



Ysgol Gynradd Knelston

'Dream, Believe, Achieve Together'

Newyddion - Friday 14th November



Annwyl Parents / Carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break! It's hard to believe how much has happened in just two weeks. We began with parent consultations on the very first day back—thank you to everyone who attended. We hope you found the meetings both helpful and informative.

Since then, it's been a very busy and exciting start to the half-term. We've enjoyed an inspirational visit from Olympic gold medallist Ellie Simmonds, taken part in a number of class trips, and have already begun planning our Christmas celebrations. The children are buzzing with excitement as we start thinking about festive activities, decorations, and performances. It's wonderful to see them so enthusiastic and ready to take part in all the seasonal fun.

There has also been plenty of building work taking place around the school. Our Foundation Learning area now has a brand-new floor, and the new roof is almost complete. We're particularly excited to see the finished transformation once the updated cladding and roofing are in place—the Foundation building is really starting to take shape.

This week we've also been taking part in Anti-Bullying Week, focusing on the importance of kindness, respect, and celebrating what makes each of us unique. The school was a sea of odd socks as pupils and staff joined in to share the message that it's okay to be different. Through discussions and creative activities, we reinforced the importance of standing up against bullying.

Today is *Knelston Does Strictly* for Children in Need, and the children and staff looked absolutely amazing arriving in their outfits this morning—I don't think I've ever seen so much glitter! It promises to be a fantastic event for a wonderful cause.

There's plenty more news and updates in this newsletter, so I'll keep this message brief. Thank you, as always, for your continued support—it truly makes a difference.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Paynter

UNCRC Right of the Month

School Aim of the Month



Article 19:

The right to be safe



"Trust"

Patrwm y Pythefnos - Welsh Patterns to share at home:



Oes ... gyda ti?

Have you got ... ?

Oes. / Nag oes. _____.

Yes/No _____.



We are looking for children who can use these patterns (and others) in school.

Acts of kindness

Today, one amazing Year 4 pupil, Joanie Jones will be doing something truly incredible—she's cutting off a big portion of her hair to donate to The Little Princess Trust, helping children who need wigs during their toughest times.

This act of kindness is a beautiful example of compassion and courage, and we'd love for you to be part of it!

✂ The big haircut happens tonight in Fall Bay Sports Club at 7pm!

There will also be a raffle, and every donation—big or small—will make a difference.

If you'd like to support Joanie's inspiring journey, here's the link:

https://fundraise.littleprincesses.org.uk/fundraising/joanies-fundraising-page2025?fbclid=IwVERDUAN616pleHRuA2FlbQlXMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZAo2Njl4NTY4Mzc5AAEers5dKBR1yTWqw0v8Lbu1oPB9Xcbb2-IUHRXAPK6ptVNElaaSfC34fMs7XMY_aem_PtXXMrupsa3IM-elbYLHoQ



Surprise Visitor

We kicked off our return to school with an incredible and inspiring visit from a very special guest! A huge thank you to the PTA for making this opportunity possible.

Last week, children from Years 2-6 enjoyed an assembly with British Paralympic Champion Ellie Simmonds!

Ellie spoke about chasing dreams, staying determined, and working hard at the things that bring you joy. She shared stories from her swimming career, her experiences at the Paralympics, her achievements, and even her time on Strictly Come Dancing!

She also explained the differences between the Olympics and Paralympics, and brought along some of her medals for the children to see. Did you know Paralympic gold, silver and bronze medals make different sounds when shaken? This helps blind athletes know which medal they've won!

It was a memorable visit, and we hope the children left feeling inspired and full of confidence to pursue the things they enjoy.



New Flooring!



Our amazing PTA have done it again! They don't just fund the fun extras—they help with the essentials too.

The entrance to our Foundation Phase building had worn flooring that was starting to become a safeguarding concern. Thanks to our incredible PTA, Gower Flooring stepped in over half-term and installed a brand-new floor. It looks fantastic, is safer, and much cleaner for the children—used not just as an entrance, but also during snack time.

A huge thank you to the PTA and to our whole community who support their fundraising efforts. Your dedication makes a real difference to our school every single day!

Swansea Council's Caroller's Cabin!

Knelston has secured a fantastic slot at Swansea Council's Caroller's Cabin!

A group of children will be performing in the Caroller's Cabin, located within the outdoor Christmas Market on Oxford Street, on Friday 12th December at 1pm.

We will be taking children from Years 2-6, and any child who would like to participate must attend Friday lunchtime choir club with Mr Smith.

We're really looking forward to this special festive performance and hope to see many of you there to cheer on our talented singers!



Christmas Trips!

We're thrilled to announce the Christmas trips for the last week of term are all set!

CHRISTMAS TRIPS!



YEARS 2-6
HOME ALONE 2
WEDNESDAY 17TH
DECEMBER

NURSERY - YEAR 1
COOKIES, MILK AND
STORY TIME WITH SANTA
THURSDAY 18TH
DECEMBER



Wednesday 17th December - Years 2-6 will be heading back to the Taliesin. Last year they enjoyed Home Alone 1, so this year we're booked in to see Home Alone 2!

Thursday 18th December - Nursery to Year 1 will be spending the morning at the Oxwich Bay Hotel for a magical morning with Santa! The children will enjoy milk, cookies, and story time, and of course receive a special gift from the big man in red. A massive thank you to Oxwich Bay Hotel for welcoming us and helping make this experience so special.

All offers are now live on iPay, so don't forget to secure your child's place!

Christmas Concert - New Venue, New Excitement!

This year, our Christmas Concert is a little different! Instead of the school hall, we'll be holding a traditional carol service at Port Eynon Church, giving the children a chance to perform in a beautiful, festive setting.

