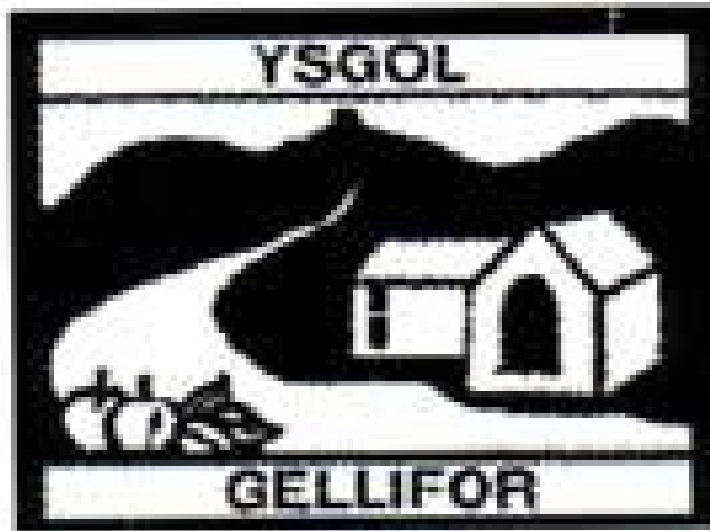


Governors' Report to Parents
September 2008 to July 2009

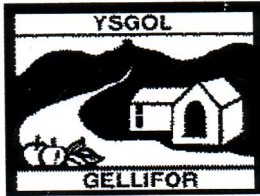


**“Lighting the fire of the future.
Cynnau tan y dyfodol.”**



Ysgol Gellifor

Mrs Susan H. Roberts
Pennaeth / Headteacher



'Lighting the fire of the future'
'Cynnu tan y dyfodol'

Gellifor,
Rhuthun,
Sir Ddinbych: LL15 1SG
Tel: 01824-790387
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gellifor@denbighshire.gov.uk
www.ysgolgellifor.co.uk

Annual Report 2009

Dear Parent,

Yet again the year has passed so quickly. It has been one where the responsibilities of being a Governor have weighed heavy on us all. Mr Bryn Jones and Mrs Dowell have left us and we have appointed a new Headteacher, Mrs Roberts, and a Key Stage two teacher, Mr Monteiro. It has not just been staffing changes either, those of you with younger children will be aware of the huge rethink in the way the younger ones are taught with the introduction of "The Foundation Phase" within Wales. This in itself has necessitated layout changes in the classroom, and new ways of teaching and learning, far different from the way we as parents were taught.

Not only have we seen changes in the classroom, we now have the new computer suite which is having maximum use by all the pupils, and a new reception / library area with new carpets and seating.

It was very pleasing to see the new mini bus arrive, funded almost entirely by the efforts of you all arranging and supporting all the many functions to raise the necessary funds.

Lastly the pupils – once again they have displayed their talents in School, the County, at sport and at the Urdd. Their enthusiasm and obvious enjoyment of all they do is a joy to behold. All this is down to the hard work and dedication of all the teachers, staff, and helpers who have but one aim, to give every child in the school the very best education.

On behalf of the Governing Body may I thank you all for your support and continued commitment to Ysgol Gellifor.

Roger M Jones,

Chair of Governors Ysgol Gellifor

Ysgol Gellifor
Governors' Report to Parents 2008-09

Governing Body

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Roger M. Jones (Chair) 4 Bodawen Gellifor Ruthin LL15 1RJ	L.E.A. Representative	Sept 2009
Douglas Lawrence (Vice-Chair)	Parent Representative	Feb 2012
Sandy Mayall	Co-opted	Sept 2009
David Weyman	Parent Representative	Feb 2012
Chrissie Mayes	Parent Representative	May 2009
Anna Mortimer Harvey	Co-opted	Oct 2011
Paul Evans	Community Council Rep	Jan 2008
Barry Williams	L.E.A. Representative	March 2010
Angela Jones	Teacher Representative	Sept 2009
Adie Ramsey	Staff Representative	Sept 2009
Susan H. Roberts	Headteacher	-

There is currently a vacancy for Clerk to the Governing Body. If you know of anyone who would be able to take up this responsibility, then please let us know.

