

Y BONT

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Clybiau
Plant Cymru
Kids' Clubs

www.clybiauplantcymru.org

**A history of Children's
Rights in Wales**

Club News

**Activities to celebrate special
dates and festivals in Wales**

Welsh History

**Guest articles:
the new Welsh Language Commissioner
and new CEO of the National Centre for
Learning Welsh**

**All Things
Welsh**

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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Dear Out of School Childcare Club Member...



Welcome to our Spring edition of our newsletter a Dydd Gwyl Dewi hapus!

Our strategic plan to 2024 has a goal focussing on the Culture of Wales, this edition will set out how we seek an **increased awareness of the rich and diverse heritage that is Wales, preserving the language, environment and heritage for future generations in a resilient more equal culture.**

We will demonstrate how the Out of School Childcare community can support the vision of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.

What does Welsh mean to me?

Growing up in the heart of the Brecon Beacons my Welsh identity has always been central to my being. As a young child with Welsh as first language on my mother's side of the family, I had a good amount of the language from a young age, however, with a Welsh, English speaking father, that was my first language.

Eisteddfod's were a big part of my childhood with regular attendance in Urdd competitions during my junior school years. My first memory with a poem entitled "Mae gennyf Polly Parrot" and a lasting memory of mum was her frazzled at the end of the day having sat through (what she said) "hundreds" of renditions in the Cylch, I froze on stage having got through! :)

One of my biggest regrets has always been that I did not do enough with my Welsh learning to become fluent. So, one of my personal goals in the next few years is to work hard to make this a reality, improve my Welsh and be able to participate fully through the medium of Welsh. Let's say it is work in progress, I am very grateful to the whole team here who are constantly supporting and encouraging me to practice and use my Welsh in the work environment.

As an organisation we have been extremely fortunate to receive funding from Welsh Government, to support the sector, to increase the use of Welsh and to make Welsh medium childcare more robust and to increase the number of Playworkers also using the language and enabling the children and families they care for to use it too. In our recently published parents'/carers' survey, several parents expressed the benefits of opportunities their children had to learn or use Welsh in their childcare

setting and even encourage the whole family to use the language more.

You will see throughout this edition our initiatives, there is one for every setting, be its language English, Welsh or bilingual. You will read about our:

Welsh promise endorsed by the Welsh Language Commissioner, the National Centre for learning Welsh, Welsh Government and Care Inspectorate Wales.

CYMell (motivate) project which will support unregistered Welsh medium settings to register, increase the number of qualified Playworkers training through the medium of Welsh as well as a grant fund to support all of this work.

Work Welsh - Camau project which will increase the number of Playworkers learning Welsh and increasing the use of the language.

We are proud to build on our own Cynnig Cymraeg through delivering a brand new bilingual Customer Relationship Portal, where our clubs will be able to update us on how they are running, supporting them with relevant marketing to give them the resources they need most according to how they deliver their service, either through their choice of language, management type or where they are based. All of the information that they provide will allow us to powerfully report to Welsh Government on the state of the sector and what is needed to support it to survive. All clubs will have received an invitation to the portal, and we encourage them to sign up and log in.

Jane O'Toole
 Chief Executive Officer

Wales can mean many things to many people. For some it is a country steeped in history and culture whilst for others it is a place of peace, tranquility and natural beauty. Whatever Wales means to you there is no doubt that it is a special place.

We asked our clubs what they thought about Wales and being Welsh. The general consensus was that everyone is immensely proud of the language and our country. Even though not everyone can speak the language we all like to hear other people speaking it sometimes, it makes us happy even if we cannot understand all of it.

We are a very patriotic country, and we enjoy celebrating some of the national days such as Dydd Gwyl Dewi (Saint David's Day), Dydd Santes Dwynwen (Saint Dwynwen's Day), Diwrnod Shwmae Sumae (Shwmae Sumae Day) and Dydd Miwsig Cymru (Welsh Language Music Day). Everybody agrees that they enjoy the singing, dancing, talking and dressing up that happens on these days but most of all the fun that everyone has.

There is no doubt that Wales is a beautiful place to live, we have gorgeous beaches and breathtaking scenery. There are a lot of places to visit but some of our most favourite places are Llangrannog in Ceredigion because there is lots to do and it's a fun place when you visit the Urdd residential centre. Castell Coch because it looks like a princess castle with its round towers and red walls. Y Senedd with its prize-winning architecture is a sight to behold. Whilst Cardiff was a firm favourite as the capital city of Wales and the shops there are great too!

Even though Wales is quite a small country there are a lot of famous people from here. Gareth Bale was the most popular choice,

What Does Wales Mean to You?

football has an historic place in Wales where the first home game was played in 1877. Dafydd Iwan is well known, especially since the last World Cup. His song Yma o Hyd was written in 1983 and was originally a protest song but is now a firm fan favourite. Alex Jones the One Show presenter hails from Ammanford and speaks fluent Welsh. She is enormously proud of her Welsh roots and promotes the country whenever she can.

Wales is famous for being the land of song. Choirs and music are at the heart of most schools and communities. There are many famous Welsh songs, the national anthem Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau being one of the most well-known. When this is sung it is always with pride, passion and emotion, putting fear into many an opponent. Calon Lan meaning 'A Pure Heart' is another classic Welsh song sung at sporting grounds and by choirs across the country. It has been recorded by the likes of Katherine Jenkins and is a song loved by the nation.

The Welsh love their food and there are several dishes which are quintessentially Welsh. Bara Brith is a traditional fruit loaf where the fruit is soaked in tea overnight. It is

delicious when served with a sliver of butter on it! We all love Welsh Cakes; they are cooked on a bakestone and are traditionally served with a sprinkle of sugar. Originally miners would take them to work as a snack because they were quite robust and didn't crumble. Of course, we couldn't forget the leek which is the national emblem of Wales. This can be found in many traditional dishes such as Glamorgan Sausages and Cawl.

Our Welsh language and culture are incredibly special to us, we are unique in what we have and what we celebrate. Few countries can speak Welsh or understand it, so this makes it extra special! It is important to practice Welsh in a setting even if it is incidentally as children will gain the confidence to use it if they hear it enough.

If you want to add more Welsh opportunities to your setting you can enrol on our Camau course or think about gaining the Welsh Promise, this gives settings ambitious and fun steps to share the Welsh language with the staff, the children and their families. Contact your Childcare Business Development Officer for more details if you are interested.



Congratulations to all Out of School Childcare Clubs in their successful applications for Moondance funding, held by Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs.

£13,000 has been awarded to Out of School Childcare Clubs across Wales to open a provision or to sustain their existing provision.

There are still some grants available, if you think your Out of School Childcare Club would benefit from receiving some funding, contact us using the information on the right, to find out what we have available.

Get in Touch!

You can contact the National and South East Wales team by phone on 029 2074 1000,
 by email: info@clybiauplantcymru.org
 by post: Bridge House, Station Road, Llanishen, Cardiff. CF14 5UW

To speak to the North Wales team by phone on 01492 536318,
 by email: info-nw@clybiauplantcymru.org
 by post: 19, Princes Drive, Colwyn Bay LL29 8HT

You can get in touch with the West Wales team by phone on 01269 831010,
 by email: info-ww@clybiauplantcymru.org
 by post: Unit 2 Clos Gelliwerdd, Cross Hands, Carmarthenshire. SA14 6RX.



Club News

Congratulations **Good Luck!**

Congratulations to Clwb Hwyl, Flintshire who have recently become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and have registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW).

Here are some words that the club kindly shared about our support

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs helped us to set up our committee and register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This was invaluable as it means that the trustees are protected from being liable for losses. Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs also helped us through the process of registering with the Care Inspectorate, developing our cashflow forecast and applying for funding. It is important to be a registered Care Inspectorate Wales setting because we believe it is needed to ensure delivery of high-quality childcare. Our parents needed a club that is open until 6pm; it is only by registering with Care Inspectorate Wales that we have been able to do this. Through registering with Care Inspectorate Wales, we have been able to offer Tax Free Childcare and the Childcare Offer, both of which enable parents to access affordable childcare.

Good luck to Leanne Smith who has taken over Cwmlai Fun Club in Tonyrefeil. With the support of the Childcare Business Development Officer, the club has become a limited company and are going through their re-registration with Care Inspectorate Wales. This ensures that the club has a robust management structure in place, which hopefully means they will be providing childcare for years to come.

Good luck with the re-registration!



Swansea Small Capital Grant Success

Care Inspectorate Wales registered Childcare and Play Providers in Swansea have been celebrating their successes after being awarded funding from the Local Authority's Small Capital Grant. The funding, of up to £10,000.00 per setting, enables settings to undertake various capital works such as general refurbishment, painting, improve outdoor spaces and purchase IT equipment with all funding awarded to be spent by March 31st 2023. We look forward to seeing the exciting work improvements our settings will be undertaking!

New Beginnings!

Good luck to The Afterschool Hub in Caerphilly who have recently opened. The club is based in Pentwynmawr Community Centre and provides after school care. Once their Care Inspectorate Wales registration comes through, they will also be providing Breakfast Club and Holiday Club.

Good luck for a bright future ahead!

What Wales Means to Us TEMPS, Wrexham



We want to know what living in Wales means to the children who attend the clubs we support. With the children please could you answer the following questions?

Club Name: TEMPS

What does living in Wales mean to you and the children at your setting? We in TEMPS love living where the countryside is near by we visit our local Woods Maes Y Pant

What are your favourite places in Wales to visit? Maes y Pant the woods near our club, we love going to Park Hall not far from Wrexham we go every Summer Holiday club

Name 3 world famous Welsh people Catrin Finch, Dylan Thomas, Tom Jones

What Welsh phrases or words do you use in your club? Bore Da. Sut wyt ti? Diolch. Prynawn da. Nos da. Croeso

What do you think is special about our Welsh language and culture? The Welsh culture has

lovely music we like to do Welsh folk dancing, the language is hard to learn.

