



Cwmaber Junior School Annual Report to Parents 2022-23

The Governing Body is no longer required to hold an annual meeting with parents to discuss the report. This requirement has been replaced with the duty of the Governing Body to hold meetings on receipt of a parental petition as outlined in the School Standards and Organisation 2013 Act.

A note from the Acting Chairperson

This last year the school has been getting back to normal following the disruptions caused by Covid 19 and the various lockdowns. We are grateful for the support of parents and guardians in helping the school to get back on an even keel. That good relationship between the school and parents/guardians is vital for our pupils to progress.

I am pleased that the collaboration with Cwmaber Infant School in having Mrs Bethan Davies as an Executive Headteacher covering both schools still continues to work well and the two schools are continuing to improve the links between them. The two schools have worked well together in order to prepare for the new Curriculum for Wales, which has now been implemented at the school, so that progression through the curriculum will be seamless for our pupils.

Cllr John Taylor

Members of the Governing Body 2022-23 (As at July 2023)

Governors have not received travel or subsistence from the school's budget for any meetings attended.

Name	Start Date	End Date	Governor
Cllr R. Gater	June 2022	June 2026	Minor Authority Representative
Mrs J. Ralph	May 2021		Local Authority Representative
Mr G. Lewis	February 2020	February 2024	Parent Representative
Mrs E. Ellis	March 2020	March 2024	Local Community Representative
CB Cllr J. Taylor	Sept 2020		Local Authority Representative
Mr J. Turton	Sept 2020		Local Authority Representative
Mrs H.L. Atay	February 2020	February 2024	Local Community Representative
Mrs H. Jenkins	May 2023	May 2027	Local Community Representative
Miss E James	November 2021	November 2025	Parent Representative
Mrs J Perry	June 2021	June 2025	Parent Representative
Mr J. Davies	June 2021	June 2025	Parent Representative
Miss A. Beddoe	March 2023	March 2027	Staff representative
Miss L. Howells	September 2021	September 2025	Teacher Representative
Mrs B. Davies	January 2015		Headteacher

Managerial and Curriculum

Teaching Staff

The managerial and curriculum responsibilities for 2023-23 were as follows:

Staff Member	Position	Distributed Leadership Responsibilities
Mrs B. Davies BEd.(Hons) NPQH	Headteacher	Lead Safeguarding Officer Child Protection Health and Safety Assessment Recording And Reporting/Data Analysis School Evaluation SEWCTET Senior Mentor C.H.I.P Mentor Performance Management Staff Development Governor
Miss L. Howells BA(Hons) Dosbarth Un	Deputy Headteacher Year 3 Class teacher	Deputy Lead Safeguarding Officer Professional Learning Lead Wellbeing and Equity School/Cluster Lead Family/Community Engagement Officer Attendance Officer Behavioural Lead (Thrive, Nurture, Pastoral, SAP) ALNCO (SENCO/MAT/LAC/BS) Deputy Network Lead Performance Management Team Leader SEWCTET Senior/Mentor Teaching and Learning Council Lead PPA Lead Staff Governor
Miss E. Knight Dosbarth Pedwar	Year 5/6 Class teacher	Industry & Community Links Science and Technology Lead RRS Lead

		School Council Lead
Mrs A. Williams Dosbarth Tri	Year 5/6 Class teacher	Mathematics and Numeracy Lead Welsh Lead Cymraeg Campus Lead Criw Cymraeg Lead EVC Lead
Mrs S. Dann Dosbarth Dau	Year 4 Class teacher	FPh-KS2 Transition Lead Languages, Literacy and Communication Lead DCF/ICT Lead RE Techno Tribe Lead
Miss A. Boanas Dosbarth Un	Year 3	
Miss M Harris Dosbarth Chwech	Year 5/6	

Non Teaching Staff

School Secretary - Mrs J. Ralph & Miss C. Jones		Caretaker /Cleaner - Mr A. Vaughan	
Cleaner - Mrs M. Francis - Mrs B. Hann			
Supervisory Assistants:	Mrs J. Thomas Miss A. Beddoe	Mrs D. Weston Miss. T. McNamara	Mrs S. Gilbert
Learning Support Assistants	Miss. T. McNamara Miss N. Newbold	Miss A. Beddoe Mrs S. Gilbert	Mrs D. Weston

Staffing

To enable distributed leadership all staff have been assigned roles and responsibilities.