Financial Statement

DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - DIRECTORATE OF LIFELONG LEARNING

YSGOL GELLIFOR - DELEGATED SCHOOL BUDGET 2008/2009

CATEGORY	ANNUAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	UNDERSPEND/ (OVERSPEND)
BALANCE B/FWD 2007/08	42,152	0	42,152
EMPLOYEES	230,200	247,619	(17,419)
PREMISES	13,890	12,980	910
TRAVELLING EXPENSES	100	1,545	(1,445)
SUPPLIES & SERVICES (INCLUDING CAPITATION)	4,400	11,032	(6,632)
ADULT MEALS, FAIR FUNDING & PERIPATETIC MUSIC	8,260	12,839	(4,579)
INCOME (LETTINGS, INTEREST PERIPATETIC MUSIC AND GRANTS)	0	(11,449)	11,449
<u>CURRENT SCHOOL TOTAL</u>	299,002	274,566	24,436

Following expenditure approved by the Governors the projected surplus at the end of the financial year will be £13,702 which is approximately 5% and meets the recommended figures given by the County Council.

Action as a result of any resolutions passed at the last meeting

No actions were required.

School Prospectus

The Prospectus has been updated every in advance of the admissions process for the 09-10 academic year. This is made available for download on the website.

School Action Plan

Following the inspection of 2004, the following areas were identified as areas for improvement:

- To raise standards in Welsh Second Language
- To raise standards in History
- Improve the quality and quantity of pupils' extended writing and the accuracy within it
- Raise teachers' and pupils' expectations to achieve higher standards in all subjects, particularly among the more able pupils
- Develop the assessment process in the foundation subjects

A three year school development plan has been formulated which has addressed many of the above or is in the process of addressing them. The plan is updated year on year and evaluated.

Implementation and review of school strategies

School Development Plan

A three year plan has been formulated with a variety of targets to be achieved over different time scales.

Targets being currently worked upon are:

- To train all staff in the Early Years regarding the implementation of the Foundation Phase and to re-organise resources so that the principles of the orders are introduced according to Welsh Assembly directives.
- To develop ICT in the school as a teaching tool, but also as an individual and cross curricular subject. As a result attain an ICT mark for the school.
- to develop an assessment system in the foundation subjects
- To develop a system of performance management for all staff.
- To work towards attaining the next stages of the Healthy School and ECO School Schemes.
- To develop Assessment for Learning across the school.
- To implement the new 2008 curriculum.

The above strategies and others specified in the School Development Plan are evaluated and reviewed annually and incorporated as part of the school's process of self-evaluation.

Term Dates and Opening Times 09-10

Term Dates

<u>Terms</u>	<u>Opens</u>	<u>Closes</u>
Autumn	Thu 03/09/2009	Fri 19/12/2009
Spring	Tue 05/01/2010	Fri 26/03/2010
Summer	Tue 13/04/2010	Fri 16/07/2010

Half Terms

26/10/2009 to 30/10/2009
15/02/2010 to 19/02/2010
31/05/2010 to 04/06/2010

Staff Training Dates

01/09/2009	02/09/2009	23/10/2009	04/01/2010	12/04/2010
19/07/2010	20/07/2010			

Bank Holidays

03/05/2010

Links with the Community

The school has forged strong links with the community and the pupils attend and compete in many local Eisteddfodau and also at National level. We have supported many good causes over the year and are invited often to entertain local societies. Please refer to the school prospectus, weekly newsletters and the website. Also refer below to the termly reports under the title 'Community Links'

School Policies

We have a rolling program of reviewing and updating our school policies. All statutory policies have been reviewed this year.

Policies are available to view on request.

Special Educational Needs

The policy has been updated and is available for viewing.

Alison Weyman is the SENCO and as well as having class teachers working with individual IEPs, there are two staff members currently allocated time for work with children who have additional learning needs. We make full use of resources available at the school to support SEN children.

The school works closely with the county's Learning Development Team.

Classroom Action (Monitoring)	4
School Action	6
School Action +	5
Statutory Assessment	0
Statemented	0

Sandy Mayall is the Governor with responsibility for Special Educational Needs.

Pupils with Disabilities

We have an equal opportunities policy and any pupils with disabilities are treated the same as able bodied pupils.

Most of the school is accessible to wheelchair users, we have a toilet for wheelchair users and inaccessible areas would be altered if the need arose.

