

Ysgol Bro Carmel
Carmel
Holywell
Flintshire
CH8 8NU

Tel: 01352 712234
Email: ycmail@hwbcymru.net
Headteacher: Mr M. Martell



Ysgol Bro Carmel
Carmel
Treffynnon
Sir Y Fflint
CH8 8NU

Ffon: 01352 712234
e-bost: ycmail@hwbcymru.net
Pennaeth: Mr M. Martell

What's been happening in school?

The last couple of weeks at school have been non-stop! The biggest event has definitely been the KS2 performance of Star Wars, which took place across one afternoon and two nights this week. The Year 6 children were fantastic in the main parts, ably supported by our super Year 5 pupils, and our Year 4 and Year 3 pupils provided songs, dancing and entertainment which really made the show come alive—we are incredibly proud of all of them! A huge thank you to the community who were able to come and see the shows, a thank you to the staff who stayed late to run the performance, and of course a thank you to the children for being incredible, as always!

In amongst the rehearsals, KS2 have somehow managed to fit in a visit to Drayton Manor, as well as Year 4 and Year 5 spending two days working with Bigfoot Arts Education on a stop-motion workshop! The children learned a huge amount about animation, and have made some very impressive (and occasionally slightly unusual) stop-motion videos. Not to be outdone, the Foundation stage have been to Blue Planet Aquarium, following their topics on the oceans, recycling and the environment. It was a super trip and really helped bring their learning to life. Along the same theme, we have had the RNLI in to ensure we all remain safe during the summer months, especially important for coastal communities such as ours. Year 1 and 2 have also been at the Jambori, celebrating and singing in both Welsh and English! And on Wednesday, 3 of our Year 4 children headed down to Cardiff for the Climate Challenge Cymru Award Ceremony, after their presentations made the finals of the Climate Cymru competition! Wow! Well done Dinas!



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 edition focusses on the Nintendo Switch 2. From the arrival of real-time GameChat and a plug-in camera to an easier path to mature content and in-app spending, there's a lot to consider.

In order to maintain the safety of the children and other road users it is imperative that all parents and carers do not park on the yellow zigzags outside of school. Thank you.

Thank you to Carmel Bowling Club who hosted Year 5 and Year 6 for a bowls taster session on Thursday! It was fantastic to share some time with one of our community groups and for the children to try a new sport! Diolch pawb yn y clwb!

Thank you to all the companies and individuals who have provided prizes for our school raffle! All the money raised goes right back into school and directly benefits the pupils. Your kindness is appreciated by every one of us! **Diolch yn fawr pawb!**

Thank You



VOTE FOR US!

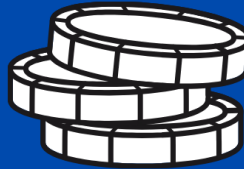
Our Sensory Room redevelopment project has been chosen as one of the **Tesco Stronger Starts** candidates - the project with the highest number of votes across will receive £1,500!



★ **Tesco Holywell Superstore**
★ **Tesco Flint Express**



Voting will commence in store from the first week in July 2025 until the end of September 2025!



Stronger Starts **TESCO**
Every little helps

Diary Dates:

Please see below for a brief overview of key dates for the next two weeks.

Every Monday —drum teacher in school

Every Tuesday—P Cornets lessons with Y3 / Dosbarth Llyn Celyn

Every Tuesday —piano teacher in school

Every Wednesday—guitar teacher in school

Every Wednesday—Well-Fed mobile shop—8.45—9.30

Week beginning Monday 30th June—Year 6 Transition Week @ Ysgol Treffynnon

Tuesday 8th July—Pond Dipping workshop

Monday 14th July pm—Leavers Service

Friday 18th July—Last Day of Term

Monday 21st July—First Day of Summer Holidays

Monday 1st September—School Closed—Staff Training

Tuesday 2nd September—School Open

Kind regards,

Mr M. Martell
Headteacher / Pennaeth

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like *Cyberpunk 2077* and *Hitman* have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like *Fortnite* or *Splatoon 4* allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, *'The Super Mario Bros. Movie'* (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College®



Climate Challenge Cymru

Our Climate Cymru finalists had a great day in Cardiff! They were presented with their certificates alongside the other winners! Llongyfarchiadau!



Dosbarth Meithrin had lots of fun looking at the sea creatures we had caught in our class lobster pot this week.



1 admission to Banana Ben's Play Centre

Personalised picture frame voucher from Cute As A Button!

Nando's vouchers!

Family ticket at Blue Planet Aquarium!

Bowling Lane at Jade Jones Pavilion, Flint

10 gym sessions at LyonsDen Fitness!

£25 voucher at The Druid Inn!

£25 voucher at Jacksons Garden Centre!

2 x family swim vouchers at Holywell Leisure Centre

Cut and Blow Dry from Bliss Hair Salon!

Family of 4 inflatable session at Deeside Leisure Centre!

2 vouchers for a free coffee at Marmalade Café!

10 class sessions at LyonsDen Fitness!

2 tickets to Cindarella, Saturday 13th December, Venue Cymru!

Family of 4 ice rink tickets at Deeside Leisure Centre!

£10 voucher at Mynydd Mostyn!

SUMMER PROM RAFFLE!



And many more prizes!

Tickets are available via the School App until July 9th. The raffle will be announced on 11th July!



Dosbarth Dinas had a brilliant time working with Bigfoot Arts Education to use their creativity to produce stop motion animations.

