

# YSGOL GYNRADD CREIGIAU PRIMARY SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS 2010 / 2011

### 1. NUMBERS ON ROLL

Class 7: (Mr. P.Ivins)	24 (Y6)
Class 6: (Miss B.Harries)	27 (Y5)
Class 5: (Mrs. J. Elliott)	30 (Y4)
Class 4: (Miss S. Griffin / Mrs. R. Hussey)	26 (Y3)
Class 3: (Mrs. F. Willmott)	27 (Y2)
Class 2: (Mrs. K. Rees)	30 (Y1)
Class 1: (Mrs. C. Hurford)	25 (R)
Dosb.6: (Mrs. E.D. Evans)	23 (Y6)
Dosb.5: (Mrs. D. Kirkman)	31 (18Y5 + 13Y4)
Dosb.4: (Mr. L. Balbini)	18 (Y3)
Dosb.3: (Mrs. G. Griffith)	23 (Y2)
Dosb.2: (Mrs. E. Evans)	24 (Y1)
Dosb.1: (Mrs. L. Thomas)	24 (R)
Nursery :( Miss H. Davies)	33 (N)
Meithrin: (Miss H. Davies)	32 (M)

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N.B. From September 2011 the Class Names will change to reflect the Year Group.

- e.g. Reception (Reception pupils in the English Section)
- Derbyn (Reception pupils in the Welsh Section)
- Class 1 (Year 1 pupils)
- Dosb.3 (Year 3 pupils)
- Class 4/5 (A class with Year 4 and Year 5 pupils) etc.

### 2. STAFFING

#### (a) Teaching

Miss Buddug Harries and Mrs. Kirstie Rees commenced their duties as full time teachers in September 2010. Previously, Mrs. Rees had worked on a part time basis. Both have settled well into their new roles and have already made a significant contribution to the school.

At the time of writing this report , Mrs. Kirstie Rees and Mrs. Glenda Griffith are absent as the result of bone fractures. We wish them both a speedy and complete recovery.

Mrs. Julie Elliott has been seconded to the County as an SEN Partnership Coordinator on a one year contract. Her teaching post at the school has been advertised.

Mrs. Janet Rawle will be retiring at the end of the school year. Mrs Rawle is currently working at the school for 1.5 days per week as the PPA teacher for Classes 1, 2 and 3. Her association with the school goes back about 25 years as a parent of two boys at the school and as one of our regular supply teachers. We would like to thank Mrs. Rawle for her loyal service and her contribution to the education of pupils in the Nursery and the English Infant Department. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

### **(b) Non Teaching**

Mrs. Claire Wilkins was appointed in September 2010 as a full time T.A. in the Foundation Phase on a fixed term contract.

Mrs. Gemma Loveless-Orellana was appointed in January 2011 as a part time Teaching Assistant.

### **(c) Governors**

Mr. Philip Davies (chair) and Mrs. Rhian Horsey (vice-chair) are resigning from their posts at the end of the school year. They have made a huge contribution to the development of the school and have led with good judgement, professionalism and boundless energy. The whole school community owe them a debt of gratitude for their work and time. Thank you both!

Mr. David Dawkins will be retiring at the end of term after 15 years as Clerk to the Governing Body. We would like to thank him for his loyal service to the governing body. This is clearly shown by the fact that he only missed two meetings during this period. We will also miss his sense of humour and his love for a good debate. He will however continue to work in the administrative department of the school and at the University Law School.

## **3. SCHOOL INSPECTION REPORT**

The Inspection Report was circulated to parents in September 2010. The opening sentence in the summary sums up the whole tone of the report when it states: **“Ysgol Creigiau is a school that has numerous outstanding aspects, amongst which are pupils’ standards of achievement, the quality of the teaching and the wide-ranging experiences offered to pupils.”** (The adjective “outstanding” is used to describe various aspects of the school on more than fifty occasions.)

The seven Key Questions were awarded 6 Grade ones and 1 Grade two.

