

Annual report to parents

Academic Year

2022/2023



A message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Families,

As the new academic year begins we reflect with pride on the year that has ended. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all of the people who make Pennar Community School the fantastic and friendly place it is. In my first year as Chair of Governors may I extend mine and the whole schools gratitude and thanks to Mrs Adele Newman for her tireless work as Chair and I am delighted to say is now Vice Chair.

The governing body recognise that none of the high standards could be achieved without the dedication of our entire school staff, from the teaching and support staff, the kitchen and dining staff and the cleaning and caretaking staff. I would like to say that none of this would be possible without the support of you, our families. It is you who help with homework, read with your child, provide your children with what they need and support us throughout the year.

Finally, I would just like to say a big thankyou to all of our pupils. You have all worked so hard this year; you have made us all very proud to work with you. To our year 6 pupils of 2023 I would like to say good luck for the future and I hope you continue to show the commitment and hard work that has made us so proud of you during your time with us.

Best wishes,



Mr Ian Mansell

Chair of Governors

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Families,

On behalf of everyone from Pennar Community School, may we take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of our school. We would like to thank you for the hard work and support of all our families, staff and governors.

We are all thoroughly enjoying our new approaches in delivering for the Curriculum for Wales and providing pupils with lots of authentic learning experiences. We were particularly proud of the outcome of the ESTYN inspection in October 2022 and that is testament to the hardwork of all involved at Pennar!

May we thank you all again as we continue to ensure that we are able to provide the best possible education to all children within our care. Through regular monitoring activities, we continue to ensure that teaching and learning remains at a high standard in our school.

Once again we look forward to working in partnership with you as we as we help our pupils to truly "believe, achieve and succeed".

Mr D McGarvie
Headteacher



Mrs J Hinds
Acting Headteacher

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Our Vision

Our motto at Pennar Community School is “We believe, we achieve, we succeed” and this captures our aim of ensuring that everyone involved in our school is part of the ongoing academic and personal development of our pupils.

Our vision for education is based on 4 core purposes which we want all of our pupils to develop during their time with us. We want our pupils to be:



Ambitious, capable learners

Enterprising, creative contributors

Ethical, informed citizens

Healthy, confident individuals.



Alongside our vision, we hold a set of values that we aim to develop within our pupils and staff. Not only do we want to develop our pupils academically but believe that our role as an education provider is to also promote our pupil's well-being and self-esteem too.

With the help of you all we proudly share our school vision:

At Pennar Community School we value every member of our school community and each pupil's individuality.

We BELIEVE in providing the highest standards of opportunity using authentic, challenging experiences to enable our pupils to ACHIEVE their potential as ambitious, capable learners.

We will do this in a safe, happy and nurturing environment which promotes independence, enterprise and creativity, and facilitates high aspirations for lifelong learning.

Our aim is for our pupils to SUCCEED in becoming healthy, confident individuals who are ethically informed ready to lead fulfilling lives in the community and beyond.

Within our school our Pupils are:

**Friendly Kind Hard-Working Creative Polite Honest Forgiving Determined
Thoughtful Respectful Imaginative Caring**



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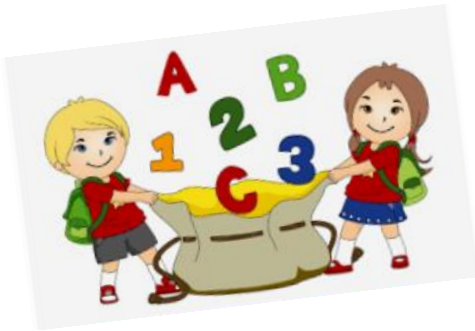
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School improvement

At Pennar Community School, leaders have children's safety, welfare and learning at the forefront of all decision-making. Each member of staff and governor are all involved with at least one aspect of the school's life, working as a strong team to improve and raise standards. The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team work with all aspects of the school community to identify priorities, plan and action developments for these and to closely monitor impact and outcomes. The Governing Body monitors school improvement priorities through regular visits to the school for meetings and learning walks; it also spends time on scrutiny of documentation and ensures that the Headteacher and staff are regularly and rigorously appraised. In all, the team ethos within Pennar Community School is key to the successful learning of all our children.



What we are trying to improve?

Within our school we continue to identify ways of improving our way of teaching and learning. Sometimes these priorities will be the same, other times these priorities will differ depending on the individual needs of the school. This is a result of evaluating and monitoring what is going on and what impact is being had.

Along with other key headline areas, during the next academic year 2023/24 we particularly want to:

Priority area 1:

- Improve all pupils' reading and extended writing skills and their ability to apply them appropriately in authentic contexts.

Priority area 2: Continue to improve pedagogy and learning environments to facilitate the development of independent and problem solving learners.

Priority area 3:

- Improve the link between discrete maths skills and their application in authentic contexts.

Priority area 4:

- Improve pupils' coding and database skills and their understanding of cyber security and their online presence.



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Pupil voice

We have strong pupil participation at Pennar Community School. We have a very pro-active School Council who meet regularly, and influence decisions made at the school. This is fed into by active class councils who meet every two weeks. Our UNCRC Ambassadors promote the rights of the child, our reading ambassadors host many reading and literacy events. We also have an Eco-committee, very enthusiastic and successful Green Team and Criw Cymraeg who busily promote Welsh across our school.



Our Governing Body

The Governing Body and Headteacher share responsibility for the strategic management of the school.

The full Governing Body meets at least once a term, usually more frequently. In addition, sub-committees meet regularly to discuss specific issues.

The minutes of Governing Body meetings are available from the clerk to governors. The Governing Body for our school is outlined below. A full list of Governor structure can be provided on request.

