

Play, Learn & Grow Together



Llangyfelach Primary School
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SIP 1	SIP 2	SIP 3
Develop play-based learning principles, enabling younger pupils to explore, learn and develop holistically.	Refine pedagogical practices and principles that provide purposeful experiences for all learners.	Developing our indoor and outdoor environments to support learners' health and wellbeing.

September Newsletter 2026

Please read the following information which highlights current information, routines, procedures and developments.

New Academic Year Message:

Welcome back to the new academic year for 2026-27. I hope you have all had an opportunity to relax and enjoy the summer break with your children. It was fantastic to see the children returning today for the new academic year, looking refreshed and ready for the new challenges and experiences ahead of them.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us in Nursery and throughout the school. I believe you have made a great decision in choosing Llangyfelach Primary. Our pupils are so friendly, our staff are passionate, and our community spirit is strong. All the right ingredients for an excellent school.

Class teachers will be communicating their new school year information via their class pages this week so look out for important information regarding routines, homework and PE.

Please read the following information which highlights new developments, routines and procedures. Please contact us at any time if you have any queries.

Mr Burnell
Headteacher

Important Information:

It is with regret that I inform you of the sudden illness of Mr Higgins that materialised during the summer break. Unfortunately, he will not return until January at the very earliest. I know you will join me in wishing him a very speedy recovery throughout this period. Throughout Mr Higgins' absence, Miss Cartwright will be covering, who is very much looking forward to working with our Year 5 learners.

Additionally, we have received an update regarding Mrs Johns who is continuing her recovery from her illness that materialised last academic year. I know you will also join me in wishing a speedy recovery for Mrs Johns, you have been sorely missed within the school community.

On behalf of the whole school community, we wish you both well and hope that recovery is speedy, LPS is not the same without the both of you.

Forest School @ LPS

Forest School is a child-centred inspirational learning process, that offers opportunities for holistic growth through regular sessions, and in all weathers and seasons. It develops confidence and self-esteem through learner inspired, hands-on experiences in a natural setting. We are looking forward to resuming our Forest School sessions for all pupils from Y1-6 after a great start last academic year. Our Forest School sessions received great feedback and both children and staff enjoyed the sessions immensely. As we progress through autumn and winter, please ensure your child comes to school dressed ready for the weather!

Clothing

To ensure that the children are sufficiently protected from the weather and the outdoor environment, we require children to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Clothing will get dirty, so old clothes are required. Forest School sessions will take place in **all weathers** unless the safety of the participants is in question, due to high winds or icy ground.

The general rule is to wear lots of layers which keep in the heat and can be removed if needed. All children should come to school dressed appropriately for their Forest School session wearing suitable clothing:

- Long sleeved t-shirt, even in warm weather to help protect against bites, stings and scratches.
- Trousers will be worn to reduce the risk of bites, stings and scratches.
- Waterproof over trousers or dungarees and a waterproof jacket (really important when wet to prevent under clothing getting wet/damp).
- Long socks, wellies, walking boots or old trainers
- During the summer, a sunhat and sunscreen
- During the colder months, extra layers such as a fleece, leggings, tights, hats and gloves etc are required.

Toileting

We will ask the children to use the toilet before leaving the setting, however toilets are available on site along with hand washing facilities.

Forest Schools Timetable:

Sessions will start on Tuesday 8th September, from Week 1 of the timetable below with our Y2 class. Sessions will continue on a fortnightly basis. Sessions will run after lunch, led by a Forest School Leader, and we will return to school before the end of the school day. Children are to come to school dressed in their Forest School clothing on their allocated days - see below.

LPS Forest School Timetable			
	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	Year 2	Year 6	Year 5
Week 2	Year 4	Year 3	Year 1

For further details on our Forest School policy and progression model, follow this link: <https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-forest-school/>

Year 2 Pupil Information Update Pack:

Our Year 2 pupils are entering the halfway point of their time with us at LPS. You will shortly receive an email containing a link to our Update Pack. This pack is designed to collate any changes to you and your family's details or circumstances which may have occurred since your child started with us at LPS.

On entry to the school, you would have completed an Admission Pack that requested a considerable amount of information and details regarding several topics. This pack is merely to aid the process of our families updating their key information details to the school. I cannot stress enough the importance of ensuring that we hold your accurate information and contact details. Rudimentarily, the school not holding your correct mobile number in an emergency or medical situation would be very challenging to navigate for all.

Please ensure that all sections are completed, regardless of there being no changes of information since entry to the school. Many thanks for your support on this matter.

