



Friday/Dydd Gwener 8 November 2024

Reminders

21st November – INSET Day

29th November – Exhibition morning – see timings for your child/ren on next page

4th December Pantomime – Years 1-6

6th December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Year 5 to lead

10th December – 9.30am. Advent mass – Year 3 & 4 to lead

12th December – Nursery and Reception nativity play (Miss Skoczek). Time TBC

17th December - Year 1 Advent assembly

January – date TBC – “Meet the Friends”

INSET DAY - Monday 3rd March 2025

INSET DAY - Monday 23rd June 2025



Children in Need day

Dosbarth Amroth need your help, to help children in need.

We want to raise money to help people by selling teddy bears in school on Friday 15th November. Please donate a teddy or two you no longer play with for children to buy at our Teddy Bear store next Friday.

We will be selling our teddies for 50p each. We would like everyone to wear colourful clothes on this day to make everybody happy. Thank you.

Exhibition morning – see timings for each class on next page

This is an opportunity for parents and carers to visit their child/ren's classrooms to see the lovely work that they have been doing this term. The main hall will be open from 9am through to 11.10am to allow you to wait in between sessions, if you require. Teas and coffees will be available during this time and school staff will show you to the classrooms at your allocated time.

We will also be selling tickets for a Christmas raffle during the morning.

Reading dog

We are currently on the waiting list for a Burns By Your Side reading dog, however there are no dogs available in our area. If you have a dog with a nice nature, have time to spare each week and would be interested in your dog becoming a Burns reading dog, there are spaces available on the January training course. Please see the poster later on in the newsletter for more details.

Friends of the school update

The Friends would like to thank everyone for their kind donations for our Christmas Bingo.

The Christmas bingo will be held on Friday 29th November, doors open 6pm, eyes down 6.30pm. Everyone welcome to come and join in with the festive fun.

The Friends are kindly asking for volunteers to help with the following; setting up, helping on the night and packing away afterwards. Please let the Friends know by contacting Mrs Evans in the school office or emailing the Friends on friendsofmaryimmaculate@gmail.com

Unfortunately, so far the Friends have not received any interest in the role of secretary. Unless we fill this position, we will be in a very difficult position for the future of the Friends. We are kindly asking anyone who would be interested, to let us know.

Next Friends meeting will be held via teams on Friday 15th November at 7pm. Everyone welcome to attend. Please find the link below. The link will also be available on the Friends Facebook page.

You're invited to Friends Meeting

Friday 15 November 2024

19:00 - 20:00 (GMT)

<https://teams.live.com/join/9359199348809?p=ecvwBKDEZOqvhvnanA>

Tap on the link or paste it in a browser to join.

Kind Regards,
Suzanne.
Chairperson.



Sneak peak into our learning for next week!

Dosbarth Amroth

Next week, we will be learning about the different times of the day and sharing our daily routines to understand the concept of time.

Dosbarth Little Haven

Next week, we look forward to exploring the theme 'Choose Respect' through lots of different activities as part of 'Anti-Bullying Week'.

Dosbarth Marloes

Next week, we will be continuing our work on money following this weeks 'Talk Money Week'. We look forward to directing the Beebots to the coins to make different combinations.

Dosbarth Druidston

Next week, we will be looking at blackout poetry and creating our own poems for Remembrance Day.

Dosbarth Whitesands

Next week, we are looking forward to taking part in our Lego workshop.

Dosbarth Abereiddy

Next week, we are looking forward to visiting Scolton Manor to take part in Crucial Crew!

Week beginning 11 November 2024 - Anti-bullying week	
Dydd Llun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming (Year 5/6) Fun and Fitness Year 1 (only booked pupils)
Dydd Mawrth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Morris in to deliver music lessons Year 6 to attend Crucial Crew in the afternoon
Dydd Mercher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - STAFF TRAINING SESSION
Dydd Iau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chatter Books – Year 4 and 5 (only booked pupils) Netball – Year 6 (only booked pupils) Lego Workshop – Years 3 to 6
Dydd Gwener	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children in need day – please see information above and poster below for further details 7pm – Friends of the School meeting; Tap on the link or paste it in a browser to join. https://teams.live.com/joinmeeting/9359199348809?p=ecvwBKDEZOqvhvnanA

