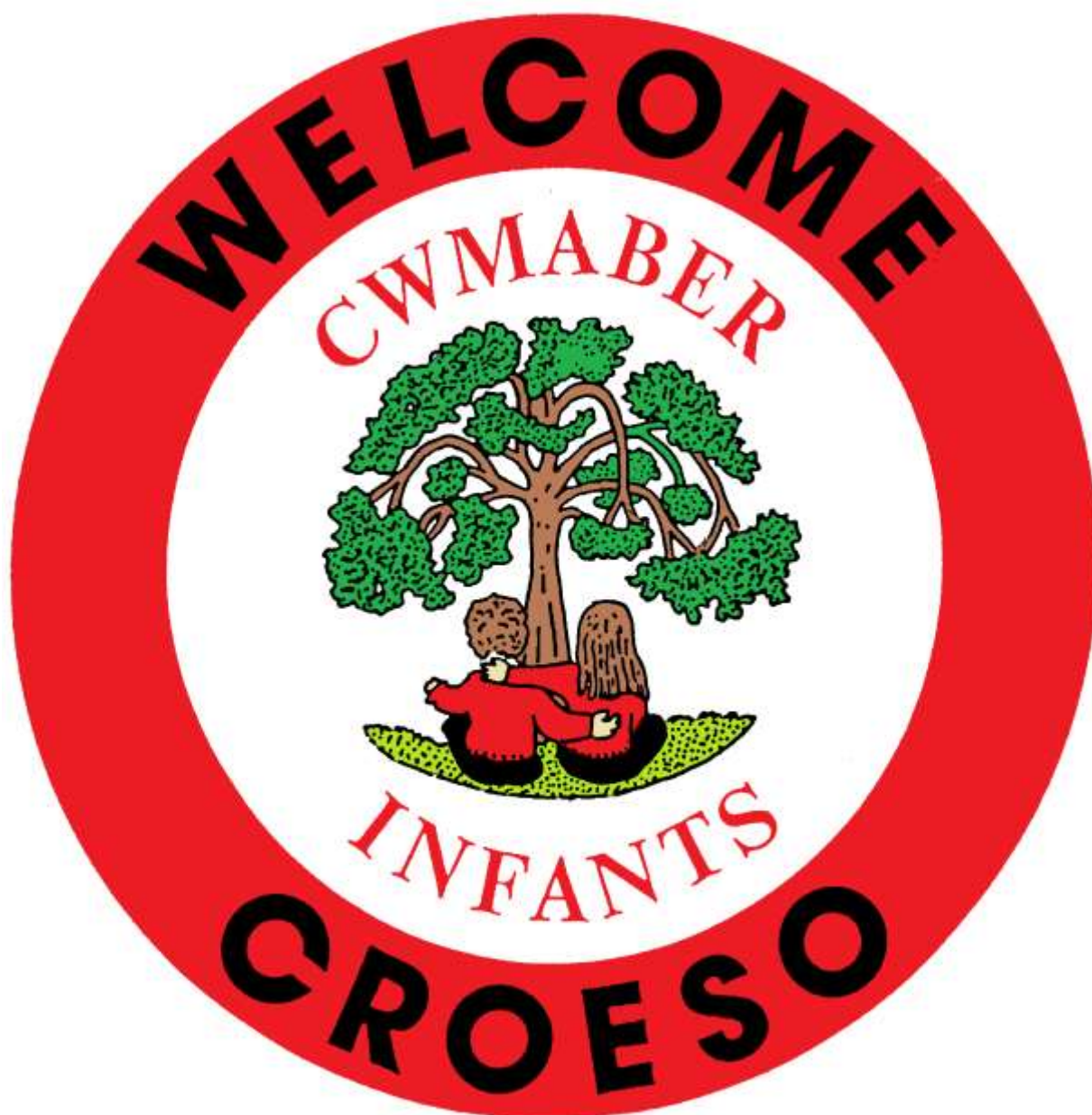




**Cwmaber Infants School
Governors
Annual Report to Parents
2019-20**

A Message from the Chairperson

The school year started really well but then Covid 19 hit us and disrupted everything. We had to close the school because of the lockdown and the staff, parents and children had to get to grips with distance learning. We were pleased with the response of the parents to this strange situation.