K.Q.1. How well do learners achieve? = Grade 1

K.Q.2. How effective are teaching, training and assessment? = Grade 1

K.Q.3. How well do the learning experiences meet the needs and interests of learners and the wider community? = Grade 1

K.Q.4. How well are learners cared for, guided and supported? = Grade 2

K.Q.5. How effective are leadership and strategic management? = Grade 1

K.Q.6. How well do leaders and managers evaluate and improve quality and standards? = Grade 1

K.Q.7. How efficient are leaders and managers in using resources? = Grade 1

The teaching was awarded 40% Grade 1 and 60% Grade 2. (The national average is 17% Grade 1).

Estyn used a five-point scale to represent the inspection judgements:

Grade 1 = good with outstanding features

Grade 2 = good features and no important shortcomings

Grade 3 = good features outweigh shortcomings

Grade 4 = some good features, but shortcomings in important areas

Grade 5 = many important shortcomings

As a governing body, we were required to respond to the four recommendations made in the Report.

R1. Establishing a whole school policy to promote pupils' enterprise skills was included in this year's School Improvement Plan (SIP)

R2. The SIP budgetary details that were relevant to this year's (2010-2011) improvement priorities were included in the plans

R3. The governors have raised the issues of the size and layout of the school hall and some classrooms, and the bad condition of some of the demountables in two meetings with Graham Dalton (Planning and Access Manager) and Councillor Freda Salway (Executive Member: Education and Lifelong Learning). The county has agreed to replace Classes 1 and 2 with a new double demountable at a cost of approximately £120,000. They have also agreed to refurbish Class 3 and Dosbarth 4. We would obviously have preferred a new build to replace all the demountables and some restructuring of the main building including the hall, but the county has no plans for this to happen in the foreseeable future. This work would have to be done under a County Capital Expenditure Programme over which we have no control. The Governing Body is pressing the county to prepare a draft agreement re. A Capital Programme of work for the school.

R4: In order to avoid potential problems regarding safeguarding, the following steps have been taken:

- a) A new gate and fence have been erected adjacent to the boiler house. Staff are regularly reminded of the importance of securing necessary exits and entrances.
- b) Parents and carers have been requested to leave their children at the double gate at the bottom of the wide path or at the door of the Welsh Foundation Phase cloakrooms when bringing their children to school in the morning. Staff are on duty at these two points as well as on the yard from 8.50 a.m.
- c) Two members of staff meet the children from the school bus in the morning and escort them to the bus at the end of the school day.
- d) Staff have received training on child protection issues.
- e) The timetable for the existing priorities in the School Accessibility Plan has been updated.
- f) A site meeting with county road safety and transport officers, governors, councillors and representatives of Creigiau Travel was held on 26.11.10 at 3.00 p.m. This was in response to the concern expressed in the inspection report about the bus turning outside the school. Creigiau Travel agreed that a smaller vehicle would be used to make turning easier. They also promised to train a banks man to guide the bus back. Green cones would also be placed by the caretaker at the entrance to Tregarth Close to prevent cars from parking there.

## **4. THE CURRICULUM**

### **(a) The Foundation Phase**

This is the curriculum for 3-7 year old pupils and combines Early Years (under five years old) and Key Stage 1 (5-7 years old).

It was introduced to:   Nursery / Meithrin in Sept.2008  
                                  Reception in Sept. 2009  
                                  Year 1 in Sept. 2010

It will be introduced to Year 2 in Sept. 2011

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

For further information go to:

[www.creigiauprm.cardiff.sch.uk](http://www.creigiauprm.cardiff.sch.uk) or [www.wales.gov.uk/foundationphase](http://www.wales.gov.uk/foundationphase)

### **(b) Curriculum for Key Stage 2 (7-11 years old)**

This revised version of the National Curriculum was introduced to Year 6 in Sept 2008, and to Years 3, 4 and 5 in September 2009. 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.

