

YSGOL GYNRADD CREIGIAU PRIMARY SCHOOL
GOVERNORS` ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2008 / 2009

❖ **NUMBERS ON ROLL**

Class 7 : (Mr. B. Evans)	17	(Y6)
Class 6 : (Mrs. Y. Davies)	32	(Y5)
Class 5 : (Mrs. J. Elliott)	20	(Y4)
Class 4 : (Ms. S. Griffin / Mrs. R. Hussey)	30	(Y3)
Class 3 : (Mrs. F. Willmott)	29	(Y2)
Class 2 : (Mrs. L. Lambert)	28	(Y1)
Class 1 : (Mrs. C. Hurford)	28	(R)
Dosb. 6 : (Mrs. E. Evans)	27	(Y6)
Dosb. 5 : (Mrs. M. Hughes / Ms. L. Devonald)	23	(Y5)
Dosb. 4 : (Miss G. Roberts)	24	(Y4)
Dosb. 3 : (Mrs. J. James)	18	(Y3)
Dosb. 2 : (Mrs. H. Hughes)	30	(12Y2 + 18Y1)
Dosb. 1 : (Mrs. L. Thomas)	24	(R)
Nursery: (Miss H. Davies)	26	(25N2 + 1N1)
Meithrin: (Miss H. Davies)	26	(21N2 + 5N1)

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2. STAFFING

(a) Teaching

Mrs. Judith James, Mrs. Haulwen Hughes and Mr. Brian Evans will be retiring at the end of the school year. Between them, they have given 63 years of service to Creigiau Primary School. In their own unique ways they have made an immeasurable contribution to the community as teachers and as people. Countless numbers of pupils have had the good fortune to have benefited from their teaching skills.

They have also been excellent role models for younger members of staff, showing professionalism, commitment and good humour. The governors wish to record their immense debt of gratitude to them and their good wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Mair Hughes has been absent for the whole year due to illness. We wish her a full recovery.

The following permanent appointments have been made for September 2009:

Deputy Headteacher – Mrs. Delyth Kirkman, B.A., L.R.A.M.

English Section – Mr. Phillip Ivins, B.D.S.

Welsh Section – Mrs. Eleri Evans, B.A.

The following temporary appointment has been made for Mrs. Mair Hughes as from September 2009: Mr. Lee Balbini, B.A.

The governors have agreed to a request by Mrs. Lowri Lambert for a job-share from September 2009. She will be job-sharing with Mrs. Kirstie Rees, who has covered for two maternity leaves at the school and is currently one of our teachers providing `Preparation, Planning and Assessment` time (P.P.A.) for teachers. Both teachers will be working for 5 sessions every week; Mrs. Rees for the first part of the week and Mrs. Lambert for the second part.

(b) Non Teaching

Mrs. Tracey Cozens, Teaching Assistant, continues to be absent from school due to a long term illness. The governors wish her a complete recovery.

3. THE CURRICULUM

(a) Foundation Phase

This is the curriculum for 3-7 year old pupils and combines early years (under five years old) and Key Stage 1 (five to seven years old)

It is being introduced on a staggered basis:

September 2008:	Nursery / Meithrin
September 2009:	Reception
September 2010:	Year 1
September 2011:	Year 2

The Foundation Phase places greater emphasis on experiential learning, active involvement and emphasis on e.g. skills, positive attitudes, self esteem and activities in the outdoors.

For further information go to: www.wales.gov.uk/foundationphase

Several courses have been held for staff as well as a whole school Inset. A talk was also given to parents by Mrs. Suzanne Sarjeant, (Advisory Teacher for the County) and Mrs. Lynfa Thomas (Foundation Phase coordinator within the school).

(b) Curriculum 2008

The national curriculum subjects have been revised and restructured. The purpose of these changes is to identify the skills for each subject and the range of contexts, opportunities and activities through which these skills should be developed and applied. The content has also been updated to ensure relevance to the twenty-first century and manageability for learners and teachers. This curriculum is a continuation of the foundation phase with emphasis placed on the skills framework across the curriculum i.e. Thinking, Communication, ICT and Number.

