

SCHOOL MAGAZINE

SPRING 2
EDITION



Respect. Communicate. Enjoy.



Welcome



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a joy to look back over this half-term and see just how much our pupils have experienced, explored and achieved. From the creativity of World Book Day to the excitement of new projects across the school, each class has contributed something special to this edition. What shines through on every page is the enthusiasm, enjoyment, curiosity and kindness our learners show each day.

I am incredibly proud of the hard work of our pupils and the dedication of our staff, who continue to work hard to create such rich, meaningful learning experiences. Thank you, too, to you—our families—for your ongoing support, encouragement and partnership. It makes all the difference.

I hope you enjoy reading this magazine as much as we have enjoyed putting it together. Wishing you all a peaceful Easter break and a happy, healthy start to the next term

Cofion cynnes,

Gimon Wilson

Headteacher

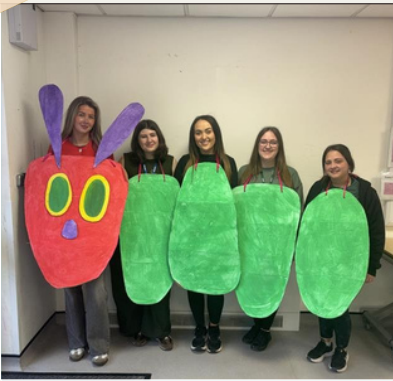
Respect. Communicate. Enjoy.

Highlights from The Explorers

To celebrate World Book Day, our three classes – Dosbarth Carw, Dosbarth Heulwen, and Pabi Coch, came together for a magical day of shared storytelling. Each classroom offered a unique tale brought to life through sensory play, creativity, and hands-on exploration.

This special setup allowed every child to visit each room, experiencing a different story world along the way, from the colourful journey of The Very Hungry Caterpillar to the building adventures of The Three Little Pigs, and the joyful chaos of The Cat in the Hat.

It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to move between classes, engage with a variety of interactive activities, and immerse themselves in three much-loved stories in one unforgettable day.



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Highlights from The Explorers

Dosbarth Heulwen – Building the World of The Three Little Pigs

In Dosbarth Heulwen, pupils stepped into the beloved tale of The Three Little Pigs. The classroom was alive with exploration as children engaged with a sensory tuff tray filled with story-themed materials from straw and sticks to “brick” textures, encouraging imaginative play.

The creativity didn't stop there! Children chose whether to create a pig or a wolf and set to work designing their own paper-plate characters. This activity supported decision-making, expressive arts, and storytelling as pupils proudly brought their favourite characters to life.

A day full of fun, learning, and memorable story magic.



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Highlights from The Explorers

Pabi Coch – Embracing the Fun of The Cat in the Hat

Pabi Coch fully embraced the playful chaos of Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat*. Children explored patterns by making fruit skewers using bananas and strawberries, cleverly recreating the Cat's iconic red-and-white hat.

Next, pupils turned their attention to Thing 1 and Thing 2, using forks to paint wonderfully textured blue hair, a sensory and creative opportunity that had everyone engaged and smiling. The class also enjoyed a lively sensory tuff tray linked to the story, encouraging imaginative exploration and hands-on learning.

It was a day filled with colour, movement, and Seuss silliness, just as the story intended!



enjoy learning



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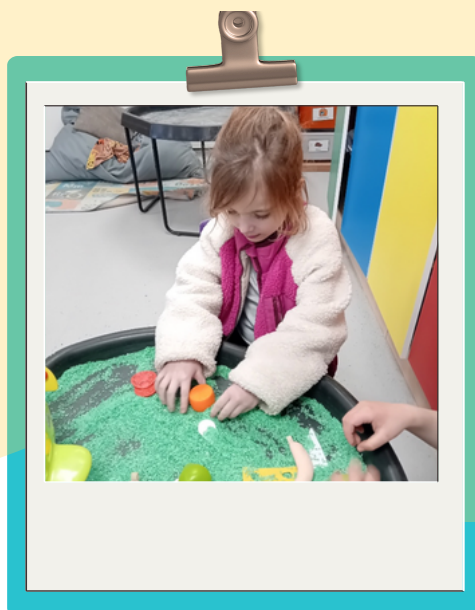
Highlights from The Explorers

This World Book Day, Dosbarth Carw transformed into the colourful world of The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

They explored a variety of foods in a tasting activity, discovering new flavours and textures inspired by the story .

