTAL CONTROLS ON NEW DEVICES

In children's eagerness to start enjoying new digital gadgets immediately, it can be easy to overlook setting up the type of parental controls that can help to protect them online. If you don't sort those out from the very start, it can be an uphill battle – technologically and psychologically – to impose such controls later. Here's our rundown of what to look for when setting up the various internet-enabled devices that might be lurking under the tree at this time of year.

## IPHONE

If your child's lucky enough to be getting their own iPhone, parental controls can help avoid issues like screen addiction and unsuitable content. Go into the settings and scroll down to 'Screen Time'. From here you can customise important settings including time limits on using the device, communication restrictions and content blockers. You can also lock your changes behind a passcode.

## ANDROID

With Android devices, Google's Family Link app is your friend. You'll need a Google account – and a separate one for your child, which you should use when first setting up the device. Then, in Family Link on your own device, select 'Add Child' and enter their account details. This lets you specify limits on daily usage, restrict certain apps, block particular content and more.

## PLAYSTATION

You can prep for a PlayStation before it's even unwrapped. At [my.account.sony.com](http://my.account.sony.com), create an account, then go to Account Management > Family Management > Add Family Member to set up your child's account, which you'll use to sign in on the console. You can restrict the age ratings of the games they can play and who they can talk to. On the PS5, you can make exceptions for any games you think are acceptable despite their high age rating.

## IPAD

iPad parental controls are identical to those on iPhones. However, if you've got a shared family iPad and want to ensure your children aren't seeing anything age-inappropriate after you hand them the device, there's a feature called Guided Access (under Settings > Accessibility > Guided Access). With this switched on, young ones can only use the app that's currently open.

## XBOX

The Xbox Family Settings app helps you manage which games your child can play (and when). You'll need to set up the console with your own account and then add a child profile. Make sure your account's password protected, so your child can't alter your choices later. You'll be walked through the functions at setup, but you can also reach them manually via Settings > Account > Family Settings.

## NINTENDO SWITCH

Download the Nintendo Switch Parental Controls app on your phone, and you'll be shown how to link it to the console. Once that's done, you can limit how long your child can play each day, decide what age ratings are permitted and more. You'll also get weekly updates on how often they've used the device. These controls are accessible through the console itself, but the app is usually easier.

## WINDOWS 11 PCS

On Windows 11, account management is key. Set up the device with your own account as the admin. Then go to Settings > Accounts > Family and Other Users and create your child's account (if you've already done this on a previous PC, just log in with those details). Microsoft Family Safety (either the app or the site) then lets you control screen time, what content children can view and more.

## CHROMEBOOKS

Chromebooks' parental controls are managed via the Family Link app. Unlike an Android device, however, you need set up the Chromebook with your own account first, then add your child's. Go to Settings > People > Add Person and input your child's Google account details (or create a new account). Your child can then log in, and you can monitor what they're up to via Family Link.

## MACS

Like iPhones, parental controls for Macs are managed via the Screen Time settings. Again, the crux here is to set yourself up as the administrator before adding any child accounts. In the settings, look for Users & Groups to create your child's account, then – while on their profile – use the screen time options to place any boundaries around apps, usage and who your child can communicate with (and vice versa).

## SMART TVS

Smart TVs typically have their own individual parental controls. One of the most popular brands is Samsung – and on their TVs, you can control the content available to your child. In the Settings menu, under 'Broadcasting', you can lock channels and restrict content by its age rating. Even this isn't foolproof, however: some apps (like YouTube) might still let children access unsuitable material.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins is a technology journalist and editor with more than 20 years' experience of working for titles such as the Sunday Times, Which?, PC Pro and Computeractive. He's appeared regularly as a tech pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the ITV News at Ten. He has two children and writes regularly on the subject of internet safety.



The National College

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# Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day



## Meithrin & Derbyn

What an amazing performance of the Wiggly Nativity performed by our Reception & Nursery Classes Wiggly Nativity.



**Stars of the week: All of Nursery & Reception**

All of Nursery & Reception we absolutely incredible today. We are all really proud of the children for their performances.

## Blwydynn 1 & Blwydynn 2

On Wednesday, our Year 1 and Year 2 children delighted us all with their magical Christmas Jigsaw Nativity.

Over the past few weeks, the children have been rehearsing with dedication and enthusiasm. Their hard work truly shone through on the day, and every moment was worth it.

The children sang beautifully, filling the hall with festive cheer. Their voices blended together in harmony and brought the Christmas story to life.

