

# TERMLY TIMES

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## Wick and Marcross Church in Wales Primary School



WE LEARN ... WE PLAY ... WE CARE ... WE PRAY

WHERE FAITH MATTERS

It's now over a year since the pandemic's impact began to be felt on school life, with learning moving online for the majority of the year and face to face experiences being limited.

Whilst the staff at Wick worked tirelessly to provide the best possible remote experiences, no one at the school believes that this was a substitute for being here at Wick. However, what we do not believe, as is currently heard frequently in the media, is that this generation of children are 'doomed to failure' or 'will spend their lifetime catching up'. If we continue to repeat this rhetoric then we will only be perpetuating this view and, indeed, doing our children a disservice by allowing them to also believe that this is the case. Undoubtedly, our children have not been exposed to some of the opportunities and experiences that we may have exposed them to over the last year, but there have been so many other opportunities.



This does not mean that here at Wick we do not recognise that there has been a disruption to 'learning' and even times, for some families, when learning was paused altogether. Throughout this term we continue to base our learning around the basic (but essential) skills of literacy and numeracy.

Before the children returned in the autumn term, we provided you with an overview of our priorities for face to face time in school. Alongside our focus on basic skills we will be prioritising the six areas highlighted below.



As a staff team we have continued on our journey towards Curriculum 2022 – carefully considering how our school curriculum should look and feel moving forward – the *why* and *how* of learning at Wick. Later this term we will be asking for your views; what's important to you about your child's life and learning at Wick.

As you will also have read in our newsletter, we are hoping that the summer term will also bring opportunities for families to once again join us in school for some summer outdoor events. This will, of course, be subject to any Covid-19 restrictions in place. Currently, we are planning events to take place in contact groups and family attendance will be limited to match whatever the current restrictions and mitigations allow.

We are hopeful that by the second half of the summer term we will be able to invite you to:

- Contact group sports' afternoons
- Contact group enterprise afternoons
- Year Six Leavers' Service

There will also be the opportunity to meet virtually with your child's class teacher. Please make sure you have logged on and watched your child's learning journey review and their targets for this first half term.

Any changes to Covid-19 operational guidance will be communicated to families through our usual channels. Please remember that it is still the case that the school may need to ask a contact group to stay at home at short notice. This will be communicated, in the first instance, via a SCHOOP message. Please make sure you are signed up to all the relevant contact groups as messages go directly to contact groups and not to the whole school.

Finally, please find on the following pages an outline of the key curriculum skills we will be developing over the next term. We've got our fingers (and toes) crossed for an uninterrupted term. As always, if you have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Kind regards,

*Cerí Thomas*

# Padarn

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- expressing enjoyment and interest in stories about colour and rainbows;
- talking about our experiences and interests in a small group;
- recognising and reading our names and beginning to form letters correctly;
- experimenting with a wide range of mark making materials in the context of our inquiry - How many colours in a rainbow?

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- recognition of numbers - 0-5, 0-10, 0-20 in English and Welsh;
- learning a range of number songs and rhymes e.g Rainbow song, How many colours in a rainbow ? 5 Green speckled frogs etc;
- writing numbers - 0-5, 0-10 and forming numbers in a variety of colours;
- encourage understanding of one to one correspondence by matching colours;
- using everyday mathematical language to talk about our ideas and creations e.g round yellow sun, smallest clouds and longest rainbow.

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- encouraging independence in personal hygiene needs and safely using the nursery environment and resources;
- providing opportunities to learn about others and respect their needs;
- helping the children to express themselves and communicate the full range of their feelings and emotions.

## Religious Education

Our school is really special as we are a church school. During this term we will be thinking about 'God's Creation' through prayers and bible stories. We will be thanking God for His creation and for the gifts He has given us.

## Our Inquiry

We will be exploring - How many colours in a rainbow? The children will have the opportunity to explore colour in the natural and manmade world.