National Curriculum Statutory Assessments

Ysgol Gellifor Year Group Percentage Data 2009 – Key Stage 1

Level	English		Mathematics		Science	
	Gellifor 09	Wales 09	Gellifor 09	Wales 09	Gellifor 09	Wales 09
Level 1	20%	13.8%	0%	10.9%	0%	8.5%
Level 2	70%	63%	60%	65.2%	100%	66.3%
Level 3	10%	19.4%	40%	21.6%	0%	23.4%

Percentage of children reaching expected level of 2 or above compared with national figures of 2008

Subject	Ysgol Gellifor 2009	Wales 2008
English	80%	82.4%
Mathematics	100%	86.8%
Science	100%	89.7%

Percentage of children achieving the core subject indicator compared with national figures of 2008

Ysgol Gellifor 2009	Wales 2008
80%	80%

The core subject indicator is the percentage of children achieving Level 2 or above in all three core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

Ysgol Gellifor Year Group Percentage Data 2009 – Key Stage 2

Level	English		Mathematics		Science	
	Gellifor 09	Wales 08	Gellifor 09	Wales 08	Gellifor 09	Wales 08
Level 2	0%	3.1%	0%	2.7%	0%	1.8%
Level 3	0%	15.6%	8.3%	14.7%	0%	11.4%
Level 4	67%	51.3%	58.7%	51.4%	67%	53.9%
Level 5	33%	28.5%	33%	29.9%	33%	31.7%

Percentage of children reaching expected level of 4 or above compared with national figures of 2008

Subject	Ysgol Gellifor 2009	Wales 2008
English	100%	79.8%
Mathematics	92%	81.3%
Science	100%	85.6%

Percentage of children achieving the core subject indicator compared with national figures of 2008

Ysgol Gellifor 2009	Wales 2008
92%	75.5%

The core subject indicator is the percentage of children achieving Level 4 or above in all three core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

Summary of Targets set by the Governing body

The school sets targets for achievement on a regular basis. These are the End of Key Stage 2 Targets for 07-09. The percentages refer to the amount of children achieving the expected target of level 4 or above.

	2008 target	2008 actual	2009 target	2009 actual	2010 target
English	75%	95%	63%	100%	93%
Maths	75%	95%	63%	92%	93%
Science	89%	100%	82%	100%	93%
Core Subject Indicator	70%	90%	55%	92%	93%

Attendance

Age	Date of Birth	Attended (%) □□			Authorised absences (%) □□			Unauthorised absences (%) □□		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
11	1/9/96 - 31/8/97	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	1/9/97 - 31/8/98	97.3	92.5	95.3	2.7	7.5	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
9	1/9/98 - 31/8/99	98.3	95.1	96.6	1.7	4.9	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
8	1/9/99 - 31/8/00	95.1	94.5	94.9	4.9	5.5	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
7	1/9/00 - 31/8/01	94.9	93.9	94.2	5.1	5.5	5.4	0.0	0.6	0.4
6	1/9/01 - 31/8/02	94.0	93.9	94.0	5.6	5.9	5.7	0.4	0.2	0.3
5	1/9/02 - 31/8/03	95.2	94.3	94.8	4.8	5.7	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total of all pupils		96.0	94.1	95.1	3.9	5.8	4.7	0.1	0.1	0.1

Sporting Aims and achievements

While we aim to be extremely competitive on the sporting field, we also strive to provide variety in activities and give opportunities to as many children as is possible. Please see the school prospectus for our sporting aims.

Autumn Term 08:

- Years 5 and 6 have received swimming instruction.
- The football team have played a series of games against Llanbedr, Rhewl and Borthyn
- The school had a number of successful swimmers competing in the Urdd Gala. Two pupils will compete in the national finals in January.
- The netball team have also had a fixture with Borthyn.
- The school participated in the Urdd's football and netball tournament, the netballers finishing 3rd.
- A Christmas Gym display was performed by the members of our Gymnastics Club.
- The school was represented in the Urdd Gymnastics, with all competitors winning through to the national finals in February.
- The netballers took part in a county festival.

Spring Term 09:

- Years 3 and 4 have received swimming instruction.
- The football team have played a series of festivals in Ysgol Frongoch against a range of schools, giving a good account of themselves.
- Two pupils competed in the National Urdd Swimming Gala in January.
- The netball team took part in a local festival.
- The girls participated in the Urdd Girls Football Tournament.
- A group of gymnasts won through to the National Gymnastics Competition in Aberystwyth.
- A number of pupils competed in the Vale Cross Country Championships, some of whom won through to the County Final a week later.

