

Governor's Annual Report to Parents



Plascrug Primary School
2018/2019

Introduction

I would like to thank the whole team at Plascrug School including the Head Teacher, Senior Management, all teachers, teaching assistants and parents/guardians.

The children have been very involved in many different activities which not only support their learning of the curriculum, but also contribute to the success of the school in music, dance, sport and creative arts. We are all very proud of their achievements.

I hope you find the information contained both useful and interesting. If you have any questions about this report, please contact the Head Teacher.

I would like to thank all parents/guardians for their continued support of the school, and of their children's learning at home.

Salli Burke,
Chair of Governors

At the end of the year, we have a total of 434 pupils attending the school and the staff consists of an Acting Head Teacher, Acting Deputy Head, Acting Assistant Head Teacher, plus a further 14 full time teachers and 3 part time teachers (full time equivalent - 18.5 teachers). The Senior Leadership Team are in an 'acting' capacity due to the fact that the Headteacher has been seconded to work for Estyn for two terms and will be returning to the school in September 2019. We also have a team of Teaching Assistants working within Foundation Phase and a Core Staffing team of supporting pupils with Additional Learning Needs. Three full time HLTA's complete the staffing team. The school is also supported by two full time administrative assistants, a full time caretaker and an after school club supervisory staff.

This year was another very successful year for the school and has been reflected in the school being categorised as a green school by the Local Authority and ERW.

Attendance Figures

School Summary	Possible attendance for year	%
Authorised Absence	5454	3.41%
Present	150,176	94%
Unauthorised Absence	4131	2.59%
Total	123448	100%

Our Attendance Target for 2018-19 was 95.5% and the actual figure reached was 94%. The target for 2019-20 will be discussed at the Autumn Term full Governing Body meeting.

According to the school attendance monitoring procedures, letters are sent for attendance under 90% and meetings held with parents and the Education Inclusion Officer. Penalty notices may be issued for 10 unauthorised absences. Holidays during term time are unauthorised, however any requests received in writing for leave of absence for reasons other than illness are considered individually.

Extra-curricular activities

We always have a large number of pupils within the school who take part in activities and represent the school publicly. This year has been particularly successful and it has been warming to hear of the achievements of the children.

Ceredigion Actif promotes the Bronze Ambassadors programme to develop physical activity in primary schools as well as developing the BA's leadership skills.

The Eco Committee have been very active with cycling and scooting clubs proving popular. They planted many new trees with the help of a number of parents and the local WI with saplings donated by the Woodland Trust. As a recognition of their work they were successful in gaining the Platinum Eco Award for the third time.

The school once again participated successfully in the Urdd National Eisteddfod. We were delighted that the Can Actol and Cor Cerdd Dant gained first place on the stage in Cardiff Bay and Efa Humphries was second for her great solo performance on the violin. Great performances were also given by Elliot Fletcher, Ioan Whall Williams and Vihaan Newar. The dance also did themselves proud coming third in the Urdd National Competition in March. Llongyfarchiadau i chi gyd.

Both the boys and girls rugby teams gave good performances in the Urdd National Competition in October. The netball and hockey teams also performed well in the area competitions. Positive links were developed to with organisations to promote Tennis and Cricket skills. Individual pupils also finished in the top ten at the Ceredigion and Urdd National Cross-Country competitions Congratulations to all the pupils who represented the school.

After initially being rained off we held a successful sports day in June which was enjoyed by one and all.

Building links between the community and school

As one of the largest schools in the area, we are an integral part of the community. We make regular use of the resources available to us with regular trips to the National Library, Museum, Arts Centre and Leisure Centre. We also utilise the town beaches and Plascrug Avenue. We have been fortunate in having support from the University too, with lecturers to give talks and workshops, for example coding workshops across the school.

We work closely with many outside agencies, such as the Ceredigion Actif team, the local police, school nurses, Design to Smile dental programme as a few examples. The police dog handling unit brought down two of their dogs. The children enjoyed this immensely and it was great to see them so interested in the talk and watching the dogs display their skills.

Local supermarkets have also supported the school, in supplying reduced cost fresh fruit for the tuck shop and prizes for raffles etc as well as visits linked to the curriculum. A fabulous way of enforcing our healthy eating policy.

Clwb Ni, our inter-generational project between Year 6 and tenants of Tai Ceredigion sheltered housing continues to provide opportunities for both generations to learn together.

Targets for improvements set by the Governing Body

The school and governing body agree targets for school improvement annually, which are monitored termly and progress reported to the governing body.