What is your favourite Welsh song? Men of Harlech

What Welsh food have you tried? Welsh cakes, leek and potato soup

Why do you think it is important to give children opportunities to explore the Welsh language and culture in an out of school setting? We have chosen to live in Wales so it is important to respect the traditions.

Tell us about any other languages you use and other cultures you celebrate in your club.

We are trying learn some Ukrainian words as we have a new club member and his mum working in our club.

Our Welsh Promise gives settings ambitious and fun steps to share the Welsh language with the staff, the children and their families. If you would like more information about this please contact us!

CYMell

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs are delighted to announce an exciting new project, thanks to Welsh Government funding, received through the Childcare Wales Learning & Working Mutually (CWLWM) partnership.

We know parents struggle to find good quality Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) registered Afterschool and Holiday Childcare provision, available through the medium of Welsh. We also know the benefits of access to Welsh medium settings where children can play and socialise using Welsh – and its importance in supporting children as they move through Welsh medium education. The childcare and playwork sector are best placed to support the increase of Welsh in children outside of the school setting, supporting Welsh Governments' vision of a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and our CYMell project will seek to support the provision of quality CIW registered childcare for children and families that is more affordable.

CYMell aims to:

- support unregistered Welsh medium and bilingual Out of School Childcare settings to become CIW registered, allowing them to support the Welsh

language, also to offer more affordable childcare to support families, allowing parents and carers to return to work or training by enabling settings to deliver The Childcare Offer and Tax-Free Childcare.

- train Welsh speaking individuals in Playwork, removing the qualification barrier to the clubs becoming registered with CIW. Additionally, employers will be able to access a bursary for their employees to support them.
- support settings with our dedicated Welsh Language Childcare Business Development Officers
- provide a grant fund to support settings who show a commitment to registration, allowing them to cover the costs of staff attending training and the hours involved in working towards submitting an application to register.

For more information please contact your regional office:

South East Wales: info@clybiauplantcymru.org

North Wales: info-nw@clybiauplantcymru.org

West Wales: info-ww@clybiauplantcymru.org

Remembering Friends

Here at Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, we were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of two of our wonderful learners and would like to pay tribute.

Mariann Griffiths had been in learning with Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs for the past few years, first completing her Level 2, and then progressing extremely well with Level 3. A kind, polite and valued learner who was respectful of others, Mariann had great relationships with all that knew her, children, colleagues and Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs Staff. She was a great advocate for play, bringing in challenging risky play within the setting and regularly changing the views of her colleagues, as well as the Head Teacher. Mariann had a great passion for Playwork, providing a variety of play opportunities for the children and a quality play provision. Mariann will be truly missed by all that knew her.

Deborah Ivins was a valued and respected learner, who had such a positive impact during sessions and she was very supportive of her fellow learners. Deb was kind, respectful and accepting of others, just a few of the traits and qualities of a very good Playworker. Her passion for play and playwork was remarkable and she was excited to bring positive changes and provide good freely chosen play opportunities for the children at the setting.

Deb was highly dedicated to her Playwork qualification, and we know how much it meant to get this qualification. Since her passing, our Training Officers spurred on by how fantastic Deb was in training and motivated to make her dream of being a qualified Playworker a reality; they have reviewed the evidence she has presented, collected witness testimonies and evidence from the online sessions to ensure that she receives the Level 3 Award in Transition to Playwork that she so greatly deserved.



Out of School Conference and Awards Ceremony 2023

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs held our Out of School Conference and Awards Ceremony on 8th February 2023, building on the success of our first online conference last year. Although it would have been lovely to celebrate achievements in person, the online platform, streaming live on Youtube improved accessibility and we were pleased to welcome so many Out of School Childcare Clubs to our event. Thank you to our guest speakers by providing such informative, relevant and interesting updates: Nicola Edwards and Rebecca Johnson (Welsh Government), Kevin Barker and Dawn Duffy (Care Inspectorate Wales) and Janet King (NCFE).

Nine awards were launched in October last year, for which we received many worthy nominations, demonstrating the wonderful work going on in the sector to make a positive difference to children, families and communities. Congratulations to nominated Playworkers, Volunteers, Managers, Committees and Clubs across Wales and the winners. It really is a privilege to support you and your clubs.

Our Winners of the Out of School Childcare Awards 2023

Playworker of the Year: Ross Dingle @ Clwb Carco, Pwll Coch (Cardiff)
A Playworker who embodies the Playwork Principles and has gone above and beyond to provide an excellent service for children, parents/carers and the local community.

"Ross goes above and beyond to ensure the kids have great opportunities to play. He goes out of his way to apply for additional grants and funding to ensure that all children from all backgrounds can attend the club and runs additional sessions during school holiday periods whenever possible. This is invaluable for the kids and for the parents/carers. He arranges additional fun activities for the kids and encourages inclusive play for everyone including kids with additional needs. He is an absolute star and a huge asset to the Ysgol Pwll Coch community. You can see the impact this has on the kids in terms of their wellbeing and opportunities to keep fit and exercise."

Out of School Club of the Year: Dylan's Den (Rhondda Cynon Taf)
A setting that embodies the Playwork Principles and that is an excellent example of the benefit

Shortlisted Clubs and Playworkers

Gwobrau 2023 Clybiau'r Rhestr Fer			Awards 2023 Short Listed Clubs		
TEMPS	HAPPY DAYS	ELEMENTAL ADVENTURES CIC	LCDP ACTIVITY CLUB	KIDS@LULLABYZ	
BIG DARLINGS EXPLORERS	CLWB CARCO PWLL COCH		SIMPLY OUT OF SCHOOL MAES HAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL	TIDDLY TIGER	
BUTTONS & BOWS	CLWB SBORT	CLWB GOGERDDAN	FUNKY FOOTSTEPS	YSGOL Y FENNI	
SCHOOL LANE PRE SCHOOL	CRWBAN BACH		LITTLE GEMZ CHILDMINDING	CLWB TY WENDY BONTNEWYDD	
DEXTERS	WOODLANDS CHILDCARE CENTRE LTD	CONWY PLAY TEAM	MENTER IAITH BGTM - YSGOL BRYN ONNEN	CLWB ALLYS GOL CORNELI SGER	
		CLYLCH CHWARAE PONTARDAWE			

Gwobrau 2023 Gweithwyr Chwarae'r Rhestr Fer			Awards 2023 Short Listed Playworkers		
BETH JONES	CHLOE ADAMS	SIAN MORGAN	RACHEL DUNNING	ELIZABETH DAVIES	
KAYLEIGH FITZGERALD		ROSS DINGLE		JULIE LEWIS	
BERYL BLACKMORE	CHARLENE LOFT	GAIL TAYLOR	HAYLEY EVANS	LAURA KELSON	CERY'S ALLEN
SUSI RILEY	GEMMA GIBBS	AUNTIE HOLLIE	JACK MORGAN	JEN GEORGE	
SOPHIE JONES	MARIE-CLAIRE NORMAN		PAULA PAGE	LINDA BUNKELL	LUCY LONG
JOY MURRAY	ANGHARAD SULLY-WILLIAMS	CHLOE BEES	CHLOE WATSON	KELLY WILLIAMS	
		SIAN SIMS	KATIE LLOYD		

of quality play and childcare for children, families and communities.

"The childcare service offered by Dylan's Den is next to none. The staff are warm and friendly and they had so much fun with my little one when she attended the holiday club there. Lots of activities on offer, lots of outdoor play and a keen interest in healthy eating. She had so much fun there playing, dancing, making smoothies, she didn't want to come home!"

"Dylan's Den was set up in 2008 by a group of parents in need of reliable, trustworthy and affordable childcare in the Rhondda. The provision is accessible to all, and the activities offered to the children support all areas of their development to allow them to reach their full potential."

Champions of Inclusion: Tiddlywinks (Taibach, Neath Port Talbot)
An Out of School Childcare Club that works hard to provide inclusive, quality provision and to

support accessibility for all children, staff and families.

"We pride ourselves in our inclusion values. We feel everyone has a right to be included and we never turn anyone away. We will support children and families to the best of our abilities. One example: - We had a boy that came by taxi all the way from Swansea. Local settings struggled with his behaviour. Fortunately, we were able to support him and his family. Language was one barrier, and he was very frustrated. We focused on activities he enjoyed and worked from there."

Play Champion: Elemental Adventures CIC (Ceredigion)
An Out of School Childcare Club that has championed children's right to play and striven to provide high quality play opportunities for the children in their care

"This Club is held completely in an outdoor location, promoting the different elements of

play within their provision. Children are able to experience different risks and learn about their own personal level of risk. This Club is also very active in apply for grants to improve their outdoor setting, e.g., successfully receiving funding for an outdoor canopy as shelter. Additionally, their location is in the middle of woodland, allowing children to explore and learn from their natural environment, using natural resources for climbing, experimenting, and using imagination. Allowing children to be children."

Learner of the Year: Katie Lloyd, Buttons & Bows (Cardiff)
A learner who has worked hard to achieve or make progress towards a qualification with Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs. This may have involved supporting peers, participating well in sessions, making the most of the learning experience, or overcoming challenges with passion and determination.

"This learner has really engaged with the training. She challenges the way people speak and has been an advocate for play. She has transformed her provision and fully embodied the Playwork ethos, effectively integrating children's rights. She has taken what she has learnt and run with it. She also has supported her staff to achieve their qualifications, well done Katie!"

Commitment to Continuing Professional Development: LCDP (Rhondda Cynon Taf)
An Out of School Childcare Club that is committed to encouraging and supporting its staff to attend training and workshops to enhance their professional development, to support a quality childcare provision to be offered to the local community.

"LCDP run many different Out of school clubs and we encourage all staff with their CPD. We have had many staff take part in play Wales play forum, encourage Playwork qualifications and all mandatory requirements like safeguarding and first aid; they also attend play workshops and any training available to us. Children's right to play is very important to us we like staff to understand how it all works and the values it brings to the children."