Fine-motor skills were put to work as pupils threaded laces through wooden fruit, just like the caterpillar munching through his meals. The adventure continued with a posting activity, where children enjoyed “feeding” the caterpillar itself

It was a vibrant, hands-on experience that brought the classic tale wonderfully to life.



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Highlights from The Explorers

Glan yr Afon have had a fantastic and busy term, exploring a range of exciting themes and experiences! During Science Week, we loved discovering how things work through a variety of fun and engaging experiments. The pupils enjoyed using different pieces of equipment and developing their curiosity as they explored, investigated and learned new skills.

We also celebrated St David's Day by taking part in the school Eisteddfod. As part of our celebrations, we made delicious Snowdonia milkshakes using a new piece of equipment – a blender! The pupils followed a simple recipe and had great fun tasting their creations.

Storytelling Week and World Book Day gave us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the much-loved story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We explored a range of healthy and unhealthy foods from the story, tasting different items and expressing our preferences. It was wonderful to see the pupils engaging with the story in such a sensory and interactive way.

Although it has been a short term, it has been filled with fun, laughter and lots of opportunities to develop new skills. We are incredibly proud of all the pupils and the enthusiasm they have shown in their learning!



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Highlights from The Adventurers

This term, Dosbarth Cadno have been busy exploring and learning across a wide range of Areas of Learning and Experience.

In LLC, the children have been focusing on using CVC words to develop their understanding of rhyme. Through fun activities and games, they explored how words sound similar and began identifying and creating simple rhyming pairs. This has helped to build their early reading and phonics skills, as well as their confidence when speaking and listening.

In Expressive Arts, the children explored their creativity by making a 3D artwork of a flower. They used a variety of materials and techniques to bring their ideas to life, developing their fine motor skills and imagination.

The children also enjoyed designing and decorating their own plant pots for Mother's Day and Grandmother's Day. They took great care in personalising their creations, showing thoughtfulness and creativity while learning new artistic skills.



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Highlights from The Adventurers

This term may have been short, but it has certainly been wonderfully busy in Dosbarth Afon. The pupils have enjoyed creating a range of fun and colourful crafts for our Eisteddfod and our end-of-term celebrations, showing fantastic creativity and enthusiasm throughout.

As part of our topic, Green, Green Grass of Home, the class have also been exploring the world of plants. We've been busy making our own plant pots, watering them carefully, and watching them grow day by day. It has been a lovely opportunity for the pupils to learn about nature, responsibility, and the joy of seeing something flourish.

Well done, Dosbarth Afon, for a wonderful term full of learning, teamwork and enjoyment!



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Highlights from The Adventurers



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Highlights from The Navigators



Dosbarth Cwningen have been busy exploring the wonderful world of symmetry. The pupils have enjoyed investigating how shapes, patterns and even everyday objects can be split into matching halves. They have taken part in a range of practical activities, helping them to recognise lines of symmetry and create their own symmetrical designs. It has been lovely to see their curiosity and creativity shine through as they experimented with shapes and artwork.