For further information go to:

[www.creigiauprm.cardiff.sch.uk](http://www.creigiauprm.cardiff.sch.uk) or [www.wales.gov.uk/education](http://www.wales.gov.uk/education)

### **(c) School Improvement Plan 2010 – 2011**

- Monitoring of Personal and Social Education (PSE), Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Assessment, Recording and Reporting (ARR).
- Developing the Enterprise Skills of pupils
- Prepare for the successful introduction of the Foundation Phase to Year 2 pupils in September 2011.
- To undertake an audit of reading resources and policies related to reading.

The subject/aspect leaders have successfully completed the above tasks and the results are already having a positive impact on the pupils, e.g. Enterprise Club, additional reading resources, a new spelling test for KS2, strategies already in place for the introduction of the Foundation Phase into Y2 in September 2011.

## **(5) BUILDINGS AND SURROUNDINGS**

• The Governors organised two meetings with County Officers and Councillors to draw to their attention to the comments in the Estyn report regarding the size of the school hall and the bad condition of some of the demountables. We were informed in February 2011 that Classes 1 and 2 would be replaced by a new demountable and that major refurbishments would be carried out on Class 3 and Dosbarh 4. The county had previously

stated that the school is not in the current phase of rebuilding / restructuring and that no capital funds would be available for at least another four years for such major work to be undertaken. We would all prefer a new brick building, but the current plans are certainly better than the status quo and we hope that we will be included in the next four year phase. The total cost to the county for replacing Classes 1 and 2 is approximately £120,000. No figure has been given for the refurbishment of the other two demountables, but it will run to several thousand pounds, as it includes cladding the outside of the classrooms and new windows and outside doors. This work is to be carried out during the summer holidays in readiness for occupancy at the beginning of the autumn term 2001. The Governing Body has emphasised to the county the importance of keeping to this time schedule.

- The toilets in the Welsh F.P. cloakroom have been refurbished. There are also plans to refurbish the toilets in the English KS2 cloakrooms.
- Work to further develop the outside classrooms for the FP classes has been ongoing.

## **(6) BUDGET**

The school had a difficult budget settlement for the financial year 2011–2012. If we maintained the same level of expenditure as 2010–2011, we would have had a £60,000 deficit in 2011-2012. After a series of meetings with the county's Financial Support Officer and the Finance Subcommittee, a balanced budget was decided upon. This was arrived at by a general 'tightening of belts', reduced hours for some support staff only attending funded courses (less supply cover required), less money available for resources, restructuring of SEN support, teachers only to attend committee meetings if the organising body pays for the supply cover, restructuring of photocopying and further savings by reducing energy consumption.

In addition we have reviewed our charging policy for the use of school facilities such as hall rental and photocopying. Whilst the school wishes to continue supporting local groups and the community by providing convenient amenities, we must ensure that any costs incurred are recovered. If parents have any further suggestions regarding potential efficiency savings, we would welcome your ideas.

## **(7) 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.

## **(8) EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- Netball (Y5 & Y6 and Y4 in the Summer term), football and rugby (Y4, Y5 and Y6), cricket (Y6) , running club (KS2)
- Choir ( Y4, Y5 & Y6 and Y3 in the Summer term), Orchestra ( KS2 pupils with Grade 2 or above in orchestral instruments), Clwb Tric (Y5 & Y6), Seren Creigiau Star (Y5 & Y6), Enterprise Club (KS2) and Chess Club (Y6)
- Gardening (KS2)
- Week or weekend residential courses (Y6)
- Eco School meetings (Y2 & KS2)
- School Council meetings (Y2 & KS2)

## **(9) PARENT / TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

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

Through their support, we have been able to buy an interactive sound system in the hall and a harp. They also organised very successful visits by authors, a script writer and an illustrator as part of the celebration of World Book Day. Resources have also been bought for the outside learning areas.

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.

## **(10) ASSESSMENT, RECORDING and REPORTING**

Hard copies of the summary reports for the end of Key Stage assessments will be sent to all parents.

