

Governors' Report to Parents 2022-2023



Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon
Shotton

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A message from the Chair

Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to present the annual *Governors'* report for the academic year 2022/23.

This year has seen things return to normal at Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon due to the lifting of the Covid-19 pandemic regulations. I would like to thank Mrs. Goldsmith, the Senior Leadership Team and all the staff for the way they have continued to improve standards and move the school forward.

The school continues to follow all Welsh Government Guidance and Framework. The Curriculum for Wales is well underway and embedded in the planning. The Additional Education Needs (AEN) Code of Practice is also being implemented. It has been another successful year for Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon and the school continues to thrive. The school has a very good reputation in the community, pupil numbers have increased further and we have welcomed many new families. Ballet Cymru has continued to tutor the scholars in the Duets programme and the second cohort was completed in the Summer. The outdoor facilities are well used playing an important part in the Curriculum and during pupils' breaks. The 'Daily Mile' is in constant use and the canopies for each classroom have been invaluable in ensuring that there is plenty of shade for the children.

The school has been able to extend its sporting activities now that restrictions have been lifted and everyone was able to enjoy Sports' Day for both the Key Stages. A dance group represented the school in the local, County and National Urdd Eisteddfod-the performance in the National was excellent and they gained 2nd place in the whole of Wales. We were delighted at their success. Pupils from the school also performed at the local schools' Eisteddfod.

We have renewed our ASD Aware School award. The school has also achieved the reaccreditation of being a Numicon Advocacy School with other Flintshire schools attending Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon to be trained in the use of Numicon. Nurture provision, under the National Schools Programme continues to thrive and is an excellent example of the wellbeing provided by the school for learners and staff.

Thank you to Mrs Goldsmith and all the staff for their dedication and hard work in continuing to provide a high standard of education for all the pupils at our school. Thank you, too, to all the Governing Body for their voluntary efforts and commitment to the school.

Finally, my thanks, on behalf of the Governing Body, go to you all, as parents and carers, for your continued support of the school. Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon continues to go from strength to strength because everyone works together for the benefit of all pupils.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Madoc-Jones

The Governing Body Membership

The Governing Body comprises of 14 members, made up from representatives of Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon, the Local Authority and Shotton town community, all working to achieve the very best for the school, learners, staff and community.

Each Governor serves a four year term of office. They are extremely supportive and accessible.

The Body is made up of:-

3 members selected by the Local Authority

3 members are Community Governors

4 members are representatives voted by the parents

1 member represents the Community Town Council

1 teacher representative

1 staff representative

and the Headteacher

The present Governing Body members are as follows:

Chair	Mrs Margaret Madoc-Jones	LA Governor - contactable through the school office	January 2025
Vice Chair	Mrs Kelly Mapp-Jones	Parent Governor	July 2024
	Mrs Debbie Goldup	LA Governor	January 2025
	Cllr Sean Bibby	LA Governor	September 2024
	Mrs Susan Francis	Community Governor	May 2024
	Mrs Yvonne Perry	Community Governor	September 2025
	Mrs Lee Thomas	Community Governor	May 2025
	Cllr Dean Stenner	Minor Authority	July 2026
	Mr Steven Harrison	Parent Governor	January 2024
	Miss Sarah Blythe	Parent Governor	May 2025
	Mrs Hannah Price	Parent Governor	May 2025
	Ms Pauline Lewis	Teacher Governor	September 2024
	Mrs Claire Bow	Staff Governor	September 2024
	Mrs Nia Goldsmith	Headteacher	
Clerk	Mrs Deborah Edwards	Clerk contactable through the school office	