Community Questionnaire Feedback 2026:

Many thanks for your views and feedback via the school community questionnaires. These provide vital insights to how the school is performing and meeting the needs of our community. Without your views, our self-evaluation process is not complete. The following information provides an insight to what our community feels we are doing well and where they would like to see improvements made.

What is most satisfying to hear is that nearly all pupils enjoy coming to school, feel safe at LPS and when online. Nearly all pupils feel cared for and valued. They feel they are taught to be healthy and that they are supported in their learning. Children also feel they can ask if they don't understand something. Nearly all have a very positive attitude towards learning and as a result, they behave very well and participate in lessons with confidence, enthusiasm and enjoyment. All this information is such a pleasure to hear and reflective of everyone's hard work throughout the LPS Community.

Pupil Questionnaire Insights:

- 94% of children like the school.
- 97% of children feel they are doing well in school.
- 100% of children feel safe in school.
- 96% feel that the school deals with bullying and behaviour well.
- 96% feel teachers and adults help them to learn and make progress.
- 100% feel school helps keep them safe online.

Parent Questionnaire Insights:

- 95% of parents believe their child likes the school.
- 100% of parents feel their children are settled well into their classes and school.
- 100% of parents feel that their children are safe at school.
- 81% of parents believe that pupils behave well in school.
- 95% of parents believe that the school deals well with bullying, harassment and discrimination.
- 95% of parents believe that the school communicates information about their child's progress in a timely and clear way

Nearly all responses were very positive about their children's progress and enjoyment of school. Nearly all parents feel that teaching and learning experiences are good or better at LPS and the school is run very well. Nearly all parents feel that the school treats their children fairly, with respect and provide many opportunities to develop their responsibility.

Our school website informs the whole school community of policy, procedures, events, documentation, support and advice. The website is designed to be a window into the school for anyone who requires further information, in whatever capacity.

But more importantly, you can contact, meet and discuss any matters with any member of staff at LPS...pupils, parents, governors, staff and Estyn all say the same thing...staff at LPS are very approachable, committed, caring and knowledgeable about the school's direction.

The community questionnaires provided some very vital ideas for further improvements or actions to clarify policy or procedures. The following point were raised through the community questionnaires:

- Some parents mentioned more frequent systems for communication regarding their child's progress:
 - We will continue to maintain our 3 formal and thorough reporting systems that are already in place.
 - Some parents mentioned implementing Class Dojo communication methods...we believe the website is the safest and most efficient way of communicating between home, school and staff, especially regarding the well-being of all.
- A minority of parents mentioned that they were unaware of their child receiving intervention support streams. Every parent whose child receives interventions should be told. If you were not aware, I personally would like to know immediately.
- A minority of parents mentioned that homework can sometimes not be set on the correct day. All homework is set on a Friday, each week. If it has not been set on a Friday, I would like to know immediately.

Many thanks for your continued support and suggestions for making this school the best it can be for all learners at LPS.

Year 6 Bont Comp Parent Meeting:

Pontardulais Comprehensive School Senior leadership Team will be holding a parent meeting and presentation at LPS on **Tuesday 15th September at 6pm**. This is a perfect opportunity to meet the SLT members and learn about what the school has to offer for your children's education.

We look forward to seeing you there.

LPS School Improvement Plan 2026-27:

Throughout periods of the previous academic year, the Pupil Voice Groups, AoLE Leaders, Linked Governors and SLT undertook our LPS Self-Review processes. To glean further information on our robust self-review systems that enable us to monitor & evaluate progress on whole school targets, please visit the following webpage:

<https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-self-review-systems/>

The outcome from our LPS Self-Review systems formulated the following agreed set of Whole School Targets for 2025-26:

- 1. Develop play-based learning principles, enabling younger pupils to explore, learn and develop holistically.**
- 2. Refine pedagogical practices and principles that provide purposeful experiences for all learners.**
- 3. Developing our indoor and outdoor environments to support learners' health and wellbeing.**

To view our full School Improvement Plan (SIP) for this 2026-27 SIP Document please visit the webpage:

<https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=SIP+2026%2D27&pid=2529>

Attendance

Please continue to help us by ensuring your child attends school and that you bring your child to school on time (before 9am). Regular school attendance is vital and missing school can have a significant impact on achievement over a one-year period as illustrated in the table below:

96 – 100% Attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90 – 95% Attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work
85 – 90% Attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child is at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work
80 – 85% Attendance	At least 5½ Weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning
Below 80% Attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

2026-27 INSET Days:

Due to specific whole school training requirements, we will need to spread the INSET days across the academic year. This is due to the availability of external providers who will undertake the professional development for our team. Therefore, unfortunately, we will not be able to hold INSET week next year. However, we will look at this option in the following years.

