

Ysgol Bro Carmel  
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### What's been happening in school?

There is very rarely a quiet couple of weeks at Carmel, and this last fortnight has been no different! From parent consultations to snow days, Children in Need to the Christmas catalogue, each week brings something new and exciting to the school!

Children in Need managed to raise a wonderful £229. It was lovely seeing the children come into school in their pyjamas, and a great deal of fun was had during our Corridor Olympics! Alongside the Poppy Appeal, we have raised a lot of money for valuable causes and in the service of others, so thank you to everyone!

On Wednesday 20th, some of our Y5/6 pupils took part in the indoor athletics in Deeside. The children did fantastically well, coming joint **first** out of all the schools that attended! Not only that, Mrs Jones was delighted to share that this is the **FIFTH** year in a row Ysgol Bro Carmel have won the indoor athletics! All that powering Carmel Road in the mornings is paying off! Well done everyone!

### National College Newsletter

Attached is a newsletter from the National College—this newsletter is released on Wednesdays and contains really useful information for parents and schools. This week it focusses on Roblox—a popular game with young children, but a game that can easily become unregulated.

### Christmas Catalogue 2024

Carmel's Christmas Catalogue has been taking lots of orders over the last couple of weeks! This initiative is incredibly valuable for the children. Not only does it raise funds for the school, but each class is invested in producing a product with a real-life purpose. We often hear about the need for children to have 'real life experiences' and making a product with a purpose not only teaches a skill (for example, measuring the chocolate powder), but also allows our older children opportunity to learn about profit and loss, advertising, work out price-points and apply this business acumen to a real life scenario. A huge amount of contextual learning takes place, so thank you for once again supporting the Christmas Catalogue project.

### Attendance

Please can we ask that all parents/carers contact the school office by telephone or email if their child is not able to attend school. This also applies for a medical/dental appointment that might be at the start of the school day. If your child has a medical appointment during the school day, please contact the school office so we can ensure your child is ready in time to be collected. Diolch!

## School Website

Our school website is up and active— you can find us at [ysgolbrocarmel.co.uk](http://ysgolbrocarmel.co.uk)! Key school information will be hosted on the website, alongside our schools app!



**CAN YOU HELP?  
WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME MATERIALS  
TO BUILD AN EXCITING OUTDOOR AREA  
FOR R-42.**



**COULD YOU OR YOUR WORKPLACE  
HELP? WE WOULD LOVE TO RECEIVE:**



- SMOOTH WOOD OFFCUTS
- CABLE REELS
- GUTTERING OFFCUTS
- WOODEN PALLETS
- PLASTIC CRATES (LOTS OF THESE!)
- SLEEPERS

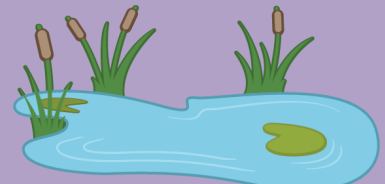


**DIOLCH YN FAWR!**



## Pond Redevelopment

We are pleased to share that the school pond redevelopment will commence next week, starting with the pond being dug out and lined. There will then be a break for a few days, before our contractor is back to construct the path and jetty. The pond redevelopment has been a high priority for the School Council, and so it is great that this work is beginning, and the pupils will see their request for the pond redevelopment being undertaken!



## Diary Dates:

Please see the graphic for the key dates over the next couple of weeks and into the festive period.

*Week Beginning 9th December—Prickly Hay Christmas Show—Ticketing details to follow!*

Kind regards,

Mr M. Martell  
Headteacher / Pennaeth

## Christmas at Ysgol Bro Carmel

Dec 6th -  
Winter Wonderland 3pm - 6pm - £10  
Crafts, hot dogs, hot chocolate and others treats included

Dec 12th -  
Christmas jumper & Christmas party day  
Wear your Christmas jumper/outfit and be party ready

Dec 17th  
Santa visits - £5  
Santa is visiting school so book your slot

Dec 18th -  
Christmas dinner  
Time for Pam's special roast potatoes and sprouts

Dec 19th -  
Pantomime - £20  
In Rhyl Pavilion to see Cinderella

(More details will follow )



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

AGE RATING  
PEGI  
7

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to interact online (including a group chat function), which could expose children to various risks. Scammers often attempt to trick young Roblox fans into exchanging their paid-for items for something which turns out to be of much lesser value – or something they never even receive. The in-game chat has some filters, but it isn't perfect: players can still send unpleasant messages, while predators can reach out to children directly.

### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money – usually a one-off payment. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some lobbies, therefore, will put children at greater risk of contact from strangers than others.

### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this doesn't usually deter such people. Some player-built Roblox levels have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind, and this will not always be obvious.

### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some extra costs. These are usually indicated with the symbol for 'Robux' (the in-game currency). Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game using real money. People can also buy extra Robux to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and it's also possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for younger players, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. Keep in mind that the game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your account.

### PRIVATE SERVERS

If a child has friends to play Roblox with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, the player who owns the server could invite other people – who might not be child friendly – to join them. Additionally, private servers can be set up in such a way that any player on the host's friends list can join, so it's important to discuss who children are playing with.

### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that two-factor authentication is enabled on any payment accounts also makes it harder for children to spend money inadvertently.

### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, children must learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's okay to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger – can help them understand how to communicate more safely with other people online.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



The National College®

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/21333431/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parties-fortnite>  
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



Dosbarth Dinas have had a wonderful time celebrating Anti-Bullying Week with a live lesson from the BBC. We learned all about why it is so important to respect others and how we can resolve disagreements.



Dosbarth Llyn Celyn have carried out a Science investigation to find out their super-powers.



Team Carmel had a great time at a netball festival this morning.

The children from Llyn Elsi have been practising the cross-stitch for the Glorious Christmas Tags!





Corridor Olympics and Children in Need fun, ft Dosbarth Meithrin!

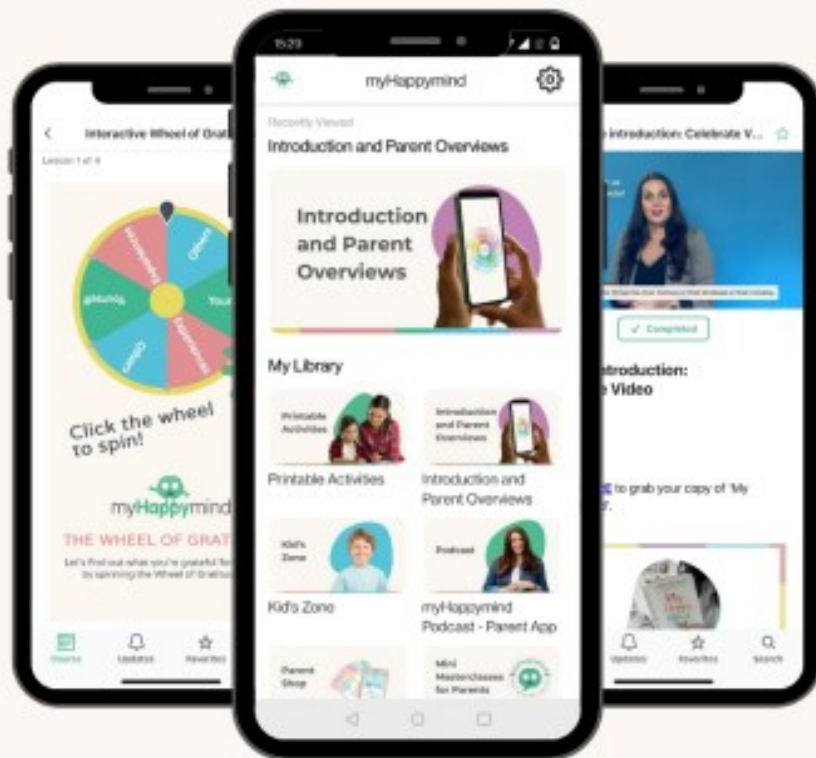


Dosbarth Y Fan Fach have been busy elves this morning, making a start on the Sweet Treat Santa Sleighs!



# Download your FREE myHappyMind Parent App

...An online resource to support you and your family to learn more about how you can use myHappyMind to support your child.



## myHappyMind for Parents

Exclusively for parents with children at a myHappyMind School or Nursery.



Learn all about what your children are learning in school

  
myHappyMind  
**Parent App**

YOU WILL NEED THIS AUTHENTICATION CODE TO SIGN UP

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