Welsh Language Champion: Woodlands Childcare Centre Ltd (Neath Port Talbot)
An Out of School Childcare Club that has championed the Welsh Language and striven to improve the level of Welsh Language incorporated into the Setting and to support their own learning or the learning of others.

"The setting has made a big effort to embed the Welsh culture throughout the setting with many staff enrolling on to the Camau course to help 'bring more Welsh in the workplace'. After receiving a promotional email from Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, a number of staff decided to enrol on the Camau course over the last year and a half, some have even progressed and completed the Entry Part 2 course. The setting as a whole has started to implement the Welsh skills learnt through Camau in to the setting. Staff have begun using Welsh within their daily routine using phrases and words like 'amser snac', amser cinio, and 'amser tacluso' as well as using key Welsh words in the role play corner. Daliwch ati Woodlands! Da iawn!!"

Supporting Staff Wellbeing: Dylan's Den (Rhondda Cynon Taf)
A Manager, Owner, Play Leader or Committee that has striven to support the mental health and wellbeing of their staff, to create a healthy, positive work environment.

"The management at Dylan's Den are so supportive and understanding. The best employees I've ever worked for. Nia and Gina are at the end of the phone any time and don't just help with work issues, the support us on day to day issues too. During Covid not only were we off on full pay we were also paid to do courses to develop ourselves and our practice. Before Furlough was announced they had already made the call that all staff would be off with full pay. They genuinely care about their staff and look after our well-being with regular meetings and also a well-being fund which we have nice things bought for us :) This really boosts staff morale."

Volunteer of the Year: Volunteer award: Linda Bunkell, TEMPS (Wrexham)
A volunteer who has worked hard and invested their own time to support their local Out of School Childcare Club and community.

"Linda is a Trustee in a million, her commitment to the club is amazing, Linda helps with everything, she has been connected to the club for at least 25 years and when the club decided to involve parents more and elect Trustees and become a CIO Linda was at the front of the line to join TEMPS her knowledge, experience and enthusiasm is amazing."

Could you be one of our winners in 2024?

Camau Learn Welsh Achievers 2022 (January – December)

We would like to celebrate our Welsh learners. During the year, we saw an amazing number of Playworkers learn Welsh with us, making meaningful changes to their practice and benefitting children across Wales

Cwrs Chwarae Mynediad 1

Samantha Condick
Sheree Kathleen Williams
My Lam-Davies
Rebecca Robinson
Chloe Jones
Lucy Barnard
Caitlin Gnojek
Stephanie Di Mauro
Keri Ann Merriman
Danielle Sweet
Lauren Jones
Madi Davies
Janey Mags
Keiley Adams
Cerys Jones

Camau M1

Nicola Manley
Stephanie Draper
Shelley Price
Aislinn Kennedy

Camau M2

Eleanor Eccles
Abby Morgan
Ellen Moores
Haidee Knight-Harkus

Llongyfarchiadau!

All Things Welsh Quiz

- When is St. David's Day?
- What does 'Dw i'n dy garu ddi' mean?
- What is the Welsh name for Wales?
- What is the capital city of Wales?
- Name the highest Welsh mountain?
- Why would a Welsh person say 'Nadolig Llawen'?
- What animal is Wales famous for breeding?
- What flower is used as an emblem of Wales?
- Which famous children's author grew up in Cardiff?
- What is the national musical instrument of Wales?
- Many Welsh place names begin with the prefix 'Llan', as in Llanelli, Llandovery, what does 'Llan' mean?
- Name 2 Welsh singers.
- What is the name of the Welsh language television station?
- What were traditionally given as a token of love to girlfriends?
- How is St. David known in Welsh?
- Wales has roughly how many castles? 150, 350 or 600?
- Where do the Welsh national rugby team play their home games?
- Who is the Prince of Wales?



- The Welsh National Anthem is called Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau, what does this mean?
- What is Wales' largest island?

Answers
 1. March 1st 2. I love you 3. Cymru 4. Cardiff 5. Snowdon 6. to wish a Merry Christmas 7. sheep 8. Daffodil 9. Roald Dahl 10. Harp 11. Church 12. Jones, Shirley Bassey, Katherine Jenkins..... 13. S4C 14. Lovespoon 15. Dewi Sant 16. 600 17. Principality Stadium, Cardiff 18. Prince William 19. 'Old Land of My Fathers'; 20. Anglesey

Welsh Activities

Welsh Cakes

What you need:

- 225g of self-raising flour or 225g plain flour sieved
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 pinch of salt
- 100g butter, or margarine, cut into cubes, plus extra for cooking
- 50g of caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling
- 50g of currants or sultanas
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3 tbsp of milk

What you need to do:

- Rub the butter into the flour to make breadcrumbs. Add the caster sugar and sultanas or currants, then stir in the egg. Mix, then form a ball of dough, using a splash of milk if needed.
- Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface until it is 5mm/¼in thick. Cut it into rounds using a 7.5cm/3in biscuit cutter.
- You now need a bakestone or a heavy iron griddle. Rub it with butter and wipe the excess away. Put it on a direct heat and wait until it heats up. Place the Welsh cakes on the griddle and cook for 2-3 minutes on each side, or until golden brown.
- Remove from the pan and dust with caster sugar while still warm.

Tip Some people leave out the sultanas or currants, split them when cool and sandwich them together with jam.



Fundraising Ideas

Lemon balancing

One simple fundraising idea is getting people to balance a pound on a lemon while it's in a bucket of water - if the pound balances they can keep it, if it falls in they have to leave it at the bottom of the bucket.

£5 into £50

Give friends or volunteer fundraisers a sum of money (£5) and a time limit (three months) to increase this by devising a money-generating activity. Ideas include: planting vegetable seeds and selling produce; baking and selling cakes; investing. Award prizes for the most ingenious idea.

50:50 club

Get everyone to donate £1 a month (by standing order if possible). Each month holds a draw when someone wins half the total raised. No licence is required - you just need to ensure at least half the money goes back into prize money.

Memory meal

Transport yourself back to the 60s, 50s or the 40s. Dress in the style of the day and try to cook some dishes of the day.

Mile of coins competition

How many coins will it take? Person with the closest guess gets a prize.

Plant sale

Next time you're planting seedlings or taking cuttings why not double the quantity and have a plant sale later in the year?

Quiz night

Make it for adults and children with an entry fee and a prize for the winning team.

Stand up bingo

Sell bingo cards around the room, each with one number on it. Ask all the participants to stand up. Spin the balls and when a number is called that person has to sit down. The last one standing scoops the prize.

Calendar Sale

Creating calendars is a breeze with prefabricated software or design wizards. Have a theme and personalize with photos and drawings to bump up sales.

Funding Support

We are able to support you with funding applications. We also have a package of resources on our website to help you calculate how much funding you need and to write a strong application. We can help you with a cashflow forecast, to demonstrate to funders that you have comprehensive financial planning in place, and/or short term need for financial support. We have also written some top tips to consider when writing funding applications, and a more comprehensive step by step guide to writing funding applications available for members on our website.

Support us while we support you!

Many of you will shop online. Online shopping through www.easyfundraising.org.uk/clybiauplantcymrukidsclubs doesn't cost you any extra, but allows us to receive up to 15% of all purchases made from the 400+ stores listed, meaning we have more funds available to continue supporting clubs like yours.

Decorating a Love Spoon - A popular gift between lovers in Wales

What you need:

- Wooden spoon
- A piece of white card
- Glue
- Scissors
- Colourful felt pens

What you need to do:

- Collect all of the items you need to decorate the spoon
- Firstly, design the symbols you want to use on a piece of white card with a felt tip pen. (Examples: hearts, horseshoe, flowers, bells, and wheels) These symbols are associated with Welsh Love Spoons
- With scissors cut out the symbols and decide on what symbols you want to decorate the love spoon with
- Next you need to put a small dot of glue on the back of the paper and glue it to the love spoon
- And there you go! Your love spoon is decorated



Efa Gruffudd Jones, Welsh Language Commissioner

The First Minister announced the appointment of Efa Gruffudd Jones as Welsh Language Commissioner in October 2022.

She took up the position in January 2023, taking over the role from the late Aled Roberts. The Commissioner has an important role to play in increasing the provision of services in Welsh and the use of the language and upholding the rights of Welsh speakers.

First Minister Mark Drakeford said "I congratulate Efa on her appointment as the Welsh Language Commissioner. The language has been central to Efa's career – both as Chief Executive of the National Centre for Learning Welsh and as chief executive of the Urdd.

She comes to the post with years of experience of working for the benefit of the Welsh language and of working with Welsh speakers and learners across Wales."

We would like to start by saying a big thank you to the Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner and the Hybu team for supporting us last year to receive our own Welsh Language Offer. We now have a clear plan to follow and maintain and continue to seek to develop our Welsh language services. Thank you.

Congratulations on the new job. How are you settling in? Thank you. Everyone has been very welcoming. It has also been great to visit some organisations and people from various areas of Wales, and to start discussing how I as the Welsh Language Commissioner can work to ensure that the language thrives here in Wales.

What is your role as Welsh Language Commissioner? The Commissioner's main role is to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh here in Wales and we want to see Wales as a country where people can live their life in Welsh.

The office of Welsh Language Commissioner was created by the Welsh Language (Wales) Bill 2011, and gives the Commissioner a number of specific powers to ensure that organisations offer Welsh-language services, and consider the language when making decisions. As a Commissioner I want to work on behalf of the people of Wales to increase the use of Welsh while ensuring opportunities for speakers to use the language – people in Wales should be able to live their life through the medium of Welsh if they wish to do so.

Stepping forward to the next phase, and the Welsh Government's target of one million speakers, I think the Commissioner has an important role to fulfil. I am keen to see the Welsh language increasingly used as a natural, practical language in all aspects of our lives.

