Meet the Teachers
Dosbarth 2

2026-2027

Staff in year 2

Class Teacher: Mrs Xiberras

LSA: Miss Morris

PPA (Tuesday): Miss McFadyen

Overview of term

- Our topic is ‘Big Ideas, Big Changes’

  By the end of this topic, pupils will have explored how big ideas and inventions have changed the way people live, work and communicate. Through learning about significant inventors, including Alexander Graham Bell, and investigating the development of technology such as telephones and computers, learners will develop an understanding of how innovation can transform society. They will explore the properties and uses of different materials, considering why inventors choose particular materials when designing products. Through practical problem-solving, designing and creating their own inventions, pupils will recognise that creativity, curiosity, and perseverance can lead to meaningful change.

- See the website page for more details

Overview of the school day

8:45 - 8:55am - Children arrive and take part in early morning activities

9.00 - 9:05am - Register

9:05 – 9:25am - Collective Worship

9:25- 10:30am – Language, Literacy & Communication

10:30 – 10:45am - Play Time

10:45 – 11 - Helpwr Heddiw

11 - 12 - Mathematics and Numeracy

12 – 1pm - Lunch

1.10 - 1:40pm –RWI Phonics

1:40 - 2:10 - Guided Group Reading (G.G.R.)

2:10 – 3:15pm - Inquiry Theme/PE/RE/Welsh

3:15pm - Home Time

PE – Tuesday (please wear the kit to school). These lessons may be outdoors so please dress appropriately. See our class page for further info on PE kits.

Sharing Learning

- Website - St Mellons Church in Wales Primary School – Home (Click Learning > Class Pages > to find our class page).
- Instagram - *await further details*
- Curriculum newsletters will be shared termly - links are sent through Schoop and displayed on the website. Schoop Code 13339
- Whole School newsletters will be shared regularly – a link will be sent through Schoop.
- New Google Classrooms have been set up for this academic year. Home Learning Activities will be shared with your children there.

Reading

- Children will read to an adult in school at least once a week
- Guided Group Reading - daily
- Importance of reading aloud regularly at home and at school (We recommend at least 20 minutes per day)
- Scheme readers – Children will be given an appropriate level book to read. We aim to change this once a week
- Oxford Owl E-Books are free to use – see our class page for more details.
- We use the Read, Write, Inc Scheme across the school to teach phonics and sounds.

School Values and Rights

Each half term we will explore a different Christian value in our class worships, our RVE lessons and throughout the school day.

Our Christian Value for this half term is Thankfulness.

We are a Bronze Awarded Rights Respecting School and promote Children's Rights.

Homework

- Daily reading (10 minutes a day)
- Weekly homework – Numeracy / Literacy alternated each week. Usually based on something we have learned that week. Set on Friday, due in on Wednesday. Please submit via Google Classroom.
- Termly homework – grid on website/ Google Classroom. Choose at least one activity to complete by the end of each term – to present to the class.

Daily snack

- We are proud to be a healthy school so we please ask that you send your child to school with a healthy snack (fruit or veg) to eat at break time
- Please also remember to bring in a bottle of water, labelled with your name
- IMPORTANT: No nuts due to nut allergies in the school

Appointments

- Parent consultation – Parents will be sent information on how to book appointments nearer the time. Parent consultations will be held on 19th and 20th October 2026. These appointments will be in person.
- Social media - zero tolerance policy. Please do NOT try to contact the member of staff personally or via social media. Please refer to parent safety policy.
- Please bring any concerns directly to the class teacher. Please ensure you seek support from the class teachers before bringing it to the senior leadership team. Class teachers and teaching assistants are your first point of contact.
- Office Telephone: 02920 794195
- Email: contact us through using the direct messaging facility on Google Classroom. If your matter requires attention from the Leadership Team, please use whole school email address – stmellonsprm@cardiff.gov.uk.

Uniform/Resources

Our Uniform Policy is available on the website, but please can we kindly remind you of the uniform expectations for all learners:

- Grey trousers / skirt / pinafore/ shorts
- White polo shirt/ shirt
- Navy blue sweatshirt / cardigan (preferably with school
- badge)
- Grey socks / tights or white socks
- Black shoes

Please label ALL items of clothing to avoid getting lost.

As a school, we provide learners with all resources they need. Children should not be bringing any items from home into school, including toys, trading cards, plushies, etc. If these are seen in school, teachers will keep them safe and return at the end of the day to avoid anything getting misplaced or broken.

Friends of St Mellons

- Become a volunteer for our school to help us develop our community ethos and raise funds for resources for our children.
- A range of opportunities such as sharing ideas for new events, supporting a school based event, shopping for stock for a fundraising event, collecting donations for raffle prizes, volunteering in our allotment or promoting an event.
- Parents, grandparents and carers are all welcome to join the group.
- If you would like to become a member of the 'Friends of St Mellons', please email the school office – stmellonsprm@cardiff.gov.uk

Main Office

This year, we have some exciting changes and new faces in our main Reception area. All our parents, guardians and visitors will be greeted by Mrs Catherine Pearce who is our new School Administrator. Mrs Pearce will be working alongside Mrs McEvoy.
Mrs Pearce will be working closely with Mrs McEvoy and the leadership team to ensure the smooth running of the school day and will be available to answer any questions or queries you may have.