The targets were:

1. To raise the average scores in the procedural national test paper by 5% from Year 2 to Year 6 when it comes available during this academic year.
2. Further develop Nurture Provision and ELSA support for vulnerable pupils.
3. To further develop AFL strategies which involve pupils directly in improving the quality of their work.
4. To continue to prepare staff and all stakeholders for the upcoming curriculum change, ensuring that the four purposes are embedded in to all aspects of school life. Focus on trialing the draft Health and Well being document.

School policies

Plascrug School has a comprehensive list of policies, which can be requested at any point from the school reception.

The Governing Body

Mrs Salli Burke	LA (Chair)
Cllr Ceredig Davies	LA
Mr Tim Davies	Parent
Mrs Mette Jenson	Parent

Dr. Katherine Santer	Parent
Mr Michael Allman	Parent
Mr Richard Warrender	Community
Ms Ana Machado	Community
Mr Krishna Venattu	Community
Cllr Alex Mangold	Community Council Rep
Mrs Menna Sweeney/ Mr Berian Lewis	Headteacher/Acting Headteacher

We currently have 1 Local Authority and 1 Community Governor vacancy

We meet as a full governing body once per term, as well as having subcommittee meetings to discuss specific things.

Clerk to the Governors – Ceredigion County Council Education Department,
Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, SY23 3UE

Chair of Governors – Salli Burke sallib77@outlook.com

Arrangements for the next Governing Body election – the Education Authority and the school will inform parents/guardians of the arrangements for any opportunities to be part of the Governing Body and electoral arrangements.

There is no requirement for a Parent/Governors meeting to be held each year, however one can always be requested in accordance with section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The parents will need to satisfy the four (4) statutory requirements when calling a meeting which are as follows:-

- (i) that the parents of 10% of registered pupils, or the parents of 30 registered pupils (whichever is the lower) must sign a petition requesting a meeting;
- (ii) the meeting must be for the purpose of discussing matters relating to the school;
- (iii) the maximum number of meetings that parents can request in any school year is three (3);

- (iv) there must be sufficient school days left in the school year to allow a meeting to be held.

Further:-

- (a) meetings must be held before the end of a 25 day period;
- (b) the 25 day period commences the day after receipt of the petition but does not include any day which is not a school day;
- (c) if another meeting is required to be held as a result of a different petition the 25 day period will not commence until the day after the other meeting has been held;
- (d) there must be sufficient days left in the school year to allow a meeting to be held before the end of the 25 day period;
- (e) meetings will be open to all parents of registered pupils at the school, Head and any other person invited by the governing body;
- (f) notification of meetings to parents must include the date, time and venue of the meeting and the matter or matters to be discussed.

Financial Statement for the Previous Year

Please see Appendix 1

As a Governing Body we ensure that the finances of the school remain healthy. Budget cuts had an impact on our staffing levels during the last financial year. However, we are always keen to ensure that this impacts pupils as little as possible. Despite budget cuts we have a core staffing team, as well as employing various full and part time teaching assistants throughout the school to provide support for pupils wherever needed.

Use of the PDG Grant

Amount allocated to the school £50,500

Plascrug school spends its Pupil Deprivation Grant to ensure it makes an impact upon particular learners in school. Staff are employed to raise the literacy and numeracy skills of those learners and ensure their wellbeing is supported in a range of different ways. A contribution was made to establishing our new nurture unit outside the main reception which provides a perfect environment to undertake nurture work with the children. The grant has also been used to assist with the cost of educational trips.

We believe strongly that all children deserve the best start in life – the PDG grant helps us achieve this aim.

Parent Teacher Association

Another successful School Summer Fair was held towards the end of the Summer term. Many parents were involved in different ways. The sponsored run on the Vicarage fields proved to be very successful. In the Spring term a successful 'Cawl a Chan' evening was held to celebrate St David's day. Many children took part by performing many Eisteddfod items. We were grateful to local band 'Three Legged Mare' for entertaining the crowd as well. A successful Summer Fair was held in the Summer term including a disco. An event enjoyed by one and all. The funds raised by the PTA help enhance the learning and environment for the pupils.

Parents Evening

At the start of each year we invite parents to a 'Meet the Teachers' evening. This is an opportunity to meet your child/ren's teacher and understand the curriculum and theme's for the following year. In addition to this we hold a parents' evening in the Autumn and Spring term. This is a fantastic chance to look at your children's work and discuss their progress. A written, detailed report is provided in the Summer term. If you wish to meet at any other time, please do contact your class teacher to make an appointment.