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29 TH 2024: EXHIBITION MORNING TIMINGS					
Time	Class 1	Slot		Class	Slot
9.15am - 9.30am	Dosbarth Abereiddy (Year 6 - Miss Williams)	Child's surname initials A - K		Dosbarth Whitesands (Year 5 – Miss Lewis/Ms Tweedie)	Child's surname initials G-Z
9.35am - 9.50am	Dosbarth Abereiddy (Year 6 - Miss Williams)	Child's surname initials L - Z		Dosbarth Whitesands (Year 5 – Miss Lewis/Ms Tweedie)	Child's surname initials A-F
9.55am - 10.10am	Dosbarth Druidston (Year 4 – Mrs Sims)	Child's surname initials A-F		Dosbarth Newgale (Year 3 – Miss Edwards)	Child's surname initials L-Z
10.15am - 10.30am	Dosbarth Druidston (Year 4 – Mrs Sims)	Child's surname initials F-Z		Dosbarth Newgale (Year 3 – Miss Edwards)	Child's surname initials A - L
10.35am - 10.50am	Dosbarth Little Haven (Year 1 – Mrs Joseph)	Child's surname initials A-J		Dosbarth Marloes (Year 2, Mrs Williams)	Child's surname initials T-Z
10.55 - 11.10am	Dosbarth Little Haven (Year 1 – Mrs Joseph)	Initial of child's surname M-Z		Dosbarth Marloes (Year 2, Mrs Williams)	Child's surname initials A-S

In this week's Faith Ambassador assembly:

In this week's assembly we were reminded that Jesus wants us to love Him first, with all our hearts, minds and strength, not sometimes or by doing good things when we feel like it but first and always.

Key Scripture

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 12:33

"Love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself."

Mark 12:33

Let us pray



O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul.
Because you are all good and worthy of all my love.
I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you.
I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those I have injured.
Amen

Friends of the school

The Friends would like to thank everyone for their kind donations for our Christmas Bingo. The Christmas bingo will be held on Friday 29th November, doors open 6pm, eyes down 6.30pm. Everyone welcome to come and join in with the festive fun.

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Kind Regards,
Suzanne.
Chairperson.

Thinking of
everyone



The Common Good

Children in Need



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Burns By Your Side

Reading with Dogs Scheme



"...for every child, finding the joy of reading
will change their life!"

Could you and your dog volunteer some time?



Train to be part of a
dedicated team of
volunteers, and
support local children

Do you have a dog
who has a friendly
temperament and
enjoys being around
children?
Can you spare 1 hour
a week to visit a
school local to you?

To fill out a application for our January course visit our website :

www.johnburnsfoundation.org



Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Caught Moments

To receive a 'caught moment' at Mary Immaculate School is very special. This means you have been caught living out our virtues. Each week we will be taking time to celebrate how are children are living out our virtues – and rewarding them with a hot-chocolate treat!



<p>Miss Williams caught Isla-May James-Yarker and Melissa Makarova being faith-filled and compassionate whilst leading their prayer group session with the younger learners. Ardderchog!</p>	<p>Mrs Joseph caught Brenda Mazaiwana being intentional in the choices she made in class and not following what others were doing.</p>
<p>Miss Skoczek caught Arianna Jakubauskaite being faith-filled by showing her peers how to make the sign of the cross during prayer time.</p>	<p>Mrs Williams caught Orla Trew being intentional and prophetic during our whole class Collective Worship!</p>
<p>Mrs Sims caught Evie Avery being intentional and active in supporting others both inside and outside of the classroom.</p>	<p>Ms Tweedie caught Isla Chalmers being learned and wise, during whole class discussions.</p>

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

Eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future

Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

Seren yr wythnos

Well done to all our learners who have been chosen as our merit winners. What stars we have for this week and last week!

Dosbarth Amroth

Keeley Burgess for making a big effort to make the right choices during the day, off her own conscience.
Well done, Keeley!

Dosbarth Druidston

Norah Haworth for writing a lively diary entry, taking care to include all key features from our toolkit. Da iawn Norah!

Dosbarth Little Haven

Henry Carruthers for excellent outdoor work. He was able to take close up, medium and wide shots independently!
Very impressive! Bendigedig Henry.

Dosbarth Whitesands

Sophia Mayhew for being an excellent role model in the class. She always has a smile on her face and a positive attitude!

Dosbarth Marloes

Mia Martusewicz for demonstrating excellent listening skills during our class assembly. Mia asked thoughtful questions in response to what was being discussed!
Da iawn, Mia!

Dosbarth Abereidly

Luke Quigley for always sharing a positive attitude towards all he does, as well as demonstrating exemplary behaviour - certainly a role model for all.
Da iawn, Luke!

Dosbarth Newgale

Ryan Connell for working extremely hard across all areas of learning this week, especially his writing! Da iawn, Ryan!