Each child read their lines with wonderful expression, showing confidence and joy in sharing the story. It was heart-warming to see how much effort they had put into learning their parts and performing them so well.



PIC-COLLAGE



**Seren Yr Wythnos:** All of Year 1 and Year 2. We are incredibly proud of every child for their commitment, teamwork, and creativity. The performance was a true celebration of the season and a reminder of the magic that comes when we all come together.

## Blwyddyn 3

Year 3 had a wonderful and festive time creating their Christmas baubles this year! Using their imagination and creativity, the children planned unique designs and then brought them to life with bright colours and thoughtful details.

Each bauble turned out beautifully, showcasing their hard work and artistic flair. The children were proud to sell their colourful creations—spreading Christmas cheer throughout our school community.

Well done, Year 3! Your decorations were truly magical.



### Stars of the week: Albert



Albert has been working extremely hard in all areas of his learning. He is always looking for areas to improve in his work! Albert has also been a role model, showing off his kind and caring personality by donating the majority of his £200 winnings from the Christmas fayre. We are so proud of you Albert !

## Blwyddyn 4

This week in Year 4, we have been busy exploring area in Maths. The children have been counting squares, comparing areas and representing shapes in different ways. They have drawn their own shapes, calculated the area and used fantastic problem-solving skills to tackle a range of challenges.

In RE, we have been looking at artwork from around the world that depicts Christ the King.

The children used their evaluative skills to discuss each piece and chose their favourite.

They then used their creativity to produce their own Christ the King drawings, inspired by the artwork they explored.



We also shared our knowledge about the Advent Wreath, focusing on the significance of the candles, the evergreen leaves and the red berries. The children showed wonderful understanding of the symbols of hope, love, joy and peace.



This week we met with our linked in school St Mary's online. We played lots of fun games, discussed our bunting and poems with one another. We are looking forward to meeting up in person in the new year!

To finish our week, we transferred our Christ the King artwork onto Minecraft, combining creativity with technology and developing our IT skills in a fun and engaging way.



Star of the week:

Star of the week this week is Luna. She has shown a great understanding of the Advent Wreath and created a beautiful Jesse Tree. A fantastic piece of work that she should be very proud of. Da iawn Luna, we are very proud of you!

## Blwyddyn 5

As well as preparing for our Christmas Carol Concert, we have been learning about Christmas traditions around the world. We presented our findings in Google slides and shared our facts with each other at the end of the lesson. It is so interesting to find out how different our celebrations are in our class and around the world.



Miss Davis shared with us what her traditions are as she is from Cornwall. We then taught Miss Davis all about what we do in our families and in our school.

### My Traditions

In my family we eat turkey wrapped in bacon and have presents in bags by the tree.



### Traditions:

The luxurious Dubai blend traditional elements like feasts and carols with extravagant displays, themed markets, concerts and unique desserts experts.



### Poland

Wigilia is a traditional Polish Christmas Eve feast consisting of 12 distinct meatless dishes symbolizing the twelve Apostles.

Polish people get presents on Christmas Eve

Polish people eat wafers and say prayers called (opiatki).



### What traditions they do in Egypt?

- Food: Fatta (rice, meat, bread), Kahk (sweet biscuits), Molokhia, cakes, ginger cookies.
- In Egypt They Have christmas on January 7th and In Wales we have it on December 25th.
- A big family gets together visiting neighbours with a Egyptian cookie.



Seren yr Wythnos in blwyddyn 5: Seren yr Wythnos this week is Amelia who has been an absolute joy to have in class this week. Never without a smile, Amelia approaches everything she does with enthusiasm. Her work in Maths and on her Christmas traditions were both lovely to read. Da iawn Amelia, keep up the good work.