We will start by using primary colours (red, yellow and blue) in a range of creative ways e.g using different parts of our bodies to create colourful murals of art, watercolour painting to introduce the children to a beautiful world of colour, our sensory play with colourful rice provides a nurturing activity for the children to experiment with their senses, an inspiring small world play area will encourage imagination and working together.

To showcase our inquiry the children will have the opportunity in each session to share their developing ideas with each other. We will share our journey on seesaw and celebrate our creations in our floor books and through participation in a colourful spectacular performance of song and dance.

At the end of the inquiry, the children will be encouraged to take action through stewardship of God's colourfully, created world.

# Dosbarth Dewi

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- using increasing vocabulary in and through play activities;
- recognising all initial sounds and specific sets of digraphs (special friends);
- applying our phonic strategies to read and spell simple words;
- recognising and spelling high frequency words;
- reading simple texts and retelling events from the narrative in the correct order;
- orally composing sentences and practising the skill of holding a sentence;
- forming all letters accurately.

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- counting up to 20 objects reliably using 1:1 correspondence;
- recognising and writing numbers to 20;
- using number facts within 10 e.g. doubling/halving and bonds of 10 e.g. 6+4;
- combining amounts of objects to find a total;
- using 'counting on' strategies to add two collections, starting with the larger number;
- counting in 2s, 5s and 10s;
- recognising odd and even numbers;
- using non-standard units to measure height and weight.

In developing the children's digital competency we will focus on...

- logging on to online platforms including Hwb (Y1 mathematics);
- navigating online platforms to access tools to complete tasks;
- accurately touch-typing letters to create writing onscreen (copying writing/ independent writing);
- using a search engine accurately to find images/information;
- completing tasks within Google classroom and returning work with adult support;
- recognising familiar onscreen icons (save, print, undo etc.)

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- our personal hygiene needs and be more aware of personal safety;
- understanding how keeping healthy effects our physical and mental health;
- recognising, expressing and communicating different feelings and emotions;
- developing perseverance when completing a range of tasks and activities;
- being aware of and respect the needs of others;
- developing an understanding of the behavioural expectations of the setting.

## Religious Education

During this term we will focus on other faiths and creation.

In our learning about other faiths we will hear a range of religious stories, begin to talk about faith and collective worship and discuss special celebrations, looking at why they are important and how they are celebrated.

Through our study of creation we will take time to discuss and look at what the Bible says about God and explore how He created our world.

## Our Inquiry

Our inquiry will start with us exploring our environment for different insects. We will collect a range of minibeasts and discuss what we already know about them.

To showcase our inquiry we will have a beautiful bug ball! A party where we will design bug-based games to play, perform insect inspired music and dances and create bug themed party food.

At the end of the inquiry the children will be encouraged to take action by understanding that although insects are tiny, they have a big impact on our world and lives. We will take responsibility by looking after our environment and encourage others to do the same.



# Dosbarth Dwynwen

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- a wider variety of oracy activities to continue to develop our growing vocabularies;
- using what we have learned in Read Write Inc to support our reading and writing;
- developing the skills we have learned over the autumn and spring terms to progress our recount writing;
- cultivating the range of reading strategies we have learned to become more independent readers.

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- using a growing range of addition and subtraction methods;
- having instant recall of number facts and using those number facts to generate other number facts or to solve addition or subtraction sums;
- recognising multiplication as repeated addition;
- counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and having instant recall of facts from the 2, 5 and 10 times tables;
- exploring measure to record length, weight and capacity.

In developing the children's digital competency we will focus on...

- keeping usernames and passwords safe;
- increasing independence when logging onto to familiar websites, e.g. Hwb, Mathletics, IDL;
- using the Hwb j2e platform to complete given tasks to share text, image, sound and video;
- collecting and organising data into groups using j2data;
- saving work using an appropriate file name;
- using an icon to open a saved file;
- exploring new programmes within Google classroom as well as AdobeSpark.

