







Developing the use of Welsh in an English-medium school



St Francis Catholic School is proud to be a Welsh Catholic school where Welsh has become a natural part of everyday life.

By securing a variety of opportunities and a number of fun activities St. Francis School ensures that the pupils have enough opportunities to use their Welsh. The expectations are high and the pupils have risen to the challenge while having fun. The school's pupils are very aware of the benefits of being able to speak Welsh. In recent years, the standards of Welsh Second Language at St Francis school have risen significantly.



Fun is very important in the school when promoting Welshness.



The school has won the silver award!

Five years ago pupils were struggling to reach level 4 (the expected level at the end of primary school) but now most year 6 pupils leave at level 5, and some at level 6 - much higher than expected.

One teacher and one member of the support staff have attended a sabbatical course and although the staff are generally non-Welsh speakers, everyone is committed to ensuring that Welsh is infiltrating all aspects of school life. St Francis School have succesfully changed pupils' attitude towards the Welsh language.

Pupils are an integral part of improving the school's Welshness.

They are proud of their Welsh, enthusiastic and successful.





Y Cyngor Cymraeg

At the heart of the success of the Welsh language in St. Francis is a dedicated Welsh Council. Through a variety of daily and weekly activities, and during enrichment weeks, Council members show their love to the language, and their respect towards Wales in general. Pupils have a strong voice, and they enjoy sharing their progress.

Pupils are very aware of the advantages of being able to speak Welsh. Pupils with the help of Sarah Mansfield who established the Welsh Language Council, are fully responsible for the weekly Welsh language assembly and presenting Welsh speaker certificates. They prepare a seasonal newsletter giving parents information about what the Welsh Council has achieved. They also invite parents in for Welsh language learning sessions. The Welsh Council makes sure everyone has the opportunity to speak Welsh daily. Pupils are enthusiastic about the Welsh language and the fact that they are part of so many exciting projects.

In 2015 and 2016, the school won a 'Shwmae' award as recognition of the hard work and commitment to raising the profile of Welsh in their school. In January 2016, the

school was asked to pilot a Language Charter for the ERW consortium. Since then, the school was awarded the bronze and silver award. Members of the Council have played a leading role in this work by leading on the completion of targets gathering appropriate evidence by going on learning trips and giving teachers feedback on their findings.



The school's Cyngor Cymraeg leading a service





Siwpyr Criw Cymraeg

St Francis School is now committed to being part of the county's 'Siwpyr Criw Cymraeg' project. The school's Siwpyr Criw includes the current Welsh Council and the School Sports Ambassadors.

The Welsh Siwpyr Criw was selected from Pembrokeshire schools that work towards the Welsh Language Charter. The aim of the project is for Welsh Crew members to share their expertise with others across the county and nationally to increase the use of Welsh by pupils in English-medium schools. Sharing good practice and expertise from school to school will ensure that all Welsh Crews work together as a great team to increase the use of Welsh across Pembrokeshire.



www.siwpyrcriw.cymru



Y Cyngor Cymraeg



Sports Ambassadors

The Siwpyr Criw pupils work together using their strengths to support others in a leadership role. At present, they are working on two projects - the 'Skills Garden' and 'Chat the Month'. For the 'Skills Garden', the Siwpyr Criw will be split into two groups - one group working in the Foundation Phase playground and the other in the Key Stage 2 playground. In order to ensure that the 'Skills Garden' is more attractive to the Foundation Phase, they have introduced 'Capten Cymraeg' to promote participation. For 'Chat the Month', the Siwpyr Criw plays a leading role in creating the monthly 'avatars' given to other pupils as a model.





Sgwrs y Mis

This is a project developed to improve pupils' communication skills in year 2 up to year 6. The 'Chat of the Month' project is a follow-up to the school's work of introducing a weekly phrase in the assembly.

This project encourages pupils to use casual Welsh confidently and consistently. The 4 questions and answers have different levels of challenge. Every month, the new Chat of the Month is created by the pupils and awards are awarded for the first, the second and the third during the Welsh assembly.



Pupils create conversations during the month and rewards are awarded to the first, second and third.



A new theme is decided each month and a written example and oral example are available for pupils to practice.

Sgwrs y Mis - Mis Mawrth



Gardd Sgiliau



On your marks, ready, go! The Siwpyr Criw play a leading role in developing physical skills and Welsh skills across all ages at school. The skills gardens run at break times for the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 where everyone is welcome to have a go and have a lot of fun at the same time!









Sgiliau Darllen

The school has done a lot of work to ensure that learners become independent and effective readers. The school ensures a clear program to develop fluency when reading early in the Foundation Phase, which will build confidence in working towards reciprocal reading in KS2. They have already seen a rapid increase from the year one and two target group, and the reciprocal reading has now been incorporated in KS2 with the pupils reading a variety of fictional and non-fiction books.

The school started to operate Tric and Chlic with a 1 x 20 minute focus session once a week, 5-minute daily class sessions and continuous provision activities during afternoon sessions. Key stage two pupils take part in weekly reciprocal reading sessions using the county's 'Team Reading' package.

Significant impact has been made in the Foundation Phase. The staff are trained and confident in the Tric and Chlic material they provide and, as a result, the pupils have shown a significant improvement in their ability to read, recognise sounds and combine letters in Welsh. During monitoring activities, all pupils agreed with the statement 'I am now more confident in reading Welsh since taking part in Tric and Chlic sessions.'

The consensus of staff is that almost all pupils have made strong progress in developing their reading skills. Pupils in the Foundation Phase and the KS2 project have achieved



English-medium schools.

success in a short period and we believe that pupils will develop further in continuing with both projects.



Fideo Darllen Tîm CA2



Fideo Tric a Chlic





Y Gilfach Gemau

Last year the school had developed the use of Welsh in the outdoor areas. A number of original resources have been designed and produced.

The school had worked to further develop the use of Welsh outdoors, by designing interactive signs for the outdoor area in the Foundation Phase, as well as creating the Gilfach Gemau so that the pupils practice their Welsh during break times in the key stage 2 outdoor area. Members of the Welsh Council have raised money to buy t-shirts for themselves, which will ensure that they can be easily identified and enable them to continue to promote the use of Welsh outside of the classroom.



The school has ensured that there are many opportunities to see and use Welsh outside the classroom.



The Gilfach Gemau is an area for the pupils to play games to practice Welsh



The school is currently working with Holy Name Catholic School on a project to ensure that pupils have the opportunity to become bilingual learners who can communicate confidently using new technology.

The schools have devised a project where Welsh and ICT are brought together. The aim of the project is to ensure that all school staff and pupils have the opportunity to become confident in speaking Welsh and competent digital learners. Throughout the project they have proven that new technologies improve opportunities for children to work together across schools.



The pupils have been busy creating an iBook for other pupils who are learning Welsh. The digital book contains a variety of videos from children to show how to use linguistic elements.

The book is called 'Sglein' and the pupils will share this with other schools in an open morning.



Ysgol Gatholig Sant Ffransis Cymraeg a'r Fframwaith Cymhwysedd Digidol

As part of the project, St Francis School has begun to make effective use of Skype in class to provide opportunities for pupils to speak Welsh with classes in schools across the county and beyond.



Currently, the school's key stage 2 classes have had several opportunities to complete oral activities using Skype. So far they have contacted many English medium schools however the school has recently created a link with a Welsh-medium school in the county to give the pupils a greater challenge.