Although changes have to be made, they are not as great as in some schools, because we have always taught using a termly theme. Courses have been attended by all members of staff. Of particular benefit were the two heads of section working with their particular comprehensive clusters and then feeding back to the staff.

The revised national curriculum in primary schools is being implemented as follows:

September 2008 :	Years 3, 4 and 5
September 2009 :	Year 6

Starting in September 2009, every parent will be given a brief synopsis of some of the activities to be covered in their child's class during the term. (This will apply to all classes from Nursery to Y6). This will enable parents to be better informed and support the work of the school in the home.

4. BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS

(a) Work undertaken this year includes:

- Hall flooring
- Carpets for Classes 4 , 5 & staffroom
- Floor covering for the English Infant Library & Class 3

- Three new fire doors
- Air purifiers for all toilets
- Extractor fans in all terrapin classrooms
- Painting and Decorating

(b) As a consequence of the visual survey of the school as reported in last year's report, the governors insisted that the county carried out a full structural survey of all the terrapin classrooms. The main findings were:

- Dosbarth 5 and Dosbarth 6 terrapin is to be replaced during the summer holiday as it was found to be structurally unsound. (Emergency work was undertaken to fit roof props to make it safe until the summer).
- Emergency work had to be carried out on the flooring of Dosbarth 4 & part of the roof
- All terrapins were fitted with under floor grills to circulate air below the classrooms to prevent the wood from rotting.
- All terrapins were fitted with extractor fans to prevent condensation.

All of the above have been or will be paid for by the county.

(c) The following work is also scheduled for the summer:

- Pitched roof for part of the main building (to be paid for by the county)
- Refurbishment of the toilets in the Nursery and Classes 1 & 2
- Painting and decorating by the caretaker and handyman

5. BUDGET

The budget for 2009/10 is attached.

6. THE SCHOOL IN THE COMMUNITY

The governors feel strongly that the school should be a community school.

The school is regularly used by the following organisations:

- Cantorion Creigiau
- Friends of the School
- Police and Communities Together (P.A.C.T.)
- Merched Y Wawr
- French Club
- Cardiff and Vale Music Service

The whole school community has been involved in the following activities:

- B.B.C. Children in Need Appeal raised £892.80
- Tenovus – during the autumn term the school raised a combined total of £900 from the harvest collection and Christmas concerts.
- Red Nose Day raised £800
- Selling poppies for the annual Poppy Appeal raised £110 and the Daffodil Appeal for Marie Curie raised £100
- Supporting the education of pupils in Rwanda and Gambia
- Food and toiletries donated to the Wallich Clifford charity

- A close partnership with the police, e.g. P.C. Julia Smith (our school's liaison officer).
- Inviting ministers of religion to the school
- Road Safety issues have been covered by taking part in the county's quiz
- The Friends of the School organise a highly successful fireworks display and the village fun run
- A successful programme of volunteer adult helpers in school. This support is invaluable and enhances the education of pupils
- Parents and others in the community with specific knowledge of a relevant subject coming into school to speak to pupils

7. ASSESSMENT, RECORDING AND REPORTING

The summary reports for the end of Key Stage assessments are attached.

Much of the recording of assessments is done electronically using a modified version of the County's Pupil Tracking System.

One of the responsibilities of Mr. Phillip Ivins from September 2009 will be A.R.R. and the analysis of data. Mrs. Irina Matthews is responsible for the input of data.

8. ACHIEVEMENT and INCLUSION

The school ethos is that every child is good at something. This is an important factor in developing the self esteem and confidence of pupils.

Many strategies are in place to help pupils who are experiencing difficulties at any given time. These include 1:1 support in class, a support teacher working three days a week, free advice from Dyslexia Action who work at the school for two days a week, differentiated work etc.

