

Summer Pupil Newsletter

The River centre 3-16 Learning community



01495 357714



www.trc3-16.co.uk



In this Newsletter:

What has each class been doing this term

New School Uniform

School Website up and running



Primary Campus

Dukestown Rd,
Sirhowy,
Tredegar NP22 3DT

Secondary/Ty Afon

River Centre 3-16 Learning Community
Pontygof
Ebbw Vale
NP23 5AZ

Dosbarth Glas:

What did we do this term?

Visits:

Castell Coch (or the Red Castle) is a 19th-century Gothic Revival castle

We had a story telling session in a library

Year 6 have also visited secondary as part of their transition

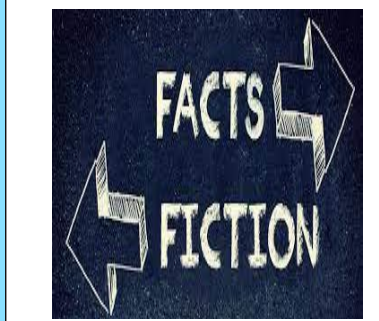
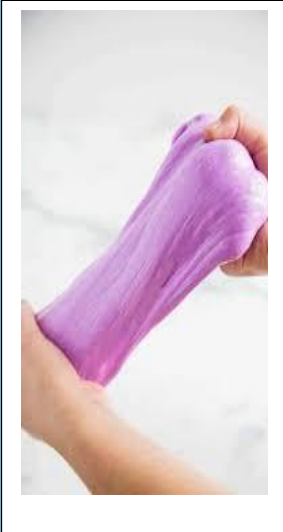
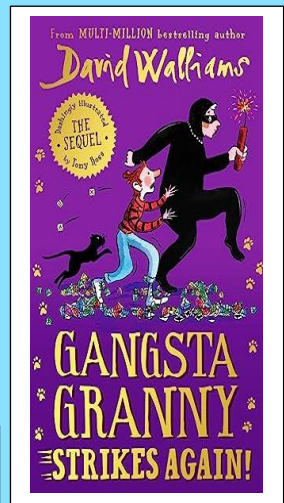
Our Class novel was:

Gangster granny strikes again by David Walliams

Other Fun work:

Cookery sessions

They got very messy making slime and snow in science.



Dosbarth Melyn:

This half term With Dosbarth Melyn

Visits:

Went to the library to listen to stories and collect their own books

Visited Castell Coch

Activities:

Took part in making slime

Taken part in wellbeing sessions

Explored ghost stories

Separated Fact from fiction

Wrote our own ghost story

Dosbarth Coch

We started our term with the theme, The Land Before Time. In this topic we looked at the timeline of the dinosaurs – Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous period.

We learnt about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.

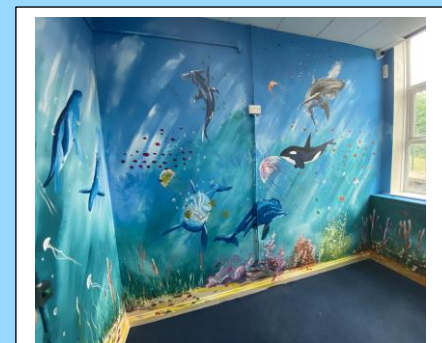
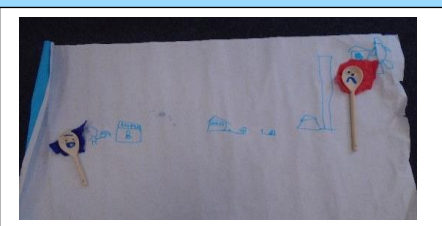
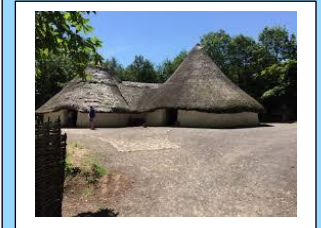
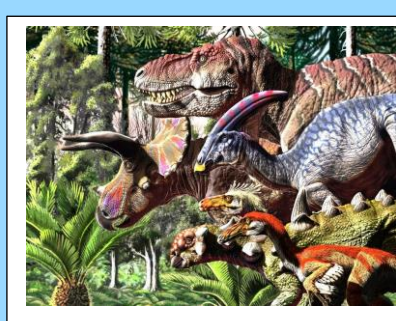
We made fact files about dinosaurs.