What does Wales mean to you? Having been brought up in Morryston near

Swansea and attending university in Wales I am delighted to be working and living in a country that is so rich in traditions and culture. I've spent my career so far trying to make a difference to people in Wales and create opportunities for people to learn and use their Welsh. There is no question that what drives me in my work is my desire to see the growth and success of the Welsh language, and I believe the Welsh Language Commissioner has the ability to make a difference. Living in Wales and speaking Welsh on a day-to-day basis with my family and at work has always been, and continues to be, very important to me. Although Wales is a small country, it has its own unique language and culture. It has a history and traditions that are very important for us to espouse and preserve, and pass on to the next generation.

This is what makes Wales unique, special, and such a lovely place to live. I'm looking forward to promoting Wales and the Welsh language with people in Wales and beyond.

What did Welsh mean to you growing up? The Welsh language is a big part of what has shaped me as a person – I wouldn't be without the Welsh language. I am fortunate to have had access to the language at home and at school but it was at University in Aberystwyth that I realized that life can be lived naturally through the Welsh language. It was as a result of that mainly that I decided I wanted to work to try and ensure that everyone had the same opportunities in terms of using the language. As I have been fortunate enough to be able to use Welsh in my daily life I feel strongly that this opportunity needs to be secured for everyone in Wales.

I've seen over the years, and recently in my role as Chief Executive of the National Centre for Learning Welsh, how the language can enrich people's lives, as they learn, and more importantly use that language in their daily lives. The Welsh language needs to be protected so that its history and culture are also passed on to the next generation. Today, more than ever, it is necessary to ensure that it is the language of institutions, the language of education, politics and technology, but also a living language spoken and used.

What was your favourite Welsh tradition growing up? I loved going to the National Eisteddfod gigs as a teenager. The festival for young people provided by the Eisteddfod is now called 'Maes B' – the festival runs concurrently with the Eisteddfod itself. I'm far too old to go there now unfortunately, but I'm so glad that young people are still having a lot of fun in each other's company and in Welsh!



The Welsh Language Commissioner's office has shown invaluable support for our Welsh Language Offer, noting that there is a real opportunity through the Promise 'to increase the use of Welsh in the sector.' Why is it vital for the childcare and playwork sector to increase the use of Welsh?

The future of the Welsh language is in the hands of our children and young people. They have to be a priority for our work in my opinion. Ensuring that Welsh language education is available in our schools is extremely important, but it is also important that are opportunities to use Welsh outside of class, while playing, socialising and enjoying. The childcare and playwork sector has an excellent opportunity to offer Welsh to children from a very young age. Offering another language to a child early on is a valuable gift to that child to go on to be able to speak and use the language in the future.

Why is it important to create an environment where the language is a natural part of the club's offering to the children?

Children learn a language much more easily than adults. To make it easy for children to learn Welsh, various opportunities need to be created for them to hear the language being used from a young age. It is important that various opportunities are provided for them and their parents to have fun using the language outside of classes and school. Children hear language and learn quickly. By normalizing the language in a fun and playful environment where the child can enjoy and relax, new vocabulary and opportunities to speak Welsh become a natural part of the children's lives as they grow up. The children can also of course inspire the parents to also go about learning the language and it is important for the clubs to encourage that. There are resources to learn Welsh online, and

also classes, available in all parts of Wales by now.

Ensuring the increased use of the Welsh language in Out of School Childcare Clubs gives children and families the opportunity to find opportunities to enjoy the Welsh language, to play and to receive childcare in their chosen language, while preserving the language for future generations. This is of course very important in reaching the goal of one million speakers by 2050.

Why is it important to give children opportunities to explore the Welsh language and culture in an environment outside of school?

Welsh is of course more than a language; it is rooted in a history going back centuries; it is full of traditions unique to Wales, and contemporary, current and exciting culture.

The Welsh language undoubtedly opens doors, enabling children, young people and adults of all ages, and walks of life to enjoy activities of all kinds.

We've seen Welsh in recent times get a lot of attention in sport as a result of the football team competing in the World Cup. Experiencing this and seeing an increase in awareness of the language and its culture on international platforms gives people the confidence to speak, learn and use it.

We need to continue to teach our children from a young age to be proud of the language, and to understand more about the Welsh culture. Children need to have confidence and pride in the language to be able to talk it through with their friends, use it on playgrounds, on platforms, or in whatever area they choose to pursue in their future lives.

What do you think is the impact on communities in increasing the use of Welsh in Out of School Childcare Clubs?

Increasing the use of Welsh in Out of School Childcare Clubs will provide opportunities for staff and parents to gain more confidence to learn and use the language in their work and also in their day-to-day life. A lack of confidence is one of the main reasons why children and young people may be using less Welsh after leaving school.

I would like to encourage staff and parents involved in the clubs to use the language, pass it on to their children, and to ensure that the opportunities to use it increase in the areas where they live.

Increasing the use of Welsh in childcare clubs also increases the opportunities for people to hear the language. I think learning and using the language with their children is a good way to encourage parents and people of all ages to gain confidence – many of whom may have learnt the language when they were younger, but haven't had enough confidence or opportunities to continue using it. Learning simple songs, playing games, and using more Welsh when talking to each other is helpful as families realise what a benefit there is in being able to use the language, not only with their children, but also in the wider community.

How do you think our Welsh Promise will support settings to increase their use of Welsh?

Setting a vision, strategic goals and specific objectives shows that there is a commitment to increasing the use of the Welsh language. The Promise includes an achievable plan and points that agree on how to work together effectively and to inspire everyone involved with the Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs to use the Welsh language for the benefit of the children and the communities where they work.

Being part of a wider strategy helps us all feel that we have a part to play in aiming for a million speakers. It is not someone else's responsibility to increase the number of Welsh speakers, but the responsibility of each and every one of us. The Scheme is intended to help ensure that businesses and charities develop Welsh language services over time and have the support and assistance of the Commissioner and her staff to do so. This is an opportunity to show others that you take pride in the Welsh language and are ready to use it. Through the Welsh Promise Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs will offer sector-specific support and continuing professional development in the Welsh language. There will be information on websites and social media, opportunities to learn the language, and services and information promoted and shared in both languages. This is a great way to encourage and inspire venues across Wales to be increasing the use of Welsh.

Your vision is a Wales where people can live their life in Welsh. Through our Promise there is potential for childcare and play settings to change their working language from English to bilingual or bilingual to Welsh. How do you think our Promise will support your vision?

My vision is to increase the opportunities for people of all ages to use and enjoy the Welsh language in all walks of life. I would love to see Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs make that change, so that opportunities are provided outside school in an atmosphere that is safe, natural and full of fun for children and parents to learn and use Welsh together. Creating the Welsh speakers of the future is a very important part of the goal of reaching one million speakers, and without these opportunities it is impossible for the language to grow and thrive.

Our Welsh Promise gives settings ambitious and fun steps to share the Welsh language with staff, children and their families. What would you say to a setting thinking of signing up to the Promise?

Go for it and work in Welsh! It is very important that more organisations, businesses and charities of all kinds have the opportunity to develop their Welsh language services for the public, and giving opportunities in Welsh to children is vital to the future of the language. In securing support for staff to increase their Welsh vocabulary and offer Welsh language services in locations across Wales, placements are contributing to the transmission of Welsh to the next generation of young people and adults, and which will also of course contribute to the creation of one million speakers by 2050.

If you would like more information please contact hybu@cyg-wlc.cymru or visit the.comisiynyddygyrnaeg.cymru website

Projects

The Welsh Promise

Childcare Wales Learning & Working Mutually (CWLWM) recognises the importance of developing the Welsh language and is proud of taking an active role in contributing to the Welsh Government's target of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050.

As part of our commitment, we are delighted to introduce to you **The Welsh Promise**.

The Welsh Promise is a way for you to increase the use of Welsh and demonstrate how you are working towards the Active Offer, breaking the work down into manageable bite-sized sections. The Active Offer and introducing the Welsh language can seem like a daunting process but the Welsh Promise provides your setting with a step by step guide to work towards this, without getting to overwhelmed. The Promise includes an achievable plan and points that agree on how to work together effectively and to inspire everyone involved to use the Welsh language for the benefit of the children and the communities where you work.

In committing to the Promise, your setting will be able to develop your use of Welsh and create an environment where the language is a natural part of your setting's offer to the children.

Whether your setting is starting from scratch or you are already using some Welsh, the bronze, silver and gold levels allows your setting to use Welsh in a way that is appropriate for you. Once you have achieved one level, you can move to the next and do more with the plentiful help available from Clybiau Plant Cymru Kid's Clubs and CWLWM partners.

We along with CWLWM partners will support your setting through **each certificate/level of the Welsh Promise**, working in manageable sections. The resources also available through CWLWM partners provide practical support, and wider assistance through the Camau Learn Welsh courses provided online through the National Centre for Learning Welsh which further

supports the Welsh Promise by increasing the number of Childcare and Playworkers using some Welsh in settings, supporting their progress to deliver the Active Offer.

The Welsh Promise has been endorsed by the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office which described it as "a way for settings to set clear, ambitious and fun steps to share the Welsh language with their attendees, staff and wider family."

Kevin Barker **Head of Inspection – Childcare and Play Inspection Care Inspectorate Wales** also "welcomed this positive development to support the use of the Welsh language in childcare and playwork settings."

To find out more contact your Childcare Business Development Officer (contact details on page 3).



The National Centre for Learning Welsh is responsible for all aspects of the Learn Welsh sector – from curriculum and course development to resources for tutors, research, marketing and e-learning.

The Centre was established in response to the report, 'Raising our Sights': a review of Welsh for Adults, The Centre operates at arm's length from Welsh Government, which funds it, and it is a member of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David group which won the tender for its establishment.

Putting learners first is the Centre's key priority and the following brand values are embedded in all its activities.

Dona Lewis, has just taken over as the new Chief Executive of the National Welsh Learning Centre.

Huge congratulations on the new job. How are you settling down?

Very well, thanks! I'm lucky that I'm already familiar with the Centre since I was one of the first members of staff when it was set up in 2016. We are a small, friendly group who work happily together. I'm looking forward to building on the good work that has already been accomplished, working with our partners to develop our plans for the future.