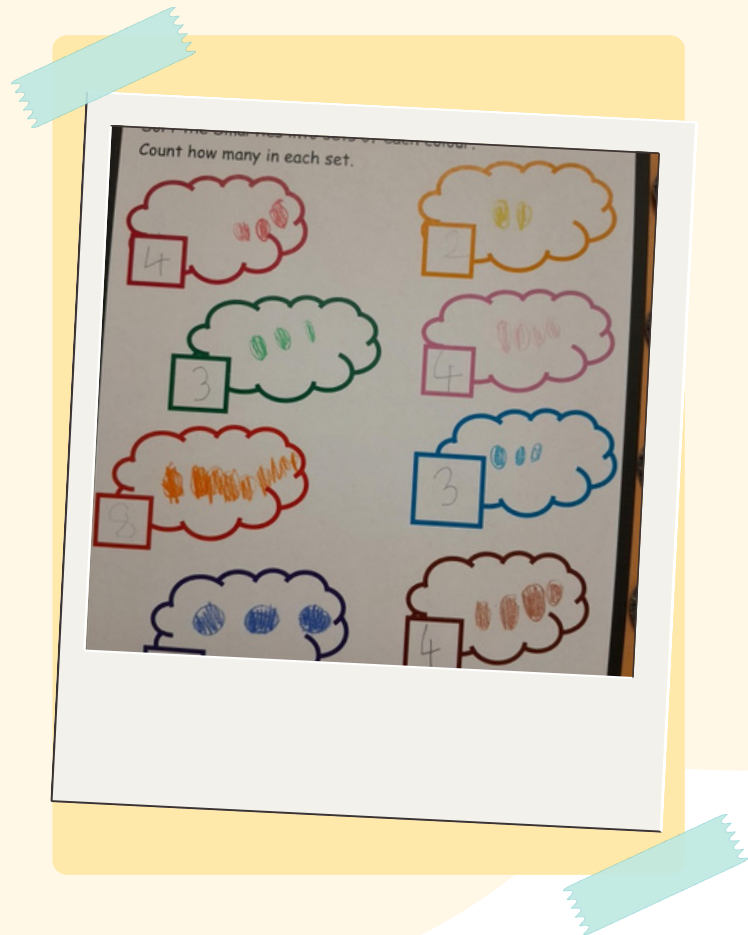


Dosbarth Cwningen have shown fantastic enthusiasm throughout their learnin. Da iawn pawb!



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Highlights from The Navigators



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Highlights from The Navigators

Dosbarth Glyderau have had a fantastic term filled with creativity, learning and new experiences. We loved performing Sosban Fach in the school Eisteddfod, and two of our pupils even opened their own café, giving everyone the chance to practise real-life money skills. Our cafe owners have made some delicious Welsh delights such as leek and potato soup. We have been out and about in the community shopping, explored reversible and irreversible changes in science, and taken part in energetic Welsh-language PE sessions with the Urdd. World Book Day was another highlight, with pupils enjoying dressing up and exploring different characters. We also worked on designing our own chocolate bars, thinking carefully about branding and creativity. This is just a small snapshot of the amazing work our pupils have achieved this term—well done, Dosbarth Glyderau!



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Highlights from The Navigators

This term, Draenog Class have thrown themselves into a world of imagination, artistry, and hands-on making. Their enthusiasm has been nothing short of inspiring.

The children began by designing their very own superheroes, using Canva's AI image tool to transform their ideas into vibrant, original characters. Before creating their images, each pupil completed a detailed planning sheet describing their hero's physical features and special qualities. Kindness, bravery, and helping others were among the most popular traits—proof that Draenog Class value heart just as much as superpowers. Seeing their designs come to life through technology was a real highlight, and the pride on their faces said it all.

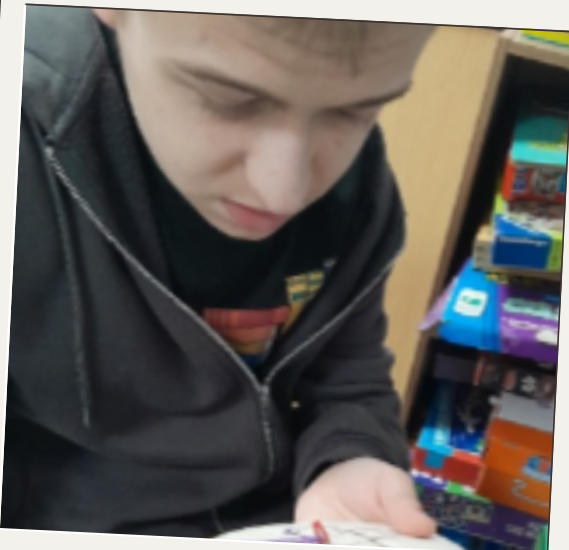
Alongside their digital creativity, the class also explored traditional craft as part of their Celtic Life humanities topic. Each child carefully transferred the outline of a Celtic knot onto fabric stretched in an embroidery hoop, then used straight stitch to build their design thread by thread. Their focus and patience were remarkable, and the finished pieces were beautiful. These embroidered knots were completed just in time to be given as thoughtful, individual Mother's Day gifts—handmade treasures filled with care.

From futuristic heroes to ancient patterns, Draenog Class have shown just how imaginative, capable, and engaged they can be. Their blend of modern technology and traditional craft has made this a truly memorable project.



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Highlights from The Navigators



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Highlights from The Pathfinders

Dosbarth Broga has been enjoying their time in the sunshine exploring the outdoors we have enjoyed a colour hunt, spending lot's of time in the mud kitchen cooking up a storm practising our pouring skills and even completing an obstacle course as part of a movement lesson.



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Highlights from The Pathfinders



This term, Dosbarth Graig Ddu have been making the most of the brilliant places we have in our community, using them to build life skills and support our OCR work in a fun, hands-on way.

