



Newsletter May 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

The first part of our Summer Term is going really well, we have had some exciting trips to Cyfarthfa Castle, Maindy Pool, Gelligaer Street Park and the Utilita Arena. We have some great learning contexts this term, including a lovely creative project linked to the visit to Cyfarthfa Castle. Children will be finding out about one of the paintings from the castle - a mysterious Nigerian woman. At the moment, no one (not even the experts in the castle) knows who she was or why her portrait is hung in the castle. It's quite a puzzle, one we might not be able to solve but we'll have fun trying!

Photos and videos of these events and of the children's learning can all be seen on the school website - [Gallery](#).

With my kindest regards, Abi Cuthbert (Head Teacher)

Helping Hands - minutes of meeting 24th April 2026

Present: Esperenza Lopez, Kim Davies, Shler Ahmed, Elinor Dixon, Renee Scaife, Abi Cuthbert

Topics of discussion (no formal agenda)

Volunteering in the school - great result from the questionnaire, some parents are coming into school very regularly to volunteer each week, supporting children in every class. We also have a regular Governor volunteer and a member of St Mark's congregation coming each week too. We feel very blessed!

Fundraising - The Talent Show - Dates have been set for the annual Talent Show to be held one again in The Table on Pentyrch Street. 6pm on the 10th and 11th June. Next Helping Hands meeting - 2.30pm on Wednesday 13th May (in school) will be to discuss the finer details of putting the show together.

Fundraising - Summer Party - This is a new event, to be held in school on Wednesday 8th July from 3.30pm. It will be an opportunity to bring food and share fellowship with one another. There will be (free) games and music - everyone can try djembe drumming and have a go on a ukulele. Helping Hands (and some children I am sure) will be selling drinks and ice cream to help raise money for school. We will also sell raffle tickets (£5 for 5 tickets). **Helping Hands are looking for raffle prizes - please could you ask your employers if they would be able to sponsor a small prize?**

Parent Pay - School Items - Abi Cuthbert will investigate eco-friendly water bottles that the school could purchase for parents to buy via Parent Pay. They would have the school logo on and we would try to ensure they were durable. Current items available on Parent Pay include the

school badge (iron on - costing £2 each) and Y6 hoodies (costing £15 each). We are looking to expand this to include replacement tote bags and name stickers to label uniform.

WhatsApp Group - If you would like to be part of the Parent WhatsApp Group, please use this link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FGVsriwcuBLB8h8WeH8aDU?mode=wwt> Your phone number will be verified by the number held in the School office before you are accepted into the group.

How you could help...

- Come to the meeting on 13th May at 2.30pm in school to discuss the Talent Show
- Provide support to children performing in the Talent Show by watching the dress rehearsals and give (gentle) constructive feedback
- Buy tickets to come and see the Talent Show (10th & 11th June)
- Come to future Helping Hands meetings (check the calendar below for dates)
- Source raffle prizes for the Summer Party
- Help on a stall during the Summer Party (8th July)
- Help teachers at the beginning of each half term (on a Tuesday morning from 9-9.30am) to make sure all school uniform has names in it

St Monica's Talent Show

The Talent Show is an annual event - it is our largest fundraiser of the year. Any money raised goes directly to improving children's learning experiences. Last year we were able to raise enough money for all children in Years 5 & 6 to be able to receive swimming lessons (they had their block of lessons only last week!). This year I'd love for us to raise even more money so that all children in Years 4, 5 & 6 can have swimming lessons in September or October 2026.

Children can take part in a maximum of 2 different performances. The application form for performers is here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsiNUoPLrOgazCYi0_oWfU7Oiki2Yur7nEX7MLPR0_sXK-8Q/viewform?usp=dialog

The Talent Show takes place over 2 consecutive evenings, at The Table on Pentyrch Street. Children could act in a small play, sing, dance, teach a science lesson, play an instrument, tell jokes, bake cookies to sell for the school, make crafts... almost anything really, it is their opportunity to show how they SHINE!

Tickets cost £4 each and can be bought via Parent Pay. Performers will not need to pay for a ticket. Tickets will be released on Wednesday 3rd June. A (very) limited number of tickets will be available 'on the door' just before the performances start.

Anyone, from any year group, past pupils, any staff member or any parent can apply to perform.

Children can perform with siblings or parents too if they wish.





**St Monica's CW
Primary School**



Stay & Play

Birth - 3 years old

free play - art - music

Fridays - term time

1.30pm - 3pm

No need to book - just come along, we are on the corner of New Zealand Road and Whitchurch Road



Gwasanaethau
Chwarae Plant
Children's
Play Services



STRONGER
FAIRER
GREENER



Age
5-14

Local Play Session

Come and join us for half term fun at

**Maitland Park
CF14 3DH**

**Wednesday 27 may
11:00 - 12:55pm**

Scan the QR code to register your child.