New Ways November 2024



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



4 Sign up to join a new course, activity or online community

5 Change your normal routine today and notice how you feel

6 Try out a new way of being physically active

7 Be creative. Cook, draw, write, paint, make or inspire

8 Plan a new activity or idea you want to try out this week

9 When you feel you can't do something, add the word "yet"

10 Be curious. Learn about a new topic or an inspiring idea

11 Choose a different route and see what you notice on the way

12 Find out something new about someone you care about

13 Do something playful outdoors - walk, run, explore, relax

14 Find a new way to help or support a cause you care about

15 Build on new ideas by thinking "Yes, and what if..."

16 Look at life through someone else's eyes and see their perspective

17 Try a new way to practice self-care and be kind to yourself

18 Connect with someone from a different generation

19 Broaden your perspective: read a different paper, magazine or site

20 Make a meal using a recipe or ingredient you've not tried before

21 Learn a new skill from a friend or share one of yours with them

22 Find a new way to tell someone you appreciate them

23 Set aside a regular time to pursue an activity you love

24 Share with a friend something helpful you learned recently

25 Use one of your strengths in a new or creative way

26 Try out a different radio station or new TV show

27 Join a friend doing their hobby and find out why they love it

28 Discover your artistic side. Design a friendly greeting card

29 Enjoy new music today. Play, sing, dance or listen

30 Look for new reasons to be hopeful, even in tough times

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Important School information

Getting to know us

You may be new to Mary Immaculate Catholic Primary School, or perhaps have not yet met all our staff team. Members of our staff team are out on the playground daily during drop-off and pick-up, so please do pop to chat with us should you require any assistance, information, or support. We have an open-door policy, meaning that we endeavour to always be available to speak with you to discuss any questions, queries, or concerns.

Ensuring we know you and your child

It is vitally important that we hold the most up to date information on you and your child so that we can keep your child safe and contact you in the case of an emergency. It is important that we know how your child is getting home from school (including permission to walk home for learners in Y4, 5 and 6), so please make sure you have let your child's class teacher know via dojo if they are allowed to walk home unaccompanied. Please contact the school office if there are any changes to collection arrangements for your child or any other change to details that you have previously supplied us with.

Staying in touch

Communication between home and school is vitally important to ensure your child can excel and thrive at school. You can contact your child's class teacher directly and receive school and class-based updates and information through the Class dojo app, which can be downloaded for free onto your smartphone (app store) or accessed through their website. Class dojo allows you to see the rewards your child receives in real time and offers other great features.

- **School and Class stories** will be used to publish news, events, and important notices - all of which can be translated via the app.
- There is also a **school calendar** which will send you notifications of up-coming events in school.
- Most importantly you will still be able to stay in direct contact with your child's class teacher via **Class dojo messaging**.

Please remember that teachers may not have the opportunity to check messages during the day, as they are teaching, and will not routinely check messages after 4pm. If your message is urgent, please call the school office. Mrs Evans, Mrs Priestley and I have access to class messaging, but do not monitor these inboxes, so please contact us through the school office in the usual way if you need to speak with us. Should you not receive a personal invitation, please use the following link to join.

<https://www.classdojo.com/ul/p/addKid?target=school&schoolID=4f0e09053b7c029066dc955c>

Whole school correspondence and notifications will come through the 'parentmail' email system, so please share with us any changes to your email address, so that you do not miss important information.

Asymmetric Week

The asymmetric week, implemented in September 2023 following a consultation, has been created for staff to focus on training to further drive standards and achievement forward. On a Friday, the school day finishes at 12.20pm. Learners can be collected at 12.20pm with a take-away style lunch – please contact Mrs Evans at the school office if you wish to collect your child at this time. All learners can remain in school to eat lunch on-site and should be collected between 12.50pm - 1.00pm, at their normal exit points, please. We do have a provision for learners on site after lunch if parents need this. Please contact the school office to book a space for your child in our Friday afternoon supervision, which finishes at 3pm. Spaces must be booked in advance.

School timings

School session times are below. Please arrive promptly as doors and gates will close at the start of the school day.

Year groups	Monday-Thursday AM		Fri PM	
	Gates Open	School Day	School Day (learners stay for lunch)	Pick-up
Amroth (Reception learners), and Little Haven and Marloes	8.30am	8.50am-3.15pm	8.50am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Newgale, Druidston, Whitesands and Abereiddy	8.30am	8.45am-3.20pm	8.45am-12.20pm	12.50pm
Amroth (Nursery AM)	8.30am	8.50am-11.50am	8.50am-11.50am	
Amroth (Nursery PM)	12.45pm-3.15pm (10h entitlement over 4 days)			

Healthy Schools

As part of the healthy school agenda, we encourage all pupils to eat a healthy snack of fruit/vegetables at breaktime (please, no nuts or nut-based products to protect vulnerable learners). All learners are encouraged to bring a bottle of water into school, which they can access throughout the day. As usual, please remember to label any items from home.