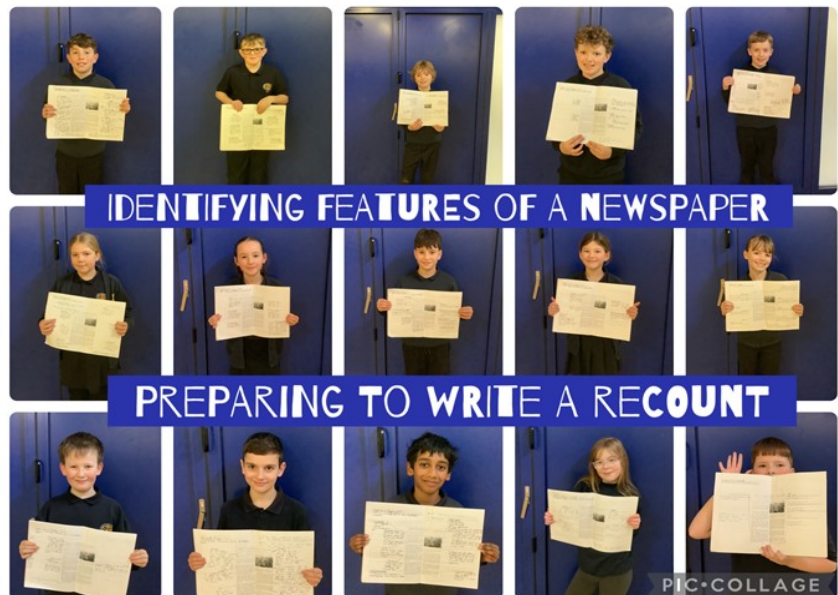
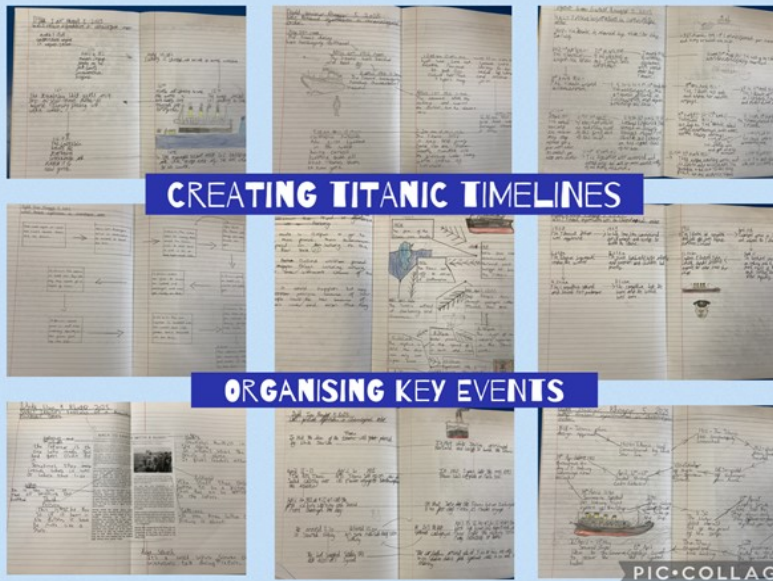
## Blwyddyn 6



We are busy preparing to write a newspaper report on the events of the Titanic. This week we have been looking at the features of a newspaper report, picking out all of the things that

we will need to include. We have focused on direct and reported speech. We looked at examples and then identified and labelled all the elements that we will need to focus on for our 'Big Write.'

We researched the events of the Titanic and created a timeline in chronological order to help us write our recounts. We chose how we would like to present our work and how we would like to organise the information.



**Star of the week:** Seren yr Wythnos

Llongyfarchiadau to Oliver for all of your hard work this week. Oliver, you continue to impress everyone with all of your efforts. You have worked very hard this week applying your multiplication skills to challenging problems. Gwaith da Oliver!



# Seren Yr Ythnos

- Nursery - All of Nursery
- Reception – All of Reception
- Year 1 – All of Year 1
- Year 2 – All of Year 2
- Year 3 – Albert
- Year 4 – Luna
- Year 5 – Amelia
- Year 6– Oliver



## FAMILIES LEARNING TOGETHER

Following the successful 'Read together, Grow Together' course run in school for our families this term, we would like to introduce a new program all about 'Story Sacks'.

This is aimed at our families with children from Nursery to Year 2 and will start at 1pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January at St Bernadette's.

### About the Course

*Story Sacks* is a creative and interactive program designed to help parents and carers support their child's reading in fun and engaging ways. This course is built around the much-loved children's book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and uses stories, props, and playful activities to:

- Boost children's confidence and imagination
  - Strengthen early literacy skills
- Foster a lifelong love of reading

To book your place, scan the QR code on the form below to complete an online form, or email Families Learning Together on [families@cavc.ac.uk](mailto:families@cavc.ac.uk)

## Families Learning Together



**Story Sacks**

**St Bernadette's**

**Monday 12th January  
1.00pm**

**For parents / Carers /  
Grandparents of pupils in  
Reception to Year 2**

**Come along to find out more**

**Fun sessions for you and your child Get involved in:  
Making fun resources to share, create your own story sack, learn new ideas to support reading & imagination. Gain an Agored Qualification, become a student, get student discount. Make new friends.**

**Contact us on  
[families@cavc.ac.uk](mailto:families@cavc.ac.uk)**