National School Categorisation

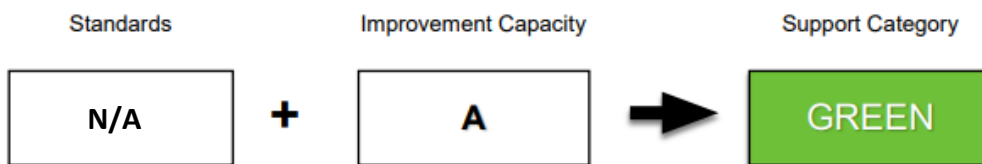
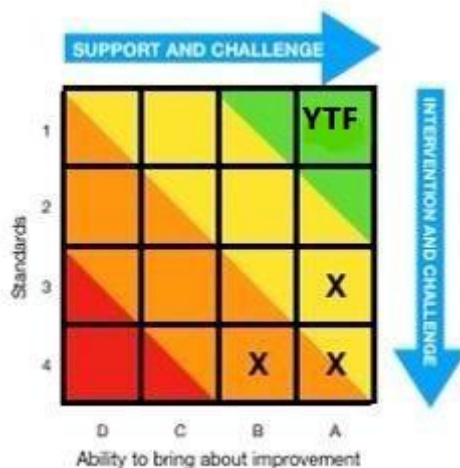
The information below was how the school was categorised before it was abolished by Welsh Government.

The National School Categorisation System provides a clear and simple way of understanding how well a school is performing for its learners, how effectively it is led and managed, the quality of teaching and learning and the level of support and challenge it needs to do even better.



Standards and the ability to improve are assessed and monitored in all schools in Wales to help identify those that are in most need of support. A colour is allocated according to need. **Green** is allocated to the top performing schools, **yellow** for good schools, **amber** for schools in need of improvement and **red** for those in most need of support for improvement.

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon moved from Amber to Yellow during the academic year of 2017/18. During academic year 2019/20 Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon moved from **yellow** to **Green**. This is due to the hard work and commitment of all staff and stakeholders at all levels.



“A highly effective school which is run well, has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvement. These schools have a track record in delivering excellent outcomes for their learners and have the capacity to support other schools to do better.”

A guide to the [National School Categorisation System](https://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/180131-national-school-categorisation-system-guidance-en.pdf) is available that explains the system in more detail.

<https://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/180131-national-school-categorisation-system-guidance-en.pdf>

Financial Statement April 2022-2023

YSGOL TY FFYNNON (391)

FINANCIAL OUTTURN 2022/23

BUDGET HEADING	BUDGET 2022/2023	EXPENDITURE 2022/23	DIFF + OR (-)
BALANCE FROM 2021/22	279,763		279,763
EMPLOYEES	1,186,480	1,311,340	124,860 -
PREMISES	96,065	96,134	-69
TRANSPORT			-
SUPPLIES	41,365	155,505	114,140 -
ADULT MEALS		29,299	29,299 -
SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS	47,203	47,765	-562
INCOME		-252,320	252,320
TOTAL 2022/2023	1,650,876	1,387,724	263,152

A gift of £200.00 was received from Shotton Town Council to spend on new reusable drinks bottles for the children.

End of Key Stage Statutory Assessment Results - obsolete

Assessment

End of Key Stage Statutory Assessments are no longer statutory and therefore May is no longer allocated for National Testing. Levels and outcomes are no longer used as the learners are on a continuum of Progression Steps 1- 6 for learners aged 3 to 16.

All children at all levels throughout the school are continually assessed throughout the year.

We allocate a week per term to administer formative assessments which include Youngs Spelling, Salford Reading and Inspire Mathematics. RWInc testing is also used.

For those learners who need it we use BPVS and Ravens.

The data collected is used to inform next steps and to ensure that the children are making progress. Staff discussions and pupil progress meetings take place in order to decide what extra provisions and interventions are needed.

For pupils in our resource setting we use the Bsquared assessment software which breaks down targets into smaller more manageable steps.



Main Strategic priorities 2022-23

Target 1

To further embed and ensure the successful implementation of the Curriculum for Wales across the school.

Target 2

To continue and further improve standards in Welsh in KS2 and pupils' knowledge of Welsh culture across the school.

Target 3

To continue to focus on the social, emotional and mental wellbeing of learners and staff.

Attendance and absences 2022/23:

Attendance for 2022/2023:

Class	Attendance %	Authorised Absences %	Unauthorised Absences %
6	91.9%	6.5	1.6
5	91.5%	7.3	1.2
4	91.2%	8.1	0.7
3	91.2%	8.0	0.8
2	89.2%	8.7	2.1
1	90.4%	8.4	1.1
R	86.4%	11.2	2.1
Whole School	90.0% (93.5%)	8.4% (5.6%)	1.7% (1.1%)

Attendance in brackets is for the previous academic year which shows a 3.5% deterioration in attendance.