We compared their size and measured out the length of dinosaurs on the school yard. A diplodocus was twenty-eight metres long and nearly filled our yard!

We made dinosaur fossils and became palaeontologists to extract bones using small chisels and brushes.

We painted pictures of dinosaurs, constructed dinosaurs from recyclable materials, moulded dinosaurs from playdough and made dinosaur skeleton pictures from pasta

We took a trip to St Fagan's National Museum of History and travelled through time to compare historic buildings and homes



In this term, we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III

In the second part of the summer term we changed our topic to, The Land of Make Believe.

During this topic we listened to lots of stories filled with tales and fantasy.

One of the stories, The Magic Paintbrush, inspired us to make magic paintbrushes and paint imaginary pictures.

We visited the library where the children listened to a story read by the librarian.

We retold the story of Jack and the Beanstalk using spoon puppets and we planted 'magic beans' and watched them grow.

We did estimating, counting, grouping and sharing using jellybeans.

We learnt about magic. We made magic wands using natural materials. We produced a magic trick and performed in front of a small audience. We brewed magic potions, which bubbled and toiled!

We looked at fantasy castles, built castles using construction equipment and took a trip to Castell Coch.

Mrs Tufty called into school to remind us of how to cross the road safely.

We would like to say a big thank you to....who came in to school to construct planters for us. And a big shout out to Victoria Garden Centre, Tredegar for donating the soil.

We would like to say a big thank you to 'New Hope Church' from Atlanta Georgia who came in to school to construct planters, and gave up their time to become involved with playing games and taking part in our carousel of activities. Also, a big shout out to Victoria Garden Centre, Tredegar for donating the soil for our planters and Jonathan Thomas from Noddfa Church for creating a calming space by painting a fantastic under the sea mural!

Ty Afon:

Ethical, informed citizens –

On 25th May Staff and pupils travelled down to Cardiff Museum for an educational excursion.

Our learners thoroughly enjoyed the experience with some learners visiting a museum for the first time ever!

The woolly mammoth was a particular favourite as well as the animal display.

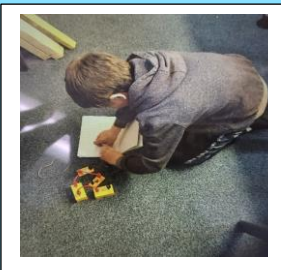
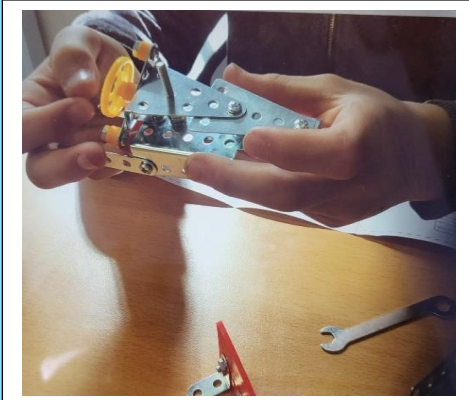
Pupil feedback was that the café does an excellent cup of tea.

Healthy, confident individuals –

On 15th June, learners had the opportunity to attend an outdoor activity day at Bryn Bach Park.

This was a wonderful opportunity to try out lots of different adventure activities including orienteering, caving and rock climbing.

Caving was the favourite activity of the day and all pupils are looking to another session on the last day of term, 20th July



Enterprising, creative contributors –

Learners have been working on wellbeing activities this term including cooking, building and creating, encouraging independence and confidence

Ambitious, capable learners –

Learners have conducted multiple science experiments during this term including independently designing an creating a pressure activated doorbell whilst exploring circuits, using microscopes to study the cell structure of an onion and measuring the amount of energy in different types of food.

Nurture:

Nurture pupils have settled well at Secondary Campus, we have shared ideas about how we would like our classroom to look and designed and created pots for our desks.