Summer Term 09:

- The Infant pupils received swimming instruction.
- The football team have played a friendly match against Ysgol Rhos Street and they took part in the Llanfair D.C. Fun Day.
- The Boys' team came in first place and the Girls' team came in second place at the Vale of Clwyd Swimming Gala.
- The team had great success at the Vale of Clwyd Athletics, returning with the shield for 1st place for the B Schools.
- Years 5 and 6 all successfully passed their Cycle Proficiency test
- Several pupils achieved their A-Z Gymnastics Foundation Award in Bench.
- Year 5 attended a fitness factor afternoon as part of a health and fitness study within Denbighshire.
- Years 5 and 6 have been receiving tennis tuition from local coach Andreas.
- Gellifor Gorillas competed in Tennismania at Ruthin Tennis Courts.
- A successful sports day was held.

After School Extra Curricular Clubs

We have a busy after school calendar that offers a range of extra curricular activities that enrich the educational and social opportunities offered to the children. Clubs are run by school staff in their own time and the Governors are grateful that they are willing to offer these activities to the children.

Clubs running in the 08-09 academic year included:

- Dance
- Doctor Who
- Urdd
- Football
- Netball
- Athletics
- Recorders
- Wind Band
- Gymnastics

Activities, trips and visitors:

Autumn term 08:

Music

- Guitar, clarinet, flute, violin, recorder and brass lessons continue on a weekly basis.
- The Wind band meets weekly.
- The Wind Band performed at the Christmas Fair, Nantclwyd House and at Tesco
- Musicians played in both the Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol Concert.

- A special Wind Band Playday was arranged by Mrs Jones, where pupils were given masterclasses and performed a concert.
- A showcase concert was held by the children receiving guitar lessons.
- Musicians accompanied the Christmas Church Service.

Trips

- Classes 1 and 2 attended a workshop at St Asaph Music Festival.
- Year 3 and 4 attended Nant BH for their camp this year.
- Years 3 and 4 went on a Hillfort Visit as part of their Celtic studies.
- Year 6 attended a talk in Ruthin Library by author Rosalind Kerven.
- All pupils attended the pantomime in Mold.
- Infant pupils attended the Jamboree in Ysgol Glan Clwyd.
- Class 2 followed the Moel Famau Numeracy Trail.

Community Links

- News of the school's activities is sent and printed by local Welsh language paper 'Y Bedol.'
- The school attended Church for the Harvest Festival and Christmas Service.
- The school sang carols in Ruthin Town Square.
- The school was represented in the Llangynhafal's Got Talent event.
- A number of children competed in Llandrynog's Eisteddfod with many winners awarded prizes.

Other visitors to the school

- PC Chris visited all classes as part of his work as schools liaison officer.
- Reverend Richard and Rev Huw visited to take assembly.
- Pamela Toothill brought two owls to school.
- Llinos Hughes awarded medals to all pupils who took part in the team read.

Charitable Causes

- Children took part in a non uniform day in aid of the Urdd
- Operation Christmas Child boxes were collected.
- Money was raised towards the British Legion in the poppy appeal.
- The school supported Children in Need once again this year.

Other Activities

- Road Safety Officers were appointed.
- The school took part in national Children's Book Week.
- The school took part in many activities in Anti Bullying Week.
- Children have once again joined the Urdd.
- The School Council and Eco Council were appointed.
- Clwb Dal I Fynd was re-launched.
- The Infants planted bulbs in the school grounds.
- A Healthy Living day took place as part of a drive to become a healthy and eco school
- The school took part in Road Safety Week.
- Christmas dinner was enjoyed by pupils, staff and Governors alike.
- Christmas concerts were well received.

Other Matters

- The Website continues to be well received and receives an increasing number of hits each month. It complements information given in the weekly newsletter by providing galleries to accompany children's activities. It will also serve as a valuable base of evidence. Over 500 different computers logged on during December.
- Three Whist Drives have been held since the last meeting by Mrs. Dowell. All have succeeded in raising funds for our Minibuses.
- Minibuses continue to require 12 weekly checks.

