



Newsletter 9th September 2024

A very warm welcome back to the academic year. Our pupils have settled in really well and have made a great start to the new term.

School term times 2024/2025

Term	From	To
Autumn 2024	Monday, September 2 2024	Friday, October 25 2024
Half Term	Monday, October 28 2024	Friday, November 1 2024
Autumn 2024	Monday, November 4 2024	Friday, December 20 2024
Christmas Holidays	Monday, December 23 2024	Friday, January 3 2025
Spring 2025	Monday, January 6 2025	Friday, February 21 2025
Half Term	Monday, February 24 2025	Friday, February 28 2025
Spring 2025	Monday, March 3 2025	Friday, April 11 2025
Easter Holidays	Monday, April 14 2025	Friday, April 25 2025
Summer 2025	Monday, April 28 2025	Friday, May 23 2025
Half term	Monday, May 26 2025	Friday, May 30 2025
Summer 2025	Monday, June 2 2025	Monday, July 21 2025

Mon 2 Sept 2024 and *Monday 21 July 2025 will be designated INSET days for all LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. *It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Mon 21 July 2025 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.

All schools will be closed on Monday 5 May 2025 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

School INSET Days

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. 2 nd September 2024 | 4. TBC |
| 2. 20 th December 2024 | 5. TBC |
| 3. 6th January 2025 | 6. 21 st July 2025 |

Welcome Hazel and Elm Class

We are delighted to welcome two new classes to our school. Teachers Mrs Davies, Mrs Doherty and Mrs Geary will be running the learning support classes of Nursery to Year 2. Also support staff including Mrs Allen, Mrs Hansen Spure, Mrs MacNamara, Mrs Walters and Mrs Thorngate will form part of the support team.

School Communication

Please follow the latest information via dojo. Just download the app and ask your class teacher for a password.

Our website: www.abercynonprimary.co.uk

Twitter (X): @abercynonpry123

Dinner Money

School meals are currently free for pupils in Nursery (after 4th birthday) up to Year 6. Dinner money is required for new nursery pupils up until the term after their fourth birthday. All payments should be made online. Please note that the cost of dinner money is now £2.85 per day and £14.25 per week. We have the latest modern cooking facilities in order to provide a healthy and wholesome meal for every pupil. All payments should be made online we do not except cash. Please use the RCT website and follow the guidance. Please could all dinner money be paid online on Sunday, so that the payment comes through to school on Monday.

Some pupils still have dinner money arrears from the last academic year which must still be paid. Message reminders will be sent out for these pupils shortly

Fruit and Milk

Milk is provided daily for foundation phase pupils and all children can bring in their own fruit for a snack. Please can you ensure that grapes are cut up. Thank you

Birthdays

We are not able to allow pupils to bring in cakes for their birthday due to new allergy legislation. We will celebrate your child's birthday in their class.

No Nuts

Please note we are a nut free school and nuts should not be sent to school in a packed lunch because we have some children with severe allergies to them.

No Dogs

We do not allow dogs on the yard for health and safety reasons. Puppies or dogs that are shown to the class will need to be carried. Thank you

Attendance

Pupils should be arriving to school at **8.50am**. The gates in the yard shut at **9am**. Please note anyone who arrives later to school than this must arrive through the main entrance and their child must be signed in by a responsible adult.

Any child arriving after registration time **9am** will be marked late and after **9.15am** an unauthorised mark unless a valid reason is given.

Please make every effort to bring your child to school on time. Late arrival is disruptive for the class and your child may miss valuable learning time. Regular lateness can result in a fixed penalty notice fine.

Please keep us informed of the reason for any pupil absence as we still need to closely monitor illness absences and ensure that all pupils are safe and well.

We authorise **10 working days holiday time** but after that any further holiday time is unauthorised. You will need to complete a holiday form from the office prior to going on holiday. Poor attendance may result in a fixed penalty notice. Thank you

Appointments

Pupils who need to attend appointments during school time will need an appointment or card. Please try to avoid booking appointments during school time. Thank you

Uniform

Just a reminder that you can purchase the school jumper with a badge at Glebern's in Abercynon. Alternatively, you can take along a jumper and for a small price they will embroider a badge on it. Please can you encourage your child to wear black shoes/trainers to school. There are a number of returned second hand uniform from previous pupils and these are available in school just contact the office.

PE Kit

We would like children to wear a white t-shirt/polo and black or navy shorts/joggers/leggings for PE. They will need trainers for outdoor games lessons. Long hair must be tied back. For health and safety reasons, no jewellery is to be worn during PE lessons. If children have recently had their ears pierced (6 weeks) they are permitted to bring plasters to cover up their earrings during this session. Following the six week period, we would ask that you remove their earrings on the days when they have PE. Early Years/Foundation can wear their PE kit to school on their PE day. Children in KS2 will change into their PE kit in school on the days they have PE.