Universal Free School Meals – Now free for all learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6!

All full-time learners in Full-Time Nursery to Year 6 will receive a free school meal each day, saving nearly £15 per week (per child), through the Universal Free School Meals policy of Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru's Co-operation Agreement. Parents do not need to register or complete an application form. Pupils will order all school meals as usual during morning registration. Checking what is for lunch is easy! You can now ask Alexa what is on the Primary School menu with the [Pembrokeshire Council Alexa Skill](#), or you can access the menu for the year ahead using the following link: [Primary Schools Menu - Pembrokeshire County Council](#). We've included some answers to frequently asked questions at the bottom of this letter.

Support for low-income families

Families on low incomes will not be affected by the introduction of universal free school meals. You will still be able to receive free school meals and other essentials, such as help with uniform, sports kit and stationery (PDG Access Grant). This grant not only entitles you to funding to support your child, but also enables the school to access funding to further support them whilst in Mary Immaculate.

If your child is starting school or your circumstances have changed and you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) to access other funding, such as for school essentials. If you are a pupil or parent that receives one of the following benefits, please contact Mrs Evans, at the school office, who can support you in applying:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA). Contribution Based Jobseekers Allowance (CBJSA) does not qualify
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits only, with an annual household Income of under £16,190 *
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (IR)
- Universal Credit

Please note that if you are in receipt of Working Tax Credits in addition to any of these benefits you will not be eligible for free meals, even if your household income is below £16,190.

School Uniform

We strongly encourage all learners to wear school uniform daily. We believe that this supports their readiness for learning and builds a sense of pride and belonging to our school.

Autumn and Spring term Uniform	Summer Term Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Navy jumper or Navy Cardigan• White shirt• School tie• Grey trousers• Navy pinafore, Navy Skirt or Navy Trousers• White socks or Navy tights• Black/Navy shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• White polo shirt• Grey trousers/shorts• Navy/white gingham dresses (no white collars please)• Navy skirt/trousers• Black/Navy shoes
Physical Education	Navy shorts, white polo shirt and trainers.

School ties and badges are sold through the school office.

There is no need to purchase uniform with our school logo, and many local retailers sell affordable items without the school logo. Should you wish to purchase a badge or school tie, these are available from our school office at a cost of £4 each. As always, please make sure all items are clearly labelled.

Attendance

Being in school every day is essential to ensure that learners make the most possible progress, develop friendships and make important memories. When your child walks into school every morning, you can be assured they will be supported personally, emotionally and academically. We're here to provide them with the social and educational development opportunities to shape their futures and become the best versions of themselves. Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school daily and arrives promptly.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available to all learners from 8am, offering food, drink. Doors close at 8.15am so that we can ensure that all learners attending have the opportunity to eat breakfast. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place for your child to attend.

Extra-curricular clubs and dates for the term ahead

Extra curricular clubs are booked termly.

Universal free school meals FAQs

Will I need to fill in an application form to get Universal Primary Free School Meals for my child(ren)?

Parents and carers will not need to fill in an application form. Children will be asked whether they would like to order a meal each day during morning registration.

I am on a low income and my child(ren) currently receive Free School Meals (eFSM) anyway - how will the introduction of the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme affect me?

Families on low incomes will **not** be affected by the introduction of Universal Primary Free School Meals. You'll still be able to receive free school meals and other school essentials, such as help with school uniform, sports kit, and stationery.

I have a child or another child starting school in September. Will they automatically get free school meals?

If your child is starting full time nursery, reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in September, they will **automatically** qualify for the new Universal Primary Free School Meals scheme. However, if you as a parent or guardian are in receipt of a qualifying benefit you must still apply for Free School Meals (eFSM) in order to access other funding, such as School Essentials (PDG Access).

Can schools cater for my child's special dietary requirements?

Yes, all special dietary requirements can be catered for upon request. Please contact PCC's School Liaison Officer via email elinor.phlip@pembrokeshire.gov.uk or telephone 01437 776168 to discuss your child's special dietary needs.

My child's cashless catering account is in credit. How do I get a refund?

Please email cashless.catering@pembrokeshire.gov.uk to request a refund or alternatively you can request that the credit be transferred to a sibling's account.