There are two types of absence: authorised and unauthorised. Unauthorised absence is absence without approval from the Headteacher of the school. A phone call does not in itself authorise an absence, only the Headteacher's acceptance of the explanation offered by the letter or phone call authorises the absence.

An explanation is required for every absence. If one is not forthcoming the absence will be treated as unauthorised.

Regular unauthorised absence is an offence in law. A Fixed Penalty Warning notification will be given at 5 days' unauthorised absence, followed by a Fixed Penalty Notice for 10 days or more unauthorised absence

Evaluation of 2022-23 Priorities

Target 1

To further embed and ensure the successful implementation of the Curriculum for Wales (CfW) across the school.

Final Evaluation

Very good progress has been made.

- Curriculum rationale for the school has been produced and is a working document.
- All relevant training / meetings held in relation to the CfW have been attended by SLT and AoLE leads.
- Collaborative working has taken place with schools within the consortia.
- June 5th 2023 all staff including Teaching Assistants have had INSET on the CfW and allocated AoLEs to be responsible for.
- Characters for the four purposes have continued to be used and are familiar to the children.
- All planning throughout the school ensures breadth and coverage of the curriculum.
- All staff collaborated to create a two-year cycle of topics with big questions to answer in relation to the topic.

Target 2

To continue and further improve standards in Welsh in KS2 and pupils' knowledge of Welsh culture across the school.

Final Evaluation

Strong progress has continued.

- Work continues for Gwobr Aur (Gold Award). It is participated to be assessed in the Autumn Term
- Guidance available from the Athrawon Bro.
- Cross curricular Welsh themes in all planning.
- Our annual Eisteddfod has been reintroduced and held competitions for singing in Welsh, reciting in Welsh, handwriting and art. Children and staff came to school dressed in whatever Wales meant to them.
- A dance group competed in the Urdd competition and gained 2nd place in the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Llandovery.
- A consortia Eisteddfod was held at the Civic Hall in Connah's Quay where we competed in singing, reciting and art. We were successful in all three categories.
- All topics have a Welsh link to develop knowledge of Welsh heritage and culture.
- Another teacher who attended the Welsh sabbatical maintains a link with consortia schools to work collaboratively.
- All displays throughout the school have Welsh work and wording to help promote the ethos and knowledge of Welsh culture.
- Three teachers who attended the sabbatical now further their knowledge of the language by attending night classes.
- Whole school assemblies and song practise have a Welsh element, listening to Welsh music on entry.
- Children attended Hollybank Nursing Home to sing Welsh songs on St David's Day.
- The Welsh Whisperer came into school to compose a Welsh School anthem which is now sung regularly in assemblies.
- Tocynnau iaith are awarded to children by the Criw Cymraeg for those children who have been heard using Patrwm yr Wythnos.
- Siaradwr Cymraeg yr wythnos is still celebrated weekly in every class and in sharing assembly.
- School news is published monthly in Papur Fama.
- Welsh signage has been installed around the school outside for example, alphabets, clocks, native animals.

Target 3

To continue to focus on the social, emotional and mental wellbeing of learners and staff.

Final Evaluation

Strong progress has been made. Wellbeing week for staff at the end of every month.

