

Parentmail Friday 19th December, 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of a very long and busy school term! Thank you, as always, for your continuing and generous support to our staff and for all our events and fundraising activities. Lakeside wouldn't be Lakeside without our wonderful families!

We enjoyed our last Christmas performance this week, with Year 6 delivering a poignant look at a wartime Christmas and ending with a rip-roaring rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas. All year groups enjoyed Christmas parties over the week and pupils in Reception, Years 1, 2 and 6 enjoyed Years 3, 4 and 5 performing their Festival of Light programme.

Yesterday, pupils across the school were entertained by a pantomime paid for by the PTA and this morning we lit the final advent candle, enjoyed a Vlog looking back at this half term made by members of the Pupil Leadership Team and sang some carols. We also shared a goodbye video for Mr Vanstone, who is retiring and whose last day is today. I'm sure you will join me in wishing him well in his next venture as a driving instructor.

PTA news

I'm delighted to share that the PTA Festive Fun Run raised an excellent £717.50! Well done to all involved. We hope that the PTA have a good rest over the Christmas break – they've worked tirelessly this term raising money and organising wonderful events for us all to enjoy. We can't wait to see what they have in store for us next term! Thank you for everything PTA! xxx

Food Bank

Mrs Street had trouble packing all the Food Bank donations into her car yesterday, ready for today's Christmas Food Bank at Emmanuel Church in Gabalfa! Thank you so much for all the lovely treats, essentials and toiletries you donated – again, we were touched by the generosity of our families (there are a couple of photos on the website).

Measles: important vaccine information

Please see the attached poster for measles vaccine information.

After-school clubs in January

- Football: Mondays – restarts 19th January
- Chess: Mondays – restarts 12th January
Please click on this link if your child is in Year 2 and wishes to start Chess Club. You will then be contacted in the New Year with a start date: [Year 2 Chess Club – Fill in form](#)
- Dancefit: Wednesdays – restarts 14th January
- Choir: Thursdays – restarts 8th January
- Netball: Fridays – restarts 16th January

Reminder: Monday 5th January is an INSET DAY. Pupils return on Tuesday 6th January

On behalf of all the staff, and myself, I'd like to thank you very much for all the lovely Christmas cards and gifts we have received. We wish you all a very pleasant and peaceful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in 2026!

Best wishes,

Rachel Mitchell
Headteacher

Upcoming events / Term dates

January 2026

Monday 5th January – INSET DAY

Tuesday 6th January – pupils return to school

Thursday 8th January – Choir restarts

Monday 12th January – Chess club restarts

Tuesday 13th January – Yr 2 Cardiff Castle

Wednesday 14th January – Dancefit sessions restart

Friday 16th January – Netball sessions restart

Monday 19th January – Football sessions restart

Wednesday 28th January – Caerphilly Castle – yr 4

February 2026

Wednesday 18th February (during half term break) Ramadan begins

Friday 27th February - Eisteddfodau

March 2026

Monday 2nd – Wednesday 4th March – Year 6 residential visit to Abernant

Wednesday 4th March – Holi

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day – bring a book to swap

Monday 9th to Wednesday 11th March – Year 5 residential visit to Llangrannog

Friday 20th March (TBC) – Eid ul-Fitr

April 2026

Tuesday 28th April – Colorfoto taking photos of classes and teams

May 2026

Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd May - Year 6 residential visit to Abernant

June 2026

Monday 1st June – INSET DAY

July 2026

Friday 17th July – INSET DAY

Monday 20th July – INSET DAY

Term dates

2025-2026 Academic year

Autumn Term 2025

INSET DAY	Monday 1 st September	
INSET DAY	Tuesday 2 nd September	

1 st day for pupils	Wednesday 3 rd September	
Break up for Half Term	Friday 24 th October	
HALF TERM BREAK	Monday 27 th October	Friday 31 st October
Return to school	Monday 3 rd November	
Break up for Christmas	Friday 19 th December	

Spring Term 2026

INSET DAY	Monday 5 th January	
1 st day for pupils	Tuesday 6 th January	
Break up for Half Term	Friday 13 th February	
HALF TERM BREAK	Monday 16 th February	Friday 20 th February
Return to school	Monday 23 rd February	
Break up for Easter	Friday 27 th March	
EASTER BREAK	Monday 30 th March	Friday 10 th April

Summer Term 2026

Return to school	Monday 13 th April	
Break up for Half Term	Friday 22 nd May	
HALF TERM BREAK	Monday 25 th May	Friday 29 th May
INSET DAY	Monday 1 st June	
Last day for pupils before Summer Break	Thursday 16 th July	
INSET DAY	Friday 17 th July	
INSET DAY	Monday 20 th July	