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Term Dates and session times

The list of term dates for 2019/2020 may be found on the [LA website](#)

The Curriculum and Pioneer School

Plascrug is a Pioneer School and as such we are involved in developing a new curriculum for Wales. We believe that learning should be enjoyable and that pupils should be able to influence the themes that they study. Teachers create exciting learning opportunities that allow pupils to develop their skills in the six areas of learning and experience which are Mathematics and Numeracy, Language and Literacy, Science and Technology, Humanities, Digital Competency and the Creative Arts.

Throughout the entire curriculum pupils develop their literacy, numeracy and ICT skills and receive plenty of opportunities in their study of themes to embed these skills. All learning experiences promote the four purposes of the new curriculum ensuring pupils will be ambitious capable learner, enterprising capable contributors an ethical informed citizens and be healthy and confident individuals.

The school has continued to work to develop the new Welsh curriculum as a Pioneer School. The Assistant Head Teacher has been helping to develop the Health and Wellbeing Area of Learning and Experience. Staff have had the opportunity to contribute their views as the process has developed. We have continued to be active in promoting Physical Literacy, which has led to pupils improving a range of physical skills whilst becoming more active in their learning. The school endeavours to make the voice of the pupils central to the planning process. The new curriculum has four purposes that we ensure are central to our planning. The six areas of learning and experience are taught in the context of themes that the pupils have helped to decide upon. This has led to rich learning experiences that the pupils enjoy.

Provision of ALN

The school identifies and supports children with specific needs including More Able & Talented children. The school has named Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCO). In 2018-19, 33% of the pupils were on the SEN register. Progress is carefully monitored and tracked, intervention programmes are in place and if external support is though necessary, this is sought. The school has a close working relationship with parent/carers as they are kept in-formed and involved. Pupil voice is sought in developments at Plascrug and create they work with staff to create One Page Profiles to support their learning. A Core Staffing team support learning effectively, working with groups and/or individuals depending on the needs identified. Teachers assess all pupils' learning both formally and informally and targets are discussed and regularly reviewed with pupils. The school works closely with outside agencies to support pupils learning.

Language

Plascrug school and Ceredigion County Council is clear in its aim and principle of developing our pupils' ability to use both Welsh and English fluently and confidently in a variety of situations. This is in accordance with the Welsh in Education Plan over the next three years. This will enable pupil to become full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part, fostering pride in the languages, heritage and culture of Ceredigion and Wales.

Currently, the majority of lessons are taught in English with weekly Welsh second language lessons. Many aspects of the curriculum are also taught through the medium of Welsh and the Welsh language is regularly used in formal and informal situations which successfully creates a Welsh ethos.

Toilet facilities

The school provides sufficient toilets for the number of pupils on roll. These toilets are cleaned on a daily basis.

Healthy eating and drinking

The development of healthy lifestyles is a high priority for our school. Plascrug is a Welsh Network of Healthy Schools National Quality Award school and actively promotes healthy eating and physical activity. A Fruit Tuck Shop is run by Year 6 pupils and all pupils have access to drinking water throughout the day. The school meals service provides healthy lunches and we encourage healthy options in packed lunches.

Appendix 1

Plascrug
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<u>CYFLAWNIAD ARIANNOL 2018/19</u>	-	<u>FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2018/19</u>
Mae'r Awdurdod Addysg Lleol newydd gau'r cyfrifon am y flwyddyn ariannol a ddaeth i ben ar 31 Mawrth 2019. Dangosir isod sut y daethpwyd at y cyllid a benodwyd i'r ysgol.		The Local Education Authority has recently finalised the closure of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019. The total funding for the school has been derived as set out below.
Dyraniad Cyllid Gwreiddiol yn ôl Fformiwla	1,380,011	Formula Funding Initial Allocation
Niferoedd Disgyblion	0	Pupil Numbers
AAA	5,413	SEN
Y Dreth Annomestig	0	National Non-Domestic Rates
Cau Ysgol	0	School closure
Addasiad Arall	43,497	Other Adjustment
Dyraniad y Gronfa wrth Gefn heb ei Defnyddio	0	Allocation of Unutilised Contingency
Dyraniad Cyllid Diwygiedig 2018/19 yn ôl Fformiwla	1,428,921	Revised 2018/19 Formula Funding Allocation
Gwariant Net	1,475,513	Net Expenditure
Amrywiant	(46,592)	Variance
Llog ar y Gweddillion	0	Interest on Balances
Gwarged / (Diffyg) - 1 Ebrill 2018	145,248	Surplus / (Deficit) - 1 April 2018
Gwarged / (Diffyg) - 31 Mawrth 2019	98,656	Surplus / (Deficit) - 31 March 2019