<https://cardiffchildrensplayservices.co.uk/register>

This document is available in Welsh

All of the open access play sessions are designed with children aged 5-14 in mind.



CYMRU   **FOR US FOR THEM FOR HER**
v CZECHIA



FAW.CYMRU/TICKETS

TICKETS ON SALE

09.06.26 | 18:00 KO

STADIWM DINAS CAERDYDD

**CYMRU ARE BACK IN CARDIFF FOR THEIR
FINAL FIFA WORLD CUP QUALIFIER!**

Cymru play Czechia on Tuesday 9th June at Cardiff City Stadium (KO 18:00).

It is all to play for in Cardiff at these teams go head-to-head to top the group table!

Get ready for a fun-filled evening of entertainment with fan zone, DJs, food, football and more.

Looking for an affordable evening out with family and friends?

Tickets are just £5 for juniors and £10 for adults!

Group bookings are also available for groups of 10+, juniors just £3 and adults £8.

SECURE YOUR SEAT HERE:

fawales.co/4e8YcS5



Llanover Hall Arts Centre Children's May Half Term Activities 2026



Wednesday 27th May

- 10am-12pm Mixed Craft Celebration Cards (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Block Printed T Shirts (5-8yrs) *Bring your own prewashed cotton t-shirt.
- 10am-12pm Clay Club: Throwing and Making (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Screen Printed T-Shirts (8yrs+) *Bring your own prewashed cotton t-shirt.
- 1pm-3pm Little Potters: Animal Pinch Pots (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Pegboard Printers (5-8yrs)

Drama Days



Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th & Friday 29th
May 10am-3pm Ages 8-12yrs

Three days jam-packed full of exciting drama games and fun improvisation, character building, devising brand-new scenes and much more - all in our theatre!

Join up for 1, 2 or all 3 days!



Thursday 28th May

- 10am-12pm Clay Club: Owl Workshop (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Little Artists: "May Spring Holiday Fun" Painting (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm Stick and Sew Felt Pictures and Bags (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Little Potters: Hedgehog Workshop (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Paper Kites (5-8yrs)
- 1pm-3pm Embossed Art and Keepsake Creations (8yrs+)



Friday 29th May

- 10am-12pm Science Lab (8yrs+)
- 10am-12pm Little Potters: Animal Magic Pottery Boxes (5-8yrs)
- 10am-12pm 3D Art and Watercolour Workshop (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Clay Club: Cactus Creations (8yrs+)
- 1pm-3pm Games Workshop : Craft (5-8yrs)



Children on all 2 hour sessions will require adult supervision if they stay during the lunchtime.

Refunds are subject to a minimum of 24 hours' notice before the course begins.

£10.00 per 2 hour art and crafts session
£11.00 per 2 hour session Clay Club and Little Potters

Drama Days £22 per Day
Book by Phone
029 20872030

www.adultlearningcardiff.co.uk

Our Kitchen Café and Tuckshop will be open throughout the scheme.



MAY HALF TERM

ACTIVE. FUN. UNFORGETTABLE.

8AM - 5PM

**AGES
5-12**

4 DAY WEEK
26TH - 29TH MAY
(DUE TO BANK HOLIDAY)

WE OFFER

- FOOTBALL SKILLS & CONFIDENCE COURSE**
- LEARN TO CYCLE 1-2-1**
- MULTI SPORTS (BASKETBALL, NETBALL, HOCKEY, TOUCH RUGBY)**
- CRAZY ACTIVITIES (LASER TAG, NERF BATTLES, SPY GAMES, DODGEBALL)**

ALL COACHES ENHANCED DBS CHECKED.

DISCOUNT CODE
EARLYBIRD29
£29.50 A DAY
RRP £39 DAY RATE

DISCOUNT CODE
EARLYBIRD119
£119 A WEEK
RRP £129 WEEK RATE

CODE ENDS
3RD MAY

LIMITED SPACES!
BOOK EARLY!

BOOK ONLINE NOW!

www.sports-xtra.com

SAFE & TRUSTED

FUN, FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

KEEP ACTIVE. MAKE FUN MEMORIES!



HELP IMPROVE THE SCHOOL AGED VACCINATIONS SERVICE

WHAT WE WANT YOUR HELP WITH

My name is Chris, and I am a User Researcher at Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW). I am working on a project that is aiming to improve the school aged vaccination process for everyone involved.

As part of this project, I want to speak to parents and guardians to understand how they find the process and to test anything we design to make sure it works for you.

I am reaching out to get volunteers who will be happy to take part in research with me.

WHAT WILL THE RESEARCH INVOLVE?

The research will involve a 45-minute online or in person session with us, whichever option works best for you.

During this session, we'll have a chat with you about your experience of school aged vaccinations. Then, we'll share a prototype of a design with you that aims to make the process easier. We will then ask you to feedback on that design so we can improve it for you.

WHEN IS THE RESEARCH?

