

Ysgol Bro Carmel
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What's been happening in school?

This part of the school year is always centred around looking to the future. Firstly, our Year 6 pupils are approaching their final few days at Carmel, and they are preparing to begin a whole new, exciting chapter at secondary school. This has included our Y6s spending a week on transition visits at Ysgol Treffynnon, which also included a residential visit to Glan Llyn! In school, we've marked this special time by giving the children their fantastic leavers hoodies, and having a really lovely leavers service on Monday afternoon.

For our younger children, Jump Up Day gave everyone the opportunity to meet their new teachers and visit their new classrooms, and it was a really positive morning all round.

Our new nursery children also had their taster visit to Carmel, and it was a special moment seeing them arrive for their sessions, full of awe and wonder!

Our usual busy-ness in school has continued, with KS2 having pond-dipping workshops, Year 5 learning all about lifesaving and sign language, and Theatr Clwyd's string ensemble visiting us too!

In other news, our Summer Prom was a huge success, raising an **incredible £1465** for school! Diolch i pawb a breswyliai ac a brynnodd docynnau raffl ar gyfer y digwyddiad!

As mentioned a couple of weeks ago, at the end of the academic year, we will bid farewell to two of our wonderful members of staff at Ysgol Bro Carmel. Mrs Ellis will be moving on to a new position at Ysgol Pen Coch, and Mrs Martin will be finishing with us, following the culmination of her fixed-term contract.

Mrs Ellis has been a fantastic member of the school team over the last three years, positively impacting the lives of a huge number of children in that time. Her enthusiasm, dedication and passion for supporting children in school will be greatly missed, and she will undoubtedly be a fantastic asset in her new role. They are very lucky to have you Mrs Ellis!

Mrs Martin has been with us since September 24, working in a 1:1 capacity as well as in Dosbarth Meithrin. Mrs Martin's flexibility, calmness and positivity has been exceptionally valuable to us this year, and we have been incredibly fortunate to have had you as part of our school team. Thank you, Mrs Martin!

I am sure you will join me in saying a huge 'thank you' to both Mrs Ellis and Mrs Martin - you will both always be part of our family here at Ysgol Bro Carmel.



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 This guide examines Apple's iPad – a popular device for children – and explores key concerns such as screen overuse, privacy risks and inappropriate content.

A special message for our Year 6 pupils

Well, how exciting and emotional the last few days have been. We are so lucky to have had you as our Year 6s this year. From the residential to Cardiff, Star Warts, organising the Christmas Catalogue, World of Work Week and everything else, you've had a wonderful, enjoyable and relentless last year at Carmel! The whole staff team are incredibly proud of all of you, of your successes, your resilience in the face of challenges, your good humour and hard work, your effort and your positivity. We are also incredibly proud of the young people that you have become. In your own individual ways, you are all blossoming into wonderful young adults. Whether that is helping a young pupil who's fallen over in the playground, checking in on others when they're poorly, kind words and an arm around the shoulder when someone—in fact when anyone - is upset, or walking our youngest children back from service, you are exemplary role-models, exemplary pupils and wonderful, talented, kind young people. So thank you, for being you. We will miss you all.



Quick reminder of start and end times to the school day.

The gates and classroom doors open for all at 8.45 for a 9am start each day. *Children should be in their classes by 9am at the very latest.*

Our Foundation classes (Alwen and Brenig) finish at 3pm.

Our Junior classes (Celyn, Dinas, Elsi, Y Fan Fach) finish at 3.10pm.

Kind regards,

Mr M. Martell
Headteacher / Pennaeth

We've had a busy year... look what we've been up to!

NEW LOCATION ALERT



New Location



Baby Brews On The Move joined the YBC family!

We are proud to announce that we are a myHappymind Bronze Accredited school!



This means we have demonstrated our commitment to building a wellbeing culture for our entire school community.



We have become a myHappymind school!

From September, every class will have 3 half-terms of Forest Schools for an afternoon every week!



FSA
FOREST SCHOOL

We're starting Forest Schools at Carmel too!



We're a Little Wandle School—and spent over £3000 on new books for the pupils!

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education





We've built an outdoor area, in foundation and an allotment.....

And restored the pond...and there's still more to come!



And run a triathlon, amongst many other sporting events!

We've joined No Outsiders too!

**NO
OUT
SIDERS**
'All different, All welcome'

We've had TWO fantastic performances, one at Christmas and then Star Wars!



We've met authors....



And we've won awards and competitions for Maths and for Climate Cymru!

Classes leaderboard



[Sumdog's Spring National Maths Contest](#)

This contest has now finished.

Congratulations to all those who took part!

Position	Class name	Region	Score
1st	Brenig, Ysgol Bro Carmel	Wales	344
2nd	YS2, Gwernin Nllyn Primary	Wales	278
3rd	Y1, Mayals Primary School	Wales	254



We even got a new logo!

We managed to raise an incredible £1465.45 through our raffle and Summer Prom! Wow!



We've sent Y6 and Y5 on residential, and didn't lose any of the pupils!



None of this would be possible without our wonderfully supportive parents, governors and community, and our and truly incredible, devoted staff team. Diolch yn fawr pawb!



We've raised money for school....

Been to the aquarium....



To the Theme Park....

We've been out singing in the community....



And of course, out singing in Welsh!



We've had visits from therapy dogs...



And learning visits from RNLI and the police...