One of our favourite weekly activities has been heading over to the running track in Clydach. The class have loved getting stuck into fitness sessions, cheering each other on and pushing themselves a little further each time. It's been a great chance to get active, enjoy the fresh air, and grow in confidence.



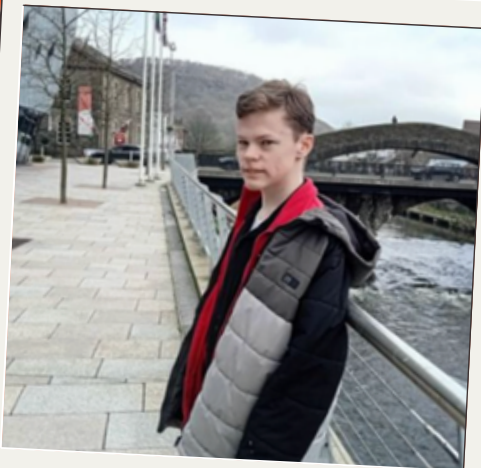
We've also spent time exploring our own town centre as part of our Eisteddfod learning. Pupils visited local heritage sites, discovering stories and landmarks that many of us walk past every day without realising how special they are. Seeing these places in real life helped bring our work to life and sparked loads of curiosity and creativity.



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Highlights from The Pathfinders

It's been a busy term full of fresh air, new experiences, and plenty of learning outside the classroom. Dosbarth Graig Ddu have shown just how much you can gain from getting out into the community and making the most of what's around you.



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Highlights from The Pathfinders



This half term, the Barcud Coch classroom have been busy exploring our topic of Heroes. Pupils have particularly enjoyed taking on the role of science heroes by investigating the magnetic properties of different materials. During our experiment, we tested a range of objects to discover which ones were magnetic, helping learners develop their prediction and observation skills. One of the highlights was watching our superhero glide across the city scene—powered entirely by a hidden magnet! Pupils had great fun manipulating the superhero's movements. It has been an exciting and hands-on start to our heroic adventures this term.



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Highlights from The Pathfinders



Superhero magnetic experiment

LO- To sort objects into magnetic and non-magnetic using hands-on investigation.

Item	Magnetic property
RUBBER	NON MAGNETIC
LOPPER COIN	MAGNETIC
PAPER CLIP	MAGNETIC
COUNTER	NON MAGNETIC
SILVER COIN	NON MAGNETIC
SILVER COIN	NON MAGNETIC



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Minecraft Crew



We are incredibly proud to announce that our Minecraft team has reached the finals and will be competing at the Principality Stadium this April! Our learners have shown outstanding creativity, teamwork and determination throughout the competition. We are so proud of all their amazing work and cannot wait to cheer them on during the finals!



Well done, team – you are fantastic!



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Eco Schools

We are proud to announce that Ysgol Ty Coch has achieved the Eco-Schools Platinum Renewal Award!

Maintaining the Eco-Schools Platinum status is a fantastic achievement. A huge well done to our pupils and staff for their dedication to caring for our environment.



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Caffi Cynefin

Exciting News: Our New Café Is Nearly Ready to Open!

The countdown is on for the grand opening of our brand-new school café. Named Caffi Cynefin Over the past term, students have played a key role in choosing the final logo design during the Senedd meeting.

During the Easter holidays, internal construction and finishing touches will take place to bring the space to life. Once this work is complete, we will be able to confirm the official opening date and serving times.

Stay tuned after Easter for the big reveal, we can't wait to welcome everyone in.



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Walk, Wheel Cycle Trust

Following our successful partnership work with the 'Walk, wheel, cycle trust' Wil Garner visited BYC to deliver some brand new scooters for both sites. Pupils from Llanwynno and Barcud Coch helped him build them and test them out. The pupils did a great job of working with Will to test the scooters and clearly loved them!



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Table Cricket

Ysgol Ty Coch's table cricket team has had an incredible journey this year, making it all the way to Finals Day!

Throughout the tournament, the team played with outstanding skill, teamwork and determination. In a nail biting final match, they narrowly missed out on the trophy by just 5 runs.

We are immensely proud of every pupil who took part. Their sportsmanship, resilience and positive attitude shone through at every step. You have represented our school brilliantly, and we could not be prouder!

A huge well done to the whole team!