THE SAINTS FEDERATION

INCLUSIVE ATTENDANCE

Miss School? Miss out!

Our Attendance Officer is here to help.

Scott Norman
Cluster Attendance Officer
Email: normans22@hwbcymru.net

ATTENDANCE IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

You can help us by:

- ✓ Ensuring your child arrives on time by 8:55am.
- ✓ Contacting the school by 9am if your child is not going to be in with a clear reason why.
- ✓ Ensuring your child attends school every day unless there is an unavoidable reason.
- ✓ Reading our half termly attendance newsletter to stay up to date.

BRONZE CERTIFIED

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

- Children learn best when they attend regularly.
- Good attendance supports academic success, friendships, and wellbeing.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Attendance below 90% is considered persistent absence (19 days)
- Lateness after 30 minutes is recorded as unauthorised absence

TIER 1 – LOW RISK OF PERSISTENT ABSENCE

0–9 DAYS MISSED

Universal Attendance Offer – What every child and family can expect, every day

- ✓ Warm welcomes and positive relationships
- ✓ Clear routines and high expectations
- ✓ A safe, inclusive environment where children feel they belong
- ✓ Engaging learning that encourages participation and success
- ✓ Prompt support when attendance concerns emerge
- ✓ Attendance monitored as part of our safeguarding responsibility

★ Most pupils remain within Tier 1 support.

TIER 2 – AT RISK OF PERSISTENT ABSENCE

10–18 DAYS MISSED

- ✓ Contact home
- ✓ Issue a support questionnaire to understand barriers to attendance
- ✓ Identify what is helping and what is making attendance difficult
- ✓ Agree support where needed
- ✓ School Attendance Officer involved

Working Together to Improve Attendance

The questionnaire helps us understand factors such as illness, anxiety, friendships, routines, transport, wellbeing and family circumstances so we can provide the right support early.

TIER 3 – PERSISTENT ABSENCE

19+ DAYS MISSED

(Approximately 10% of the school year)

- ✓ Hold attendance review meetings
- ✓ Create an attendance support plan
- ✓ Involve specialist services where appropriate
- ✓ Support continues throughout
- ✓ School Attendance Officer involved

Working Together to Improve Attendance

A review questionnaire helps us understand what support has already been tried, what is working, what barriers remain and what further help is needed.

We will always listen, understand and work together to remove barriers and improve attendance.

MENU OF SUPPORT OFFERED

Support is tailored to each child and family's needs.

- Meetings with school staff
- Attendance support plan
- Emotional wellbeing & anxiety support
- Morning routines support
- Breakfast club
- Visual timetables & routines
- School nurse support
- Multi-agency support
- Named trusted adult
- Transport support
- Support with learning
- Referral to Family Gateway
- School nurse support
- Multi-agency support

CELEBRATING GOOD ATTENDANCE

- Attendopoly game
  Engaging classes with fun challenges and rewards.
- Attendance Commitment Awards
  Celebrating pupils who show great commitment.
- Class shout-outs
  Positive messages and recognition shared at school and at home.
- Positive messages home
  We love to share good news with families.

Every day in school is a step towards a brighter future!

Our approach reflects the All Wales Attendance Framework, Cardiff Council's Code of Conduct and the principles of Inclusive Attendance.

Upcoming dates

7th September – Whole School Christian Values Day Celebration - Thankfulness
After School Clubs begin tonight 3.15pm - 4.20pm
9th September – 1-3 pm - Family Learning Sessions, 'Bright Sparks' Years 4 -6
9th September - Meet the Teacher sessions for Parents (2 sessions)
Session 1 at 3:30pm Session 2 at 4pm
16th September - Judaism Faith Whole School Celebration Day

17th September - Individual and Siblings Photographs

21st - 25th September - *Fairtrade Week*
22nd September – 9.15am RWI (Phonics and Reading) Workshop for N- Year 4 Parents
24th September – European Languages Day Celebrations in School
25th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning (***families welcome)***
28th September - Harvest Assembly for pupils and Food Bank Collection
1st October – *Black History Month*
5th October - Flu Immunisations Reception - Year 6
7th October – Y1 and Y2 Kerbcraft Pedestrian Training for Children
9th October - World Mental Health Celebration Day
14th October - Y2 Kerbcraft Pedestrian Training on road
15th October – Autumn Disco - Rec-Y3 (3:30-4:40pm) & Y4-Y6 (4:45 – 5:45pm)
19th October - Rags to Riches Collection
19th -23rd October - Scholastic Book Fayre – opening times to be confirmed
19th and 20th October – Parents Evenings, 3.30-6pm (in person)
23rd October - Year 6 Family Worship at 9.15am (***families welcome)***

Online Safety

Children are now spending more time online than ever before. National Online Safety have put together some great parent guides to staying safe on TikTok, PS4, Instagram, Zoom and much more. Visit their website for more information https://nationalonlinesafety.com/training.

Any questions?

- If you should need to speak to the class teacher at all please either book an appointment, wait until the end of the day and all children have left school, or contact them via the class email:
- class2@stmellonsprm.cardiff.sch.uk