Rhydypenau Primary School

Aiming High

Ysgol Gynradd Rhydypenau

Anelu Yn Uchel

Autumn Term '2026

Weekly News! 16.10.2026

🎅 SANTA'S GROTTO TICKETS 🎅

Santa and his elf will be back with us this year in our grotto at the Christmas Fayre and tickets are now available for sale! 🥳

Tickets are selling quickly for this event so don't wait around!

There is currently availability for:

12.40 - 3 left

12.50 - 4 left

1.10 - 6 left

1.20 - 8 left

1.30 - 4 left

1.40 - 8 left

1.50 - 6 left



Tickets are per child, and each child will receive a gift from Santa.

https://rhydypenaupta.charityhive.co.uk/events?type=ticket



Thank You to Bullies Out!

This week, our Year 6 pupils took part in valuable **Peer-to-Peer Training** delivered by the team from **Bullies Out**. The training provided our pupils with the knowledge, skills and confidence to support the wellbeing of their peers and help promote positive relationships across the school. As Peer Mentors, they will play an important role in helping younger pupils, encouraging inclusion, and providing support during playtimes.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Bullies Out** for delivering such an engaging and worthwhile programme. We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils for the maturity, enthusiasm and empathy they demonstrated throughout the training, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact of their new roles within our school community.

Screen Time Review!

In recent months, there has been increasing national discussion regarding children's use of screens and digital devices. As a school, we recognise the important role technology can play in learning and communication, while also understanding the need to promote healthy and balanced screen use for children.

As part of our ongoing commitment to pupil wellbeing, we will be conducting a review of screen time across the school. This will include considering how technology is used to support learning and exploring current guidance and best practice.

We will share further information about the review, including any developments that may arise from the findings. Our aim is to ensure that our approach to technology continues to support both learning and wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support.

Nofio Ysgol School Swimming!

We are pleased to be taking part in the new Nofio Ysgol programme, a Welsh Government-funded initiative providing free school swimming lessons for pupils across Cardiff.

Through this initiative, **Year 4 and Year 5 pupils** will have valuable opportunities to develop their swimming skills, water confidence and important water safety knowledge.

As the programme is now funded through Welsh Government, swimming provision has been standardised across participating schools. As a result, Year 3 pupils will no longer access swimming lessons through school, as they have done in previous years when the school funded these lessons directly. While we appreciate that this represents a change to our previous offer, the new programme enables us to provide a comprehensive swimming and water safety programme for Year 4 and Year 5 pupils.

We are working with swimming providers regarding pool availability and will update the events list as soon as the arrangements have been finalised. This is likely to be in the summer term.

We appreciate your understanding and support as this exciting new programme is established and look forward to the benefits it will bring to our pupils. If you have any questions regarding swimming arrangements, please contact the school.



School Communication Update!

Over the past few weeks, we recognise that there has been significant disruption to school communications as we transitioned to **Arbor** and then introduced **ClassDojo** for class-based communication.

We are grateful for the feedback received from both staff and parents. Following this feedback, particularly regarding the number of notifications and pop-up messages being received, we have carefully reviewed our approach and have decided to return to **SeeSaw** as our platform for teacher and class communication.

Teachers will issue login details and instructions for accessing SeeSaw before the half-term break. From **after half term**, all teacher and class-based updates, messages and communication will be shared via the SeeSaw app.

If you experience any difficulties accessing your account or require any assistance setting up the app, our administrative staff will be more than happy to help.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this period of change and thank you for your continued support as we work to ensure our communication systems are effective and user-friendly for all families.

Anxiety Coffee Morning Reminder!

We would like to remind parents and carers about our **Anxiety Coffee Morning** taking place **next Friday at 9:00am**.

The session will be delivered by the Local Authority Emotional Health and Wellbeing (EHW) Specialist Teachers and will provide helpful information, strategies and advice for supporting children who may experience anxiety or worries.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about anxiety, ask questions and connect with other parents and carers in a supportive and welcoming environment.

We look forward to seeing you there.



SHRN Survey 2026!

Following our participation in the pilot survey in 2022 and subsequent survey in 2024, Rhydypenau has agreed to participate in the SHRN 'Student Health and Wellbeing Survey 2026' which is run in partnership by the Welsh Government, Public Health Wales and Cardiff University.

Please visit our website to find information about the survey which pupils in Years 3-6 are invited to participate in, as well as to view a copy of the questions they will be asked.

Participation is voluntary, and learners' answers are confidential and anonymous, pupils will be made aware of this before the survey is administered. Pupils are able to skip questions and stop the survey at any time should they wish.

If you are happy for your child to take part, then you don't need to do anything further.

We would encourage you to speak with your child about the survey and fully appreciate that parents/guardians may want to opt their children out. If you have any concerns relating to the survey, you are able to contact the SHRN team directly on shrn@cardiff.ac.uk. For queries relating to ethics, informed consent or safeguarding, the Cardiff University Ethics Committee can be contacted on SOSSS-Research@cardiff.ac.uk.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please contact me directly on DaviesC575@hwbcymru.net by Friday 6th November to opt your child out (please include your child's full name and class in your correspondence).

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs C Davies

Health and Wellbeing Lead

DaviesC575@hwbcymru.net

Website Link full URL: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/page/?title=SHRN+Survey+2026&pid=187



Safeguarding!

As part of our commitment to keeping all pupils safe and supported, we regularly share the contact details of our school safeguarding team. If you ever have a concern about a child's wellbeing, please remember you can speak directly to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads:

- Ms. N Hammond (Executive Headteacher)
- Ms. E Williams (Head of School)
- Mr. C Evered-Davies (Deputy Head of School)
- Mr. A Williams (Business Manager)

External Support Lines:

- **NSPCC:** 08088005000
- **Childline:** 0800 1111

We are always here to support our families, so please do get in touch if you ever need our help.

Useful Links!!

Prospectus: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=77&type=pdf

Extra-Curricular Activities: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/page/?title=Extra+Curricular+Activities&pid=41

Events: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/page/?title=Events&pid=42

PE Timetables: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/page/?title=P%2EE+Days&pid=153

Staff Roles & Responsibilities: https://www.rhydypenau.co.uk/page/?title=Roles+And+Responsibilities&pid=25