Background: (for those who don't already know). What is your role as Chief Executive of the National Centre for Learning Welsh?

I am the Centre's leader, responsible for all aspects of teaching Welsh to adults – from drawing up curricula and courses to training tutors, marketing, research and e-learning. Forming partnerships with organisations, sectors and employers is an important part of

National Centre for Learning Welsh

the work, to ensure enough opportunities to enjoy learning and speaking Welsh.

What does Wales mean to you?

I am passionate about Wales and the Welsh language and strongly believe in welcoming all to learn Welsh. The Welsh language has been central to my career over the last 20 years at least – I was working for Mudiad Meithrin for a long period, supporting young children to learn and enjoy the language, and I am now doing the same at the Centre, with adults.

What was your favourite Welsh tradition when you were growing up?

I was very lucky to have been able to take advantage of many opportunities such as Sunday School and the Aelwyd (the Urdd youth movement), and then when I was a little older I would go to the National Eisteddfod and Royal Agricultural Show. I really enjoyed going to Welsh language gigs too – it was great to be able to socialise in Welsh with friends and enjoy the rich culture that we have here in Wales.



"We are very proud to be supporting the 'Welsh Promise'. This is an exciting step forward for the playwork sector, and fits in with our 'Camau' initiative, which includes online, self-study Learn Welsh courses, tailored for play practitioners."

"Welcoming and supporting people of all backgrounds to learn Welsh is core to our work, as well as creating opportunities for people to enjoy using their Welsh."

Dona Lewis,
National Centre for Learning Welsh

Camau Play Learn Welsh

Do you want to improve your knowledge and confidence in utilising the Welsh language or to increase the use of the Welsh Language within your Playwork setting?

Camau Play is a fully funded, online self-study Welsh language course at entry level, tailor-made for practitioners within the play sector.

The Entry 1 course consists of the following:

- 10 Units (approximately 20 hours of independent learning);
- Learn Welsh to use with children in your playwork settings;

- Tailored printable resources to use in your setting.
- Learning Outcomes:
- Introduce yourself and say where you live;
- Pronounce the alphabet, colours and days of the week
- Masculine and feminine numbering
- Simple greetings: Who are you? Who is she/ he? Who are they?
- Discuss the weather
- Discuss feelings.
- Simple questions, e.g.
- How are you today?
- What are you doing?
- What is it? It is a triangle
- Singular and plural commands,
- Introducing the formal and informal 'your'
- Introducing prepositions
- Mutating after numbers

Our Welsh Language Support Officer will be on hand to support you on your journey and beyond with bespoke, practical, online support sessions, tailored for you.

For further information please contact our Welsh Language Support Officer: sianej@clybiauplantcymru.org



Dydd Gwyl Dewi

Everything you need to celebrate Saint David's Day in your setting is on our website.

Have a look at our Camau Cymraeg Clybiau resource section on our website for our Saint David's Day wordsearch and drawings for the children to enjoy this March.

<https://www.clybiauplantcymru.org/blog/resources/camau-cymraeg-clybiau/>

Camau Cymraeg Clybiau provides you with all the practical support you need to increase the use of Welsh in your setting. Download a range of other colourful posters and activities that include all the key vocabulary you use day to day.



Y Ganolfan
Dysgu Cymraeg
Genedlaethol —
National Centre
for Learning Welsh

Meet our Trustees

Back in November 2022 we were very pleased to announce that Eysyllt Lord has been appointed as our new Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Eysyllt is originally from West Wales, but she has lived in Cardiff for over 30 years since studying at university there. Eysyllt has worked for the National Museum Wales, Chapter and numerous arts organisations and companies, before switching to working with children around 18 years ago. She has been running Cymer Ofal, with her business partner Rebecca Gibbs, offering Welsh Medium Out of School Childcare Clubs in Cardiff since 2012.

Eysyllt said "Working with children and playworkers is always wonderful and expanding the opportunities for children to play in Wales is so important. I am really excited to start as Chair of such a vital and positive organisation as Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs."

Eysyllt has served on our Board of Trustees since 2021 and we are so pleased that she has taken up the challenge of steering us through new opportunities over the next period to help us continue to pursue our vision for Wales where children play, and communities prosper.



Eysyllt takes over from Sam Maitland Price who had served as Chair for the previous 12 months. A big thank you to Sam and the work they have done to support us over this period.

Sam said "I wish Eysyllt the best of luck on her new venture as chair. I'm sure she will continue the hard work and strong voice for sector as we support her to do so."

Meet the Team

Name: Eilw Lois Pierce.

Job Title: Welsh Language Childcare Business Development Officer.

How long have you worked for Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs? Since January 2023.

What is your favourite childhood memory? Going away with family.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Going out for walks with my puppy and spending time with family and friends and socialising.

What does Wales mean to you? Having been brought up in a community where the Welsh culture played a crucial role in my upbringing, Wales has a big place in my heart and being Welsh is something I am proud to be.

What are your favourite places in Wales to visit? Ynys Llanddwyn in Angelsey, Ynys Llanddwyn is named after Dwynwen, the patron saint of Welsh lovers.

Name 3 world famous Welsh people. Tom Jones, Gareth Bale, Roald Dahl.

What do you think is special about our Welsh language and culture? Our language and culture are unique and special something everyone in Wales should be proud of. We are like one big family.

Why do you think is it important to give children opportunities to explore the Welsh language and culture in an out of school setting? I believe every child should have the rights to learn about every aspect of Wales. By giving children these opportunities, it will be the base to securing the development of the Welsh language and giving every child the best start in life.

Name: Megan Pocock-Tommason

Job Title: Welsh Language Childcare Business Development Officer

How long have you worked for Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs? I'm a newbie! But excited to settle into my new role and offer Welsh language support to the Out of School Childcare Clubs.

What is your favourite childhood memory? My favourite childhood memory is visiting many castles across Wales. One year we challenged ourselves to visit as many as we could out of the 427 that are in Wales - my favourite being Castell Carreg Cennen in Carmarthenshire.

What do you like to do in your spare time? In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my little family. I am a Mami of two beautiful children and together, with my husband, we enjoy making memories.

What does Wales mean to you? I feel very privileged to be born and raised in Wales, but even more so to be able to speak its beautiful language. I am very passionate about the Welsh language and culture and this is something I would love to pass on to my children.

What was your favourite Welsh tradition growing up? It would have to be competing in the school, local and national Eisteddfods. Many Eisteddfods are held each year. The Welsh culture and arts are celebrated through the Eisteddfod traditions to help people feel connected to it. It was great fun - a tradition that has now been passed on to my daughter.

What are your favourite places in Wales to visit? As a family, we spend a lot of time on the coast. My happy place is Llansteffan beach. We love going to Llansteffan during summer evenings for a walk along the beach and a cone of chips!



Name 3 world famous Welsh people. Gwenllïan Ferch Gruffydd - A brave warrior princess. Tori James - The first Welsh woman to climb Mount Everest. Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards - Founder of the Urdd, his aim was to protect the Welsh language.

What do you think is special about our Welsh language and culture? The Welsh language and culture are a key part of our identity as a nation. We need to protect it at all costs.

Why do you think is it important to give children opportunities to explore the Welsh language and culture in an out of school setting? Giving children the opportunity to explore their cultural identity gives them a sense of belonging. Being able to provide Welsh language opportunities in settings allows children to develop bilingually which is an asset that will help them reach their full potential.

Name: Paula Carter-Clare

Job Title: Childcare Business Development Officer for South East Wales

How long have you worked for Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs? 6 Months

What is your favourite childhood memory? Walking with my sister to our horses' field, riding in the mountains all day and taking a picnic for lunch. Then we would have to walk the 3 miles home, the worst part of the day when we were tired and hungry but we used to make it fun.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I love going to watch a show in the theatre, I especially love musical theatre. I think Phantom of the Opera is my all-time favourite, I love how dramatic the music and staging are! I also enjoy walking the dog and spending time with my husband and daughters, doing days out.

What does Wales mean to you? Wales means home! I am very proud to be Welsh and love all the traditions that we celebrate. I think this old adage sums it up perfectly *"To be born Welsh is to be born privileged. Not with a silver spoon in your mouth, But music in your heart and poetry in your soul."*

What was your favourite Welsh tradition growing up? I enjoyed St. David's Day as a child. Preparing for the competitions ready for the Eisteddfod, dressing up in traditional Welsh costume, and eating Welsh cakes for dinner! We were then lucky enough to go home half day! Even as an adult working in a school I used to love this.

It's about feeling part of something and being proud. When everyone sings the national anthem at the end of the Eisteddfod it's sung with such passion!

What are your favourite places in Wales to visit?

1. Cardigan - we used to camp here when I was a child and have lots of happy memories. Waking up and spotting seals in the bay below was my favourite.
2. Brecon - we camp here as a family and it is such a beautiful place. Lots of wonderful scenery, peace and tranquillity. I haven't climbed Pen-Y-Fan yet but it's on my to do list.
3. Pembroke Castle - I love visiting castles and all the history that you learn from each one. Pembroke Castle is one of my favourites because of the size, how much of it you can still explore and the activities that are put on there. I would definitely recommend a visit! I really want to visit some of the castles in North Wales but haven't got there yet.

Name 3 world famous Welsh people.

1. Catherine Zeta Jones - I always wanted to be her when she was in The Darling Buds of May.
2. Gareth Bale - Shame he never played for Manchester United, but you can't have everything!
3. Ruth Jones - She went to the same school as me and her sister is my doctor!

What do you think is special about our Welsh language and culture?

The Welsh language is special as it is unique to us and our country. I love listening to people



speaking Welsh and can pick out some words. It is a goal of mine to learn it properly! I think the way we celebrate special occasions is special, such as St David's Day and the Urdd Eisteddfod. They are unashamedly Welsh and patriotic.

Why do you think is it important to give children opportunities to explore the Welsh language and culture in an out of school setting?