- 'Connect' breakfast organised for INSET days.
- After school wellbeing events for staff and local residents - 'Coffee and Candles', 'Let's celebrate wellbeing'
- Wellbeing activities including yoga implemented in school and will be an extra-curricular activity in the Autumn Term for learners.
- Wellbeing information workshops for parents/carers placed on school website.
- Playful Futures continues at lunch break.
- Clwb Camau Bach - Nurture provision is thriving.
- Jigsaw (PSE Programme) has been adopted in all classes after strong feedback of its success.
- KiVA continues to promote good behaviour.
- 'Managing Behaviours of Concern' training for all staff.
- Outdoor work is seen regularly in all classes. New canopies installed have enabled the outdoors to be used more in all weathers - for shelter and shade.
- DUETS Ballet Cymru continued with the second year of the second cohort of scholars. They performed a curtain raiser at Theatr Clwyd on November 20th 2022 and watched Ballet Cymru perform afterwards.
- A group of children performed in the Cheerleading festival held on May 21st at Deeside Leisure Centre.
- Both Resource Provision classes take part in yoga every Friday.
- Ben McLellan music teacher attends both resource classes every week.
- Summer night out for staff arranged.
- Counselling for other staff members.
- Active Day (under the Active Maths umbrella) took place where learners actively worked in the outdoors on Numeracy and Literacy rich tasks. Positive feedback from learners, staff and parents was received.
- The majority of classes throughout the school are using the outdoors more and by using pupil voice are planning activities to incorporate outdoor activities. This extends and enhances skills already taught in the classroom.
- Tyfu fyny and Activity Mat used to educate the learners.
- Wellbeing audit was scrutinised to establish the needs of parents and staff.
- CQHS have been into school weekly to support learners moving to high school.
- Wellbeing activities included yoga, walk and talk, book basket, bacon butty and a catch up took place for all staff and were successful.
- All staff at all levels have had Performance Management reviews or appraisals. All feedback was positive.
- Active wellbeing display in the corridor with all classes contributing and a Wellbeing display by the junior classes to show work that was produced upon the return of the learners after lockdown
- Wellbeing books are also on display.
- Wellbeing information board in the staffroom.
- Extension to the trim trails.
- The Caban Clyd (outdoor sensory shed) and Ciwb Clyd (indoor sensory tent) are used regularly.
- A trampoline has been installed to help those with sensory needs.
- Daily Mile used daily by all classes.
- The community garden has been used regularly to grow flowers and vegetables.
- Year 5 took part in Theatr Clwyd's School Fest at Wepre Park
- Exotic animal visit for all children throughout the school

Summary of Targets set by the Governing Body - Assessments

All children at all levels throughout the school are continually assessed throughout the year.

We allocate a week per term to administer formative assessments which include Youngs Spelling, Salford Reading and Inspire Mathematics. RWInc testing is also used.

For those learners who need it we use BPVS and Ravens.

The data collected is used to inform next steps and to ensure that the children are making progress. Staff discussions and pupil progress meetings take place in order to decide what extra provisions and interventions are needed.

For pupils in our resource setting we use the Bsquared assessment software which breaks down targets into smaller more manageable steps.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

We are proud to be an inclusive school that values our differences and aims to ensure that every pupil has the support and opportunities to realise and meet their potential. The Achievement and ALNCo implement the school Additional Learning Needs Policy (available from the school office or website).

Their work entails:

- Reviewing the progress of pupils and identifying those who would benefit from additional support as part of the 'Universal Offer' of the school.
- Working to develop 'Person Centred Practice' to ensure that the pupil is at the heart of planning any additional support they may require.
- Coordinating the work of Teaching Assistants who provide additional interventions to individuals and groups and monitoring the effectiveness of these.
- Planning Annual Reviews for pupils who have Statements of Special Educational Needs/Individual Development Plans and working with colleagues in the Inclusion Service to seek further guidance and assessment where required. (Educational Psychology Service, Inclusion Services, etc.)
- Quality Assurance of Individual Development Plans and ensuring that these focus on person-centred outcomes. We value the diversity of all members of our school community and actively seek to provide the best for all pupils; through a person-centred approach.

The support for Additional Learning Needs in Wales has changed as the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Act is implemented. These changes aim to ensure a person centred-approach and stronger emphasis on multi-agency working. Further information is available from the school website or the ALNCo (Mrs Bethan Donnelly).

Learners with Disabilities

We have an Equal Opportunities Policy and any new learners with disabilities are treated the same as able bodied learners. The school is fully compliant with Disabled access and use as the building is only 10 years old.

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon is a fully inclusive school.

School Policies

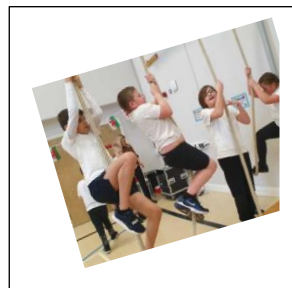
All school policies are reviewed and updated as part of a rolling programme. Policies are available to view on request. Some policies are available on the school website.

School Prospectus

The prospectus has been revised and updated. A link can be found on the school website or by request from the school office.

