Albany Primary School

Newsletter – February 2026

'Develop every child, every day in every possible way'

Please find a copy of our latest newsletter. I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable half term break. It has been lovely to see the children back in school this week. We wanted to take this opportunity share some of what has been going on across the school over the past couple of months.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Howlett

E-Safety week

Our Digital Leaders took the lead in planning and delivering a highly engaging E-Safety Week for the whole school. They designed and presented AI-themed assemblies for both PS1/2 and PS3, helping pupils understand how technology is changing and why staying safe online is so important. They also visited PS1/2 classrooms to share a simple e-safety story and run a creative hands-on activity they had planned and made themselves, giving younger learners a fun and memorable way to explore online safety.

To support families, the Digital Leaders researched the most popular apps used by their peers and created helpful parental guidance. In PS3, they led thoughtful discussions on online behaviour and ran an AI challenge where pupils had to decide whether images, videos and music were real or AI-generated — something that turned out to be far more difficult than expected. We were all surprised by just how convincing AI content has become.

E-safety articles and guidance for many popular apps can be found on our school website under the Parents section.

Sporting Success at Albany

So far this academic year we have had some great sporting success stories. Our girls netball team won a tournament at Cardiff Netball Arena and we have participated in 3 Football tournaments and competed brilliantly winning most of our matches.

We are waiting to hear if we have qualified for the Primary fives football finals day. We are incredibly proud of the children for how they represent Albany. Thank you to the staff who give up their own time to run the after school clubs for the children.

Police visit to Albany

Our younger pupils were very excited to welcome visitors from South wales Police to tell the children about the important work they do in our community.

As well as learning about the import job that the police do the children were very excited to welcome police horses Connor & Louie to Albany.

Year 3 Visit to Planatasia

Pupils in year 3 had a fantastic time visiting Plantasia in Swansea to learn about the rainforests. The children discovered which animals live in different layers of the rainforest.

Following this they created some amazing digital art to share their learning.

School Improvement Priorities 2025-26

1. **School Leadership** – Ensuring new leadership structure works effectively.
2. **Mathematics/Numeracy** – Review current provision and ensure challenging learning experiences for all pupils.
3. **Digital Skills** – Develop understanding of computational thinking
4. **Enquiry & Questioning** – Develop enquiry based learning.

We were visited by Estyn for an interim inspection visit in October. The outcome of this visit is available to read here;

Albany Estyn Report - Oct 2025

Parent Governor Elections

We would like to thank everyone for their nominations and for voting in the recent parent governor elections.

We are pleased to announce that Dr Mohammad Alnajideen and Mrs Rabina Chowdhury have been elected as new members of the school's governing body.

School Buildings Update

I'm sure you will have noticed there has been some new scaffolding added to the front of the school. This is due to the ongoing work to repair and make all stonework safe around the building and will be up for a short period of time whilst this work is completed.

Our new roof at the rear of the school building was completed before Christmas and there has been some internal work completed since. We are in regular contact with the Local Authority and have been pleased with the work carried out to date. There is still a significant amount of work which is planned to be completed but we have worked to ensure it has minimal disruption to the children's education.

Year 6 Swimming Lessons

Year 6 pupils have participated in a two week swimming course at Maindy Leisure Centre. They went every afternoon and all enjoyed developing their swimming skills. It was great to see the children grow in confidence over the fortnight.

The staff at Maindy were very complimentary of how the children behaved and the effort they made. Thank you also to family members that were able to pop along and watch the children enjoying their last session.

School Attendance

This year we will have a new School Attendance Officer monitoring attendance and working with families to improve attendance. It is important that your child is in school every day. Did you know that although over 90% attendance may sound good, it actually means a child has missed over 3 weeks of school in a year. Please do your best to get your child into school everyday.

Attendance	School time missed
100%	No lessons missed
96 – 99%	Missing up to two weeks of school.
92 – 95%	Missing up to three weeks of school.
Below 92%	Missing more than three weeks of school.

INSET DAYS 2026

Monday 13th April 2026
Monday 20th July 2026

Term dates

Spring term 2026
Ends: Friday 27 March 2026
Summer term 2026
Starts: Monday 13th April 2026-INSET
Half term: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026
Ends: Monday 20 July 2026 -INSET

School Visits

Reception- Heath Park
Year 2 – Porthkerry Park
Year 3 – Plantasia
Year 4- Cardiff Met Sport Centre
Year 5- Visit to meet the author Claire Fayers
Year 6 - 2 week swimming course at Maindy Pool, visit to Cathays High School
Year 4, 5, 6 – Library visits

Visitors to School

Police Horses and PCSO's visited the school
Cathays High School Transition visit

Community Partnerships

Albany Road Baptist Church – Ongoing support including reading volunteers, ALN community toddler group.
Vineyard Church Roath Food Co-op – Every Tuesday afternoon in the Gate Arts Centre. Providing access to affordable food for 1-2.30pm every Tuesday.

School Website
www.albanyprm.co.uk
Email address
albanyprm@cardiff.gov.uk
Schoop – download app
School code **2704**
Facebook – Albany Primary School
Instagram - @albanyprimaryschool