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- developing perseverance when completing a range of tasks including in our continuous and enhanced provision;
- identifying our emotions and how we can express them appropriately;
- developing an awareness of what we are good at as well as understanding how we can improve our learning;
- demonstrating care, respect and affection for other children, adults and their environment.

## Religious Education

During this term we will focus on other faiths and creation. In our learning about other faiths we will revisit the stories of Moses and his life. We will learn about Passover and its significance to Jews. In addition we will find out about a range of Jewish artefacts and their symbolism.

Through our study of creation we will think about our roles as stewards of the earth. We will explore the story of creation from the Bible and consider our impact on God's creation.

## Our Inquiry

Our inquiry will begin with exploration of the title 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' and we will engage with various teacher led tasks before sharing our thoughts and exploring our interests further. We will then look more closely at an animal that interests us most and investigate further.

To showcase our inquiry we will create a 'Deadly 60' style TV programme which will share our new knowledge and understanding.

At the end of the inquiry, we will have a greater understanding of the fragility of our world and be encouraged to take action through being stewards of God's creation.

# Dosbarth Teilo

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- developing confidence to talk to different audiences using expression and intonation;
- reading increasingly challenging fiction and non-fiction texts with understanding and self-motivation;
- using the skills and strategies learned in RWinc to spell known and high frequency words;
- developing the imagination and vocabulary to write creatively across a range of genres;
- developing the grammatical understanding to write appropriately across genres, with fluency and coherence.

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- reinforcing the basic skills of the four rules of number. (+, -, x, ÷);
- knowledge and rapid recall of key transferable skills such as times tables (2,3,4,5,8 and 10) bonds to 10, 20 and 100;
- jigsaw numbers and fact families;
- developing a range of skills and ways to tackle addition and subtraction problems both written and mentally;
- telling the time to the nearest five minutes, calculating elapsed time and reading timetables;
- handling money, working out costs and calculating change.

In developing the children's digital competency we will focus on...

- using identified success criteria as a plan for completion of a digital task;
- developing strategies for finding information using different keywords and techniques;
- using an online collaborative platform to create or edit a file, e.g. google slides;
- giving an opinion about their own work and suggest improvements to improve their work.

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- building relationships with peers and adults;
- Working collaboratively, learning to take turns and share;
- developing a growth mindset approach to 'have a go' and learn that failure is an important part of the learning journey;
- having fun, giving children a say in the direction of their learning;
- encouraging physical well-being; supported through outdoor learning, physical education and team games.

## Religious Education

During this term we will focus on other faiths and creation.

In our learning about Judaism we will examine artefacts with special significance and explain how and why they are revered. We will consider beliefs and customs and discover how they are observed.

Through our study of creation we will explore core concepts of Christian faith, understand more about Bible texts and make connections with our everyday lives.

## Our Inquiry

Our inquiry will start by asking questions about animals and plants. We will try to understand why there are so many species and why their habitats are so different. We will explore if it is possible for animals and plants to survive in 'foreign' habitats.

To showcase our inquiry we will invite visitors to view the habitat we plan to create.

At the end of the inquiry the children will be encouraged to take action by taking responsibility for an area within their own garden or local park to protect indigenous wildlife.



# Dosbarth Dyfrig

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- expressing our opinions about topics and written texts, *e.g.*, *topics that affect the world*;
- accurately identifying the main points and supporting information in texts;
- varying the order of words, phrases and clauses in sentences.

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- finding the missing piece in two step equations;
- checking answers using inverse operations;
- re-visit time by recapping on reading hours and minutes, telling time to the nearest minute, ordering events and converting 12 hours to 24 hours;
- measuring capacities to the nearest 50ml or 100ml;
- extracting and interpret information from charts, timetables, diagrams and graphs;
- representing data using Venn/ Carroll diagrams.

In developing the children's digital competency we will focus on...