School Curriculum

Classes are taught from Nursery through to Year 6 following the curriculum for Wales. Classes can be taught in mixed year groups or singular year groups. This is reviewed annually to cater for the change in learner numbers as Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon is a transient school which means year group totals often change during the school year. Two classes are provided for the Resource learners - one for Foundation Phase aged children and one for Key Stage 2 aged children. However, the Local Authority will often ask for ages in both Resources to be more mixed. Additional provision is provided for those learners in mainstream targeted for Basic Skills intervention and those deemed to be more able and talented. It is an overriding priority that all learners reach their fullest potential and our provision is organised to achieve that end.



Curriculum for Wales

Education in Wales has changed - and teachers have been given licence to provide a curriculum bespoke to the school, their cynefin and their class. For the first time in 30 years, the profession has been encouraged to be innovative, try new things and think anew about what it means to live, work and learn in Wales.

The previous curriculum arrangements, devised in 1988 before the World Wide Web, are no longer fit for purpose. We live in a very different world; technological advancements have shifted the goalposts and the higher-level skills demanded by employers have changed. What and how children learn has evolved, and this curriculum has been being designed and developed in preparation for an exciting new era.

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon are **excited** to provide the curriculum in a more modern and up to date way. This was launched in September 2022. The changes have been brought about by the Welsh Government, as studies of International Curriculum and Estyn reports have suggested that, in some areas, achievement is not as high as it could be.

We have been fortunate as a school to be given the opportunity to work alongside many of our colleagues in education to develop and shape this exciting new journey for our children.

Important things that you need to know:

- In Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon children will continue to learn in a range of different ways - including focusing on skills, experience and knowledge. We will continue to provide our children with enriched learning experiences including many [Learning Outside the Classroom](#) opportunities.
- The principles of the Foundation Phase (which we have always had) will stay the same and become part of a seamless curriculum transition from 3-16 year olds. Foundation Phase principles will be transferred throughout the school up to Year 6. There will be no 'end of key stages' as they are now.
- There will be 6 **Areas of Learning and Experiences (AoLE)**:
 - Expressive Arts
 - Health and Well-being
 - Humanities
 - Languages, Literacy and Communication
 - Mathematics and Numeracy
 - Science and Technology

These will replace the current Foundation Phase Areas and National Curriculum.

- There are four purposes to the curriculum and they are central and at the heart of the curriculum, driving it forward. They are what we want our children to be like at the end of their journey through our curriculum. The four purposes are:
 - **Ambitious, capable learners** who are ready to learn throughout their lives.
 - **Enterprising, creative contributors** who are ready to play a full part in life and work.
 - **Ethical, informed citizens** who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.
 - **Healthy, confident individuals** who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.
- Teachers have a Literacy and Numeracy framework, which is already embedded, and a digital competence framework, to develop their ICT skills.

The school has received a **Professional Learning Grant** from the Welsh Government to support the CPD of teachers to help them prepare for the introduction of the Curriculum in Wales. In 21-22, Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon received £6,946 to support this process. Staff are collaborating within school, the Connah's Quay schools Cluster and beyond to innovate and explore curriculum design. They will be visiting and sharing with other schools and receive training to develop different pedagogical approaches that can support this process and AoLEs.

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon Academic Year 2022-23 & 2023-24

2022-23

Autumn Term	
01/09/22	Staff Training Day
02/09/22	Staff Training Day
05/09/22	Term Starts
19/09/22	Bank Holiday - State funeral
27/10/22	Close for Half Term
28/10/22	Staff Training Day
07/11/22	School Re-Opens
23/12/22	End of Term
Spring Term	
09/01/23	Staff Training Day
10/01/23	Term Starts
17/02/23	Close for Half Term
27/02/23	School Re-Opens
31/03/23	End of Term
Summer Term	
17/04/23	Term Starts
01/05/23	May Bank Holiday
26/05/23	Close for Half Term
05/06/23	School Re-Opens
19/07/23	End of Term
10/07/23	Staff Training Day

2023-24

Autumn Term	
01/09/23	Staff Training Day
04/09/23	Term starts
27/10/23	Close for Half Term
06/11/23	School Re-opens
21/12/23	End of Term
22/12/23	Staff Training Day
Spring Term	
08/01/24	Staff Training Day
09/01/24	Term Starts
09/02/24	Close for Half Term
19/02/24	School Re-Opens
22/03/24	End of Term
Summer term	
08/04/24	Term Starts
06/05/24	May Bank Holiday
23/05/24	Close for Half Term
24/05/24	Staff Training Day
03/06/24	School Re-Opens
14/06/24	Staff Training Day
18/07/24	End of Term
19/07/24	Staff Training Day

School starts at 8:50am for all.

