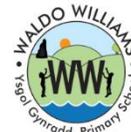




# Weekly Newsletter

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a busy and productive half term here at Waldo Williams, and it's been wonderful to see pupils making good progress and settling so well into the school year. Classrooms have been full of focused, enthusiastic pupils, and it's particularly pleasing to see attendance improving across the school.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support — whether through our Parent Forum, attending school events, or helping our newly formed PTA. Their first event: the Pumpkin Party was a great success, raising nearly £400 so far. The PTA will soon begin planning our much-anticipated Christmas Fayre after half term, which we are all looking forward to.

I hope the autumnal weather offers families plenty of chances to enjoy spending time outdoors together. We look forward to welcoming back pupils on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**.

Wishing you all a restful half term.

Warm regards,

Mr A Davies  
**Headteacher**

Dates for your diary:

3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Pupils to return to school
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Dale and Abermawr classes – start swimming for this half-term
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole School Photographs
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Day – wear pyjamas to school for the day!
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-bullying week
17-19 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening Appointments
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Road Safety assembly (all pupils) and traffic speed camera workshops (Years 5 and 6)
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Dosbarth Tenby (Nursery) Christmas Sing-along
	Barafundle and Saundersfoot classes – Christmas performance – 4.30 pm
	Dosbarth Dale and Abermawr – St. Fagan's Trip
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Nolton and Broad Haven classes – Christmas performance – 4.30 pm
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Dale and Abermawr classes – Christmas performance – 4.30 pm
	Christmas Dinner
15 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas movie visit to the cinema (Years 1-6)
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas parties
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for pupils before Christmas – pupils welcome to take a toy to school!
5 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>INSET Day – school closed for pupils</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Pupils to return to school

**Please remember to check the school calendar – often, dates can change and new events are added.**

## School Attendance



As you are aware, we have been tasked to improve our attendance. Therefore, we will be working closely with Pembrokeshire County Council to work with families to improve attendance.

As always, we are here to help. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance or need any advice or support, please don't hesitate to get in touch. In the first instance, please speak with Miss Chapman, our Family Engagement Officer (FEO), who is based in the school office.

Just a reminder: one of the tools available to support improved attendance is the use of **Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs)**. It is a common misconception that FPNs are issued only for term-time holidays. In fact, FPNs can be issued when a pupil's attendance is a serious concern and there has been no sustained improvement over time, despite support and intervention. Find out more information by using the following link:

[Penalty Notices - Pembrokeshire County Council](#)

### Did you know...

A percentage attendance of **98%** is equivalent to **4** days off each year

A percentage attendance of **95%** is equivalent to **9** days off each year

A percentage attendance of **94%** is equivalent to **11** days (2 weeks and 1 day) off each year

A percentage attendance of **90%** is equivalent to **20** days (4 weeks) off each year

A percentage attendance of **85%** is equivalent to **30** days (6 weeks) off each year

## J2 Journal



We are pleased to share that after half term, all parents will receive an invitation to download and explore the J2E app, which links directly to *J2 Journal*.

*J2 Journal* is an online space where teachers will upload photos, videos, and examples of pupils' work and learning experiences, giving you a clearer insight into what your child experiences in school. Hopefully, it will make those end-of-day conversations a little easier — when you ask “*What did you do at school today?*”, you'll have plenty of evidence to spark a meaningful chat! More information will be shared after half term.

**Use the link to find out more:** [j2journal – Just2easy](#)

After half-term, you will receive a QR code to download and install the app – it will automatically connect you to your child/ren's account.

## ParentMail and School Calendar



We are pleased to see that over 90% of pupils are now connected to our new school app – **ParentMail**. Already, the app is working much more reliably, and we are hearing improved feedback from parents. If you are not yet connected, please speak to the school office who will be able to get you connected.

One element that you will miss is the calendar on the app. One solution is the calendar that is linked to our school website: [www.waldowilliamsschool.co.uk](http://www.waldowilliamsschool.co.uk)

If you visit the website on your phone, navigate to the calendar page or use the following link:

[Waldo Williams Primary School - Calendar](#)

Once you view the calendar on your phone web browser, use the share button at the bottom of the page and add this webpage to the **home screen** of your phone. This link on your phone home screen will take you directly to our school calendar that is constantly live and updated with events.

The share buttons on both an iPhone (iOS) and Android phone (AOS) looks like:

