



Ysgol Pontrobert “Ymdrech a Lwydda” Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2013-14

You are invited to discuss this governors' report and the role of the governing body on-

Monday, November 24th at 6:30 pm at the school.

Introduction

This report covers the school year from September 2013 through to July 2014. This has been an eventful year with children competing and excelling in various sporting, musical and cultural activities. Academic results were also very good where we saw end of Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 attaining 100% in their core subjects.

We as governors and staff of Ysgol Pontrobert are proud of the pupils' achievements and the special ethos there is within the school. We are proud of the pupils' ability to co-operate confidently and their positive attitude towards learning. This is a Welsh medium school and we foster the use of the Welsh language both within and outside the classroom. The children are encouraged to continue their education through the medium of Welsh at secondary level and once again 100% of our Key Stage 2 leavers have proceeded to do this. This year 50% of year 6 pupils proceeded to Caereinion High School and 50% to Llanfyllin High School. Full support is given to parents who are not fluent Welsh speakers.

Pupils within the school are part of two key stages.

Curriculum Organisation and Teaching Methods

Foundation Phase (Ages 4-7)

At this stage the main building blocks of learning experiences are laid. The emphasis will be on developing essential skills of communication, literacy and numeracy. By providing a broad rich curriculum using an integrated approach, we aim to develop the children's interests whilst also recognising their level of maturity. These are the important years where children learn how to observe, listen, respond and develop not only as individuals but also as caring members of the community.

Key Stage 2 (Ages 7-11)

The essential skills of communication, literacy and numeracy will still be the central focus of the curriculum. As their understanding of the different disciplines increases, more time will be given to science and the foundation subjects. The curriculum will take place within integrated themes where it is meaningful and relevant. The school plans according to the enquiry approach, as advised by the Powys Educational Support Team.

The Governing Body

The Governing Body of Ysgol Pontrobert is made up entirely of volunteers, who give their time freely to support the school. They ensure that it continues to provide a first class education in a safe, secure and happy environment for your children. The governors have specific responsibilities for subject areas according to their interest and expertise.

The current Governing Body composition is as follows:

Parent Governors	Term of Office Remaining
Mrs Sally Birchall (Chair)	Penylan Uchaf 2013-17 Meifod SY 22 6YB 01938 500 244
Mr Arwyn Jones (Vice Chairman)	2010-14
Mr Mike Lincoln	2012-16
Local Education Authority Governors	
Councillor Barry Thomas	2012-16
Mr Gareth Jones	2012-16
Community Council Governor	
Mrs Llinos Lewis	2011-15
Community Governors	
Mr Alan Broughall	2013-17
Mr.David Evans (minor authority)	2013-17
Staff Governors	
Miss Llinos Gruffudd(teacher)	2011-15
Head teacher	
Mrs Catherine Parry	N/A

The next election of a parent governor will be held in the week beginning December 8th, 2014.

Annual Governors' Meeting for Parents (25/11/13) held in the school..

A meeting was held in the school to discuss the Annual Governors' Report to the parents where year 6 pupils also presented a power-point presentation on their favourite school activities for the year,

Governors present-Sally Birchall, Arwyn Jones, Alan Broughall,Llinos Lewis, Mike Lincoln,Gareth Jones, David Evans, Barry Thomas, Llinos Edwards

School staff-Llinos Edwards, Catherine Parry

Number of parents present-7. No representatives from the LEA.

Matters discussed-headteacher's report, school budget, plans for launching a new school logo, School Improvement Plan.

Clerk to the Governing Body

Ms Janet Roberts, 6 Nantllachar, Llanwddyn, Powys O1691 870636

Both the Clerk and the Chairman can be contacted via the school.

Finance

The school governors have an increasingly important role to play in determining that school finances are spent effectively for the welfare of the pupils.

Funding

As a school we are very lucky to have support of generous and hard-working friends and parents. Through events such as the annual promise auction and duck race funds raised have greatly enriched pupils' experiences. The money raised has been spent on activities and sundries such as-

◆	Transport costs for educational visits and swimming	£2,133.30
◆	Curriculum resources inc. white board	£3,193.00
◆	Urdd membership for all pupils	£174.00
◆	Grass cutting	£1,215.00
◆	Eisteddfod Expenses	£116.00
◆	Musical instrument repairs	£126.77
◆	Materials for school yard clean up	£281.41
◆	School Uniform	£616.60

Expenditure

Expenditure summary at Ysgol Pontrobert- see appendix 1

Grants/Donations

No payments of travelling and subsistence expenses were paid to members of the governing body during 2013-2014

During 2013/14 the school was awarded a Pupil Deprivation Grant of £2,250.00 which was used on extra classroom support to develop Mathematics in both classes.

Staff Training and Development

There were a number of INSET (In Service Education & Training) days during the past year, which were dedicated to develop teachers' roles as coordinators and to develop the self-evaluation process in every subject across the curriculum. Greater focus in the academic year was placed upon moderating work at the end of KS2 and Foundation Phase within the cluster and the implementation of the LNF.

The governors and clerk also attended various training courses on matters relating to child protection, budget management, data, inclusion and pupil support.

School Development Plan

The main areas to be developed within the Development Plan were as follows with significant progress made in each of them as detailed:

Target	Progress
To raise standards of spelling in both languages.	93% of all pupils increased their English spelling standardised scores.

<p>Develop Welsh and English reading.</p> <p>100% to achieve level 4+ and 50% to achieve level 5 at end of KS2. 100% to achieve outcome 5+ and 50% to achieve outcome 6 at end of Foundation Phase .</p>	<p>All targets met and exceeded.</p>
<p>Develop Welsh oracy across both Key Stages-100% to achieve level 4+ and 50% to achieve level 5 at end of KS2. 100% to achieve outcome 5+ and 50% to achieve outcome 6 at end of Foundation Phase.</p>	<p>All targets met .</p>
<p>Develop elements of problem solving in Maths-100% to achieve level 4+ and 32% to achieve level 5+ at end of Key Stage 2. 100% to achieve outcome 5+ at end of Foundation Phase.</p>	<p>This was achieved.</p>
<p>Build on the partnership between the pupils and the GB</p>	<p>Members of the GB have made numbers of visits yo school and took an active part in changing the school logo.</p>

Additional Learning Needs

Excellent support is given to pupils with special educational needs as well as the More Able and Talented. The needs of pupils with additional learning needs are recognised early and this intervention helps pupils participate fully in lessons. Pupils have shown progress and have gained confidence in their academic performance as a result of this additional support. We continued to use Springboard, Catch Up and Dyfal Donc . We have an excellent staff:pupil ratio enabling us to cater for all learning needs.

Sport Provision

Sport is covered in the curriculum as well as in many extra-curricular activities. We regularly use the community hall and community park for our sporting activities.(see also "School Clubs" and "Successes").The school provides 10 swimming lessons a term in the Autumn and Summer terms in the Flash, Welshpool. KS2 pupils have an hour a week of Physical Education and the Foundation Phase have two sessions of half an hour.

Access

As a school we welcome all pupils. All pupils are treated equally whatever their ability, disability, race or gender. In consultation with governors, parents, staff and past pupils an accessibility plan has been published, which is available for anyone who wishes to read the document.

Under the Strategic Equality Plan a disability access plan is available at the school along with the objectives set under this plan. A new door has been installed which enables access for wheel chairs.

Security

Security is a constant issue for the governing body and is always under review to identify where improvements can be made. Every visitor signs in and out of the visitor book and are asked to wear visitor badges. The school is locked at all times and the main entrance is controlled with a key pad. The fire alarm is tested to conform with statutory requirements, a drill is undertaken every half term and the system checked weekly. School gates are always closed and there are signs to remind everyone of this.

Sites & Buildings

An annual health and safety review is undertaken that highlights areas of concern/need for improvement. The governing body is grateful for the support of the Friends of the School in holding an annual clean up event. This saves the school a great deal in maintenance costs.

Estyn

Ysgol Pontrobert was last inspected in October 2008. The governors are proud of the findings of the inspection that reflects the outstanding work that takes place at Ysgol Pontrobert. We are particularly proud of the children, their efforts and successes in all aspects of the schools life and work.

We are delighted that the school's particular care, industrious and friendly ethos is recognized together with the pupils' outstanding behaviour. We delight in pupils' ability to work together confidently in a variety of situations and of their very positive attitudes towards learning.

The school is proud of the praise given to the quality of teaching, the curricular provision and the broad experiences presented to the pupils.

The skills of the teachers and learning assistants and the commitment of the governors were recognised by the inspection team. The very good progress, with some outstanding features, seen in pupils' literacy, ICT, numeracy and bilingual skills throughout the curriculum were acknowledged. www.estyn.gov.uk

Book Scrutiny

A thorough book scrutiny was undertaken by Powys Education Authority in May. It highlighted excellent practices in both Key stages and the school has been named by Powys LEA as an example of good practice. A number of staff from other schools have been to look at the good practice and records are kept of these visits.

School Clubs

The School boasts a number of after school and lunchtime activities for pupils.

The clubs on offer in the academic year 2013-14 included;

- Urdd
- Dragon Sport (netball, hockey, football, rounders)
- Eco Club

All pupils are offered brass and woodwind lessons with the brass lessons being paid for by the Friends of the School.

This year Key Stage 2 pupils attended a residential course in Glan Llyn and Llangrannog. Pupils participated in a range of outward bound activities in both camps while also building on their Welsh language skills.

Successes

As mentioned, extra curricular activities at Ysgol Pontrobert add a wealth of opportunities for our pupils. Here are some of our achievements-

- Musical Craft and Cultural Events

The School Eisteddfod in March saw every child take part on stage to a very high standard. Pupils had the opportunity to submit written off stage items.

In the Urdd area Eisteddfod many pupils took part with a significant number of children continuing to county level.

In the county area Eisteddfod the school had record successes with the band, instrumental ensemble, parti unsain, recitation group, Casi and Anni's duet and Emma's brass solo gaining first prizes.

In the national Urdd eisteddfod the six groups of competitors ably represented Ysgol Pontrobert.

- Sporting Events

Pupils enjoyed taking part in a Tag rugby event at Cobra, Meifod in September.

Our rounders team came third in the Urdd county competition.

Our netball team competed in the Urdd area league .

Many pupils from year 3 upwards competed in the area WASPs cross country competition.

We took part in the football fun day at Ysgol Pennant where the youngest team of girls won their competition.

We hosted the area sports this year when Llanerfyl, Dyffryn Banw, Meifod and Castell Caereinion schools attended. Once again we won many prizes during the day.

Jack and Kira continued to have their successes in the WASPs swimming galas

Attendance

We are very proud of our pupils' excellent attendance and we have proved that there is a very close connection between high attendance and high educational standards. The school has been in the highest quartile for half day attendance achieved by the pupils for the last five years. This is exceptional. The school continues to place great emphasis on the importance of regular and punctual attendance at school and we are grateful to all parents and carers for their support in this area. In order to reduce the level of unauthorized absences a letter has been sent to all families stressing the importance of full attendance which has been reiterated in the School Prospectus.

For the last year our attendance figures were as follows:

Attendance = 97.6%

Authorised absence = 2.18% (Target 3%). (Authorised absences include illness & family holidays)

Unauthorised absence = 0.22%.

School Policies

All school policies are reviewed by the governing body over a three year programme. During the year the following policies were reviewed /adopted:-

Anti-bullying	Attendance
Charging and Remissions	Child Protection
Performance Management	Complaints
Curriculum	E-safety
Equal Opportunities	Inclement Weather
Food and Fitness	ICT
Health and Safety	Whistleblowing
LNF	Photographing,Recording and Filming
Performance and Capability Policy and Procedure	Teachers' pay
Intervention , Use of Physical Force	Powys' Smoke-free in the workplace
Risk assessment	Safeguarding
School Letting	School Uniform
Sex and Relationships Education	

As a result of reviewing the Sex and Relationships Education policy it was passed that we will be adopting the Cynnal programme "Growing Up" which is being promoted by Powys County Council and Wales.

Results of National Curriculum Assessment

The most recent school comparative information in relation to the school's performance in end of Foundation Phase and Key Stage assessments published on DEWi are as follows.

Results of National Curriculum Assessment 2014 KS2

	Welsh	English	Maths	Science	CSI
School	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Powys	92.9%	90.3%	90.3%	92.1%	88.3%
Wales	88.11%	88.4%	88.9%	90.3%	86.1%
Family of Schools	81.5%	88%	89.2%	91.6%	86.7%

Level 5+

	Welsh	English	Maths	Science
School	50%	66.79%	50%	66.7%
Powys	42.4%	42.6%	40%	42.7%
Wales	33.9%	38%	38%	38.4%
Family of Schools	25.9%	34.9%	25.3%	28.9%

Results of National Curriculum Assessment 2014- Foundation Phase

	Language, Literacy and Communication Skills	Personal and social Development, Well-being and cultural diversity	Mathematical Development	Foundation Phase indicator
School	100%	100%	100%	100%
Powys	91.6%	96.2%	91.3%	89.6%
Wales	89.8%	94.2%	88.7%	85.2%
Family of Schools	85.4%	97.8%	88.8%	84.3%

Outcome 6+

	Language, Literacy and Communication Skills	Personal and social Development, Well-being and cultural diversity	Mathematical Development
School	50%	100%	0%
Powys	37.2%	60.2%	33.7%

Wales	32.5%	51.5%	30.3%
Family of Schools	23.6%	51.7%	19.1%

Prospectus

Some details have been changed since the prospectus was last published. These include:

- Staffing changes
- Governor changes
- Results of end of key stage results.
- Attendance data

The prospectus is continually updated.

The Community

As a Governing Body the steps we have taken to develop and strengthen our school's link with the community include:

- Our Harvest Festival Service raised money for Cancer Research this year.
- At Christmas our school band led carol singing around the tree in the village followed by a successful school fair in the village hall. All the Key Stage 2 children ran their own stalls as part of their Business and Enterprise project.
- Members of the community joined us at our Christmas Concert and school Eisteddfod.
- We regularly visit and perform for the elderly citizens in the village.
- Many year 3 and 4 girls performed in the Floral dance in Newtown as part of the inauguration of the 2015, Meifod National Eisteddfod.
- We have close links with the Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi (our pre school children)
- Once again we were well supported at the annual Promise Auction by friends and parents.
- The School Nurse came to speak to the parents about nits.
- Regular contact with the Police continues .
- All pupils worked on the "Arts Connection" project to produce the recycling mural.
- The Fire Service worked with the pupils on safety in the home.

The school was active in raising money for charities e.g

Cancer Research	£ 182
Christmas Jumper Appeal	£52.50
Philippines Appeal	£158
Sports Relief	£491
Help for Heroes	£ 149

The Eco Council

The school Eco Council meets regularly and is responsible for encouraging and recording items that are recycled within school. Clothes, toner, plastics, cardboard, paper, aluminum cans and fruit peelings are recycled. Waste water is stored in the garden. Fruit and vegetables collected in the garden were sold with the Harvest Festival produce and proceeds made donated to Cancer Research.

The School Council

A hard working committee was elected in September 2013. Councillors regularly meet and organize events within the school and communicate with the wider community.

Healthy Eating

A great emphasis is given on healthy eating in the school. A selection of fruit is on offer for every child during morning break; healthy snacks and drinks are promoted in the pupils' packed lunches and cold drinking water is always available for the pupils.

Toilet Facilities

Provision for separate boys and girls toilets is in place at the school and are cleaned daily by the school cleaner.

Appendices

The following are attached as appendices for your information:

1. Budget report
2. Term dates and calendar of events for current academic year 2013-14

School Session Times

Registration	08:55
Morning	09:00 - 10:40
	10:55 - 12:00
Afternoon	13:00 - 14:15
	14:30 - 15:30

Agenda for Governor's Annual Report to Parents

1. Presentation by year 6
2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting to Parents 2012-3
3. Discuss the Governor's report and discharge by the GB, the head teacher and the Local Authority of their functions in relation to the school.
4. Matters arising