Nursery starts at 9:00am - 11.30am. From 1.9.22 Nursery will start 8:50am - 11:20am.

Foundation Phase - Reception to Year 2

Continuous provision

Lunch Break 11:50 - 12:50 pm

End of school 3:00 pm

Key Stage 2 - Year 3 to 6

Morning Break 10:30 - 10:45 am

Lunch Break 12:00 - 12:50 pm

End of school 3:10 pm

Term time holidays will only be authorised by the Headteacher if the learners' attendance is good or better, meets the score points criteria, if the holiday is an exceptional circumstance and for a 'one hit' request and not an accumulation of 10 days over the year. Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon has adopted the Attendance Policy shared by the Connah's Quay consortia of schools. Please see a copy on the school website.

Welsh Language

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon is an English medium, Category 5 primary school. However, we are aware of the fact that being in Wales means that we have to comply with the Welsh Assembly's guidance that all schools throughout Wales need to provide Welsh as an additional language and that their aim is to have a bilingual Wales.

The teaching of Welsh as a second language is a statutory requirement and has dedicated time in the school's timetable as well as cross curricular activities in Welsh. Also, extensive involvement is encouraged in activities that not only build on language skills but also develops the Welsh ethos.

The use of Welsh as an incidental (every-day) language in class through various activities helps the children to become more aware and develop their understanding of the language and build confidence in their use of it. As a result, the school is developing a strong Welsh ethos that fosters pride among the staff and learners in their locality, community, nation and culture as well as our dual languages.

The school aims to take part in a number of activities that cement this bilingual ethos and also meet the Welsh Assembly directive to create bilingual children, demonstrating confidence in both languages.

The school's engagement with the Welsh dimension was developed through St. David's Day celebrations which include a service, showcasing the children's talents in Welsh, (for example reciting and folk dancing), flag colouring and wearing of national costume. An annual school Eisteddfod is now embedded. The children's Welsh knowledge was enhanced through learning the Urdd pieces and a selection of children have performed in the Eisteddfod in individual group recitations in the past. A group of children have competed in the Urdd group dance competition and individual musical instrument competitions.

Three teachers have attended the Welsh year-long sabbatical course from 2017 - 2020 and another attended a full-term sabbatical course. A Teaching Assistant attended a 6-week course. Teachers and Teaching Assistants have attended various other Welsh courses to gain knowledge and confidence to speak and teach the language. The school are participating in the Cymraeg Campus scheme, and have been successful in the Gwobr Arian - Silver Award. The school is now working towards Gwobr Aur - Gold Award.



School Toilets

We have four blocks of toilets available for all learners' use. The Nursery learners have an additional block in their class. Reception, Year 1 and 2 learners use the block between Dosbarth Llwynog and Dosbarth Mochyn Daear. Years 3 - 6 use the block located near their classes opposite Dosbarth Blaidd. There is a disabled toilet located opposite Dosbarth Ysgyfarnog for all learners' use if necessary.

All toilets are cleaned on a daily basis, and regularly throughout the day.

Community Links

Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon takes pride in its efforts to pervade the heart of the local community in every way it can. All classes participate in Harvest Services and Christmas concerts which are well attended by members of the community as well as learners, family and friends. Local clergy visit the school regularly to take whole school assemblies. The Christmas Carol Service has been held at St Ethelwold's church.

The community room has been used by the Facilities Service for cooks' meetings, Athrawon Bro to conduct Welsh courses and sabbatical meetings, Health and Safety caretaker ladder training and Numicon training. We have also conducted Team Teach Training and Attention Autism training.

Parental and community involvement in the process of education is actively encouraged. Liaison exists with other local primary schools to extend and enhance the curriculum with benefit to all; the learners meet for sporting and cultural events.