We have been enjoying daily well-being activities.

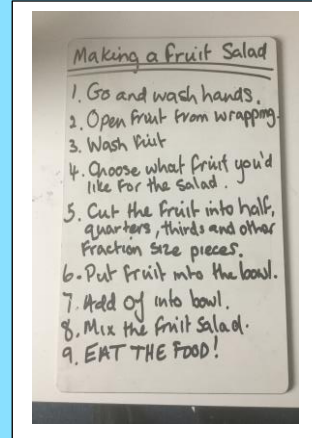
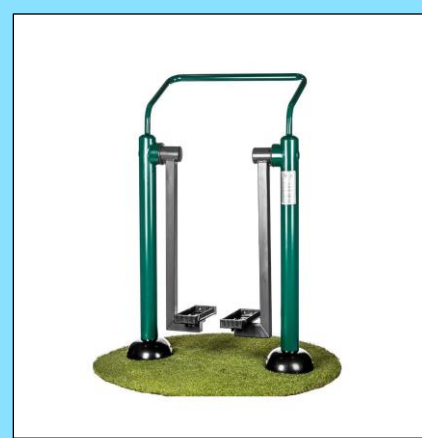
We begin our days with a personal training session on our outdoor gym equipment.

During the day we participate in well-being sessions that aid relaxation and ground us in the present moment.

This includes eating mindfully, developing breathing techniques and using our senses. We very much enjoy keeping physically active and have been working on our team work and football skills development this term.

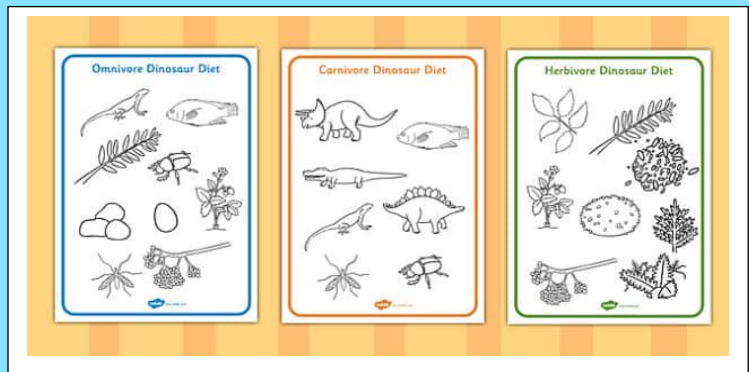
We had a splashing time with Duke of Edinburgh type, outdoor learning activities.

We enjoyed taking part in a tiki boarding session, developing water confidence at Bryn Bach park lake followed by a game of mini golf.

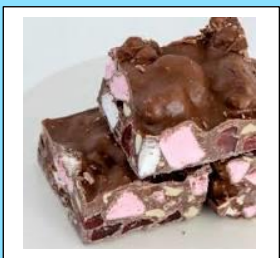
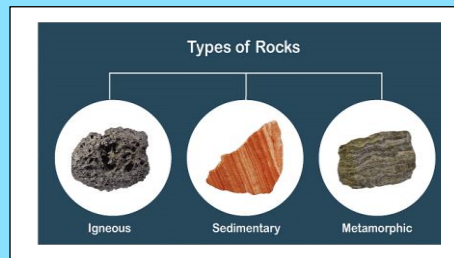


During our Topic Land Before Time, we began by exploring, designing and creating a Royal invitation for our friends to join our party for the King's Coronation.

We created shopping lists and prepared and enjoyed marmalade sandwiches which some of us thought were delicious!



Throughout the term we have researched dinosaurs, measured to understand their heights and widths, learned about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores and much more!

