



Friday/Dydd Gwener 25 October 2024

Reminders

28th October – 1 November: HALF TERM HOLIDAYS

12th November – year 6 to Crucial Crew at Scolton Manor

14th November – Lego workshops for Year 3 to year 6

15th November – Children in Need day

21st November – INSET Day

25th to 29th November – Exhibition week – further details to follow

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 – **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FROM 3RD DECEMBER**

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

January – date TBC – “Meet the Friends”

INSET DAY - Monday 3rd March 2025



Sneak peak into our learning for next week!

Dosbarth Amroth

After half term, we will be learning about what animals and humans need to survive. We will explore more about ourselves and also learn about different woodland creatures.

Dosbarth Little Haven

After half term, we will be looking at the book ‘The Colour Monster goes to School’ and learning to write a diary recount.

Dosbarth Marloes

After half-term, we will be learning about healthy eating and how to look after our bodies with a particular focus on our teeth.

Dosbarth Newgale

After half term, we are looking forward to starting our observations of our daffodil and crocus bulbs. We will be recording growth and flowering times over the next few months.

Dosbarth Druidston

After half term, we will be exploring rounding in context in Maths, before moving on to look at a range of addition strategies.

Dosbarth Whitesands

After half term, we will be creating our leaflets about Welsh food produce. We have been working hard throughout the last half term, and look forward to putting all of our learning into action.

Dosbarth Abereddy

After half-term, Dosbarth Abereddy will further develop their speaking and listening skills through Voice 21 activities.

Message from Mrs Hinds

I would like to wish you all a happy and restful half term, thank you for the lovely welcome I’ve received at Mary Immaculate and thank you for all the support the families and the parish have given us.

Pupil uniform for after half term

Just a reminder that after half term the uniform will revert back to **autumn/spring uniform**. 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.

Autumn and Spring term Uniform

- 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

PLEASE NOTE:

- Please can pupils wear **shoes** with their uniform and **trainers for PE days**.
- **PE uniform** – Navy shorts/joggers, white polo shirt, **navy jumper/sweatshirt** and trainers

Respiratory Pharmacist sessions

Thank you so much for the work that Dave Edwards, Respiratory Pharmacist did this week supporting our families with concerns regarding their child’s respiratory problems. He also delivered sessions to Abereddy and Whitesands on the dangers of vaping.

Shoctober - Ambulance service visit

Last week we had visitors from the Welsh Ambulance Service come to our school to work with Dosbarth Abereddy, Whitesands and Druidston. We were taught how to look out for signs of danger in an emergency as well as learning about important life skills, such as CPR and the Recovery Position. It was a really fun and interesting lesson!

Friends of the school update

The Friends of the Mary Immaculate held their first meeting for this academic year last Friday. Please see the next page for updates and information from the meeting and ways that you can get involved with the great work that the Friends do in supporting the school.

We, as a school are very grateful for the support that the Friends provide to us throughout the year – diolch!

Week beginning 4 November 2024	
Dydd Llun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming (Year 5/6) Fun and Fitness Year 1 (only booked pupils) Clwb Cymraeg Years 3-4 (only booked pupils)
Dydd Mawrth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Morris in to deliver music lessons
Dydd Mercher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressive Arts Year 1 and year 2 (only booked pupils) Healthy Minds Club Years 3,4, and 5 (only booked pupils). Cancelled for this week. Tag Rugby - Years 3 and 4 (only booked pupils) Digi Club Year 6 (only booked pupils)
Dydd Iau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor classroom day Storytelling workshops Chatter Books – Year 4 and 5 (only booked pupils) Netball – Year 6 (only booked pupils)
Dydd Gwener	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-uniform day in lieu of items for the Christmas bingo run by the Friends of the school

Friends of the school update

The Friends of the Mary Immaculate held their first meeting for this academic year last Friday. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to attend the meeting. We have some exciting events on this year's academic calendar. Plus... a golden oldie event, that will be making a come back! Just waiting for dates and times before announcing!!!!

We are delighted to announce that so far this academic year we have paid for Tag rugby belts that the children have already used and will be using for Rugby tournaments. We will also be paying for the buses for the children to attend the Christmas Panto.

You have heard about "meet the teacher"! But, next term you will have "meet the Friends". This will take place in the school hall, date and time to be confirmed... please come along and have a cuppa and a natter! It will be very informal! Trust me, we don't do formal.

Some sad news...

Michelle Rees has decided to stand down as secretary for the Friends. Over the past few years, Michelle has done a fanatastic job and her dedication has been unbelievable! She's been a huge support to me and the Friends. I would like to personally thank Michelle for everything that she has done.

Want to be our next Friends secretary? The secretary ensures that the Friends' activities run smoothly. You'll use your excellent communication and organisational skills to organise meetings, take minutes and keep records. For more information get in touch by emailing the Friends on friendsofmaryimmaculate@gmail.com

If anyone would like to have a chat with me about the Friends, with any ideas and/or any suggestions, I'm always around school at drop off and pick up! As my daughter is in year 5, I am normally in the carpark. Please, feel free to come and have a chat! Most people know me and I do love to chat!

You can also contact me on the Friends email address... friendsofmaryimmaculate@gmail.com

Thank you.
Suzanne Williams
Chairperson.

In this week's Faith Ambassador assembly:

In this week's Gospel we hear that through Jesus' service and self-sacrifice, He won for them the greatest prize – the joy of eternal life with Him in Heaven!
We are reminded that to be great in God's sight, we must put others first.



Key Scripture

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:35-45

“Anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all.”

Mark 10:43-44

Let us pray

Loving God,
We believe that we are all brothers and sisters.
Help us to think about what is good for everyone, not just ourselves.
Lord in your mercy



Hear our prayer.

Optimistic October 2024

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month

2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)

3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you

4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list

5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good

6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better

7 Look for the good in people around you today

8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding

9 Share an important goal with someone you trust

10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently

11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward

12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today

13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing

14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation

15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted

16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting

17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society

18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead

19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future

20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time

21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you

22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague

23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise

24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently

25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?

26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face

27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time

28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?

29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to

30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future

31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

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!



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.

<p>Connie-Mae and Hannah caught Chloe Williams being faith-filled during prayers with the Faith Ambassadors at break time.</p>	<p>Miss Williams caught Anna Gritselov and Connie-Mae Bradley being curious and active, by asking thoughtful questions to the pharmacist who visited our class this week, in order to deepen their knowledge.</p>
<p>Mrs Williams caught Harper-May Mitchell Hughes being curious and active in her learning by encouraging herself to learn new vocabulary.</p>	<p>Miss Edwards caught Anastasia Churylina being generous with her time by offering support to a friend with their learning.</p>
<p>Miss Skoczek caught Tommy Beer being curious and active when arriving to school each morning. Tommy has enjoyed helping set up our daily activities for his class!</p>	
<p>Mrs Joseph caught Donovan Humphries being attentive during carpet time and discerning in the choices he made.</p>	<p>Mrs Sims caught Scarlett Dunning being attentive during our RE lessons and discerning in the questions she asks and responses she gives.</p>
<p>Mrs Kerrison caught Anna Matsiuk being learned and wise during our topic 'Inside Out' this half term.</p>	<p>Mrs Tweedie caught Mia John being intentional and prophetic this week during our literacy lesson. Mia took such pride in her work to make sure it was 'just right.'</p>

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

Theo James for demonstrating an excellent understanding of initial sounds during Read, Write, Inc this week!

Dosbarth Druidston

Callum Rees for always settling down to tasks straight away and making a real effort with the presentation of his work

Dosbarth Little Haven

Landon Bartlett for excellent maths work this week. He is able to mentally work out and record one more or less than a number to 100, ensuring his digits are the right way round. Bendigedig!

Dosbarth Whitesands

Rhys Phillips for being extremely hardworking, and completing all tasks to the best of his ability. Bendigedig Rhys!

Dosbarth Marloes

Arthur Reynolds for working so hard across all areas of learning this half-term. Arthur has been enthusiastic and keen to tackle all tasks and continues to work hard in all he does especially his reading.

Dosbarth Abereiddy

Jasmine Collins for consistently working to an incredibly high standard across all areas of learning. Jasmine particularly impressed me this week with the thoughtful questions she asked, as well as building on the ideas of others during discussion.

Dosbarth Newgale

Evita Joltin for always striving to do her best and being an incredible role model to others. Evita has grown in confidence, and this shows in her contributions to whole class discussions. Da iawn, Evita!








Siaradwr yr wythnos!



Well done to all our learners who have been chosen for working so hard on their Welsh speaking this week!

<p>Dosbarth Newgale Lilith Sims</p>	
	<p>Dosbarth Druidston Callum Rees</p>
<p>Dosbarth Marloes Greg Thomson</p>	<p>Dosbarth Whitesands Isla Chalmers</p>
	<p>Dosbarth Abereiddy Landon Aldridge</p>

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. Over the coming days, we hope you'll get to know your child/ren's class teachers and support staff. 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.

<u>Autumn and Spring term Uniform</u>	<u>Summer Term Uniform</u>
<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.