



ABERBARGOED PRIMARY

Newsletter



Fond Farewell

We end the year wishing the wonderful Mrs Hall-Moore a fabulous retirement. After nearly 30 years working as a teaching assistant and office administrator on both school sites, we wish her all the joy retirement can bring and thank her for her dedication, commitment and enthusiasm for providing our learners with the best education possible.



Grand Raffle

Huge congratulations to the 35 winners of the 'Grand Christmas Raffle'. We hope you liked your prizes. Thank you to the amazing sponsors who provided prizes. We will share a list of the businesses in the first Friends of Aberbargoed Newsletter' after their first meeting of the year on Monday 13th January, 3.30pm.



Christmas Events

We think you'll agree, the Christmas concerts were a huge success this year and we are extremely grateful to families for supporting with costumes. If you would like to donate any costumes to school please send them in and we'll have them available to support families next year.



Christmas Dinner

Crackers were pulled, songs sung and delicious food eaten as we enjoyed our Christmas dinner. We were very grateful to Tesco for donating chocoaltes for the children to enjoy alongside their lunches.



Festive Trips

Thank you for supporting our festive trips. The children had a wonderful time and they were a credit to you and our school. Thank you also to the wonderful parent helpers who support our school visits.



Community Carols

Singing for our community was a real highlight of the festive season. Well done to all the pupils who performed for the ACAT Christmas luncheon and also for residents of Hill View residential home. We are looking forward to working with both community teams more in the new year.

ABERBARGOED MASKED SINGER

We've noticed attendance can be lower on a Friday, so we are aiming to improve this during the spring term.

To encourage pupils to attend, and to bring some fun to our wintery months, we will be hosting our very own version of 'Aberbargoed Masked Singer'. Each week a selection of staff will compete to go forward to the semi-finals and final to be crowned the winner. Pupils will vote for their winner each week.

Please help us beat the trend of the last few years and make January our highest month of attendance in all of the borough!



ClassDojo

Please see your child's teacher if you have not yet signed up to Dojo. Only 20% of families are yet to log in. We've already posted important information about upcoming events for the half term ahead.

Dates for your diary

6th Jan - first day back

31st Jan - Wear red for Velindre

3rd Feb - Children's Mental Health week

7th Feb - Dress to Express

11th Feb - Safer Internet Day

Parent Survey

We really do value your feedback. There were other fantastic suggestions that we will explore over time, such as adult learning sessions, how we can further improve parent engagement opportunities and other aspects of school life. It was also wonderful to receive such positive feedback in the survey too. This will be shared with staff in the new year.

You said... so we....

You'd like a fruit tuck shop!

So we ...

Set up a weekly fruit shop for pupils to preorder fruit.

Feedback shows:

Parents are happy for children to develop healthy habits.

A very small minority of pupils are not finding they are having access to preferred fruits.

Next steps:

Explore ways to pay digitally.

Discuss extending the range of fruit available with our greengrocer.

Explore amending the process for issuing fruit to enable greater individual choice.

You'd like school communication to improve and more notice of trips and events.

So we ...

Set up Class Dojo.

Feedback shows:

91% of users find the app very or extremely useful. particularly the prompts in the run up to an event.

Useful to be able to communicate directly with class teachers.

91% of responders felt notice given about trips was very or extremely helpful.

Next Steps:

Classes to share more photos of learning.

Encourage remaining 20% of families not engaging with Dojo to reduce the need for repeating information via email/Dojo/x (formerly Twitter)

You'd like more events such as discos, fetes etc arranged for pupils.

So we ...

Worked hard to establish a new Friends of Aberbargoed Committee.

Feedback: will be reviewed by the committee in their next meeting in January. They have already begun to take on board feedback for their events in the spring term. They'll share updates in a newsletter after their meeting in January.

Next steps:

The committee will share updates in a newsletter after their meeting in January.