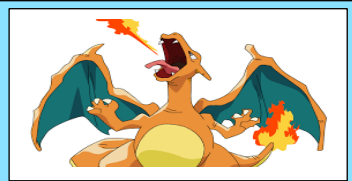
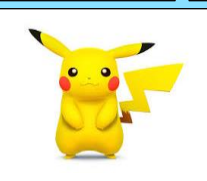
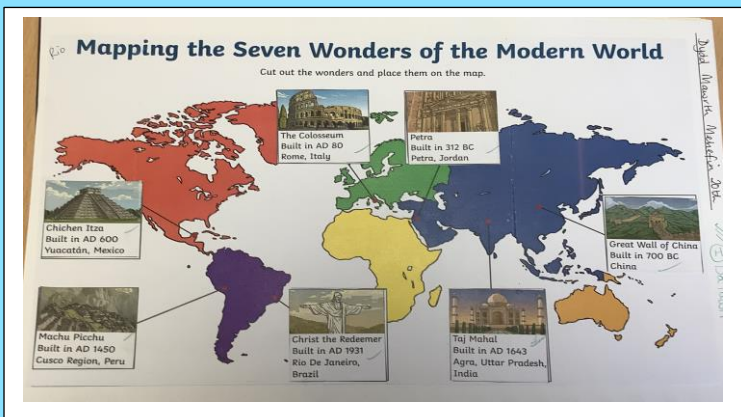
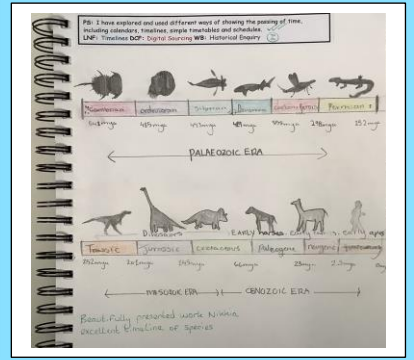
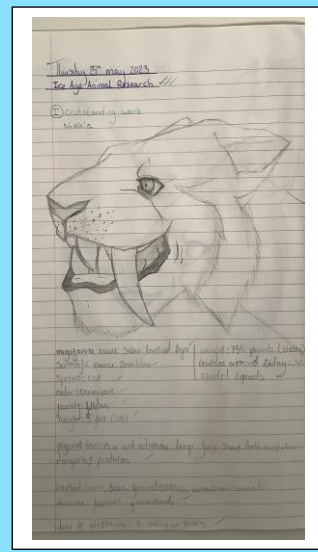


We have ended the term by exploring different kinds of rocks, preparing and of course enjoying rocky roads!

Year 7:

We started our term with the theme, The Land Before Time. In this topic we looked at all things dinosaurs including the, Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous period as well as the Ice Age. We learnt about the evolution of species through time, creating timelines, how dinosaurs lived and survived during their life time and what their main diet consisted of e.g. herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We created play dough models of dinosaur fossils, using a variety of tools and techniques to ensure scientific accuracy. We created a fact file on the Sabretooth Tiger, one of the most feared and deadly animals to live during the Ice Age. As a class we decided that Jurassic Park the movie would be the best and most entertaining way to learn and engage with this topic rather than a class novel. A popular choice between pupils and staff!

This term wasn't all about dinosaurs though, we also looked at some of "History's Greatest Mysteries." We particularly enjoyed investigating the Amber Room and the mystery that surrounds its whereabouts today. Pupils enjoyed our class debate on whether it was still in existence or whether it had actually been destroyed during WWII as some historians believe. In this term, we also celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III and created murals to celebrate all things British.



In the second part of the summer term we changed our topic to, The Land of Make Believe. During this topic, pupil voice played a massive part in the direction we took as a class for our learning. As part of a discussion over the breakfast table during the first week of term, regarding the Great Pyramids of Giza. The ideas and discussion began to flow about the 7 Ancient Wonders of the World, and how only one is still in existence today. Which posed the question where they actually real or just make believe? This formed the bases of our enquiries for the term, as we study the history of the 7 ancient wonders, identify why they were all in such close proximity and how they have disappeared from the modern world. Naturally, we wanted to move onto the 7 modern wonders of the world and we mapped these to see how close they were to Wales. We then focused on the largest, The Great Wall of China, creating a database on visitor numbers, comparing this to attractions in Wales. As you can imagine the numbers of visitors differed staggeringly!