It is equally important that the needs of the More Able and Talented are met. These strategies include differentiated work and open-ended tasks. Our Thematic Approach also enables children to carry out individual and group research both at home and at school. Our aim is to develop our children into independent learners who enjoy learning.

Activities such as The Maths Challenge, writing competitions and school clubs (including our newspaper club) also give a number of pupils the opportunity to use their talents.

9. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Netball, football, rugby and cricket
- Choir, orchestra, Urdd and newspaper club
- Gardening
- Weekend visits to the Urdd Centre at Llangrannog
- Eco School meetings
- School Council meetings

The governors wish to record their appreciation to all the staff and volunteer helpers for their commitment and dedication.

10. SOME of the SCHOOL`S SUCCESSES

- Achieving the ICT award from Becta
- The Second Language Recitation Group, The Brass Ensemble and Mabli Tudur for representing Cardiff and the Vale at the National Urdd Eisteddfod
- Rhodri Davies Hughes for being chosen to play rugby for Cardiff Schools
- Rhys Lewis for being one of only twenty pupils in Wales to be chosen to appear on Mastermind Cymru

- The Road Safety quiz team for reaching the semi final stages in a county organised quiz
- The choir for being invited to sing at the annual Radio Wales Carol Service at St. David's Hall
- Excellent response and results in the Mathematics Challenge

11. PARENT / TEACHER ASSOCIATION

This Association plays a key role as part of the school's community. It helps provide pupils with much needed resources and subsidises the cost of transport for educational, transition and sports visits.

The activity trail that they funded with some help from Creigiau 23 has proved a great success with the children. They have paid for an interactive whiteboard and projector for Class 3. They are also paying for three P.C.s with monitors and four laptops. All are for classroom use.

The governors wish to record their appreciation to the committee for the hard work and time spent in attending meetings and organising a varied programme of events.

The resources noted above would not have been possible without a committee to organise the events. Please attend the A.G.M. in September and put your name forward to help the Friends. It is our children that reap the benefits.

12. ATTENDANCE

The average attendances from Sept. 2008 – May 2009 are:

	Sessions	%
Attendances	102408	94.6
Authorised Absences	5308	4.9
Unauthorised Absences	505	0.5
Possible Attendances	108221	
Including		
Approved Educational Activity	2	0.0
Lates before registration closed	159	0.1
Lates after registration closed	80	0.1
Unexplained absences	12	0

13. CHANGES IN THE SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

- Staffing changes
- Changes in the responsibility of some staff
- A change in the method for the staggered intake into reception classes
- The revised curriculum introduced to Y6 in September 2009
- Foundation Phase introduced to reception Classes in September 2009

14. GOVERNORS

Mr. Lyn Morgan resigned as a governor during the year after eleven years as a member of the governing body. Lyn made a huge contribution with his input to

meetings and sub-committees. We wish to record our appreciation and gratitude for his service to the school.

Three new parent governors were appointed:

Mrs. Hailey Dunne, Mrs. Tracy Veale and Mr. Huw Roberts. No ballot was required as only three names were put forward for election.

15. TERMS and HOLIDAY DATES for 2009/10

PLEASE KEEP THESE DATES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

Term	Term Begin	Half-Term Begin	Half-Term End	Term End
Autumn 2009	Wednesday 02.09.09	Monday 26.10.09	Friday 30.10.09	Tuesday 22.12.09
Spring 2010	Monday 04.01.10	Monday 15.02.10	Friday 19.02.10	Friday 26.03.10
Summer 2010	Monday 12.04.10	Monday 31.05.10	Friday 04.06.10	Monday 19.07.10

Inset days:
Wednesday 2nd September 2009
Monday 4th January 2010
Monday 12th April 2010

There will be a further **4** Inset days during the year – dates to be advised

School will be closed on **Monday 3rd May 2010** for May Day Bank Holiday

Peter Evans
Headteacher

03.06.09