Children have the right to learn Welsh and I think it is important so that the language isn't lost. If children hear it they will pick it up and have the confidence to use it themselves, even if it is incidentally to begin with. If they are able to speak Welsh this will be an asset to them in the future and opens more opportunities.

Dydd Gwyl Dewi

Saint David's Day is celebrated in Wales and by Welsh people throughout the world on March 1st.

St David's famous words: *"gwnewch y pethau bychain"* (do the little things) are remembered throughout Wales. It means that the little things that you do can be just as important as the grand gestures.

Why not celebrate St David's Day by following Dewi's words? Here are 10 random acts of Welshness you could do to spread 'Cymreictod' on March 1st.

1) Fly the Flag
Possibly the BEST flag of any country worldwide. Make your own Welsh flags or bunting this St. David's Day. Did you know St David actually has his own flag?

2) Wear a Daffodil or Leek
Our national symbols also make great fashion accessories! Pin them to your hat or jumper. Wear yours with pride this St. David's Day!

3) Cwtsh
Give somebody you love a cwtsh this St. David's Day. Like a cuddle - but so much

better! Anyone can hug but only the Welsh can cwtsh!

4) Support Small Welsh Businesses
Buy Welsh this St David's day and support local Welsh businesses. From clothing, accessories and even resources.

Check out - <https://www.bywcommunity.co.uk/AWelshsmallbusinesscommunitywithsomethingforeveryone!>

5) Make a feast
We love our food here in Wales. Why not make one of our traditional dishes this St David's day? Cawl, Welsh cakes, bara brith and laverbread - Feed me 'til I want no more!

6) Make and gift a lovespoon
The ultimate sign of Welsh love. Each element of a love spoon is symbolic. A beautiful tradition - each one with a unique message and story.

7) Sing and Dance
Pop on a Welsh language playlist and have a boogie!
Here are our top picks:
Dafydd Iwan - Yma o Hyd

Yws Gwynedd - Sebona Fi
Only Men Aloud - Mae Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau

8) Tales of Wales
Here in Wales, we are famous for our myths and legends.

From kings and queens to dragons and giants - read about the tales that shaped our historical landscapes.

9) Go Outdoors
Explore our beautiful country by going for a walk or visiting a famous landmark. Don't let the wet Welsh weather put you off, pop on your Wellies, coats and explore your local area.

10) Say it in Cymraeg
One of the oldest and most beautiful languages in Europe. Even if Welsh isn't your first language, there are lots of ways to practice your Cymraeg.

Try these phrases:
Shw'mae - How are you?
Diolch - Thank you
Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus - Happy St David's Day



Grow Your Own Feast

Spring is a great time to get out outdoors, feel the sun on your face and start growing some fruits and vegetables in your club. An idea that appeals to children and adults alike is a pizza garden which can be adapted to growing spaces of any size. For more ideas such as 'Pea Teepee', 'Hanging Bottle Garden' and others, visit our website to access our Grow Your Own Feast resource pack.

Grow Your Own Feast

Small Growing Spaces



Pizza Garden

Growing a pizza garden is a fun way to get into growing. A pizza garden can be any size or shape, and can even be grown in containers in a sunny spot. It is most fun, however, to make it circular in the shape of a pizza, with triangular slice-shaped beds containing different vegetables and herbs.

If the plot is large, the slices can be divided by narrow pathways or stepping stones, so that you can reach the plants in the centre. In smaller pizza gardens, you can use bricks, stones, sticks or even the spokes of a wagon wheel. If you have a very small space, you could restrict the circle to compact plants like pizza herbs



What you need

- An area of land, any shape but a circle shape like a pizza is more fun
- Sticks – to mark your pizza slices and provide support to your plants
- Seeds of your choice – see below for ideas.

What to grow

Tomatoes
If you only have a small space or nowhere for tomato plants to climb (they can reach 8 foot), look for smaller bush tomato varieties.

Herbs
They are low maintenance, easy-to-grow, and beautiful. They are also perfect for growing in a container on a patio or on a sunny windowsill. Grow whatever herbs you like for your pizza. Basil, Oregano, Thyme, Parsley, and Rosemary are firm favourites.

Peppers
Peppers are delicious as a pizza topping and also are easy to grow. Good choices are bell peppers and sweet or hot banana peppers.

Sweetcorn
They grow tall and can also be used to support your tomato plants, saving space. Plant sweetcorn in groups rather than lines as they need other plants close to pollinate small space, you could restrict the circle to compact plants like pizza herbs

 **Fun fact/top tips**

- Tomatoes and peppers grow best in warm soil. Pick somewhere with lots of sun and shelter from the wind if possible.
- Tomatoes and peppers will need some support to stop them falling over, especially when the fruit is growing.
- Some herbs are called perennial, meaning they keep growing for a number of years. These include Rosemary, Sage, Thyme, Chives, Oregano.
- Lots of things we think of as vegetables, especially salad vegetables, are actually fruits. Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Pumpkin, Peppers, Chilli's Aubergine.
- Tomatoes, Potatoes, Peppers and Aubergines are all part of the same 'nightshade' family. You should not plant these in the same soil in consecutive years.

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Registered charity 1093260





Training Opportunities through the Welsh Language

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs pride ourselves on our commitment to the Welsh language and culture, and we work hard to ensure we are working towards 'increasing the use of the Welsh language, allowing children and families to access play opportunities and childcare in their preferred language, preserving the language for future generations.'

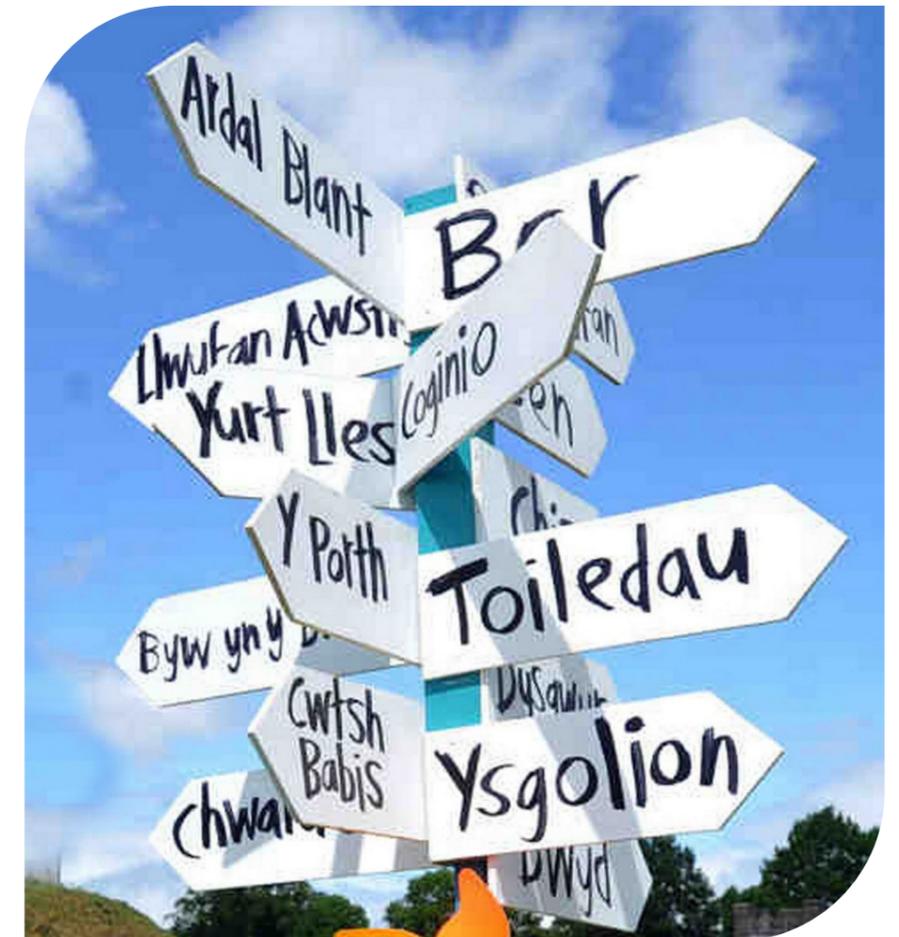
We have developed and adopted a Welsh Pledge. The pledge highlights how we take pride in our commitment to the Welsh language, setting out how we encourage all those we work with to use and appreciate the value of the Welsh language to our culture and communities. We have recently been awarded the Cynnig Cymraeg accreditation, this saw us working closely with the Welsh Language Commissioners Office developing an action plan to support us in achieving the accreditation.

We continue to offer more development opportunities for Welsh speaking learners ensuring they are able to access education and training through their language of choice, thus ensuring the Playwork workforce are appropriately qualified and able to offer childcare places to families through the medium of Welsh.

All learners are given the option to undertake their qualification in Welsh or use as much Welsh as they can and where they have expressed a choice to undertake a qualification through the medium of Welsh, they are matched with a Welsh language Assessor/Trainer.

We have a number of online cohorts currently running through the medium of Welsh where our Welsh language Training Officers have developed bilingual resources including PowerPoints and resource packs to share. To further support all learners, we have also created videos and podcasts; providing Welsh training resources to meet a variety of learning styles.

Feedback received from learners undertaking the training through the Welsh language has been outstanding, with learners reporting they are able to take in information taught and complete work books without the added pressure of translating has been extremely advantageous.