Learned about lifesaving, animating, stop-motion...



Pond dipping and sign language



We've learned all about the World of Work....

Learned musical instruments....



Spoken LOTS of Welsh.....

And even taught you Welsh too!



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APPLE IPADS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Tablets remain a staple of children's digital lives – and Apple's iPad is by far the most popular model. According to Ofcom, over half of younger children regularly use a tablet to play games, watch online content or access apps. With their broad functionality, iPads can be helpful tools, but without supervision, they may expose children to risks ranging from inappropriate content to screen overuse.

COSTLY TO REPAIR

Unlike some child-friendly tablets, the iPad is not built for rough handling. Its slim design and high cost mean that a drop or spill can result in a costly repair. If a child is using the device regularly, a sturdy case and screen protector are strongly recommended to help prevent accidental damage.

DATA PRIVACY

While Apple is known for strong privacy protections, a recent study found that many iOS apps aimed at children still share personal data. Over 40% of the tested apps sent at least one piece of user information to third parties, raising concerns about advertising and analytics being targeted at underage users.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The App Store and Safari browser provide almost unrestricted access to online material. Children may stumble upon age-inappropriate content, whether through apps, advertisements or online searches. Even recommended content algorithms can surface unsuitable material.

BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

Siri – Apple's voice assistant – can potentially override restrictions, especially with the newer text-based commands introduced through Apple Intelligence. Without safeguards in place, children may inadvertently access inappropriate topics simply by asking a question, bypassing certain filters previously set by adults.

SCREEN ADDICTION

iPads can be highly immersive, and excessive screen time may affect a child's emotional and behavioural development. Signs of overuse might include mood swings, irritability, and difficulty focusing on non-digital activities.

REDUCED ATTENTION & COGNITIVE IMPACT

Prolonged use of tablets has been linked with reduced memory, slower processing speeds and difficulties in concentrating. Research shows that children who spend excessive time gaming or consuming media on tablets may struggle with language development and executive functioning over time.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Family Sharing allows you to create a dedicated Apple ID for your child and manage their activity. You can approve purchases, control what content they can access, and set time limits – all done remotely from your own device. It's a simple but powerful way to maintain oversight.

FILTER APPS, WEBSITES & IN-APP PURCHASES

Parental controls in iOS let you block explicit content in Safari, restrict app downloads, and manage in-app purchase permissions. You can also filter websites automatically to prevent access to adult material and disable the installation of certain app types completely.

USE SCREEN TIME FEATURES EFFECTIVELY

Tools like Downtime and App Limits can reduce device overuse. Downtime allows you to block access during key times – such as before bed or during homework – while App Limits sets daily time caps on specific games or apps. Alerts help children anticipate when their time is almost up.

PREVENT UNAPPROVED SPENDING

Children can accidentally (or intentionally) make purchases within apps. Activating Ask to Buy under Family Sharing ensures you receive a notification to approve any app or in-app purchase. This stops surprise charges and allows you to discuss purchases together before they're made.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is a seasoned technology journalist with over a decade of experience. Formerly a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly now writes for publications including WIRED, Forbes, TechRadar, and Tes. With a deep understanding of online safety, she brings a valuable perspective to parenting in the digital age.



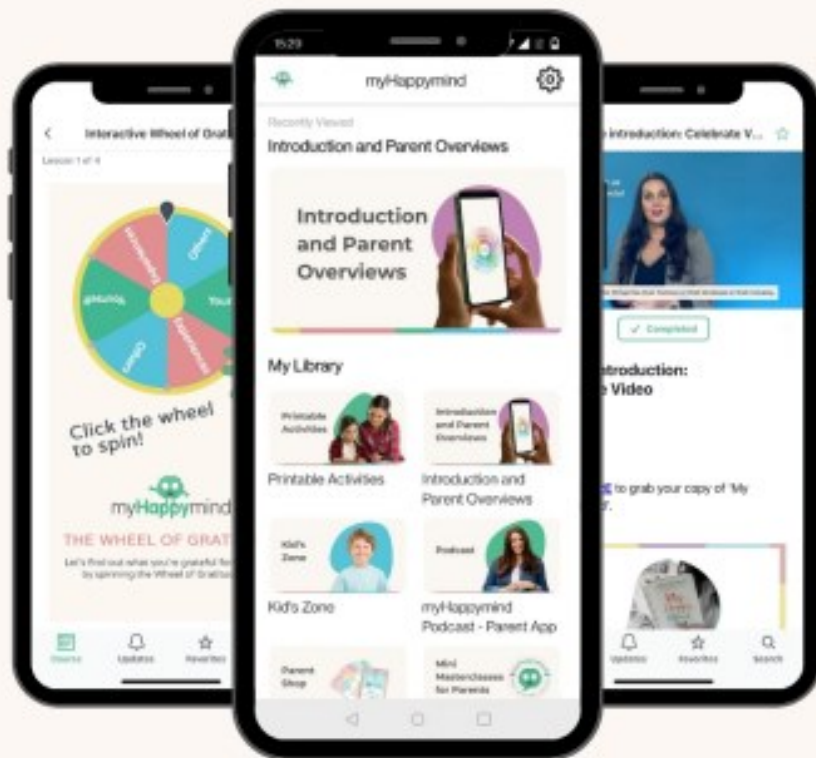
#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



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
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YOU WILL NEED THIS AUTHENTICATION CODE TO SIGN UP

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