Waunfawr Primary School

Waunfawr Road, Crosskeys, Caerphilly NP11 7PG

21st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you are looking forward to a sunny bank holiday weekend. This half term has been rather dreary, to say the least, and we are currently reviewing whether Sports Day can go ahead tomorrow. At present, the grounds remain damp, which presents a risk of slips and accidents. However, we are hopeful that the forecasted warmer weather will allow the field to dry out in time for a safe and enjoyable event. Please keep a close eye on ClassDojo for the latest updates. Thank you for your understanding.

Waunfawr Governing Body

I am pleased to share that Sara Purnell, mum to Axel and Luna, has joined our dedicated governing body as a community governor. Sara will be a fantastic addition to the team, who work tirelessly to support the school and help shape our priorities for the year ahead.

Sara, alongside John Godwin, Chloe Watkins and Amy East, is often on site at drop-off and collection times, so please do take the opportunity to say hello.

Staffing Updates

I'm sure many of you have already met the two energetic new members of our team, Mr Nicholls and Mr Turner. Both have quickly settled into their roles, establishing their classes and building positive relationships with pupils and staff.

In June, we will also welcome Laura Bowden to the team as an additional HLTA. Mrs Bowden's appointment will strengthen our staffing capacity, allowing us to provide more wellbeing groups, targeted support interventions, and enhanced opportunities for our more able learners. This will benefit all pupils across the school, and I am confident it will have a very positive impact.

Circle of Security and Bear Club

This term has seen two welcome additions to our family programmes. Bear Club, led by Miss Bonner, ran over six weeks with our Reception pupils and their parents. The sessions focused on supporting early reading and helping parents develop positive interactions with their children through play and activities inspired by bear-themed books. Feedback has been very positive, and we are hoping to run the programme again in September—so watch this space.

In addition, Tuesday afternoons have seen the introduction of a new parent group, Circle of Security. Based in the Fir kitchen, this is delivered by external providers who guide parents in exploring supportive parenting strategies in a world where information can often feel overwhelming. Again, the feedback has been very encouraging, and we hope this group will become a regular part of our community offer.

Why Waunfawr Primary

Some of you may have noticed a recent post from the Friends of Waunfawr Primary promoting our school. In recent years, there has been a decline in the number of children applying to join our Nursery provision. This is a trend seen across Wales and, as schools are funded based on pupil numbers, it can result in reduced classes and staffing.

When I first joined the school, we had 185 pupils on roll. Over the past eight years, this number has decreased to 165. As a result, the governing body and I are keen to promote the school within our local community, ensuring that families consider Waunfawr when applying for school places.

Our school remains a vital part of the Crosskeys community, and we would really appreciate your support in helping to spread the word—whether by sharing posts, speaking positively about the school, or recommending Waunfawr to friends and family. Together, we can continue to ensure that our school thrives and remains at the heart of the community.

Mrs M Armishaw
Headteacher

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Reminder -Whole School Trip – Puxton Park 8th July

A quick reminder that our whole school trip to Puxton Park is fast approaching—one of the highlights of the school year!

We currently have around 10 seats remaining on the buses. If you are not planning to attend, please let us know as soon as possible, as this really helps with our planning. If you are making your own travel arrangements, please ensure you book in advance, as Puxton Park has advised this is the only way to guarantee entry.

This is always a wonderful day for our school community, and we very much hope you can join us.

Dates for your diary

Summer 2 promises to be a busy one – don't forget….

