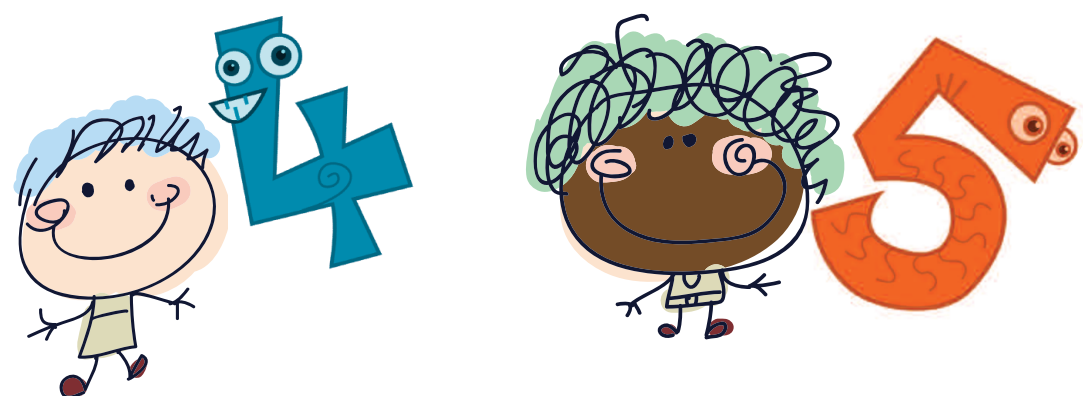
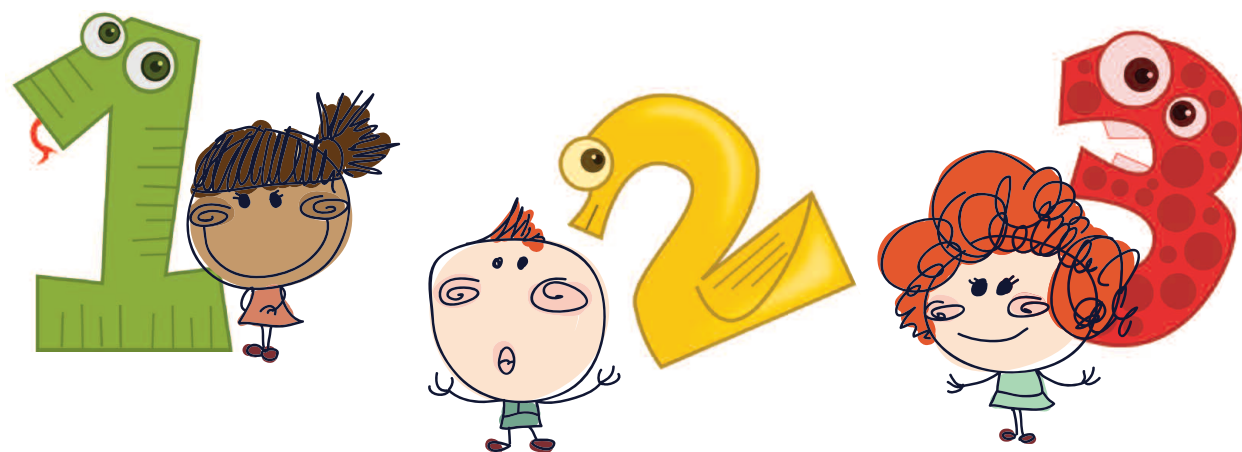




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Ysgol Fabanod Cwmaber Infants School



Board of Governors Annual
Report to Parents
2015 - 2016



A Message from the Headteacher

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Together



Dear Parents/Carer

On behalf of the governing body it gives me great pleasure to present the 27th Annual Report to Parents for the academic year 2015 - 2016.

Not only has the school achieved the excellent academic standards which are recorded here but it has also continued to nurture its pupils to ensure they mature as responsible, inquisitive and caring individuals. In short, they are educated in the widest possible sense.

We can all take pride in this; there is much to celebrate, but I would particularly like to place on record my grateful thanks to the dedicated staff of the school. They always place the needs of the pupils first and, without fail, go the extra mile. Teachers, Classroom Assistants and Support Staff... thank you all so very much.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors can I also thank the volunteers and friends of the school who do so much to enhance the learning experience of our children.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely,

J E Price

J. E. Price (Mrs)
Pennaeth / Headteacher



Annual Reports to Parents

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 2015. 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 CCBC and by the school, which are available for your inspection, if required.

Parents Meeting

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

Full details can be obtained from <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/parents-meetings-statutory-guidance/?lang=en> 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.