Liaison also exists with the local police, who visit regularly. Our Police Liaison Officer is PC Lee Woodworth. He will be visiting every class at least once a term to give presentations about topics such as stranger danger, drugs, internet safety, bullying and making the right choices. The junior learners are also able to participate in the Cycling Proficiency Course. We also had a visit from the Transport Police and safety on railway lines.

DUETS Ballet Cymru are continuing to be an integral part of the school offer. The second cohort completed their 2-year scholarship in July 2023. A third cohort will be chosen in September 2023. The scholars will again have a weekly dance lesson for two years. This is worth approximately £3,000.00 per child. This will continue to 2024-25. Ysgol Tŷ Ffynnon is the first school in North Wales to be part of this programme.

The Community Garden has been officially opened with funds provided by The Big Lottery. The garden has been well maintained and each class responsible for a raised bed. Lots of flowers and vegetables were grown last academic year.

The school has been reaccredited with the Investors in Families award 2022-23 and has been re-awarded with the National Nurture Programme Award - the first school in Wales for this to be awarded for the commitment to nurture as a whole school.

Sport & Extra Curricular Arrangements

The school feels strongly that children should be given the opportunity to participate in all types of sporting events and to aspire to represent the school. The learners gain great enjoyment from this competitive aspect and the links fostered between other schools and learners. Events in which the school actively participate are the Flintshire Sports events such as rounders, netball, football, tennis and indoor athletics. We also take part in local tournaments for the above sports as well as swimming. Forest Schools, Eco and gardening clubs are also very popular. We try to cater for as many interests as possible.

In addition to regular PE lessons, all classes from Year 3 - 6 receive swimming instruction. Throughout the year taster sessions in sports such as football, badminton and Tae Kwon Do are also taught by local professionals. A Cycling Proficiency course is also offered to junior children.

We strive to give children as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible. These involve residential or day trips to educational establishments or involvements in community events or initiatives. Here are some examples from the past year.



Eco School / Healthy School

School Councillors and Eco Committee members are elected each year. We are very mindful of our environment with an eco-club and eco-committee who consider various issues. The School worked hard last year to achieve second Green Flag award and we are very proud of our efforts. We were also able to re-new the Platinum Award this year - the highest accolade possible. We have held the Platinum status since 2017.

Eco-Schools 2017
Platinum Award



We are a Healthy School, having gained the accreditation for promoting learners' health and wellbeing. We take an active role in encouraging healthy eating, drinking and regular exercise. During break time the children are encouraged to eat fruit or an alternative healthy snack. Healthy snacks are also prepared and offered to the learners by school staff. Drinks bottles were donated to every child by Shotton Town Council and Excell Supply.



The school has invested in a Daily Mile track to enable exercise in all weather for all learners. This is used daily and is extremely popular with learners. We have also installed a trampoline to help those in need of sensory breaks. We also had extensions to both of our trim trails.



Communication

- Weekly newsletter - the newsletter is circulated on a weekly basis. Parents are able to access the newsletter on the school website and Ourschoolsapp.
- Website - the website is a constant source of news for parents/carers and includes information and pictures from events and activities.
- Ourschoolsapp - an app that all stakeholders can access to gain up to date information about the school.
- Seesaw app for parents to view photographs of their children at work during the day.
- School comms or School Gateway - is the online parent portal. Parents can view information, respond to school requests, book on to school trips, breakfast or after-school clubs and make payments.
- End of year reports were distributed by hand.

Building and outdoors

- October 2022 - Mercury Alarms - CCTV - install new DVRs
- November 2022 - Roof leaks - Helix contractor investigating
- December 2022 - Fireproof - service and repair to sprinkler
- April 2023 - KDE remedial electrical work on fire alarm
- May 2023 - installation of Swift bird boxes
- May 2023 - ventilation fan installed in the kitchen
- May 2023 - Education Compliance H & S routine visit
- May 2023 - trim trail maintenance
- May 2023 - Mercury Alarms - CCTV
- June 2023 - heating controls service
- July 2023 - LMC installation of fob access to three classrooms and one corridor double door
- July 2023 - Movable partition maintenance

Outstanding:

- Roof
- Windows
- CCTV