- Mrs. Sandy Mayall and Mr. Jim Williams visit to listen to readers in Classes 3 and 4.
- Empty ink cartridges are being collected by the children, which will be exchanged for cash by the school.
- Some parents use a Texaco points card to raise money for the school.
- A Gardening Morning took place at the school.
- The school has been collecting Let's Grow tokens from Morrisons.
- The School Prospectus for 2009 was published.
- The school was awarded Healthy School status after assessment.
- The school was awarded Eco School status after assessment.

Spring Term 09:

Music

- Guitar, clarinet, flute, violin, recorder and brass lessons continue on a weekly basis.
- The Wind band meets weekly and now a group of new players have joined.
- The Wind band played in a special talent concert for the Ruthin area at Ysgol Brynhyfryd in March.
- The Wind Band performed in the St. David's Day concert.
- Different musicians play at the beginning of each assembly.
- Musicians will play at the Easter Church Service on the last day of term.

Trips

- Class 1 went on a castle visit to Rhuddlan and Bodelwyddan as part of their topic studies.
- All Junior pupils went on visits to the ICT Centre in Middle Lane.
- Years 5 and 6 went on the residential Welsh / Outdoor activities course in Glan Llyn.

Community Links

- News of the school's activities is sent and printed by local Welsh language paper 'Y Bedol.'
- The school will attend Church for the Easter Service.
- The school was represented in a special St. David's Day service in church.

Other visitors to the school

- PC Chris visited classes as part of his work as schools liaison officer.
- Reverend Huw visited to take assembly.
- Scottish Power visited to give all pupils a talk about electrical safety.
- Gareth Wyn Jones visited to present the pupils with the second leaf of the Healthy Schools.
- Harvey Jones visited to undertake a Lego project, assisting the children, who built a replica of the school.

Charitable Causes

- Children dressed up for Santes Dwynwen, contributing to our UNICEF fund.
- The UNICEF Day for change saw the children try to cover the logo with coins.
- The children contributed to the Marie Curie Cancer Appeal.
- The school supported Comic Relief once again this year.

Other Activities

- Road Safety Officers ran a 'Wow' competition..
- The school took part in World Book Day activities.
- St. David's Day was celebrated with a concert, a meal and a church service.
- Over half the school competed in the local and county Eisteddfod.
- Three pupils were selected for the Welsh Writing Squad.
- Pupils submitted art work for the Urdd Art and Craft competition.
- The School Council were involved in the process of selecting a new Headteacher, asking questions to the candidates.
- The School Council were also instrumental in the formulation of a set of playground rules.

- School Council members have been administering a new fruit tuck shop.
- Years 5 and 6 undertook a project on the celebration of Chinese New Year.
- Years 5 and 6 as part of their History studies, created presentations, performing them in front of members of the community.
- Class 1 made Valentine's cakes, as well as pancakes on Shrove Tuesday
- Members of Year 6 took part in a county audit of e-Safety practices.

Other Matters

- Three Whist Drives have been held since the last meeting by Mrs. Dowell. All have succeeded in raising funds for our Minibuses.
- Minibuses continue to require 12 weekly checks.
- Mr. Jim Williams visits to listen to readers in Classes 3 and 4.
- Empty ink cartridges are being collected by the children, which will be exchanged for cash by the school.
- Some parents use a Texaco points card to raise money for the school.
- e-Safety agreements were sent out for parents to sign on behalf of their children.
- An art exhibition of Ysgol Gellifor artwork was held at Ruthin Library.

Summer Term 09:

Music

- Guitar, clarinet, flute, violin and brass lessons continue on a weekly basis.
- The Wind Band meets weekly and there is also a junior band.
- The Wind Band performed at the Summer Fayre.
- Musicians played in both the Leavers' Blessing and Concert.

Trips

- Class 1 have had several visits to the farm as part of their studies. They are looking after their own vegetable patch and have also been to the garden centre. They have also had an adventure with goblins and fairies.
- Year 6 visited Ysgol Brynhyfryd to see a performance of 'Oliver.'
- Year 5 attended the Fitness Factor afternoon.
- Years 5 and 6 will be visiting Theatre Clwyd on Wednesday travelling back to the 1960s and also back to the Second World War in a play entitled 'Yesterday'.
- Years 5 and 6 attended Nant B.H. for a residential outdoor education experience.
- Years 3 and 4 visited Loggerheads for a Numeracy Trail.
- The Infants went to the Farm Park at Oswestry.
- Years 3 and 4 visited River Clwyd as part of their Geography studies.
- Years 2, 3 and 4 visited the Art and Craft Centre in Ruthin.