- enhancing their digital competency using online programs such as Hwb, Google Classroom, J2E, Adobe Spark and FlipGrid;
- producing written pieces using Microsoft Office applications (Word, PowerPoint & Excel);
- learning about E-safety and the benefits of sharing information online, but also about the safety and security risks of sharing certain types of information;
- reflecting upon offline responsibilities, examine their online responsibilities.

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- developing and managing our own emotions, feelings and needs with confidence. Identifying when feelings are overwhelming and knowing that talk is vital;
- develop independence by organising the resources needed to access different learning situations;
- celebrating our own uniqueness and building strong relationships based on knowing how to be respectful to others.

## Religious Education

During this term we will focus on other faiths and creation.

In our learning about other faiths, we will build on our knowledge from last year about Judaism.

Through our study of creation and fall we will investigate how God the creator care for all creation, including humans. We will consider how humans spoiled their friendship with God (sometimes called 'The Fall') but how God continued to want to have a relationship with His people.

## Our Inquiry

Our inquiry will start by creating a model of the earth's layers using plasticine. We will structure our inquiry around the questions we have about the earth.

To showcase our inquiry, we will become geologists and present an information board about rocks and their importance to our planet.

At the end of the inquiry the children will be encouraged to take action by linking what they have learnt to raise awareness and identify ways we can reduce fossil fuels and use more sustainable energy sources.

# Dosbarth Illtud

In developing the children's literacy skills we will focus on...

- reading complex texts independently for sustained periods, use a range of strategies for finding information and infer ideas which are not explicitly stated;
- applying familiar spelling patterns throughout written work paying close attention to homophones;
- adapting writing style to suit the reader and purpose and reflect on, edit and redraft to improve their writing;
- contributing purposefully to group discussion to achieve agreed outcomes.

In developing the children's numeracy skills we will focus on...

- recalling and apply knowledge of the four operations;
- estimating by rounding to the nearest 10,100,1000 or whole number;
- representing data using a range of charts/tables;
- extracting and interpret information range of diagrams, timetables and graphs, including pie charts;
- using mean, median, mode and range to describe a data set;
- transferring mathematical skills to a variety of contexts and everyday situations;
- explain results and procedures clearly using mathematical language.

In developing the children's digital competency we will focus on...

- Create, explore and analyse data sets, highlighting relationships within them, e.g. using spreadsheets, databases, tables and charts;
- Continue to use familiar programmes such as Adobe and develop children's confidence using Flipgrid (through Hwb). We will look at creating interesting oral presentations using the software;
- Evaluate own and others' work and justify content for audience, *e.g. comment on others' work in relation to layout and content.*

In supporting our children's well-being we will focus on...

- Developing a growth mindset attitude towards their learning to seek and enjoy challenges;
- Celebrating our own uniqueness and build strong relationships based on knowing how to be respectful toward others;
- Developing and managing own emotions, feelings and needs with confidence. Identify when feelings are overwhelming and know that talk is vital;
- Show respect to all of those living in their home and school communities.

## Religious Education

During this term we will focus on other faiths and creation. In our learning about other faiths we will explore the Islamic Faith. We will start by looking at the 'foundations' of the faith and the beliefs that underpin everything. We will be discussing what it is like to be a Muslim in Britain using resources from Cardiff University's Centre for Islamic Study. Through our study of creation we will begin by recapping the creation story from the Bible recounting them in many different ways. After this we will explore the many different theories there are that relate to the creation of Earth. We will focus on the scientific account of cosmology (the beginning of the universe) and of evolution (the development of living beings). We will then conclude our learning with a debate: Science vs Creation.

## Our Inquiry

Our inquiry will start by investigating the design of rockets that have been launched into space over the past few years before creating our own balloon rockets using what we have learnt. We will also investigate the size and scale of the planets using a range of different sized fruit.

To showcase our inquiry, we will create a Rover that could collect data and information from Mars, using what we have learnt about the planets and space exploration.

At the end of the inquiry the children will be encouraged to take action by thinking about taking 'one small step' into something unknown.