**I am Mummy to Dafydd in
Dosbarth Broga.
In 5 weeks time, I am running the London
Marathon to raise money for CAFOD.
Any donations would be hugely appreciated!**



**Scan QR code for
my fundraising page!**

We are delighted to share that Rob, our dedicated Physiotherapy Technician, is embarking on an exciting research project as part of his physiotherapy degree. This work will explore an important question at the heart of our school community:

How do inclusive events help children and young people take part in activities together?

To help Rob with his research please scan the QR code below.

Encouraging Participation: What Makes Inclusion Work?



Reporting a pupil absence



STEP 1

Telephone the school on 01443 203471

STEP 2

Select option 1 on the automated list

STEP 3

Leave the following information;

Pupils name

Pupils class

Your name

Reason for pupil absence



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School Diary Dates 2025 – 2026

Inset Days

Monday 1st September 2025	Monday 5th January 2026
Tuesday 2nd September 2025	Monday 23rd February 2026
Friday 24th October 2025	Monday 20th July 2026

Spring Term Diary Dates

Calendar Event	Date	Where?
St Davids Day	2/3/26	Tonteg Site Buarth y Capel Site
World Book Day (Fancy Dress / Own Clothes Linked to a Favourite Book)	6/3/26	Buarth y Capel Site Tonteg Site
Red Nose Day	20/3/26	Buarth y Capel Site Tonteg Site
Explorers Learning Showcase	24/3/26 (1.30pm)	Tonteg Site
Pathfinders Curriculum Celebration	19/3/26 (1.30pm)	Buarth y Capel Site
Navigators Curriculum Celebration (Sixth Form Only)	20/3/26 (1.30pm)	Tonteg Site
Adventures Curriculum Celebration	23/3/26 (1.30pm)	Tonteg Site
Navigators Curriculum Celebration	24/3/26 (10.30am)	Tonteg Site

Summer Term Diary Dates

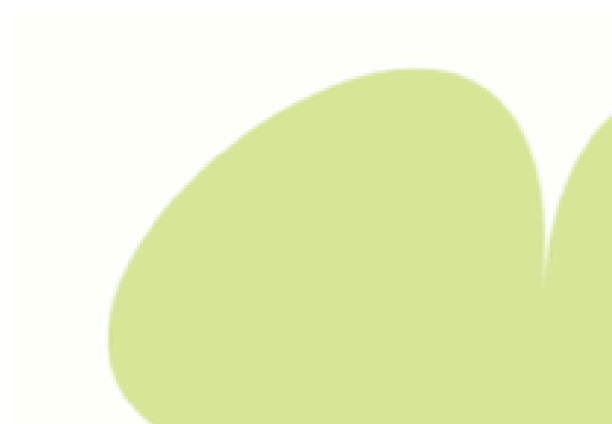
Calendar Event	Date	Where?
Move Week (please send children to school in suitable clothing)	w/o 18 th May	Tonteg Site Buarth y Capel Site
Buarth y Capel Sports Day	TBA	TBA
Tonteg Sports Day	TBA	TBA
Summer Fete	27/6/26	Tonteg Site
Year 6 Leavers Assembly	6/7/26	Tonteg Site
Parents Evening	8/7/26	Tonteg Site Buarth y Capel Site

Buarth y Capel Leavers Assembly	9/7/26	Buarth y Capel Site
Tonteg Leavers Assembly	10/7/26	Tonteg Site

Internal Transition Days (Pupils meet new teacher, spend time in new class if moving).	17th June 2026 24th June 2026 1st July 2026
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Key

w/o = Week of / TBA = To Be Announced / TBC = To Be Confirmed





WOODY'S LODGE & YSGOL TY COCH



ANNUAL GOLF DAY

4th June 2026

18 HOLES OF GOLF ON THE NATIONAL COURSE | 2 COURSE MEAL
COURSE SURVIVAL BAG | DRINK BUGGY | RAFFLE, SILENT AUCTION AND AWARDS

£100 PER PLAYER & £380 PER TEAM
£40.00 BUGGY HIRE

PLEASE CONTACT SHARN OR KATE TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM
SRICHARDS@PINNACLE-GROUP.CO.UK | KSTITFALL@PINNACLE-GROUP.CO.UK

Get **FREE** Microsoft 365 apps and Minecraft Education at home!

All learners and teachers at our school are entitled to **FREE** Microsoft 365 apps to use at home.