- 📍 Venue: Port Eynon Church
- 📅 Date: Wednesday, 3rd December
- 🎵 Performances: Two services on the day (1.30pm & 5.30pm)
- 👥 Who's involved: Children from all year groups

Special Dress Rehearsal: Families and other relatives are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal on Tuesday 2nd December at 10:30am - free of charge! This is a perfect opportunity for grandparents, siblings, or other family members to see the children perform before the main event.

Tickets are now live on iPay and currently limited to 2 per family. For additional tickets, send a Dojo message with your interest and preferred time slot to join the reserve list.

We can't wait to celebrate the festive season with you and see the children shine in this special new setting!

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF KNELSTON CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

PORT EYNON CHURCH, WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

MIDDAY PERFORMANCE 1:30PM

EVENING PERFORMANCE 5:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON IPAY



One Week to Go - Our Annual Christmas Market!



Get ready... Thursday 20th November is our fabulous Christmas Market at school, brilliantly organised by our amazing PTA! Each year it just keeps getting better, and this year promises to be extra special.

Here's a sneak peek of what's in store:

- 🎁 22 local businesses offering incredible gifts for Christmas
- 🎡 PTA tombola, raffles, and school stalls - always a hit!
- 🎮 Year 5/6 Games Room - the children have been busy planning a classroom full of fun games
- 🥖 Hot festive rolls and plenty of delicious desserts
- 🎨 Craft stalls to keep the children entertained
- 🎅 Santa's Grotto - meet the man himself!

A huge thank you to our PTA for all their hard work in making this event possible. Supporting the PTA not only helps fund fantastic events like this, but also makes a real difference to the school and the children's experience every day.

Everyone is welcome! Doors open from 4:30-6:30pm. Come along, join the festive fun, and help support our incredible PTA - we can't wait to see you there!

Remembrance Day 2025

On Tuesday, our **School Council** represented the school at the Remembrance Day service at Scurlage War Memorial. The children read a poem they had written and laid a paper wreath, beautifully created by our Year 5/6 pupils from hand-cut designs.

Back at school, we held a special assembly where pupils in Years 2-6 and staff came together to observe the two-minute silence, taking a quiet moment to reflect and honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served.

It was a meaningful day of remembrance, and the children showed great respect and thoughtfulness throughout the activities.



"We Remember Together"

By Knelston Primary School Council

We walk through fields and feel the breeze,
It rustles leaves and climbs the trees.
The sky above is calm and wide,
We think of those who fought with pride.

We wear our poppies, red and round,
To show respect, without a sound.
We think of people, brave and strong,
Who helped to make right out of wrong.

On Gower's cliffs and sandy shore,
We feel the wind, we hear the roar.
It's like a whisper from the past,
A memory that's made to last.

Our village stands with heads held high,
We look around, we see the sky.

We know that peace was hard to win,
And now it lives in us, within.

We learn at school, we laugh, we play,
Because they gave us each new day.
We thank them with our hearts and minds,
And promise to be brave and kind.

So when the silence comes our way,
We stop and think on this special day.
From Horton's beach to Fall Bay's light,
We all remember — and that feels right.



Welsh Government School Essentials Grant - Don't Miss Out!

Did you know you could receive up to £200 to help cover the cost of essential school items such as uniforms, shoes, coats, school bags, and even support for school activities?

This funding is available through the Welsh Government's School Essentials Grant and is designed to help families with the costs of sending children to school.

To access this grant, you'll need to register for Universal Primary Free School Meals.

Please note: this is different from the free school meals your child may already be receiving.

Why Register?

- ✓ Up to £200 per child to help with school essentials
- ✓ Additional funding for our school - every registration helps us support all pupils better
- ✓ No impact on other benefits - signing up won't affect any other support you receive
- ✓ Quick and easy to apply

Even if your child already receives free school meals, registering is still important to unlock this extra support.

This grant is extremely important for both families and the school. By registering, you're not only helping your own child but also contributing to additional funding that benefits the whole school community.

Don't miss this opportunity to make the start of the school year easier and stress-free - register today!



Claim up to **£200** of additional support for **School Essentials** if your child is eligible for **Free School Meals**.



Friday Enrichment starting back next week

Our enrichment programme is starting again next week, and we can't wait to welcome the children back! It's fantastic to see children from across the school, of all ages, coming together for fun and inspiring activities.

This term, the groups will rotate so all children get the chance to try something new. Here's a quick overview:

- Children are split into four mixed-age groups (Years 1-6).
- Each group takes part in a different enrichment activity each week.
- Over the half term, every child will experience all four activities.
- Non-uniform Fridays continue, making the day practical and fun for the activities.

Our four enrichment activities this term are:

- **Gower Explorers** - thrilling outdoor adventures, including a visit to the Lifeboat.
- **Jewellery Making with Rhossili Gallery & dotJewellery.com** - a truly special opportunity for children to design and create their own unique pieces! A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Campbell Kelly for sharing their amazing skills and giving up their time to make this incredible experience possible.
- **Art & Design** - creating festive artwork and decorations to get into the seasonal spirit.
- **Music** - continuing from last term, composing, writing lyrics, creating videos, and performing.

At the end of the half term, we'll review activities and create a new timetable to give children fresh opportunities to explore and learn.

Thank you for supporting these exciting opportunities for our pupils!



Finally...

As always, if you have queries, compliments, complaints, concerns or issues you would like to discuss please speak to a member of staff. If family or friends help with school runs, we'd love for you to share the weekly newsletter with them. Please also make sure we have your updated contact details so we can stay connected!

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Paynter

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Please follow the link below to our school webpage: <https://www.knelstonprimary.co.uk/academicyear2025-2026>

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