Mr Ian Mansell (Chair)

Mrs Adele Newman (Vice)

Mr Andrew McNaughton

Cllr Tony Wilcox

Mr Damon McGarvie

Mrs Gemma McKinnlay

Mrs Maria Williams

Miss Jasmine Goodman

Mrs Alanna Sturley (Staff rep)

Mrs Adele Gilbert (Teacher rep)

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Staffing

Pennar Community School Staffing Structure 23/24

Mr Damon McGarvie – Headteacher

Mrs Joanne Hinds – Deputy/Acting Headteacher

Teachers

Mrs Hannah Jones - Owls

Mrs Rachel Davies – Red Kites

Mrs Judith Baker - Swans

Mrs Sian Taylor - Swallows

Mrs Adele Gilbert – Herons

(Acting Deputy Head)

Miss Amanda Lewis - Kingfishers

Miss Melanie Picton - Puffins

Miss Liz Knight - Goldfinches

Miss Jasmine Lewis Hovey (PPA)

Mrs Nicola Murray (PPA)

Mrs Victoria Boyle (PPA)

LSA's

Mrs Debbie Kaijaks

Mrs Sharon Thomas

Mrs Dawn Russell

Mrs Caroline Roberts

Mrs Helen Allen

Mrs Dawn Hewitt

Mrs Emma Roberts

Mrs Jenny Helliwell

Miss Rosie Hicks

Miss Apryl Lewis James

Miss Sophie Lovatt

Miss Grace Wakeman (Nursery Lead)

Mrs Jean Manning (Nursery LSA)

Flying Start

Mrs Alanna Sturley (Leader)

Mrs Sheryl Roberts (Deputy)

Mrs Dawn Peart (LSA)

Miss Apryl Lewis James (LSA)

Mrs Helen Allen (LSA)

Cleaners

Mrs Michelle Owen

Mrs Karen Phillips

Mrs Mandy Harding

Mrs Kerry Ann Osborne

Lunchtime Supervisors

Mrs Kerry Ann Osborne

Mrs Mandy Miller

Mrs Kateryna Tesclenko

Mrs Tracy Gregory

Kitchen Staff

Mrs Michelle Ivemey

Mrs Karen Phillips

Mrs Mary John

Breakfast Club

Mrs Mandy Harding

Mrs Kerry Ann Osborne

Miss Apryl Lewis James

Caretaker

Mr Simon Briskham

School Crossing Patrol

Mrs Mandy Miller

Admin

Mrs Leanne Asparassa

Mrs Heather Lewis (Finance
0.2)

Family Liaison Officer

Mrs Tina Loftus



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Attendance Information

Attendance is extremely important to us. We run lots of initiatives for our pupils to encourage good attendance. Please find below our percentage attendance.

	Attendance	Authorised Absence	Unauthorised Absence	Attendance	
				Boys	Girls
School 2022/23	89.1	7.9	3.0	89.7	88.4
School 2023/24 so far Sept -	91.9	5.1	3		
Attendance target for 2023/24	95.5%				

Regular attendance at school is essential if children are to reach their full potential.

In accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines, pupils are entitled to 10 discretionary sessions a year; however holidays during term time have an adverse effect on a child's progress at school. We seek to ensure that children appreciate the importance of coming to school regularly. Our Family Liaison Officer and our school Education Welfare Officer (EWO) regularly works with our school to monitor and support the attendance of all pupils.



Curriculum Organisation and Teaching

At Pennar Community School we support the concept of lifelong learning, recognising that both adults at school and children learn new things every day. With the introduction of "The Curriculum for Wales" our curriculum ensures that learning opportunities are in authentic contexts and we maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone. We seek to equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives. We aim to provide a rich and varied learning environment that supports children in developing their skills and abilities in a range of ways, in order to achieve to their full potential.

Through their teaching our staff aim to:

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- Support children in becoming confident, resourceful, enquiring and independent learners;
- Foster children's self-esteem and help them build positive relationships with other people;
- Develop children's self-respect and encourage them to respect the ideas, attitudes, values and feelings of others;
- Show respect for all cultures and, in so doing, to promote positive attitudes towards other people;
- Enable children to understand their community and help them feel valued as part of this community;
- Help children grow into reliable, independent and positive citizens by celebrate the achievements of both children and staff.

Our Additional Learning Needs Policy incorporates the statutory Code of Practice for Additional Learning Needs and aims to provide equal access to the curriculum for all children. Our ALNCo is Mrs Judith Baker.

The Governor designated as having special responsibility for Additional Learning Needs is Mrs Adele Newman

Sporting Events



We have a strong tradition at Pennar School of involving ourselves in a variety of sports such as football, rugby, cricket, netball, rounder's, athletics, cross-country and swimming.

We enjoy participating at local family of schools level and county level. We also participate as part of the Urdd.

School Links with the Community, visits and visitors

- Each class starts their topic with an engage activity. This might include a visit to somewhere or a visit from someone related to their topic, this helps to spark ideas, engage enthusiasm for the topic and start the term with fun, awe and wonder!



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- We held a very successful Christmas Enterprise Fayre which allowed each class to plan and manage a budget to produce items and games for the fayre. Families and friends were invited to share in the successes. This is always a popular event on the calendar!



- Children have many opportunities to listen to a wide range of speakers from various agencies.
 - Firefighters
 - PCSO
 - Local ministers
 - Design to smile



- The children have participated fundraising events for Children in Need and collected items for PATCH during their harvest celebrations. They also held a Book Fayre where profits from the sales went to enhance the school library.

- We are very grateful to the “Friends of Pennar” who work tirelessly to support the school with events such as the Macmillan Coffee Morning, annual pancake races, discos, family bingos and quiz evenings. We sadly said goodbye to some of our original members in the Summer Term and are very grateful for their support and hard work. We are looking forward to the future of FOPs and the amazing work they do.

