



Tyfu gyda'n gilydd, dysgu am byth
Growing together, learning forever

1st June 2026

RE: JUNE UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back everyone to a new half term. Here are a few updates, reminders, requests.

Staying safe in the summer weather.

Hopefully, we will enjoy some lovely sunny weather over the half term, but of course this is when it can get hot especially in the middle of the day, so please consider providing your child with a (named!) sun hat that they can wear whilst outdoors during the school day. We suggest that parents apply sunscreen for their children before coming to school and your child may bring a small bottle of sunscreen for their own child's use during the day. If necessary, and as part of our duty of care, staff may assist children with this and we will assume your consent unless you have notified us in writing to the contrary. Further information is given in our [sun protection policy](#).

Our planned sports day is on **Wednesday 10th June** (Nursery – Year 3 9:15am – 11:45am, Years 4 – 6 1:30pm – 3:30pm). The 'back-up' date is Thursday 18th June. We look forward to see you all on the day, weather permitting! If coming by car, please can I urge parents not to park behind the shops or to block the entrance as this has caused disruption to the shops and their deliveries on previous occasions.

Attendance

Attendance across the school has improved over the course of this year. Our current class figures are [available on the website](#), with most classes now at over 94% and a marked reduction in persistent absentees (i.e. under 90%). Our target is for all pupils to have attendance of over 95%. You can see your child's current attendance on the School Gateway App, and will also be included with the end of year report. Thank you for your continued support with this important matter.

Fidget Tools / 'Squishies'

Over recent months, we have seen a significant increase in pupils bringing various 'fidget toys' and 'squishies' into school. We recognise that a small number of children do benefit from using fidget tools or other equipment to help them manage attention, anxiety or sensory needs, enabling them to stay focused and engaged in their learning. However, these tools are not suitable or helpful for all pupils and, if used more widely or inappropriately, can become distracting and impact on the learning environment. For this reason, we have set out a [fidget tools protocol](#) which sets out the conditions where fidget tools are provided or agreed for individual pupils with prior agreement, to ensure their safe and appropriate usage to support learning effectively. (There is a short parent summary at the end of this letter). Please can I ask that parents do not allow their children to bring random 'fidget toys' or squishies into school. If this continues, staff may need to confiscate them until the end of the school day.

Staffing Update

Miss Williams-Jones has returned following a prolonged absence. She will be taking over Dosbarth 2DC for the remainder of this term as Miss Cook is now on maternity leave. Mrs Veasey will remain the class teacher for her former class, R/1RWJ until the end of term. We are currently recruiting for several posts in September, including those providing maternity cover for Miss Cook and Miss Hughes next year. These will be concluded, and class arrangements finalised in time for our **first 'Moving Up' day on Monday 30th June**. On that day, children should come to their usual class in the morning and will be back in their usual classes in the afternoon. Those Year 6 children who are going to Bryntirion Comprehensive need to go directly to / from the comp and do not attend Maes yr Haul at all on that day.

Lost Property

Once again, we have gained a huge number of unclaimed coats and jumpers over the last term, many of which are in 'as new' condition – please feel free to come and 'peruse'. The Eco-Committee will be holding a jumper sale in early July, following which much of what remains will be disposed of as we simply cannot keep it all. There is also a growing collection of un-named water bottles and lunch boxes that remain unclaimed.

Summer Term Dates 2026

(Year group trips / parent sharing events have not been included here)

Tuesday 9th June	School Photographs – classes, sports clubs
Wednesday 10th June	Sports Day
Friday 12th June	Football / Netball Festival (Litchard)
Thursday 18th June	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 19th June	PFA Summer Fete (2 – 5pm)
Friday 26th June	Year 6 to Bryntirion Comp
Monday 30th June	'Moving Up' Morning (Year 6 all day at Bryntirion).
Thursday 2nd July	Online Safety Parent Session 2:30pm (Years 2 – 6) Info to follow.
Monday 6th July	Second 'Moving Up' Morning. (Year 6 in Maes yr Haul as usual)
w/b Monday 6th July	End of Year Reports will be sent out during this week.
Wednesday 8th July	PFA Summer Disco
Wednesday 15th July	Leavers Celebration 2pm
Friday 17th July	Last day of Summer Term

Term / INSET Dates for 26-27

The term dates for all Bridgend schools [are available here](#)

So far, we have three INSET dates confirmed as follows:

Tuesday 1st September 2026,

Thursday 6th May 2027 (polling day) and Friday 7th May 2027 (*note BH Monday 3rd May too*).

I will update you all as / when other dates are confirmed. Please also note that the summer term 2027 ends on Tuesday 20th July. I can confirm that the Monday/Tuesday of that week will NOT be INSET days and we will be open as usual.

Kind Regards

Kevin Stroud,

Headteacher

Parent Guidance – Fidget Tools

Why does the school have this approach?

We are committed to inclusive, high-quality learning environments.

We are committed to creating calm, focused and inclusive classrooms where all children can learn successfully.

Some children benefit from sensory tools, such as fidget tools. While these are sometimes helpful, experience and guidance show they can also:

- Reduce focus,
- Create distraction,
- Become a source of play rather than support,
- Increase dependency rather than independence.

Having clear guidance helps ensure that any support used in school is **safe, appropriate and genuinely helpful for learning** without having a detrimental impact on the learning of others.

How are decisions made?

Decisions about fidget tools are based on:

- A child's **individual learning needs**,
- Whether the tool improves **focus, engagement or regulation**,
- **Classroom impact** on other learners,
- **Professional judgement** of staff,
- Whether strategies are helping learning over time.

Where appropriate, support will be agreed with the learner and may be recorded in a One Page Profile or Individual Development Plan (IDP) in line with Welsh Government and Bridgend CBC guidance.

What can parents and carers do?

- ✓ Talk to your child's teacher or the ALNCo if you feel your child may benefit from support,
- ✓ Share helpful information about what works at home,
- ✓ Support any strategies agreed with the school,
- ✗ Please do not send in fidget toys or sensory items without agreeing this with the school first (without prior agreement, teachers may remove this item or swap for an approved item and require this to be taken home)

Our Shared Aim

We work together with parents / carers to support children to:

- Stay focused in lessons,
- Develop independence,
- Feel confident and supported in their learning,
- Improve engagement with learning.

Our approach ensures that support is **fair, effective and focused on helping every child succeed. (learning outcomes).**