The Governing Body

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 numerous training

Governors Name	When Appointment Ends	Type of Governor
Mrs S. Price	November 2019	Co-opted
Mrs E. Gallagher	November 2017	Co-opted
Miss L. Edwards	November 2017	Co-opted
Mrs. J. E. Price	Ex officio	Headteacher
C.B. Cllr L. Binding	November 2019	L.E.A.
Vacancy		L.E.A.
C.B. Cllr J. Taylor	c/o Cwmaber Infants' School, End Date: August 2020, L.E.A.	
Mrs. N. Davies	October 2018	Parent
Mr. E. Perry	November 2017	Parent
Dr R. Davies		Parent
Vacancy		Parent
Mrs. C. Vincent	November 2017	Non-teaching Staff
Mrs. D. Horne	August 2017	Teaching Staff
Mrs E. Everson	c/o Governor Support Team, Tredomen House Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7WF	

The next election for a Parent Governor is November 2016.

Financial Statement

Outturn Budget 2015-16

Staffing Costs	£ 513,619
Premises Related	£ 58,857
Supplies and Services	£ 17,332
Service Level Agreements	£ 21,521
School Development Plans	£ 1,870
Total	£ 613,199

The Aber Valley Community Council generously donated £100 to our school, which was used for attendance prizes.

Pupils, staff and governors raised over £1500 for Ty Hafan with our sponsored laps of the yard.

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 <http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk> or ask at the school.

Performance

The following shows the results of our Year 2 pupils in June 2016

% receiving Outcome 5 and above:-

	LLC ¹	Mathematics	PSDWCD ²	F.P.I.
School	95%	95%	100%	93%
Wales	95%	90%	95%	87%
L.E.A.	90%	91%	94%	89%

% receiving Outcome 6 and above:-

	LLC ¹	Mathematics	PSDWCD ²
School	38%	38%	60%
Wales	36%	36%	59%
L.E.A.	36%	36%	56%

¹ Language, Literacy and Communication

² Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity

The full DEWI contextual report is attached.



Attendance

September 2015 - July 2016

Including Nursery and Reception

	Sessions	%
Attendances	47054	91.6%
Authorised absences	4137	8.1%
Unauthorised absences	193	0.4%
Possible attendance	51384	

Excluding Nursery and Reception

	Sessions	%
Attendances	29218	94.5%
Authorised absences	1666	5.4%
Unauthorised absences	38	0.1%
Possible attendance	30922	
<i>Including</i>		
Late before registration closed	103	0.3%
Late after registration closed	0	0%
Unexplained absences	32	0.1%

Attendance Target for 2016: 94.6%

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

Health Visitors, the school nurse and hearing therapist attend the school to carry out various checks on the pupils.

Our choir took part in concerts in various local venues.

Father Gareth and Rev Sue has been coming in weekly to take assemblies.

The Fire Service and P.C. Janine Kerslake visit regularly to talk to the children on keeping safe and about people who help us.

The Kerbcraft programme and the wonderful team of volunteer parents work with Year two children to ensure that they are kept safe and aware of the dangers of the road. We also have a regular walking bus, when the demand is sufficient, held during the spring and summer terms, which is a great success and ends with the children attending the breakfast club.

Mums, Dads and grandparents came to help us learn in open mornings after our assemblies.

The Helping Hands Committee organised a Christmas Fayre, the Easter disco and ran the Summer barbecue.

Our class assemblies and Christmas Nativity plays are very popular with children and well attended by parents and grandparents.

The excellent Year Two Leavers' Assembly was an emotional time, saying goodbye to pupils and staff.

Targets Agreed with Local Authority for 2016 - 2017

- Raise girls' performance in LLC at Outcome 6.
- Raise number of pupils achieving 116+ in the procedural test.
- Achieve attendance target of 94.6%



Extra - Curricular Activities

(In addition to those in “Community Links”)

This year we have run the following after school and lunchtime clubs: keep fit and sports, choir, arts and crafts, student enterprise & design, cooking, folk dancing, gardening, tournament/ challenge and a castle club.

In the Autumn Term, Year Two went to Beulah chapel for “Christmas Wrapped Up” and the choir represented the school at the Benefice Choir Competition, the Senghenydd Memorial Service and the Aber Valley Christmas Tree Festival. In the Spring Term, Reception and Year One visited Castell Coch and Year Two went to Caerphilly Castle. In the Summer Term, Nursery visited St Fagans, Class C went to The Ranch to see the Gruffalo, Class H visited the dinosaurs in Cardiff Museum and Classes E and D had fun at Margam Park.

Policies

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

Term Dates and Session Times 2016 - 2017

	Start of Term	Half Term	End of Term
Autumn	1st September	22nd - 30th October	16th December
Spring	3rd January	18th - 26th February	7th April
Summer	24th April	27th May - 4th June	21st July

Closed for May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May 2017

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

An additional Foundation Phase booklet has been given to parents of Nursery and Reception children to reflect the Foundation Phase.

The school prospectus is currently being fully updated.

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 requirements 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.

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 two staff toilets. All toilets are cleaned twice daily by the caretaker.

Healthy Eating

Healthy eating is promoted though snack time, discussions about packed lunches and the packed lunch display board, and our excellent school dinners. Parents are given information about healthy lunchboxes. Pupils have access to water dispensers. We are a “Healthy School” and have achieved the Phase 5 award. Our assemblies were described as “sector leading”.



Canolfan Rhagoriaeth

Centre of Excellence

Thank You

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.

