

## Monthly News July 2021

*As we end the school year it's worth reflecting on what we've managed to achieve despite significant restrictions and periods of closure. Our children tell us they are happy and confident. Staff have identified children who've needed an additional boost and we've provided interventions. We've further developed outdoor facilities and environments and we've continued making progress with developing a curriculum in line with opportunities in the forthcoming Curriculum 2022 and we've restructured our governing body and the way it works. We look forward to further easements in September which will allow us further freedoms in our planning and delivery of learning.*

**Steve King, Headteacher**

### Goodbye Year 6

Today we say goodbye to our 60 wonderful Year 6 children. Our PTA have once again funded a hardback, full colour Leavers' Yearbook and, although we couldn't take them to Gilwern, we know how much they've enjoyed the summer production and Leavers' Assembly and awards. They have left their mark and they will always be part of The Dell because our school and our values will always leave their mark on them. Good luck Year 6. We know you'll go on to great things and make those who love and care for you very proud!

### Goodbye Miss Baxter

Today we say a sad goodbye to Miss Baxter. Having joined the school and shared her class with Mrs Ashton-Smith, she took over the reigns full-time in January and leaves memories of great care and kindness amongst the children she has taught and the colleagues she has worked with. We send her on her way with all very best wishes for her future.

### September

If you haven't already, please make sure you read the email we sent you yesterday (Thursday 15th July) about our plans for when we reopen from Monday 6th September at 8.50am.

### Nursery Applications

If you have a pre-school aged child and are looking for a place in a maintained setting from September, the application process is now open and closes on 15th September 2021 at midnight. For more details [CLICK HERE](#).

# THANK YOU

I really want to thank my team who have just adapted, changed their roles, bent and flexed around regular changes and worked in a way that has kept 400 children and each other safe.

Teaching isn't just teaching, it's an art and a science and our team have changed and adapted our school pedagogy significantly. The children tell us they are bearing up well, loving being in school and that they are feeling happy and confident. It's been tricky sharing the children's many successes, activities and experiences while constantly reinforcing the 'not business as usual' message but I think the extent of the colour, success and opportunity even under these adaptations shows what a great team of committed professionals your children are supported by each day.

Thank you for understanding that schools have been working to a different rule book to the rest of society; we've all felt that at times we've been out of step with wider societal norms and experiences. While there's been inconvenience for individuals when their child has had to self-isolate, we have not had to isolate a single class over the past 19 months when the school has been open. This is in part because of the adaptations we've made in hygiene, distancing and contact and in large part due to the diligence from you our parents in keeping your child away if unwell, erring on the side of caution and working in partnership with us. I think it's fair to say we've had some good luck too!

We're sorry that we have not been able to welcome you into school but again, that sacrifice has played a part in minimising risk and inconvenience and we've always tried to ensure children still have the experience albeit without the audience.



### Free School Meals

Did you know that 12.1% of children in Monmouthshire currently receive Free School Meals. YOU may be entitled but not yet claiming. Our school would get more funding to support YOUR child too. All in complete confidence. Find out more by [CLICKING HERE](#)

### Are You Struggling?

We know that in reality, lots of families are not eligible for Free School Meals yet they face real challenges in making ends meet. We want you to know that if that's you, we really want to help you. Whether it's the cost of uniform, trips, equipment, food, bills, please contact us and we will do what we can to support you in school and by finding support in the community. You can contact Mr King in writing and in complete confidence and we will do everything we can to support you.

Happiness

Friendliness

Trust

Independence

Love

Respect

Courage

Politeness

SILVER  
SCHOOL  
MENTAL  
HEALTH  
AWARD



# Health and Wellbeing This Month

← *First school  
in Wales!*



Year 4 held their Dellstonbury Festival!!



**The Dell**

## Be kind Be your best

We were one of the first two schools in Wales to achieve the Young Carers' Best Practice Award

### Monmouthshire Family Support Services

Monmouthshire's fantastic support agency, which helps families with advice and signposting. Help-lines are available Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm.

Call - 01633 644152 / 07970166975

For Info [CLICK HERE](#)

To watch an info video [CLICK HERE](#)



# YOUNG MiNDS

Support for children (AND Parents) at  
[www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

## SPEAK TO YOUR SCHOOL NURSE

Call  
**07500 124243**  
to arrange a virtual  
attend anywhere session

Sessions available on:  
Monday - 9 - 2.30  
Tuesday - 9 - 12  
Wednesday - 9 - 12  
Thursday - 9 - 2.30

Your School Nurse is available for you to talk about anything that worries you about your health.

SCAN WITH A SMART PHONE TO GET IN TOUCH

- ✓ Healthy eating and lifestyle
- ✓ Emotional wellbeing and mental health
- ✓ Weight support
- ✓ Alcohol and smoking support
- ✓ Sexual health and relationships

**Talk to us privately**  
We would only pass on your information to protect you or someone else from serious harm. We would talk about this with you first.

**Follow us**  
**@thedellschool**

Or just [CLICK HERE](#)



**BEFORE**



**AFTER!**



Year 2 enjoyed their Forest School Day



[CLICK HERE](#) to watch our school badgers in our Secret Forest!

There's loads more info on our website  
[www.dell.monmouthshire.sch.uk](http://www.dell.monmouthshire.sch.uk)

Year 5 created a poster for Chepstow Festival of Arts



Newspaper reports from Languages & Literacy Week



Year 5 decorated umbrellas for Chepstow Festival of Arts



[CLICK HERE](#) to watch one of Year 6's Outdoor Day Challenges



Year 4 - Gravity & moon rocks with Usk Astronomy Society



What does non-mixing lunchtime look like? [CLICK HERE](#)

# This Month's Dell Dragons' Update

(Everyone who represents The Dell in any sport is a Dell Dragon)

The Monmouthshire Games are aimed at children between the ages of five and 11 and offers activities to suit a range of different interests and hobbies. The sessions run from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday over the summer holidays. [CLICK HERE](#) for more details and information



**JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**  
8AM - 5PM  
£20.50 per day

**COME JOIN US**  
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

**MonLife**  
YN WEITHREDOL ACTIVE

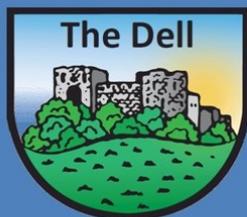


Thank you to Harriet's dad for getting his company to sponsor a brand new gymnastic and Dell Dragons kit!



[CLICK HERE](#) to watch

Year 6's Outdoor Day challenges with outdoor Coaching UK



HOME OF

THE DELL DRAGONS