In the finally weeks of the half term, we have been studying the phenome which is Pokémon. We have looked at some classic episodes, described the features of Pokémon using our literacy skills. Drawn sketches of Pokémon like Pikachu and Charizard and even created our Pokémon. The pupils have loved bringing in their collection to share and trade with each other, learning some important life skills, such as sharing, fairness and negotiation. This term we have also visited Tredegar Leisure Centre for swimming sessions on a Monday and used the kitchen in school every Wednesday to do some baking, our particular, favourite was the white chocolate Biscoff Slice!

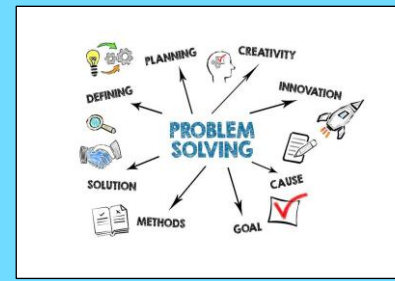
Year 9

Finance, Saving, Investing, and Entrepreneurial Skills

We've learned about the importance of financial literacy and how to make smart financial decisions. We've also explored the different ways to save and invest money, and even had the opportunity to start our own businesses.

Teamwork, Critical Thinking, Communication, and Listening

We've learned the importance of working together as a team, and how to think critically and solve problems. We've also developed our communication and listening skills, which are essential for success in the workplace.



The Chill Zone

On Fridays, we have a reward session called "The Chill Zone" where we can play games and interact with each other. This is a great way to relax and de-stress after a long week of school.

Coding and Minecraft Education

We've learned to code and build a community through Minecraft Education. This has been a fun and engaging way to learn about computer science and problem-solving.

We've had a great year learning about the world of work, and we're excited to use what we've learned to make smart decisions about our future.

Stay tuned for more updates from Year 9!

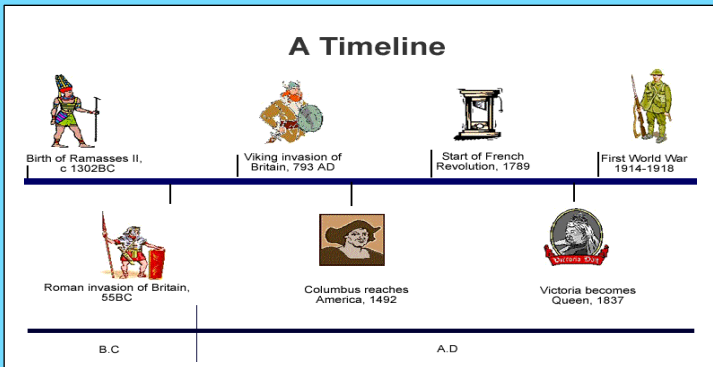
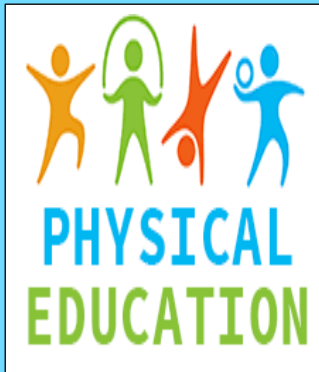
Year 10

In Year 10, we are working towards being the best possible version of ourselves that we can be. We embed and develop skills which will support us life-long. We engage with The Princess Trust, work towards relevant GCSEs and other qualifications, as well as, vocational experiences through work experiences etc.

Everyday, we have the opportunity for physical education and explore strategies for physical, mental and emotional growth. Through weekly food technology sessions, we have been building our awareness around a healthy and balanced life style; as well as, becoming more independent and planning and preparing a meal.



YOUTH CAN DO IT



Through our most recent topic, Timelines, we research and choose key figures or events in history which we resonated with. Through these we have been exploring how events of the past shape our future. For example, Julius Caesar developed our curiosity around politics, policy and leadership styles. The Jarrow Crusades helped to foster the change in attitudes which prepared the way to social reform.

School Uniform:

New uniform to start in September

As voted for by Parents / Carers and through pupil consultation the new school uniform has been decided and will come into use from the start of the New school year in September

Examples of the New uniform

White Polo Shirt



Black Jumper



Dark Grey Joggers / Smart trousers



Black shoes, dark preferably black Coat / Jacket

There is not a requirement to have the school Logo on the Polo shirt or the Jumper

Girls are able to wear knee length dark grey skirts.