We told you there's more!

1 x family swim voucher at Jade Jones Pavilion, Flint



2 x 4-person round of golf at Old Padeswood!

SUMMER PROM RAFFLE!

one BIG thank you!

Lashes of your choice by Ooh La Lash by Lowri!

Greenfield Valley Family Pass!

Wax and tint by Ooh La Lash by Lowri!

Tickets are available via the School App until July 9th. The raffle will be announced on 11th July!

Bendigedig to our Carmel Comets Kurling Team, who finished 3rd at the Kurling in Deeside!



Year 1 and 2 had lots of fun singing and dancing at the Jambori!





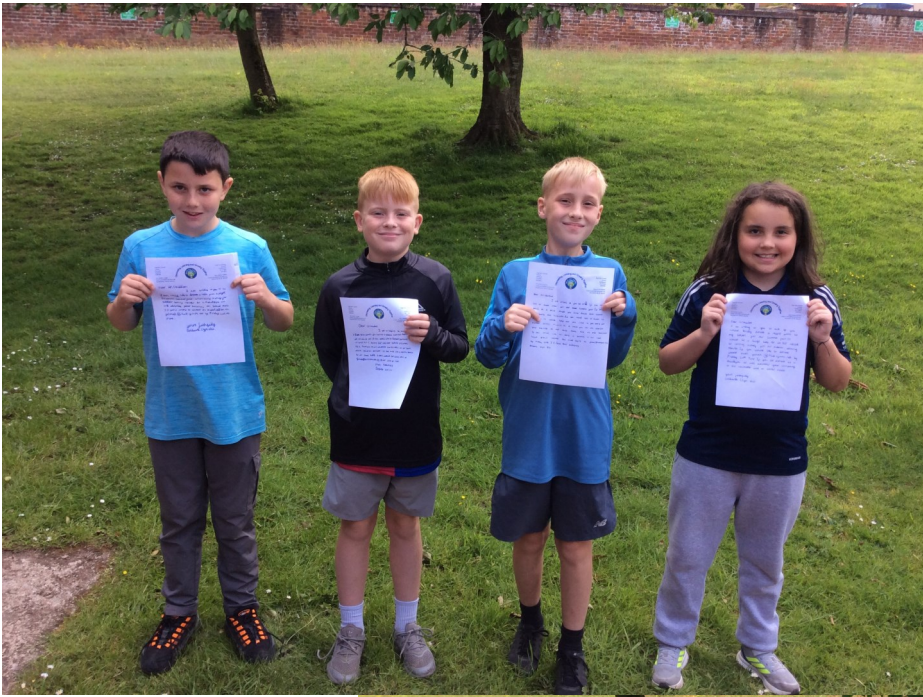
Dosbarth Llyn Celyn have been helping to plant wildflower turf in our food growing garden.





The juniors had lots of fun at Drayton Manor!





Dosbarth Llyn Elsi have been writing to local businesses, asking if they would like to help to raise money for outdoor learning resources by donating a prize for the Summer Prom Raffle.



Dosbarth Dinas used their digital skills to send excellent persuasive emails about a brand new holiday destination!



We were really happy to have Tracey and Vernon in today from Flint RNLI today. We learned all about being safe on the coast. Diolch yn fawr iawn!

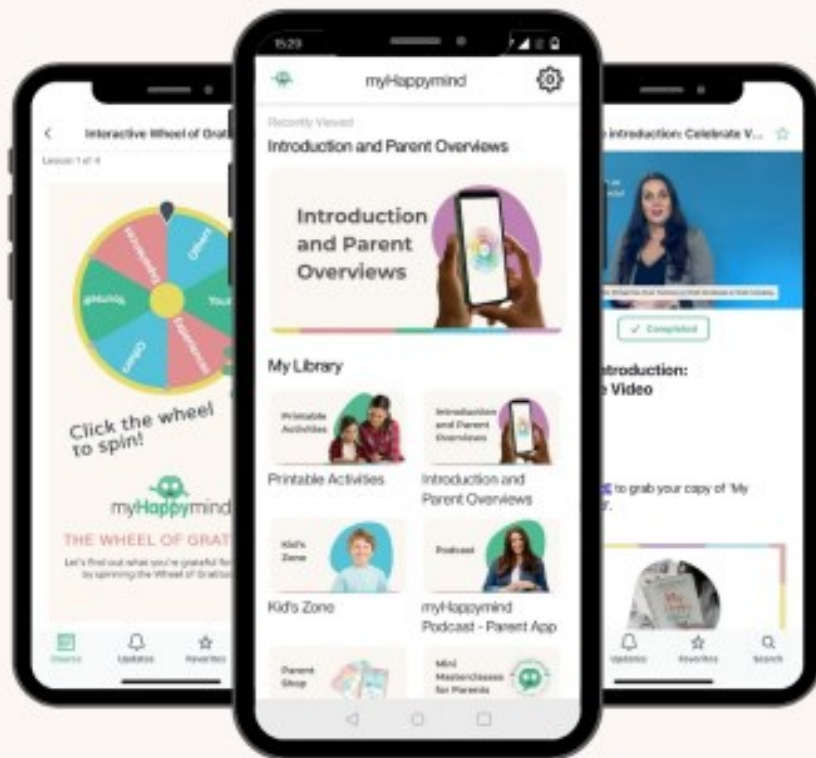


Our Happiness Heroes have been busy working towards our myHappymind school accreditation—da iawn!



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

400340