Jewellery Policy

Children are permitted to wear a pair of stud earrings and wear a watch. No other forms of jewellery (hoop earrings, rings, bracelets, necklaces) are to be worn for health and safety reasons.

Dojo and Parent Contact Details

The primary way of communicating information is by DOJO. This is a secure private site that can only be accessed via password. You can download the app on your phone and keep up to date with images, newsletters and events going on in the school. The app also allows you to message the teacher and the school office. Teachers are not expected to reply to messages after 5pm. If you do send a

message later than this, it will be picked up by the teacher in the morning of the next working day. Just ask your teacher if you have not already been set up on DOJO. Please can you update the office with your current mobile phone number (in order to send messages or information).

Newsletters

All newsletters are posted on our website www.abercynonprimary.org.uk

Termly Class Information

Termly information letters from each class will go out shortly, these letters will include what your child is learning that term, their topic, PE times, homework, reading opportunities and other important information

Assemblies – special mentions

There will be a Week assembly virtually via Google Meet every Friday morning. If you're child has achieved anything they would like to share with the school then please can they bring this in on a Friday. To celebrate, the pupils chosen will be posted on Dojo.

After School Clubs

These will begin starting the week of 16th Sept and a timetable will be sent out on dojo soon. We will need parental permission for any child to attend an after school club. Booking forms/permission slips for clubs will be sent out shortly via an online dojo form that will need to be completed. Please note clubs have limited spaces and children missing out will be put on a waiting list. Thank you



Karate @ The School Dojo
EVERY MON, WED & FRI
6.30 JUNIORS 7.45 SENIORS

£2.50 juniors £3.50 seniors per lesson

First 4 lessons free for ACP pupils with a free Karate Gi after 10 paying sessions

 @mountainashkaratekai  mountain_ash_karate_kai



After School Karate Club

We are really pleased to offer a karate club in our school hall. Sessions run from 6.30pm for juniors and 7.45pm for seniors on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The club is run by Mountain Ash Karate Club who are a well established community based martial arts club. If you wish you child to attend then please contact via these links: Facebook: mountainashkaratekai Instagram: mountain_ash_karate_kai The first four lessons are free to ACP pupils and each child will get a Gi (karate suit) after 10 paying sessions. Sessions cost £2.50 for juniors and £3.50 for seniors.

Dates for the Diary (some may be rearranged/added but we will inform you of changes).

2nd Sept – INSET

3rd Sept – Pupils return for new term/whole school assembly

5th Sept – Parents meetings for Hazel (2.30pm) and Elm (9.30am)

16th Sept - After school clubs start/voting for school councils

23rd Sept – HT assembly – school councils to initially meet

27th Sept – Macmillan Coffee morning (9.30-11am)

11th Oct – Harvest Assembly/Food Bank collection

17th Oct – Book Fair Arrives

21st –24th – Book Fair in hall

21st – 23rd – Parents/Carers Progress Meetings – Mon 3-7pm
Tues 3-6pm 3-5pm

28th – 1st Nov – Half Term

11th Nov – Remembrance Assembly 10.45am

15th Nov – Children in Need

28th Nov – Provisional Christmas Fayre

30th Nov – Staff/Parent shopping Day to Bristol

3rd Dec Nursery Dress Rehearsal (Grandparents only) 10am

4th Dec – New Intake meeting for Jan Nursery starters (9.15am)

5th Dec - Male Voice Choir concert with ACP choir in hall 6-7.30pm

5th Dec – Nursey Concert (2pm)

6th Dec – Nursery concert (10am) Foundation Concert Dress Rehearsal (2pm)

9th Dec – Foundation Concert (10am)

10th Dec – Foundation Concert (2pm)

12th Dec – Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day

13th Dec – KS2 Dress Rehearsal (Grandparents only 2pm)

16th Dec – KS2 Concert (10am)

16th Dec – Elm/Hazel Christmas Concert (2.15pm)

17th Dec – KS2 Concert (2pm)

18th Dec – Hazel/Elm Christmas Concert (2.15pm)

19th Dec – Christmas Parties

20th Dec – INSET Day

6th Jan – INSET Day

7th Jan – pupils return for new Spring Term 2025

Our theme this Autumn term is**To ABERCYNON AND BEYOND**

Our **ASPIRE** curriculum : '**CARING, BELIEVING, ACHIEVING**'
(our moto)

Our **ASPIRE** Curriculum: **Ambitious, Skills, Purposeful, Inclusive, Resilience, Experiences.**

Our Values: **Respect Teamwork Belonging Honesty Independence Positive**

We want our pupils to

BE READY TO LEARN.

BE READY TO WORK.

BE READY TO BE CITIZENS OF WALES AND THE WORLD.

Our value for this half term is **HONESTY**

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Jewitt

Headteacher/Penneath