Here are some of the comments provided by the learners;

- Diolch yn fawr am yr adnoddou Cymraeg. Wedi mwynhau sesiwn buddiol a difyr iawn eto heno 'ma. Edrych ymlaen i'ch gweld wsnos nesaf.
Thank you so much for the Welsh resources. Enjoyed a very beneficial and enjoyable session again this evening. Looking forward to seeing you next week.
- Gwych diolch yn fawr iawn i chi am y sesiwn heno 'ma - wedi mwynhau yn fawr. Edrych ymlaen at y sesiwn nesaf.
Great thank you very much for the session tonight - really enjoyed it. Looking forward to the next session.
- Diolch yn fawr iawn am sesiwn difyr a gwych unwaith eto.
Thank you so much for a great and fun session again.
- Diolch yn fawr iawn am yr adnoddau cymraeg, mae'n newid adfywiol i dderbyn adnoddau trwy gymraeg ac i allu cymryd rhan mewn gwersi Cymraeg.
Thank you very much for the Welsh resources, it's a refreshing change to receive resources through Welsh and to be able to take part in Welsh lessons.
- Diolch am yr adborth ar fy ngwaith, mae'n fuddiol derbyn yr adborth a'r gefnogaeth yn Gymraeg fel y gallaf wneud y cywiriadau heb orfod cyfieithu yn gyntaf.
Thanks for the feedback on my work, it is helpful to receive the feedback and support in Welsh so that I can make the corrections without having to translate first.

If you have an interest in completing a qualification through the medium of Welsh then please email training@clybiauplantcymru.org where we will be able to offer the best advice on which training course will suit you best.

Children's Rights in Wales - A Brief History

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (1989) a worldwide treaty for Children's fundamental Rights, was ratified in the United Kingdom in 1991 - Wales was one of 196 countries to sign up to the universal treaty (to date - only the United States of America have not signed the treaty). There are 54 Articles within the Convention: 1-42 are the children's fundamental Rights; 43-54 are the duties and responsibilities of the Government, local authorities, Parents, Playworkers, and adults.

When it comes to promoting and enforcing Children's Rights, Wales as a nation is arguably the most prominent and proactive country in the world! The Welsh Government have written Children's Rights into legislation, ensuring that children are given due regard when decisions are made on their behalf. Government and local authorities' policies, planning, and strategy must consider and reflect the best interests of the child. (See Children's Rights in Wales timeline table below*).

Implications to our practice: our setting policies and procedures must reflect Children's Rights; and Playworkers must consider the needs and interests of each individual child - providing for individual children's Play needs and interests; supporting development of their holistic and life skills; and ensuring their safety, security, and wellbeing.

In present times, Children's Rights (1989) ensure that all children are **Protected**, adequately **Provided** for and have opportunity to **Participate**.

So how did we get here? *Children's Rights in Wales - from the Mines to Present Times...*

Pre-1900's - Children did not have rights as such, and children as young as 5 years old were sent to work in mines, in the poorest of conditions, sometimes without shoes or food. They were exploited and used as cheap labour, working as long as 12 hours with a pittance for pay - many losing life and limb through accidents caused by them falling asleep through exhaustion or boredom. The life expectancy for these children was a mere 29 years!

1900 - Conditions for women and children working underground started to improve after consultation with workers and local councillors, who were concerned with working conditions - this brought the ratification of The Mines (Prohibition of Child Labour Underground) Act 1900 - the UK Act prevented boys under the age of 13 from working in an underground mine and promoted better working conditions.

Children's Testimonies of life in the mines - pre-1900s

The mines were a highly dangerous place to work for an adult let alone a child. Many children were killed and severely injured underground, here are a few things the children shared during a consultation on mine safety pre-1900's:

"Nearly a year ago there was an accident and most of us were burned. I was carried home by a man. It hurt very much because the skin was burnt off my face. I couldn't work for six months." Phillip Phillips, aged 9, Plymouth Mines, Merthyr

"I got my head crushed a short time since by a piece of roof falling..." William Skidmore, aged 8, Buttery Hatch Colliery, Mynydd Islwyn

"...got my legs crushed some time since, which threw me off work some weeks." John Reece, aged 14, Hengoed Colliery

"I went to sleep because my lamp had gone out for want of oil. I was frightened for someone had stolen my bread and cheese. I think it was the rats." Mary Davies, aged 6, Plymouth Mines, Merthyr

"I have been below six or eight months and I don't like it much. I come here at six in the morning and leave at six at night. When my lamp goes out, or I am hungry, I run home. I haven't been hurt yet." Susan Rees, aged 6, Plymouth Mines, Merthyr

Extracts taken from: National Museum Wales. (2011). *Children in Mines*. [online] Available at: <https://museum.wales/articles/1013/Children-in-Mines/> (Accessed: 13 January 2023).

1924 - The League of Nations adopts the Geneva Declaration on the Rights of the Child (1924). The Universal Declaration included the statement: *"...all people owe children the right to support with their development and special help in times of need..."* Recognising that children were vulnerable and treated with injustice, the 1924 Geneva Declaration provided for the most basic needs of the child. It set Rights for children that included: children to be fed adequately; looked after when sick; encouraged to advance in education, and; be cared for and protected from exploitation. You can see from just these few Rights that they inform the basis for the current Children's Fundamental Rights.

1959 - The Universal Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1924) was adopted by the United Nations in 1959 and developed the Geneva Declaration, setting out 10 main Principles to protect children, which included the statement: *"...mankind owes to the child the best it has to give..."* These Principles are still reflected and inform the fundamentals of the UNCRC 42 Children's Rights (1989).

1973 - Set 18 as the minimum age for undertaking work that might be hazardous to a person's health, safety, or morals.

1979 - To mark the twentieth anniversary of the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child, the United Nations General Assembly declares 1979 as the **International Year of the Child**.

Article 27 - UNCRC 1989

Children should be able to live in a way that helps them reach their full physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social potential; and have access to adequate food and housing.

Article 32 - UNCRC 1989

Children have the right to protection from work that is bad for their health or education.

Article 6 - UNCRC 1989

All children and young people have the right to survive and the right to develop. Governments should do as much as they can to prevent the deaths of children and young people.

Article 27 - UNCRC 1989

Children should be able to live in a way that helps them reach their full physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social potential; and have access to adequate food and housing.

1989 - The Convention on the Rights of the Child is adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and, recognised that children must be part of **social, economic, political, civil and cultural life**. The Convention guaranteed and set out minimum standards for protecting the rights of children in all countries and all capacities. The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (est.1946), more commonly referred to as UNICEF, helped draft the Convention.

1991 - UNCRC ratified in Wales and the UK

Present Times - unfortunately, and alarmingly, many countries including China, Indonesia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo as well as other countries in South America and Africa continue to be responsible for trafficking and exploiting children, using them as cheap labour in mines, putting them to work in the poorest of conditions, for a pittance for pay. Alarmingly, it is estimated that 75% of human trafficking victims in West Africa are children. These countries have a way to go before they are meeting their duties in protecting children!

The Welsh Government continue to promote and support Children's Rights with their ongoing commitment in endeavouring to ensure that all children are cared for, have access to good play opportunities within their own communities - and are protected, adequately provided for and have opportunity to participate fully in community and cultural life. See the Play Commissioner for Wales website for further information about Children's Rights in Wales... <https://www.childcomwales.org.uk/>



*TIMELINE TABLE - Legislation underpinning children's rights

1991	The UK Government agrees to ensure that all children have rights as set out in the UNCRC
2001	The first Children's Commissioner for Wales
2002	Wales' National Play Policy published
2006	Wales' national Play Policy Implementation Plan published
2010	Children and Families (Wales) Measure receives royal assent which will place a statutory duty on local authorities to secure sufficient play opportunities
2011	Wales receives the Right to Play Award at the International Play Association conference
2012	Welsh Government begins the first part of the statutory duty to undertake play sufficiency assessments
2014	Welsh Government begins the second part of the statutory duty to secure sufficient play opportunities

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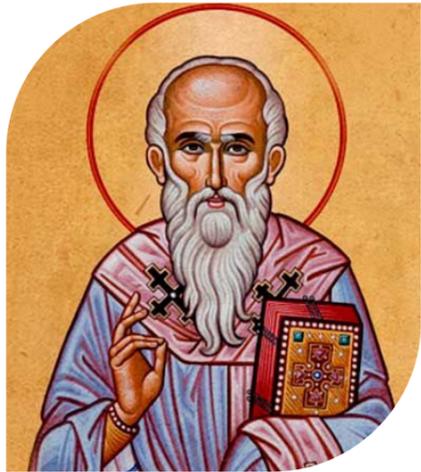
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**Clybiau
Plant Cymru
Kids' Clubs**

Welsh History



St David

March 1st is St. David's Day and this day has been celebrated since the 12th Century. Stories tell us that St. David was born on a cliff top near Capel Non on the South-West Wales coast during a fierce storm.

He grew up to become a priest and it is said that he performed a few miracles in his life including restoring sight. He became known 'Dewi Ddyfrwr' (the water drinker), stories also say that at times in his life springs of water would appear, giving him the name of 'bringer of water'.

Legend also says that during a battle against the Saxons, he advised his soldiers to wear leeks in their hats so that they could easily be distinguished from their enemies.

During his lifetime he founded 12 monasteries including Glastonbury and one at Minevia (St. Davids) which he made his bishops seat. He was named Archbishop of Wales at the Synod of Brevi, Cardiganshire in 550. St. David died on 1 March 589 AD, at Minevia, allegedly over 100 years old.

Gelert

Beddgelert is the resting place of Gelert, the faithful dog of Prince Llewelyn the Great, his story is told on the gravestone:

"In the 13th century Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, had a palace at Beddgelert. One day he went hunting without Gelert, 'The Faithful Hound', who was unaccountably absent.

On Llewelyn's return the truant, stained and smeared with blood, joyfully sprang to meet his master. The prince alarmed hastened to find his son, and saw the infant's cot empty, the bedclothes and floor covered with blood.

The frantic father plunged his sword into the hound's side, thinking it had killed his heir. The dog's dying yell was answered by a child's cry.

Llewelyn searched and discovered his boy unharmed, but nearby lay the body of a mighty wolf which Gelert had slain. The prince filled with remorse is said never to have smiled again. He buried Gelert here".



Melangell

Melangell was an Irish princess, who in the 7th century fled to Wales to live her life as a hermit in Llangynog, Powys, and is the patron saint of hares, small animals and the natural environment.

One day Brochwel, Prince of Powys, was out hunting, the hare that he was chasing hid underneath the cloak of Melangell. She stood her ground and refused to allow Brochwel to continue on.