We are looking to hold research sessions through May and June. We will work with you to arrange a date and time that best works.

HOW CAN I REGISTER?

If you'd like to take part in the research, please [sign up through this short form](#) or email me on chris.sutton@wales.nhs.uk

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the research further before deciding whether to take part, please feel free to contact me at chris.sutton@wales.nhs.uk

We really appreciate any help you can offer.

Kind regards,

Chris

Step Web Pages and Home Learning Tasks

The Step web pages are updated frequently, please take a look (and keep checking back) as specific home learning tasks and ways you can support your child are signposted on there. These are open access pages and can also be found on the school website

www.stmonicasschool.co.uk

[Nursery Web Pages](#)

[Step 1 Web Pages](#)

[Step 2 Web Pages](#)

[Step 3 Web Pages](#)

Financial Support for Families

Some parents may be entitled to School Essentials Grants from the Welsh Government. Please click in the box below for more information:

School Essentials Grants

Eligible families can apply for a grant of £125 per child per year. Families with children entering year 7 can apply for £200 to help with increased costs associated with starting secondary school. All looked after children qualify for the grant. Schools also receive additional funding as a result of claiming this grant.

Staff Contacts

Head - Abi Cuthbert abigail.cuthbert@cardiff.gov.uk

Deputy Head - Richard Thomas (Mr T) thomasr293@hwbcymru.net

Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinator - Kelly O’Gorman ogormank@hwbcymru.net

Wellbeing Lead - Tanya Meakins meakinst@Hwbcymru.net

Acting Office Manager - Jozefina Fedorova jozefina.fedorova@cardiff.gov.uk

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, please contact either Mrs Cuthbert, Mrs O’Gorman or Mrs Meakins. We are the Designated Safeguarding People for the school.

Dates for your diary

I am not able to authorise any absence for term time holiday or any extended time away from school. Please do not be tempted to take your child out of school during term time.

School term dates

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Schools-and-learning/Schools/School-term-dates/Pages/default.aspx>

				Friday 8th May Go Beyond trip - return at 2.37pm 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 11th May Year 6 leading worship	Tuesday 12th May Becky Harris - worship	Wednesday 13th May Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy 2.30pm Helping Hands meeting in school	Thursday 14th May Y6 iSingPop workshop	Friday 15th May 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play
Monday 18th May Year 4 leading worship	Tuesday 19th May Criw Cymraeg leading worship	Wednesday 20th May Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy	Thursday 21st May 4pm Premises, Finance + H&S GB meeting	Friday 22nd May INSET Day - no school for children Closing date for Talent Show applications

Half Term Break - no school for 1 week

Monday 1st June Children return to school - Breakfast Club doors open at 8.10am	Tuesday 2nd June	Wednesday 3rd June Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Talent Show tickets released on Parent Pay Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy	Thursday 4th June Green Flag (Eco award) assessment	Friday 5th June 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
---	-------------------------	--	---	---

Monday 8th June Years 2 & 3 leading worship	Tuesday 9th June	Wednesday 10th June Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy 6pm Talent Show at The Table	Thursday 11th June 6pm Talent Show at The Table	Friday 12th June 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play
Monday 15th June	Tuesday 16th June	Wednesday 17th June Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy	Thursday 18th June 11am Vision & Values GB meeting	Friday 19th June Helping Hands meeting at the Table 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 22nd June	Tuesday 23rd June Colorfoto - class photo day	Wednesday 24th June Governor learning walk - listening to learners (pupil voice groups) Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship	Thursday 25th June Step 3 visit St Mark's Church 4pm Standards GB meeting	Friday 26th June 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play
Monday 29th June Closing date for Nursery (Spring/Summer 2027 applications)	Tuesday 30th June Worship - Jo Deeley	Wednesday 1st July Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 5 & 6 Cycling in Maindy?	Thursday 2nd July	Friday 3rd July 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play 2.30pm Praise & Celebration Assembly - all welcome to join us
Monday 6th July Step 1 leading worship	Tuesday 7th July Sports Day	Wednesday 8th July Rev. Marcus (St Mark's) - worship Years 4 & 5 Cycling in Maindy Y6 Leaver's Service in Llandaff Cathedral 3.30pm Summer Party in St Monica's	Thursday 9th July 4pm Full GB meeting	Friday 10th July 1.30 - 3pm Stay & Play
Monday 13th July	Tuesday 14th July	Wednesday 15th July Y6 Leaver's Treat Years 4 & 5 Cycling in Maindy 6pm Y6 Leaver's Celebration Evening - all welcome	Thursday 16th July	Friday 17th July Last day of term for children

Summer Break - no school for 6 weeks
Children return to school on Thursday 3rd September 2026

Our remaining INSET days (training days where children are not in school) this academic year

- 22nd May = INSET day 5, training linked to the School Development Plan
- 20th July = INSET day 6, training linked to the School Development Plan