New School Website

The new school website is up and running.

There is a lot of information about the school, a School calendar and also some useful information

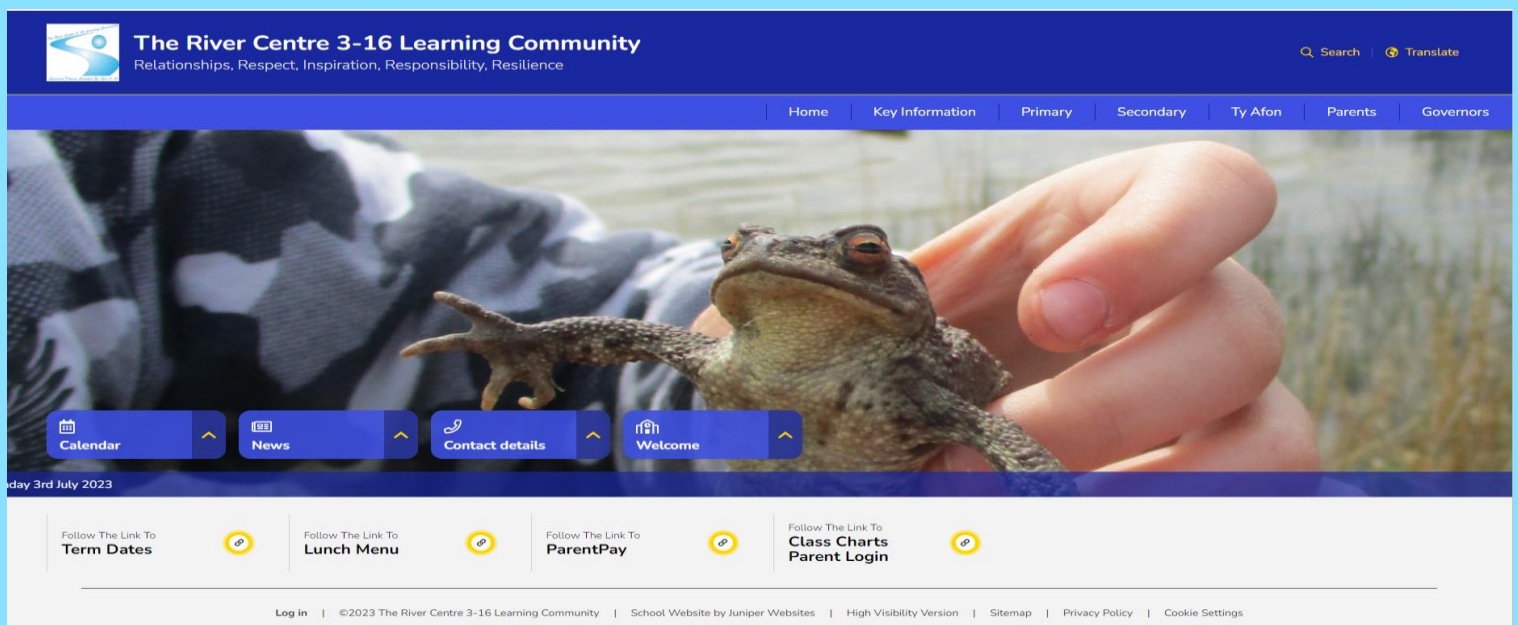
The website can be found at either:

www.trc3-16.co.uk

or

www.therivercentre.org.uk

(A screen shot of the front page can be seen below)



The screenshot shows the website for The River Centre 3-16 Learning Community. The header features the school logo and name, along with the tagline "Relationships, Respect, Inspiration, Responsibility, Resilience". Navigation links include Home, Key Information, Primary, Secondary, Ty Afon, Parents, and Governors. A search and translate function is also present. The main content area displays a large image of a hand holding a frog. Below the image are four buttons: Calendar, News, Contact details, and Welcome. The footer contains links to Term Dates, Lunch Menu, ParentPay, and Class Charts Parent Login, along with a date indicator "Monday 3rd July 2023" and a page number "1".