



Newyddion - Friday 4th October

Annwyl Parents / Carers,

It's amazing to think we're already four weeks into the half term - time has flown by! The children have fully settled in, mastering their routines, meeting our high expectations, and thriving with the support of their fantastic teachers.

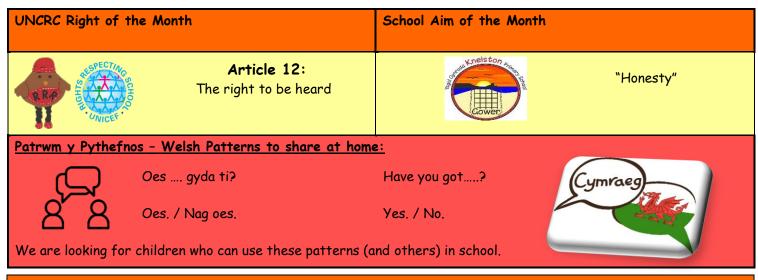
This week started off a bit chaotically for many of us, with floods causing delays and buses being held up. Despite this, the children handled the disruption with resilience and positivity. As the weather has turned much colder, we're seeing coats out in full swing, which is a great reminder for everyone to dress warmly!

In addition to these challenges, we had several visitors this week, including the Education Director for Swansea. I was so proud to show Mrs Morgan Rees around our school in the sunshine, where she saw our wonderful children learning outdoors and making the most of our beautiful grounds with their talented teachers. Mrs. Morgan Rees had high praise for the school and thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone here at Knelston.

Looking ahead, next week promises to be another busy one, filled with engaging activities and learning opportunities for our children. We can't wait to see what they'll achieve!

Have a great weekend,

J G Paynter



Class Dojo



We are now up and running fully with ClassDojo, and we hope parents are finding it useful! Many of you have already joined, and we've received positive feedback so far—thank you for that!

If you haven't had a chance to set yourself up yet, please use the link below: <u>https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=school&schoolID=58735e1b9595f17f2da7b615</u> or simply scan the QR code to get started.

If you run into any issues, don't hesitate to stop by, give us a call, or reach out for assistance. We're more than happy to help you get connected.



School grounds



We are excited to share that we are planning to develop our school and grounds, revitalising some areas that are looking a bit tired. We are so fortunate to have such beautiful outdoor spaces, but maintaining them is proving to be a challenge and an expense.

Those of you with keen eyes may have noticed that we've started to paint the entrance to the school in colours that reflect the Knelston badge, giving it a fresh

new look! A massive thank you to Steve Lancey & Dan Davies for helping us out with this. To continue this positive momentum, we will be organising a tidy-up day in the next few weeks, and we are seeking volunteers to lend a hand.

Jobs may include gardening, painting fences and outdoor areas, trimming back bushes and shrubs, and general tidying up. If you have any skills, tools, or time to help us out, please come see us at school. We can promise a warm welcome, along with endless tea, coffee, biscuits, and cakes!

Your support would be greatly appreciated as we work together to enhance our wonderful school environment!

Thank you for your continued support.

Free School Meals

All our pupils here at Knelston are fortunate to be offered free school meals.

While families don't need to apply for the free meal offer, many may still qualify for additional support, such as help with school uniforms and discounts on school trips. Applying for this support not only benefits families but also greatly helps the school, as it increases our eligibility for additional funding – and we need every penny we can get!

Please can we ask that you take the time to learn more or check your eligibility, you can visit Swansea Council Free School Meals by using the following webpage - <u>https://www.swansea.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals</u>.

Children whose parents or carers receive the following support payments are entitled to receive free school meals in schools maintained by the council. The term 'parent' includes someone living in the household as the partner of a child's biological parent.

- Universal Credit if your annualised net earnings are £7400 or less*
- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit where total annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Custom service) is less than $\pounds 16,190$ a year
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' this is the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit (usually when their employment ceases or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week).

We're happy to answer any questions you may have in complete confidence. So please feel free to pop in and see us!

Friends of Knelston PTA

There are only 57 days left to support our school through ASDA's Cashpot for Schools initiative! This is a fantastic opportunity to raise essential funds, and your support can make a big difference.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far—we've raised £103.03! Your continued shopping and donation. re greatly appreciated and will directly benefit our school.

Please spread the word to family and friends so we can maximize this opportunity. For instructions on how to get started, please refer to the picture at the bottom of the newsletter.