Also, Mrs Price retired as Headteacher at the end of the Summer Term. We are grateful for all her dedication and hard work for the children of Cwmaber Infants. We wish her all the best for her retirement. We have now embarked on an exciting collaboration with Cwmaber Junior School as we share Mrs Davies as Headteacher.

Cllr John Taylor

This report is a summary of the steps taken by the Governing Body in discharge of its functions since the last report to parents in Autumn Term 2019. Much of the content is statutory e.g. financial information and statistics.

The full governing body meets at least once a term, whilst a number of sub-committees meet as needed. A copy of the minutes of all Governing Body meetings is retained by the EAS and by the school which are available for your inspection, if required.

Annual Reports to Parents

Parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body up to three times a year.

Full details can be obtained from

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/statutory-guidance-to-the-governing-bodies-of-maintained-schools-in-wales-regarding-the-duty-to-hold-meetings-with-parents.pdf> or from the school. As there were no requests, no meeting was held under Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

Parents' Meeting

Governors are responsible for the management of the school legislation and policies of the Local Authority. The Governing Body under the Local Management School (LMS) now has fully delegated powers, which means the Governing Body acts like a “Board of Directors” in a business.

The full Governing Body meets at least once a term.

The Headteacher provides regular detailed reports for discussion with the Governors concerning a wide range of issues such as staffing, curriculum development and pupil matters.

To ensure we carry out delegated duties efficiently, Governors have attended appropriate training.



The Governing Body

Name	When Appointment Ends	Type of Governor
Cllr M. Stretch	May 2022	Community Governor appointed by the Community Council
Mrs S. Price – Vice Chairperson	October 2023	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs C. Lewis	May 2022	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs K. Davies	December 2023	Community Governor appointed by the Governing Body
Mrs B. Davies	Ex officio	Headteacher
C.B. Cllr J. Taylor – Chairperson	August 2024	L. A. Representative
C.B. Cllr L. Binding	November 2023	L. A. Representative
Mr K. Brace	July 2021	L. A. Representative
Mrs V. Foley	February 2022	Parent
Mrs N. Davies	October 2022	Parent
Dr R. Davies	March 2024	Parent
Mrs M. Rahman	January 2021	Parent
Miss H Sansom	February 2023	Staff Representative
Miss S Davies	May 2022	Teacher Representative

C.B. Cllr J. Taylor – Chairperson c/o Cwmaber Infants' School

Mr Carl John - Clerk to the Governing Body c/o Governor Support Team,
Tredomen House Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7WF

Financial Statement

A financial statement is available on request.

- The Helping Hands Committee generously donated money for resources.
- Pupils and staff raised money for various different charities throughout the year.
- No travel or subsistence allowances were paid to members of the governing body.



The section 52 statement provided by the local authority can be found at <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/My-Council/Strategies,-plans-and-policies/Education/Section-52-budget-statement> or ask at the school.

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 recoded in the register – this category includes holidays of more than two weeks in any given academic year.



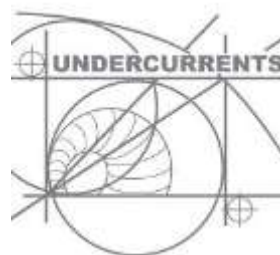
All pupils should be on the premises at least five minutes before the official starting time of 9am. The support of parents / carers on this front is appreciated, because children persistently arriving late in school lose a great deal of valuable educational time. Late arrivals also disrupt the teaching groups they are involved with as these have invariably started on their daily routines.

Destination of School Leavers

We have no pupils aged 15 or 16 on whom to report.

Community Links

- EW and CG from the Abertridwr and Senghenydd Food Bank joined us for our harvest celebrations and were overwhelmed by the donations. The school continued to support the food bank through the year.
- The children won several prizes at the Undercurrents festival and the choir took part in the concert.
- We collected stickers to get sports kit through Aldi's Kit for Schools scheme.
- The choir and ambassadors represented the school at the Senghenydd Memorial service.
- The school had new books donated after the October book fayre.
- Our class assemblies were very well attended by parents and grandparents and many stayed for the classroom workshops.
- The drop-in Reading Workshop was well attended..
- The Helping Hands organised our Bonfire Night disco.
- Everyone wore their pyjamas to school and gave donations to Children in Need. We raised £165.15.
- Year Two visited Beulah chapel for "Christmas Wrapped Up" with Club 707.
- The pupils' nativity plays were amazing, with the children giving confident, mature performances.
- The staff nativity play was very well received by the pupils. Thank you to the special guest stars from the community.
- The choir took part in the Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival and sang to residents in Abermill Nursing Home.
- The school thoroughly enjoyed Father ELBP's Christingle workshop.
- Nursery pupils and parents enjoyed a visit from Simon Sparkles, magician.
- The Helping Hands Committee organised a wonderful Christmas with Christmas Fayre, Breakfast with Santa and Christmas parties.
- The Year Two Leavers' Assembly took place online.
- Our community carol concert in Beulah was a lovely end to the term..