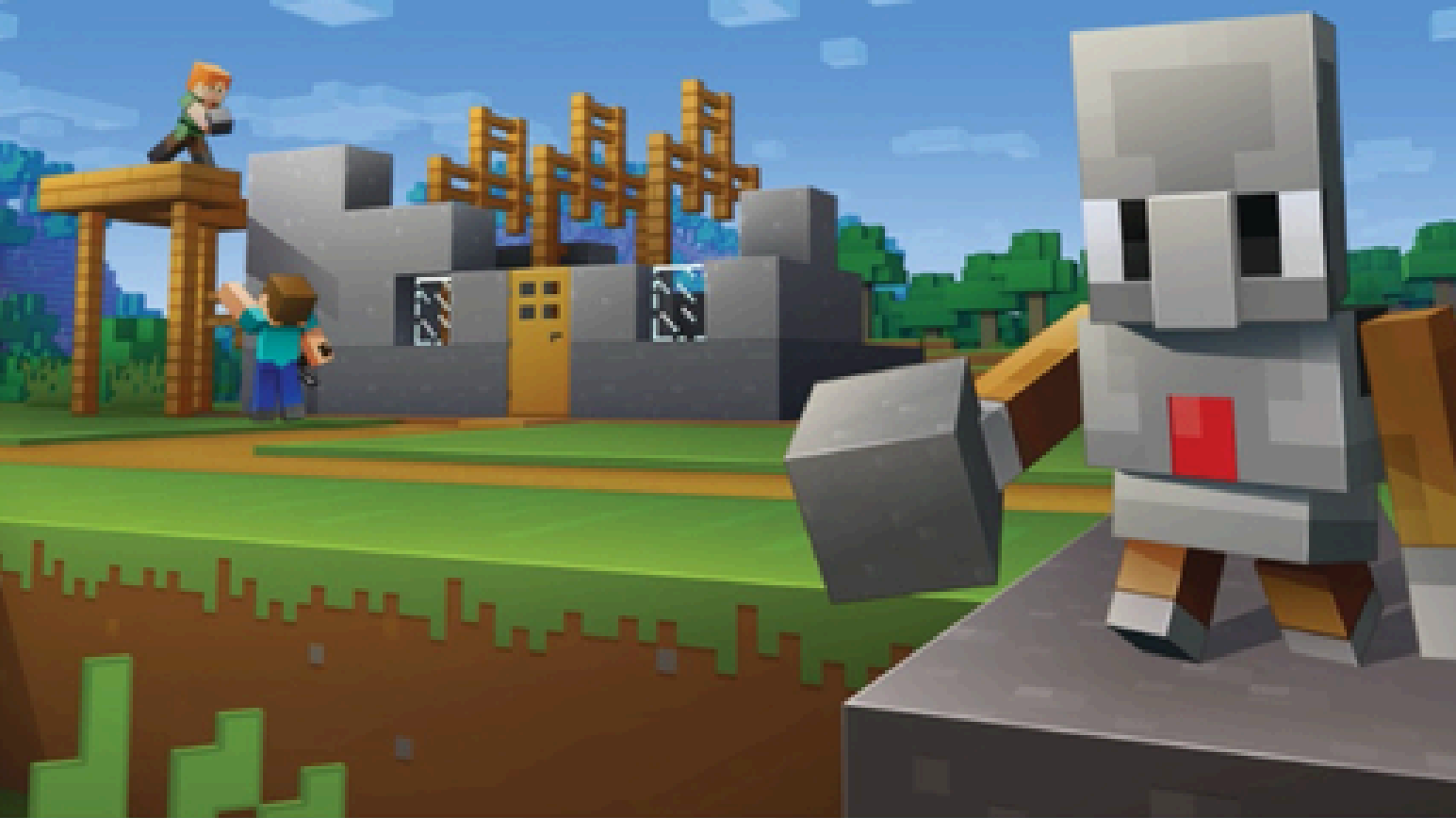
Download and install the latest Microsoft 365 apps including **Word**, **Excel**, **Teams** and **PowerPoint** as well as **Minecraft: Education** on up to 5 laptop or desktop computers, 5 tablets and 5 smartphones.



To learn more and access your **FREE** apps visit:
hwb.gov.wales/microsoft

MINECRAFT

EDUCATION EDITION



FREE MINECRAFT: EDUCATION EDITION IN SCHOOL AND AT HOME

The games-based learning platform with special features designed for classroom use is available for FREE through Hwb.

Minecraft: Education Edition promotes creativity, collaboration and problem-solving in an immersive environment where the only limit is your imagination.



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