After school clubs

Our after-school clubs are off to a great start, and the children seem to be really enjoying them! However, we are struggling with numbers for some clubs, particularly netball and football. If you'd like your child to attend a club, please book their place on Squid as early as possible. This helps us manage attendance, ensuring we know exactly who will be there and making end-of-day arrangements, like buses and pick-ups, much smoother.



To keep these clubs going, we need at least six children to attend each one. If participation in netball and football doesn't improve, we may have to cancel these clubs in the future and look at possibly offering them during lunchtime instead.

Here's a reminder of the club schedule:

Day	Club	Year groups & staff	Pick up point
Monday	Construction	Y2 Y3 Y4 with Mrs Latham	Front Yard
Monday	Soft play	Rec Y1 with Mrs Furneaux & Mrs Harry	Main entrance
Monday	Netball	Y5 Y6 with Mrs Blakemore	Front Yard
Wednesday	Sports / games	Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6 with Mr Paynter	Front Yard
Thursday	Football	Y4 Y5 Y6 with Mr Donovan	Front Yard

Clubs run from 3:30 to 4:30 pm, and we ask that children are collected promptly. Thank you to those donating $\pounds 2$ per session via Squid—your support helps keep the clubs running.

Thanks again to the staff for making these clubs possible, and we appreciate your continued support!

Harvest service at St George's Church, Reynoldston



As part of our Harvest celebration, we will join Father Peter at St George's Church, Reynoldston on Monday (7th October), where the children will celebrate the harvest and engage in some harvest-themed crafts. We'll be sure to share all the fun activities with you on ClassDojo!

In the spirit of giving, we're reaching out for your support in donating to a local food bank. We kindly ask that each child brings in one non-perishable item to help families during these

challenging financial times. These items will be displayed in the church as part of the service, and your generous donations will directly benefit families living on the Gower and in our community.

If you have any items at the back of your cupboard that you can spare, we would greatly appreciate your contributions. Every little bit helps! Please send your donations to school with your child on Monday, October 7th. Thank you for your support!

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Coco for her outstanding performance in her recent gymnastics competition! Coco placed 3rd overall, securing her place in the Welsh finals.

She gave an exceptional performance, taking 1st place on the beam, 3rd on the vault, and 4th on the bars. This is a fantastic achievement, and we are incredibly proud of her hard work and dedication here at Knelston.

Watch this space as Coco prepares for the Welsh finals—we know she'll continue to shine!

If you have any achievements you would like to share with the community whether they are sporting, musical, or related to any other activities—please let us know so we can include them in the newsletter!



The children's highlights of the week! Wythnos yma!				
 Mrs Osborn's class REC/Y1/Y2 ✓ Harvest artwork, ✓ Autumn crowns in welly Wednesday, ✓ Estimations in maths, ✓ Retelling the story of gingerbread man. 	 Mrs Porter's class Y3/4 ✓ Acrostic poems using our names, ✓ Place value as our outdoors learning using natural objects, ✓ Learning our harvest songs. 	 Mr Donovan's class Y5/6 Carried on reading our class novel 'The fastest boy in the world.' Identified and text marked the features of an internal monologue, Applying an understanding of place value to compare and order numbers. 		

Finally...

As always, if you have queries, compliments, complaints, concerns or issues you would like to discuss please speak to a member of staff. If family or friends help with school runs, we'd love for you to share the weekly newsletter with them. Please also make sure we have your updated contact details so we can stay connected!

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Paynter

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary				
Date	Activity	Additional Information		
20.09.24	Menter Abertawe	Welsh PE Activities		
30.09.24 -	Scholastic Book Fair	Whole School		
04.09.24				
08.10.24	Theatr Na Nog	Y56 - Details to follow		
11.10.24	PTA AGM	Open to any parents that would like to attend @ 9:30		
11.10.24	Menter Abertawe	Welsh PE Activities		
24.10.24	PTA Halloween Disco	Open to all year groups - tickets purchased via squid		
25.10.24	Menter Abertawe	Welsh PE Activities		
28.10.24 - 01.11.24	HALF TERM			
20.11.24	Flu Vaccinations	Reception to Year 6		
28.11.24	PTA Christmas	Times TBC		
12.12.24	Christmas Concert	Year groups TBC		
19.12.24	PTA Christmas Disco	Tickets to be released later in the year		
INSET DAYS: Monday 6 th January 2024				
(Other dates to be confirmed)				
WEEKLY EVENTS: Basil the Burns reading dog.				
Mr Smith - Music				

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