## **(11) 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
- Cardiff and Vale Music Service
- Pilates

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

- B.B.C. Children in Need Appeal raised £840
- Organising the collection of gifts for "Operation Christmas Child"
- UNICEF – during the autumn term the school raised a combined total of £870 from the harvest collection, Christmas concerts and staff cards

- Red Nose Day raised £700
- Selling poppies for the annual Poppy Appeal raised £100 and the Daffodil Appeal for Marie Curie raised £100
- Twinned with a school in Switzerland
- Part of The Comenius Project which links us with schools in various parts of Europe
- The choir performed at a charity event at The Salvation Army Centre in Canton, St. David's Hall and to welcome the first scheduled flight to Cardiff by a Swiss airline company
- The choir invited to fly to Switzerland from 4<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011 with all expenses paid by Helvetic Airways
- Supporting the education of pupils in Rwanda
- Food and toiletries donated to the Wallich Clifford charity
- A close partnership with the police, e.g. P.C. Julia Smith and P.C. Emma Warner (our school's liaison officers).
- Inviting ministers of religion to the school
- 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
- Visits to the school by Rhodri Morgan A.M. and Kevin Brennan M.P.

## **(12) SOME of the SCHOOL'S SUCCESSES**

- The Healthy Eating Policy at break time introduced by the pupils on the school council
- Fergus Hodgson on being chosen to play rugby for Cardiff Schools and East Wales
- Welsh 2<sup>nd</sup> Lang Recitation Group came first in the County Urdd Eisteddfod and third in the National Urdd Eisteddfod. The twelve members were presented with bronze medals and certificates.
- Gwyn Robins came first in the strings solo competition in the County Urdd Eisteddfod
- Emilia Gallo came first in the Welsh 2<sup>nd</sup> Language recitation for pupils in Years 5 or 6
- Casi and Nel Thomas, Heath Barber and Dyfan Lloyd Owen came first in their respective categories in the County Urdd Art and Craft competition.
- The Year 4 Cross Country team consisting of Gethin Rosser, Richard Evans, Daniel Macdonald and Rhodri Ellis came third in the National Urdd Competition held in Aberystwyth. The four were presented with bronze medals.
- Gareth Powell was in the final 24 pupils in trials for the Welsh under 11s cricket team.
- Classes 4 and 5 for winning a prize for their work on Wales in the nineteenth century in a competition organised by the `Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative`.
- The KS2 Eco Committee came first in a county wide dance competition organised by the `Really Rubbish Campaign`.

### (13) ATTENDANCE

The average attendances from Sept. 2010 – May 2011 are:

	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>%</b>
Attendances	104559	94.8
Authorised Absences	5513	5.0
Unauthorised Absences	269	0.2
Possible Attendances	110341	
Including		
Approved Educational Activity	319	0.3
Lates before registration closed	331	0.3
Lates after registration closed	0	0.0
Unexplained absences	0	0.0

### (14) CHANGES IN THE SCHOOL PROSPECTUS for 2011 / 2012

- Staffing Changes
- Transition Meetings for the parents of pupils transferring from Y2 to Y3
- New chair, vice chair and clerk to the Governing Body
- Lunch time 12.10 – 1.20 p.m.
- No afternoon break

### (15) TERMS and HOLIDAY DATES for 2011 / 2012

**PLEASE KEEP THESE DATES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Begin</b>	<b>Half Term Begin</b>	<b>Half Term End</b>	<b>Term End</b>
<b>Autumn 2011</b>	Monday 05.09.11	Monday 24.10.11	Friday 28.10.11	Tuesday 20.12.11
<b>Spring 2012</b>	Tuesday 03.01.12	Monday 13.02.12	Friday 17.02.12	Thursday 05.04.12
<b>Summer 2012</b>	Monday 23.04.12	Monday 04.06.12	Friday 08.06.12	Friday 20.07.12

#### **Inset days:**

*Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011*

*There will be 4 further (possibly 6) Inset days during the year*

*- Dates to be advised*

*All schools will be closed on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2012 for May Day Bank Holiday*

**Peter Evans  
Head teacher**

**14.06.11**