Impressed by her courage and determination, Brochwel gave her a parcel of land in the valley as a place of sanctuary for herself and all the wild animals that lived there.



Santes Dwynwen

St. Dwynwen is the Welsh patron saint of lovers and St Dwynwen's Day is celebrated on January 25th.

Dwynwen was born in 5th century, she fell in love with Prince Maelon Dafodrill, but she was promised to another. She was so upset that she prayed to be able to forget Maelon, that night she was visited by an angel giving her a gift of a potion to forget him, drinking it would also turn Maelon into a block of ice.

God granted her three wishes. Her first wish was that Maelon be thawed; her second that God meet the hopes and dreams of true lovers; and third, that she should never marry. All three were fulfilled, and as a mark of her thanks, Dwynwen devoted herself to God's service for the rest of her life, becoming a nun and founding a convent on Llanddwyn, Anglesey. It was here she spent her time studying the properties of herbs, and treated all those who sought her. After years of healing she died in 465 AD.

The Flag of Wales

The Welsh flag is said to be the oldest flag that is still in use with the oldest record of a dragon being used to symbolise the Welsh was around 820 AD, it was officially adopted as the national flag in 1959.

There are many stories as to the origin of the dragon and one story begins with a Celtic King named Vortigen. Now Vortigen wished to build himself a castle and thought he had found the perfect place at Dinas Emrys and so work began. Unfortunately, no matter how many times they built the walls during the day they would return the next morning to the walls collapsed. A young boy happened to come along one morning, some tales say this was a young Merlin, others say Gwydion, the boy told the builders to dig below the foundations and there they would find the cause.

The builders dug down and found 2 sleeping dragons in a cavern, one white and one red. The dragons slept during the day and fought at night causing the walls of the castle to collapse. On releasing the dragons from the cavern, they began their fight again with the red dragon victorious.



A Quality Welsh Setting

If you are a registered childcare provision you should continually be reviewing the service you provide throughout the year. Understanding where you may need to adjust how you operate or where you may need to develop your service to meet the needs of children, families and your community. As part of this you should be able to utilise constructive feedback and this will support how you review your provision.

Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) will inspect your registered club to ensure you are providing a service within the Regulatory Guidance - National Minimum Standards regulations (NMS) [National Minimum Standards for regulated childcare \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/national-minimum-standards-for-regulated-childcare).

When you are inspected they will consider four core themes: Well-being; Care and Development; Environment, and; Leadership and

Management. They may carry out full inspections as part of a planned inspection schedule. [Inspection framework for childcare \(careinspectorate.wales\)](https://www.careinspectorate.wales/inspection-framework-for-childcare).

You should be inspected approximately 6 months after the club is newly registered and operational. Ongoing from this Out of School Childcare Clubs will expect to be inspected at least once every three years. You may be visited for a focused inspection, concerns are raised or to follow up any areas that require improvement identified within a previous inspection. Inspections are unannounced and there is guidance available within CIW website. [How we inspect Childcare and Play Services \(careinspectorate.wales\)](https://www.careinspectorate.wales/how-we-inspect-childcare-and-play-services) your club will be provided with an outcome of *Excellent*, *Good*, *Adequate*, or *Poor* which will be published

within your inspection report. It is important to ensure you are always inspection ready as this will support you to provide a consistent quality childcare provision, we have some tips to support you and your team.

Quality of Care

Have you reviewed the care you provide within the club within the past year? The inspector will want to review this and cross reference this with any changes made or recommendations from your findings. You will be required to send a review of the quality of care at the service to CIW annually with your Self-Assessment of Service Statement (SASS). This should be available for inspection at all times.

Statement of Purpose

Ensure you have the most up to date Statement of Purpose available for inspection. The inspector will want

to verify that you have information about your club available for the parents or other visitors.

Opportunities for Play

Are there plenty of resources and experiences accessible for the children to explore the quality play environment. Are the staff qualified and familiar with the Playwork Principles and is playwork practice observed within every session?

Opportunities to explore the Welsh Culture and Language

How are you supporting your team to develop the Welsh language within the setting? Do you have a Welsh Promise and are you able to demonstrate you are working to Bronze, Silver or Gold within the day to day activities in the club. This is a positive step to evidence you are supporting the Welsh language within the setting. When CIW inspectors are inspecting a service one of the areas that they look at is if the setting is delivering on the Active Offer.

The Welsh Promise can support settings to make that initial step and carry them through the journey to the Active Offer, or as far as they want to go on that journey. Kevin Barker, Head of Inspection Childcare and Play Inspection Care Inspectorate Wales *"welcomed this positive development to support the use of the Welsh language in childcare and playwork settings."*

Chilids' Voice

It is important that you are able to listen to the children so that their voice is heard. Evidence of this can be through information within the club, feedback boards or photographs. Children's engagement within activities will evidence that they are happy within the club. Comments and suggestions made by the children are positive when reviewing your service, ensuring the experiences are led by the children will support the development of the club.

Ensure You Have Robust Record Keeping Systems

Ensuring all records are available for inspection purposes. This includes contracts and agreements with parents, registers that are clearly recoded and up to date, attendance

information, collection of children and contact details.

Children's Information

Information regarding each child should be available for inspection and securely locked away. If you have electronic versions of registration information regarding the child's individual needs such as support required, dietary requirements, medical needs, these must be available for CIW to inspect on an unannounced visit. You will be required to demonstrate that you have reviewed each child individually and have been able to provide your service meeting their individual needs.

Health & Safety Checks

Check that your risk assessments are reviewed regularly or when required. You may have new equipment or resources that require a risk assessment, is this in place and do staff and children fully understand the risks? Have all your electrical equipment items been PAT tested and do you have records of all check that have been carried out for the environment to be safe.

Policies Reviewed and Updated

Policies should be reviewed at least annually and if there are changes within legislation or practice this should be reflected within your policies and procedures. The inspector will want to review these against observed practice within the club to ensure there is consistency, therefore, ensuring that your staff team are familiar with each policy and implementing this at all times will support your leadership and management.

Staff Files – Qualification & Training

Are all staff files completed with reference checks, Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) updated number checks, any training or updated qualification certificates



and changes to staff personnel information. The inspector will also expect to see supervision and appraisal records carried out with each member of staff.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, disclosures or investigations then these should be safely and confidentially locked away. If there has been an allegation made or a concern raised then the inspector may need to review the information.

Complaints

You must keep a detailed record of complaints made to the club. This must be available for inspection.

Don't forget, whatever you need to support quality and development within your setting we can help you every step of the way. Our Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs Childcare Business Development Officers are always on hand to point you in the right direction to ensure your developing your business to achieve the best possible outcomes.



Activities

Holi Festival March 18th

Holi is a Hindu spring festival full of colour, singing and dancing that marks the beginning of spring. Traditional celebrations include throwing coloured powders at friends and family, as well as enjoying deliciously sweet Indian treats. Celebrations start with a Holika bonfire on the night before, and people gather to sing and dance. On the morning of Holi the real fun begins, where everyone chases each other around with dry paint or coloured water, in water pistols or balloons!

- Have a colour fight.
- Make a rainbow on your plate. Present different coloured foods (fruit and vegetables are excellent for this) and create your own rainbow plate.
- Make colours dance! Take two transparent jars and add ice cold water in one jar and hot water in another. Squirt two-three drops of food colour into both the jars. As the colour mixes in the water, it appears to be dancing. Do not stir! Which jar colour dances/mixes faster?
- Make nature inspired Holi cards using leaves and petals.
- Make magic posters. Write 'Holi' using white wax crayons in the centre of a piece of paper in big, bold letters. Add different paints and water to spray bottles to make spray paint. Clip the paper on a clothesline using clips. Spray colour the paper using different spray colour bottles. The water will slide off from the wax crayons, colouring the remaining parts of the sheet.



Colourful Holi Bunting

What you need:

- A large sheet of card
- Paint
- String

What you need to do:

1. Drip or squirt paint in lots of colours across the card.
2. When the paint is dry cut the card into triangles.
3. Use a hole punch to punch holes at the top of each triangle.
4. Thread onto string and hang.

Ramadan – 22nd March 2023

Ramadan is a special time for Muslims. Ramadan begins when the new crescent moon appears in the skies and ends after a month, depending on the moon cycle. This means that Ramadan will not start on the same day each year according to the Gregorian calendar. In the UK in 2023, Ramadan starts on the evening of the 22nd of March. During this month, most Muslims will observe sawm, by fasting (not eating) from sunrise to sunset. Muslims do this to practice self-discipline and control and develop empathy with and compassion for those who are less fortunate than themselves. People are encouraged to be more kind and generous. At the end of Ramadan, people will celebrate the breaking of the fast with a three-day celebration called Eid al-Fitr. Be mindful of people fasting.

Make:

- A kindness/gratitude calendar
- Ramadan decorations and lanterns
- A crescent moon and stars mobile

Kindness/gratitude calendar poster

Children can create their own individual or group kindness/gratitude calendar poster adding kindness or gratitude prompts for each day of Ramadan.

What you need to do

1. Discuss ways to show kindness and gratitude.
2. Create individual or a larger group calendar month poster in the shape of a mosque.
3. Write down your chosen gratitude/kindness prompt into each day of the month
4. Decorate your calendar
5. Check your calendar daily to remind you to be kind and show gratitude. Talk to your friends and Playworkers about how you felt.

Examples of gratitude prompts could include the following, or take inspiration from our 10

[ways to be kind and inspire kindness in others resource.](#)

Smile at someone

Ask someone if they would like to play with you
Talk to someone you don't usually play with in club

Say 3 good things about yourself
What moment today was special?

Compliment someone

What in nature are you especially grateful for?
Open the door for someone

Make a gift for a friend

Donate to a food bank

Make someone smile

Help a friend

Give someone a hug

Make someone laugh

Sing your heart out

What sights and sounds are you grateful for?

Say thank you to your playworker/parent/teacher/sibling

Feed the birds