To aid with your childcare arrangements we have provisionally booked the INSET days for the whole year which are as follows:

1. ~~Tuesday 1st September~~
2. ~~Wednesday 2nd September~~
3. Monday 4th January
4. Monday 19th July
5. Tuesday 20th July
6. **Another INSET day TBC**

These dates are subject to change; however, we will aim to notify you of any alterations at least 1 month prior to the rearranged date. Many thanks for your cooperation on this matter.

Swansea Term Times & Holidays 2026-27:

Term	Term begins	Mid-term holiday begins	Mid-term holiday ends	Terms ends
Autumn 2026	Tuesday 1 September 2026	Monday 26 October 2026	Friday 30 October 2026	Friday 18 December 2026
Spring 2027	Monday 4 January 2027	Monday 8 February 2027	Friday 12 February 2027	Friday 19 March 2027
Summer 2027	Monday 5 April 2027	Monday 31 May 2027	Friday 04 June 2027	Tuesday 20 July 2027

Swansea Term Times & Holidays 2027-28:

Term	Term begins	Mid-term holiday begins	Mid-term holiday ends	Terms ends
Autumn 2027	Wednesday 1 September 2027	Monday 25 October 2027	Friday 29 October 2027	Friday 17 December 2027
Spring 2028	Tuesday 4 January 2028	Monday 21 February 2028	Friday 25 February 2028	Friday 7 April 2028
Summer 2028	Monday 24 April 2028	Monday 29 May 2028	Friday 2 June 2028	Thursday 20 July 2028

Finally:

I would like to thank you all for your incomparable support and commitment toward making LPS the best it can be for all. Our pupils are a credit to the school and to you. It was fantastic to see the children returning this week for the new academic year, looking refreshed and ready for new challenges and experiences ahead of them. I look forward to working with you all, once again this year, in maintaining excellence at LPS.

All best to all,

Lee Burnell
Headteacher
Llangyfelach Primary School

The LPS Curriculum & Learning Projects

Nursery:

1. Welcome to LPS
2. Once upon a time...
3. Minibeasts at LPS
4. Barnaby Bear at Swansea Bay
5. LPS Flower Show

Reception:

1. Play, Learn, Hatch and Grow
2. LPS Spring Festival
3. Rockpool Raiders
4. LPS Flower Show

Year 1:

1. LPS Happy Healthy Helpers
2. Amazing Astronauts
3. LPS and Brynteg Farm
4. The LPS Summer Festival

Year 2:

1. LPS and The Penllergare Trust
2. The Roman Invasion
3. Swansea Bay
4. LPS Scented Stall (Lush)

Year 3:

1. Fantasia
2. Sweyns-ey
3. Swansea Market
4. LPS Market

Year 4:

1. The River Ilston Disaster
2. Wales, Wars and Weddings
3. LPS Fitness Fanatics
4. LPS Healthy Snack Bar

Year 5:

1. Copperopolis
2. Abertawe Egyptology
3. Cymru Constellations
4. LPS Farmers Market

Year 6:

1. Wales at War
2. The Origin of the Species
3. Creative Cymru
4. LPS Art Gallery

For more information regarding our LPS Curriculum, Teaching Approaches, Assessment and Progression Models please visit our Curriculum, Teaching & Learning Policy on the following link:

<https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-curriculum-teaching-learning-policy/>

Key Information Links @LPS

Information Focus	Information Link
LPS Vision & Values	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/vision-and-values/
Self-Evaluation Report	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-self-evaluation-report/
School Improvement Plan	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-school-improvement-plan/
Welsh Government Grant Plans	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/welsh-government-grant-expenditure-plans/
LPS Prospectus	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/prospectus-1/
LPS Annual Report	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/governing-body/
Staffing Roles & Responsibilities	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/meet-the-staff/
LPS Safeguarding	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-safeguarding/
LPS Teaching & Learning	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-curriculum-teaching-learning/
Curriculum Developments	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/topic/areas-of-learning
Learning Experiences & Visits	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/class-pages/
LPS Transition Plans	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/transition-1/
LPS Policy	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/lps-policies/
LPS Calendar	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/diary/grid/
LPS Wraparound Service	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/topic/lps-wraparound
LPS PTFA	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/ptfa-1/
LPS News & Events	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/topic/news-and-events
LPS Attendance	https://www.llangyfelachprimaryschool.co.uk/attendance/