Community Links

- News of the school's activities is sent and printed by local Welsh language paper 'Y Bedol.'
- The school attended Llangynhafal Church for the Leavers' Service.

Other visitors to the school

- PC Chris visited all classes as part of his work as schools liaison officer.
- Reverend Huw visited school to deliver assembly.
- Brian Lloyd, Head of Year 7 at Brynhyfryd spoke to the children about the transition to secondary school.
- Andreas, a Ruthin Tennis Coach delivered tennis sessions to Years 5 and 6.
- A rainforest presentation was given to all the pupils by Zoolab.
- Becky Adams, an Artist in Residence worked on her book with Year 6.

Charitable Causes

- Pupils wore something red to school to support British Red Cross Week.

Other Activities

- The school proudly had 31 pupils and their families travelling to Cardiff in May to participate in the Urdd Eisteddfod.
- All Juniors were trained and accredited in the Heartstart scheme – a 1st Aid awareness course.
- All Year 6 pupils followed a cycling proficiency course and all were awarded both a level 1 and 2 accreditation.
- The Junior Road Safety Officers attended a conference at Faenol Fawr in Bodelwyddan along with pupils from other schools.
- Three pupils were successful in the WOW road safety competition.
- A rainforest presentation was given to all the pupils by Zoolab.
- The school entered two teams who were very successful in the Welsh Quiz.
- The Disco Dancers got through to the final of Denbigh's Got Talent.
- Year 6 pupils visited Brynhyfryd as part of transition arrangements
- Year 6 also visited Brynhyfryd for a morning of P.E. activities as part of transition arrangements.
- Three Gellifor children took part in the writing squad.
- The House Point system has continued.
- The Eco Council and Eco warriors continued to spread a positive message to all.
- The Leavers' Concert and awards finished the year on a high.

Other Matters

- The Website continues to be well received. It complements information given in the weekly newsletter by providing galleries to accompany children's activities. Various downloads are now available from the website
- A new minibus has been purchased.
- Several Whist Drives have been held. All have succeeded in raising funds for our Minibuses.
- Minibuses continue to require 12 weekly checks.
- Mrs. Sandy Mayall and Mr. Jim Williams visit to listen to readers in Classes 3 and 4.
- Empty ink cartridges are being collected by the children, which will be exchanged for cash by the school.
- School photographs were taken.
- Tesco Vouchers were collected and we are currently waiting for ICT equipment ordered.

Reporting to Parents

Autumn term:

- Weekly Newsletter – The newsletter is circulated on a weekly basis. Parents continue to be given the opportunity to receive the newsletter by email.
- Parents' Evening – A parents evening was held to give information on targets and discuss how the children had settled into the new school year.
- Governors Report to Parents – Reports were distributed to parents.

Spring Term:

- Weekly Newsletter – The newsletter is circulated on a weekly basis. Parents continue to be given the opportunity to receive the newsletter by email.
- Parents' Evening – An invitation to all parents was sent out before the Easter holiday.

Summer Term:

- Weekly Newsletter – The newsletter is circulated on a weekly basis. Parents continue to be given the opportunity to receive the newsletter by email. The newsletter is available to download on the Website.
- School Reports – Reports were distributed at the end of the summer term. Feedback was requested from each parents' child on the report and also from the children themselves in KS2.
- Parents' Evening – Parents were given the opportunity to discuss their child's report if they so wished.
- Meeting for new parents – A meeting was held for parents of children in the new Nursery class and for any other new parents joining.

PTA

Autumn term:

- The AGM was held and new committee elected.
- Bonfire Night was well attended at the Kinmel Arms.
- Halloween Disco was enjoyed by the children.
- PTA Calendars proved an excellent fundraiser.
- The children enjoyed a party and disco organised by the PTA on the last afternoon of term.
- A Christmas Fair was held in the hall.
-

Spring term:

- Two meetings were held.
- A number of bags were collected for the Bags2School scheme.
- An Easter Fun Run was organised for March
- An Easter disco was organised for March.
- PTA funds have been spent on listening centres for Infants and Juniors, as well as a new whole school laminator. A new laptop was also purchased, so that three of our four Interactive Whiteboards are connected to a laptop.

Summer Term

- Two meetings were held.
- A very successful Race Night was held.
- We have participated in the Bags2School scheme.
- A very successful Summer Fair was held.