



Trinity Fields School & Resource Centre,
Caerphilly Road,
Ystrad Mynach,
Hengoed.
CF82 7XW

School No: 01443 866000
Fax No: 01443 866045

13.02.26

End of Half Term

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term feels like it's gone by so quickly since we returned to school following the Christmas break. It's been incredibly productive once again as we continue to work towards our school improvement plan. I hope you enjoy reading about all the things we've been doing over the last 6 weeks or so.

Building and Facilities

There is a well known philosophy that adversity galvanises people together. I think it's fair to say that whilst hugely exciting, the building work which has been going on for 2.5 years has caused some adversity but I strongly feel its galvanised the community. Thank you so much to everyone for their support throughout a very logistically challenging time. Our pupils continue to respond so well and are so resilient. They are an inspiration and a credit to you all.

It seems to be common place now that I start with an update about the roof replacement and ongoing building works on the main site. It feels like there is light now at the end of the tunnel as contractors make final arrangements to hand the building back in its entirety on 16th March 2026!! Between now and then (around about the 6th March), we will have the old reception area, Café Oren, administration areas, physio/OT room and 2 x refurbished classrooms returned to us.

We are currently in the process of re-commissioning the hydrotherapy pool and rebound room and will look to re-open these vitally important facilities as soon as possible after half term. In addition, over half term, several of the remaining bathroom/hygiene areas will be refurbished.

In our satellite provisions, we are still working with contractors to improve the play facilities in the Pontllanfraith outside areas. In our Deri class, pupils have been working hard with Kelly and Geraldine to improve the garden/forest school areas. In Heolddu, pupils continue to enjoy using the new outside facilities (even though the weather has been appalling). In Ty Isaf, some further works to outside areas will be undertaken over the half term period.

Further to my letter dated 12th December 2025, I would like to express a huge thank you to Parent/Carers who joined with pupils and staff to complete a recent questionnaire relating to some significant expenditure from the PTA. I was really impressed with the creative ideas. The final list will be presented to the Governors immediately after half term for approval before we inform the school community of the exciting projects we intend to undertake.

Curriculum Development

We continue to review, evaluate and develop our curriculum to ensure it meets the needs of our broad range of learners. We undertake regular evaluation procedures to ensure the activities we are planning for pupils are enjoyable, motivating and develop important skills. In particular this term, we have been developing the curriculum for our oldest learners (Researchers and Aspire). We've been looking at



options for pupils, accreditation pathways and work experiences opportunities. We will continue this work during next half term and implement some new approaches at Easter. I am very excited to see how this work develops.

We've also been working closely with Welsh Government on the Curriculum for Wales implementation work. This has been a great opportunity to learn from other schools and invite some external feedback in relation to our curriculum journey.

Technology and Learning

As per our school development plan, we have turned our attention to digital competence and technology this term. 10 members of staff attended the BETT exhibition in London which is huge ICT exhibition in London. This has given us lots of food for thought to improve pupils' experiences and digital skills. Members of the Governing Body have also undertaken a learning walk and joined with staff during a work scrutiny exercise to help us identify our strengths and further ways forward. I am keen to ensure that we use technology appropriately to enhance learning but that we balance this to avoid over reliance. We were really lucky earlier in the term to have a visit from the actual puppets featured in the Wallace and Gromit movies. It was great to see pupils (and staff) fully engage with these special puppets. We hope to further develop our provision for animation and movie making over the coming weeks.

We're working hard to implement our online safety scheme of work with Steve Gunter and Anthony Rhys leading the school's work in this important area. We celebrated online safety day on 10th February where the focus was 'Smart Tech, Safe Choices', which focuses on exploring the safe and responsible use of AI and mobile technologies. This was a really fun day but with very important messages. I've attached a selection of resources from the UK Safer Internet Centre, covering a wide range of ages and offering activities that we use in school. Link here; [Education Resources - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Educational Visits

When I started in Trinity Fields, it was very clear that parents and pupils would like to see more educational visits. I am delighted with how this work is developing. Our 'Trinity Outdoors' initiative is giving pupils improved access to the benefits of learning outside. In addition, due to building works, we were forced into thinking creatively about the annual Panto visit. The hall is currently out of action which meant that over 2 days, we transported just under 200 pupils to watch the panto. This was a great achievement. Our Caerphilly Adventures trips are also going well with pupils in the older age groups enjoying these experiences. Various classes on main site are enjoying trips to the allotment. We now have our eyes on the future and will continue to develop opportunities for pupils to enhance their learning by going on more educational visits. We also are busy planning some residential opportunities...watch this space!