- The Investors in Families Diamond Award celebration assembly was a joyful occasion, celebrated with song and cake!
- AW, the Senior Environmental Education Ranger, came to do an assembly about the outdoors.
- Multicultural Week was a great success, with the children learning about China, France, Australia and other countries. JW (a parent) came to talk about the Philippines and RdS (from Club 707) came to talk about Brazil. The open afternoon was very well attended by parents.
- Our cinema night watching "Blinky Bill" raised £181 for the WWF to help koalas and other animals after the bush fires.
- The choir's St David's Day concert at Abermill Nursing Home was thoroughly enjoyed by residents and staff alike.
- Staff and pupils dressed up for world book day.
- The Staff Pantomime – Cinderella – was very much enjoyed by pupils. A big "Thank You" to Cllr JT, Father ELBP and Mr R for taking part.
- There was the usual excellent selection of entries from pupils and families for our Eisteddfod. Pupils donated the Eisteddfod prize money to a charity for the flood victims in RCT.
- The Mad Science Day, funded by a grant from the Edina Trust was great fun.
- Father Edward came in weekly to take assemblies.
- Health Visitors, the school nurse and hearing therapist attend the school to carry out various checks on the pupils.
- The school collected stamps for the Bone Cancer Research Trust.
- The Parents Forum met to discuss school issues.



School Visits

Children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 went to Blackwood Miners Institute to see the Aladdin Pantomime for Christmas. The children and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the show and joined in with the singing and dancing. All the children were perfectly behaved and we had a wonderful time....oh yes we did!



Extra - Curricular Activities



This year the following after school clubs were offered: Creative, Cookery, Football, Folk Dancing, French and Fitness.

We also have a very successful Breakfast Club.

Policies

Policies are generally adopted in line with Local Authority guidelines. Copies of all policies are available from the school

Term Dates 2020-21

	Starts	Half Term	Ends
Autumn Term 2020	1 st Sept	26 th -30 th Oct	18 th Dec
Spring Term 2021	4 th Jan	15 th Feb – 19 th Feb	26 th March
Summer Term 2021	12 th April	31 st May - 4 th June	20 th July

Session Times

Start- 9.00 a.m.

Lunch break-12.00 – 1.00 p.m.

End of Day- 3.15 p.m.

Nursery a.m. sessions

9.00 – 11.30 a.m.



School Prospectus

The school prospectus is given to all new parents / carers when they enter the school. It is available from the school upon request.



Toilet Facilities

There are sets of toilets for both boys and girls in both areas of the school and in nursery. In addition, there is a disabled toilet and shower room for use by pupils or by adult visitors. There are three staff toilets. All toilets are cleaned daily.

Healthy Eating



Healthy eating is promoted through snack time, discussions about packed lunches, display boards, and our excellent school dinners. Parents are given information about healthy lunchboxes. Pupils have access to a water dispenser. We are a “Healthy School” and have achieved the NQA Award for Healthy Schools. Our assemblies were described as “sector leading”.

Organisation

The Foundation Phase is implemented across the school. Work is differentiated in each class to maximise children’s learning. Additional support is given in Literacy and Numeracy, as needed.

Children with additional needs are supported according to the level of funding provided by the school budget and the Local Education Authority Inclusion services.

In consultation with CCBC, the school has been in the practice of addressing the requirement of the DDA. The Governing Body ensures all arrangements are in place for the admission and access for disabled pupils and visitors. All necessary steps are taken to make sure that disabled people are not treated less favourably.

Language

Cwmaber Infants’ is an English-medium school.

Use of 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. On Wednesdays, we have a Welsh assembly, when the story is in Welsh or related to Welsh culture and the songs are in Welsh. The Welsh Advisory teacher comes to take lessons with staff and pupils.

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