Dinas Powys Primary School

Newsletter **September 2026**

Croeso'n ôl i flwyddyn ysgol newydd! Welcome back to a new school year!

We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and are ready for the exciting months ahead.

The children have made an excellent start to the term and have embraced new challenges with confidence and enthusiasm. It has been lovely to see so many smiling faces, renewed friendships, and a positive attitude towards learning. We are looking forward to making many wonderful memories together this year.

Contact Details and School Communications

We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to Dinas Powys Primary School this term. Please join us in welcoming Miss H. Steele to the Leadership Team, Miss E. Howarth who is teaching in Year 3, and Miss Cerian Maunders, who has joined the Infant Site as our temporary Administrative Officer.

To help us maintain effective communication and ensure we can contact you quickly in an emergency, please make sure that all your details on the Arbor Parent App are up to date. This includes your mobile phone numbers, email addresses, home address, and emergency contact information.

If any of your details need updating, or if you require assistance accessing Arbor, please contact either school office at office@dinaspowysps.co.uk. We are always happy to help.

As a reminder, all absence notifications and general school enquiries should be sent to the main school email address rather than through platforms such as Seesaw or Google Classroom. This helps ensure that messages are received promptly and directed to the appropriate member of staff.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our communication systems accurate and effective.

INSET DAY

School has an INSET day on Friday 5th February 2026. There are two INSET days at the end of the school year 19th and 20th July which school will be taking as twilights. School therefore ends for pupils on Friday 16th July 2027.

There is one further INSET day for school to take and this will be organised to align to the professional learning requirements of the school's development plan. We will inform parents as soon as this is booked.

School term dates can be found at:
https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/schools/School-Term-Dates.aspx

Dinas Powys Primary School

School timings

A big thank you to all our parents and carers for helping children arrive at school on time each day. Being punctual allows children to settle quickly, start the day positively, and make the most of every learning opportunity from the moment they arrive.
Please see below a reminder of our school day timings:
Junior School

- First Bell: 8:40am
- Start of the School Day: 8:45am
- End of the School Day: 3:10pm

Infant School

- Start of the School Day: 9:00am
- End of the School Day: 3:30pm

Nursery

- Morning Session: 9:05am - 11:40am
- Afternoon Session: 12:50pm - 3:25pm

To help your child have the best possible start to their day, please ensure they arrive with enough time to enter school calmly and make their way to the classroom before registration.
Thank you for your continued support. Working together helps us create a positive, productive start to every school day for all our children.

Dinas Powys Primary School

Attendance

We'd like to thank all our families for your continued support in promoting good attendance. While we were disappointed not to reach our whole-school attendance target last year, we were encouraged by the commitment shown by many of our pupils and families. With everyone working together, we are hopeful that we can achieve our target this year.

Our whole-school attendance target remains 95%, which is equivalent to missing no more than 10 school days across the year. Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children succeed at school. It supports academic progress, helps children build strong friendships, and gives them the confidence that comes from being part of daily school life.

We understand that some absences are unavoidable, and we are here to support families whenever needed. If you have any concerns about attendance, please do not hesitate to get in touch so that we can work together to find solutions.

Please remember to inform the school on the first day of any absence, as we operate a first-day response system to follow up on any unexplained absences.

What Attendance Percentages Mean

Attendance Rate	Equivalent to
90%	**One day off every two weeks**
80%	**One day off every week**
75%	**If sustained throughout a child's time in the juniors, this would be equivalent to missing an entire school year**

Every day counts, and even small improvements in attendance can make a significant difference to a child's learning and wellbeing. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping all pupils attend regularly and achieve their very best.

Uniform

A gentle reminder to all families that, in line with our school uniform policy, children may wear a watch and one pair of simple stud earrings only. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a smart and consistent appearance across the school. The full uniform policy is available on our school website for your reference.

Medicines

We are able to administer medicines in school where these are prescribed specifically for the child and are required four times a day. If your child requires medicine during the school day please contact the offices to request a form. Medicines can only be administered on completion of the form.

Dinas Powys Primary School

Flying Start

Based at the junior site, Dragonflies provides high quality sessional childcare for children aged 2-3 years, funded through Flying Start and the 2 year old childcare offer.

To find out whether you are eligible for Flying Start or the 2 year old childcare offer, please check your postcode via the link below:

https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/social_care/children_and_young_people/Flying-Start.aspx

Playworks School Clubs & Childcare

Playworks, are a private provider of child-care that operates at school. The after school club runs Monday – Thursday from the end of the school day until 6.00 pm. The club provides care for both infant and junior children and is based on Infant School site.

Playworks Dinas Powys is a registered provider of the 30 Hours Free Childcare Offer for Wales, for children aged 3-4 years to check your eligibility

visit https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/social_care/children_and_young_people/Family-Information-Service/Childcare-Offer.aspx

Further information can be found at www.playworks-childcare.co.uk or by emailing enquiries@playworks-childcare.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Sep

23	**Y5 Logos Hope trip**
28	**F&F AGM 5pm Junior Site**
30	**Y4 to Techniquest**

Oct

13	**Junior Site Parent Consultations**
14	**Infant Site Parent Consultations**
15	**Junior Site Parent Consultations**
23	**F&F Cake Sale**
26- 30	**Half term**

Nov

16-20	**Anti-bullying week**
20	**F&F Quiz Night**

Dec

7-11	**Christmas Concert week**
18	**End of term**

Dinas Powys Primary School

Contact School:
If you have any concerns or queries, please contact school.
Tel: **02920 512151**
Email: office@dinaspowysps.co.uk
A copy of our complaints policy can be found on our website.