Sport and Physical Literacy

Sport and physical activity continues to play an important part in school life. It is essential to our wellbeing strategy. Liam Richards continues to deliver really effective provision and advice to ensure all pupils are active and have the opportunity to engage in sport relative to their needs. Highlights this term have included our football team winning their latest game and our participation in table cricket. In addition, our e-sports team have been competing against other schools and are aiming to secure a spot at the Principality Stadium for finals day once again.

Amy Blake has implemented several wonderful initiatives to support pupils sensory integration and regulation. This ranges from daily sensory circuits, work to support vestibular and proprioceptive regulation and implementation of 'sensory profiles' for those who need them

Cath Jenkins continues to implement our MOVE programme to a very high standard. This is a joint collaboration with Physio and works really well. In the absence of the hall, Cath and staff have been



really creative in finding locations to undertake this work. It's been wonderful to see a few pupils progressing onto their use of stairs. Their perseverance and motivation are so rewarding to see.

Attendance

Thank you for your continued support. Over the course of the spring term so far, we are nudging 86.10% which is pretty close to our target of 86.3%. If you require any support regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or member of the leadership team. We have a lot of resources available to help your child achieve good attendance.

Family Engagement

Thank you so much to everyone for your continued and sustained support for the school. It's no secret that the ongoing building works which have been ongoing for 2.5 years has meant compromise. Parents/carers are so supportive and appropriately challenging to ensure communication is good and that pupils receive the best education possible. When we get full occupation of the building once again, our parent support services will also further develop with planned coffee mornings, training, further curriculum development sessions, parent/carer wellbeing sessions planned...I can't wait! We currently have a live questionnaire which is aimed at helping us understand our strengths and areas for improvement from a Parent/Carer perspective. It is really important and has already brought about positive change in school e.g. better use of SeeSaw and more Educational visits. Please spend a few minutes giving us your thoughts by clicking on this link [Trinity Fields Family Questionnaire Spring 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Parking

Thank you to parents and carers for the support shown with some of the challenges related to parking in and around the main site in Ystrad Mynach. I have been working closely with the council to try and find solutions and am confident that shortly after half term, we will have a more robust solution to support families dropping/collecting pupils to school.

Quick reminder that if you are visiting school between 09:30 and 14:30 – you are more than welcome to use the car park. Just press the intercom and someone will let you in. Please be mindful that there is a lot of construction traffic and pedestrians using this area so there is a strict 5mph speed limit inside the school gates. Also, we would really appreciate cars being out of the carpark by 14:30 at the latest to ensure our end of day procedures can proceed. Thank you for your understanding.

Staff Achievements

As always, we continue to invest heavily in staff professional learning to ensure we constantly push barriers and provide the very best learning experiences for pupils. Since Christmas, staff from across the entire school have been engaged in rich professional learning including, LegoTherapy, Trauma Informed Schools, Signalong, PDA, Intensive Interaction, Sensory Processing, Communication and Play and MOVE.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to our newly established staff football team who have played regular matches over the course of the term. We hope to develop more staff teams in the near future and maybe plan a staff vs Parents/Carers game at some point.

School Photographs

Just to let you know that photographs on the mainsite have been rescheduled to Wednesday 15th April and Thursday 16th April.



Have a nice half term

It only leaves me to wish you a happy and safe half term break. I am looking forward to the second half of the Spring Term as we hopefully return to normal with the completion of the building work. I'm also looking forward to some Spring weather.

As always, if you have any comments, suggestions or concerns, please don't hesitate to raise them directly with me or any member of my leadership team so we can continue to develop the school in the best interests of our amazing learners.

Very best wishes



David Jenkins
Executive Headteacher