Additional Learning Needs

The school's ALNCO ensures that resources are allocated to pupils on the ALN register in a variety of ways, depending on age and need. The school is visited by the Educational Psychologist, as and when requested.

More Able and Talented

The school continues to develop strategies to ensure that it meets the needs of our Gifted and Talented pupils.

School Activities and Community Links

We collected tins, jars and toiletries for **Harvest** for the Aber Valley FC food bank.

A small group of Year 5/6 pupils represented the school at the **Senghenydd Memorial Service** at the National Mining Memorial and laid a floral tribute.

Photographers took individual and class photos.

Flu Vaccinations were offered to all pupils.

We had a "Wear What You Like" day and brought in donations for **Children in Need**.

All pupils made **Christmas craft** in class and was sold to their parents.

We held a **Christmas raffle** with lots of prizes

We had a joyful **Christmas Dinner** with lots of Christmas jumpers. Donations were sent to Save the Children.

Christmas Parties - We dressed in party clothes and had a lovely last day of term.

Our **Christmas play** was very much enjoyed by parents.

Year 6 went to **Wings to Fly** in Blackwood.



St David's Day - The children dressed up in rugby shirts, red tops and traditional outfits and celebrated with Welsh activities. We held our Eisteddfod and the Bard was chaired in assembly.



Mother's Day craft -We made Mothers' day gifts to order

World Book Day -This was a non-uniform day (fancy dress optional).

Comic Relief - We raised money with a dress down day.

**COMIC
RELIEF**

Easter Cracked - Club 707 ran Easter Cracked at Bethel Baptist Church

Easter Raffle - We held an Easter Raffle

We had an **Easter service** with parents in Beulah Chapel.

Pupils enjoyed a **Coding Café**.

Year 3 had **Yoga** sessions, Year 5 had **Street Dance** and Year 6 had **athletics**.

We enjoyed a very interesting **Chemistry of Climate Change** assembly.

Welsh Water came in to take workshops and Year 5 & 6 had a **Maritime Law and Conservation Talk**.

Maths Sessions were held for pupils and parents.

The Walking Bus operated during Walk to School Week.

We made **Fathers' Day Craft** to order

Club 707 did some **football training** with Year 5.



Swimming - Year 4 attended three weeks of swimming lessons

Sports Day - We had a lovely sports day on the green with lots of parental support.

Everyone moved classes on **Transition Day** to meet their new teachers and visit their new classrooms.

Parents had the chance to **Meet the Teacher** for next year and to look at their children's books.



Leavers' Assembly - This was a joyful occasion with parents and wider family.

Prom - The Year 6 children dressed up and had a lovely time, funded by Friends of Cwmaber

School Visits

- Whole school trip to the cinema
- Year 3 went to Cardiff Bay and Techniquet.
- Year 4 went to the Royal Mint and Dwr Cymru
- Year 5 & 6 went to the Royal Mint, Cardiff International White Water and a residential in Rock UK.

The school is grateful to the small number of volunteers who assist with assemblies, general and after school activities. Cardiff Met, Ystrad Mynach College and pupils from local comprehensives are offered placements and work experience.

Action taken to review School Policies

All school policies are reviewed on a rolling programme.

School Development Planning (SDP)

This document identifies clear priorities for the school on an annual basis. Targets are taken from the school's process of self-evaluation after consultation with all staff and the Governing Body. The plan is reviewed termly at GB meetings and progress reported to Governors.

Performance Management

A system for Performance Management for teaching and support staff is implemented throughout the school. Targets are set for each member of staff and incorporated into the School Development Plan.

School Prospectus

A copy of the school prospectus can be found at

[Home | Cwmaber Infant & Junior Schools](http://cwmaberinfantsandjuniors.co.uk)
(cwmaberinfantsandjuniors.co.uk)

The following SDP targets were prioritised for 2022-23

Literacy/Numeracy
Wellbeing
The new CfW
The new ALN Act
Self Evaluation

Language

Cwmaber Junior is an English-medium school.

Use of the Welsh Language

All pupils are taught through the medium of English. Welsh is taught as a lesson throughout the school and is used incidentally during the day, e.g. for instructions, counting etc. Every week, we have a Welsh assembly, when the story is in Welsh or related to Welsh culture and the songs are in Welsh.

Attendance

Parents are politely reminded that if their child is absent from school, it is necessary to inform the school in writing or by telephone of the reason for the absence - preferably on the first day of the absence.

An illness, medical appointment, family holiday etc., is recorded as an authorised absence. If no explanation is received by the school then an unauthorised absence is recorded in the register - this category includes holidays of more than two weeks in any given academic year.

Progress Since Last Inspection

The school was last inspected by Estyn Inspection Services in the Autumn Term 2016. All parents were provided with a summary of the Inspection report (full report can be found on the Estyn website). The school was pleased with the findings of the team and progress continues to be made.

Target Setting/Performance Data

A whole school tracking system collates information about pupils' progress. Baseline assessments based on Foundation Phase Outcomes are used to gather information from Cwmaber Infants. The attainment and progress of individual pupils and year groups are analysed during and at the end of the Key Stage. This enables the school to set realistic targets to further improve end of Key Stage results. We work in partnership with the Education Achievement Services (EAS) to ensure we are performing to the best of our ability. Performance indicators were not required this year.

Pupil Deprivation Grant

This is money awarded to the school based on Free School Meal (FSM) numbers. The money was used to employ additional support for pupils.

Theme Weeks/Shine the Light Weeks

The school was involved in a 'Healthy Huw' week to promote the importance of healthy eating and exercise. Fairtrade/Hanukkah and Rights Respecting Schools were themes covered as 'Shine the Light Weeks'.



Sports and After School Clubs

After School Clubs were postponed due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Sports Day was held on the green adjacent to the school.



Community Visitors

Pupils have received virtual and 'face to face' visits by the Police Community Liaison Officer, the Fire Service, leaders from local churches and many other visitors linked to healthy lifestyles.

Year 4 pupils received 3 weeks of swimming lessons at Caerphilly Leisure Centre.

Premises

The school premises are regularly inspected and routine maintenance work continues throughout the year. The Governing Body continues to develop the interior and exterior of the building. The pupil toilets are of a good standard and kept to a high standard of cleanliness by Caerphilly Cleaning and Mr Vaughan.

Friends of Cwmaber

Governors, staff and pupils very much appreciate the hard work of our FOC which provides additional resources for our school, as well as subsidising school trips. This year the FOC have organised Autumn disco, raffles, Christmas craft, cinema evening, prom, m Mothers' and Fathers' Day craft, Easter eggs, and selection boxes.



Parental Donations and Charities

Parents and families have been generous in supporting school events:
A big thank you for all your donations towards events held over the year.

Session Times

- 8.55a.m-12.00 noon
- 12.55-15.30p.m

The Governing Body would like to thank all parents / carers, the Friends Of Cwmaber, the non-teaching and teaching staff for their continued commitment and support.

**Term Dates
2023-24**

	Starts	Half Term	Ends
Autumn Term 2023	1st Sept	30th Oct - 3rd Nov	22nd Dec
Spring Term 2024	8th Jan	12th Feb – 16th Feb	22nd March
Summer Term 2024	8th April	27th May – 31st May	19th July

6 staff training days will be taken during the year.

Appendix 1: Budget

<i>Staffing</i>	<i>£430,714</i>
<i>Premises</i>	<i>£62,690</i>
<i>Supplies & Services</i>	<i>£35,408</i>
<i>Transport</i>	<i>£0</i>
<i>Service Level Agreements</i>	<i>£23,626</i>
<i>School Development Plans</i>	<i>£8,651</i>
<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>£561,088</i>
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>£70,835</i>
<i>Total Funding</i>	<i>£561,281</i>

Your views are important to us.

In order to improve our service to you, we would welcome your suggestions. If there is anything you would like us to do, please use this page to list your ideas and return to the office for future consideration.