

YSGOL RHYS PRICHARD, LLANYMDDYFRI.

Ysgol Rhys Prichard is a community primary school on the edge of an old market town in the heart of the upper Towy valley, in north Carmarthenshire. The school was known as Llandovery County Primary School until December 1994 when it was officially renamed Ysgol Rhys Prichard, Llanymddyfri to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the death of the famous vicar of Llandovery.

The main part of the school consists of a single-storey building built at the turn of the century to accommodate a County Primary Infants School and a County Primary Junior School. The two schools opened on the 3rd October, 1910, and were amalgamated in September 1981 to form a County Primary School.

The internal layout consists of a large central hall providing access to five classrooms, a staff-room and a headteacher's study and two classrooms and toilets adjacent to the main entrances at the front of the school. A new extension has been built at the school which houses four nursery/infant classes and also includes boys and girls changing and showers rooms, a staff room and an office for the administrative officer. This facility was opened in January 2004. The playground area surrounding the school provides access to the adjacent playing field on one side and the kitchen/dining area on the other.

SCHOOL ADDRESS:

Llanfair Road,
Llandovery,
Carmarthenshire.
SA20 0HY.

SCHOOL TELEPHONE/FAX NUMBER:

01550 720736

HEADTEACHER:

Mr N Jones

SCHOOL GOVERNORS:

(Governing Body No 101)

Mr H Rees	Chairperson
Mr M Thomas	Vice chairperson
Mr N Jones	Head teacher
Mrs H Walters	
Cllr Mrs E A Thomas	
Mrs N Edwards	
Mr V Price	
Mr T Morgan	
Dr P J Rees	
Mrs C Saunders	
Mr M Gough	
Mrs M Evans	
Mrs D Hill	
Mr D Long	

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS:

Mrs G Harris

CLASS TEACHERS:

"A" STREAM
Reception - Miss S. Morgan
Class 1 - Miss T Aston
Class 3 - Mrs M. Rees
Class 5 – Mrs M Williams
- Mrs C Jones
Class 7 - Mr E Davies

"B" STREAM
Class 2 - Mrs D Davies
Class 4 - Miss M Davies
Class 6 - Mrs H Walters

P.P.A Support:

Mrs M Williams
Mrs M Evans

SEN SUPPORT STAFF:

Mrs M Evans (N N E B)
Mrs S Archer (Part-time Learning Support Assistant)
Mrs H Wood (Full time Care LSA/Change Manager)
Mrs R Davies (Full time LSA)
Mrs Sidaway (Part time LSA)

NURSERY ASSISTANT:

Mrs B Thomas (Nursery assistant)

PERIPATETIC MUSIC STAFF

(Carmarthenshire Music Service):
Mrs J Rowberry (Peripatetic woodwind teacher)
Mrs Nia Clwyd (Peripatetic singing teacher)
Mrs E Robins (Peripatetic guitar teacher)
Mrs G Thomas (Peripatetic violin teacher)
Mr C John (Peripatetic brass teacher)
Mrs L Jones (Peripatetic harp teacher)
Mr M Jones (Peripatetic drum teacher)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Mrs G Harris

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mrs C Evans

SCHOOL MEALS CLERK:

Mrs B E Thomas (Part-time)

CARETAKER:

Mrs S Adams

CLEANING STAFF:

Mrs S Adams (Cleaner in Charge)
Ms D Davies

MID-DAY SUPERVISERS:

Infants:	Juniors:
Mrs D Weatherill	Mrs L O Connor
Mrs S Adams	Mrs V Davies
Ms H Morgan	Ms H Jones
Mrs L Foot	Mrs J Davies
Mrs H Wood	Mrs S Brown
Ms K Roach	

KITCHEN STAFF:

Mrs S Ardolino (Cook in Charge)
Mrs E Williams (Catering Assistant)
Mrs J Kelly (Kitchen Assistant)
Mrs W James (Kitchen Assistant)

others;

- develop an awareness and appreciation of his locality, language, culture, traditions, and physical environment.
- develop an awareness of the need for personal hygiene, good manners and courtesy and safe practices in the school, home and community.

ADMISSION POLICY:

Pupils are admitted to school at the commencement of term prior to their fourth birthday. All pre-school pupils are admitted to the Welsh medium reception class to provide them with a firm foundation in Welsh on entering the school. Pupils transfer from the reception class to an infants class in the language stream of their parents choice when the child reaches statutory school age (i.e. the child's 5th birthday) - or sooner if pupil numbers in the reception class dictate. Before deciding, however, parents are asked to discuss the transfer with the reception class teacher/headteacher and take into consideration :

- a) the child's progress;
- b) the advice of the reception classteacher/headteacher;
- c) advice in relation to any special educational need;
- d) any other relevant information.

Parents of pre-school children are invited to visit the school towards the end of term prior to admission to discuss admission procedures, language policy, school organisation and curriculum matters with the headteacher whilst their children spend an afternoon in the reception class. Parents living outside the catchment area of the school who wish to have their children admitted should consult the Director of Education prior to admission.

Pupils normally transfer to secondary education in the September following their 11th birthday.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:

All our pupils at Ysgol Rhys Prichard have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school. We do not discriminate against anyone on the grounds of sex, race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, or disability. We endeavour to promote the principles of fairness, justice and a respect for other people in all aspects of school life.

DISABLED PUPILS:

All pupils at Ysgol Rhys Prichard have equal access to the full range of educational opportunities provided by the school, and no-one is discriminated against on grounds of disability. The main school building has access for wheelchairs and includes toilet facilities for disabled pupils. All travel throughout the building is level and bar from a small step, access is easy for the dining room. The appropriate signage is displayed, marking routes along the school and walls are painted a light colour to keep corridors bright and airy.

LANGUAGE POLICY OF THE SCHOOL:

Ysgol Rhys Prichard operates a bilingual policy in accordance with the authority's language policy. The aim of the policy is to enable all children to be fully bilingual in the use of English and Welsh on leaving the primary school, to enable them to become full members of a bilingual community. It is the only category "A/B" school within the catchment area of Pantycelyn Comprehensive School, Llandovery - all other neighbouring village schools are category "A" schools.

Welsh is the main medium of instruction for pupils in our "A" stream (and the "A" category schools) and a medium of instruction for pupils in our "B" stream. Pupils in the "A" stream follow the Welsh first language curriculum and pupils in the "B" stream the Welsh second language curriculum. All our teachers are Welsh speaking and Welsh is a language of communication in both the "A" and "B" stream classes. It is used as a medium of instruction in class management and in Art and Craft, Music, P.E. and Games lessons, and school assemblies are bilingual.

Pupils in the "A" stream are given Teacher Assessments in Welsh, Mathematics, and Science at the end of key stage 1, while key stage 1 pupils in the "B" stream are given the same Teacher Assessments in English, Mathematics and Science.

"A" stream: Pupils in the "A" stream are taught to read and write in Welsh in the infants (Key stage 1) and are introduced to English in their final term before transferring to key stage 2. Pupils, irrespective of their home backgrounds, are able to communicate effectively with their teachers and peers and read and write in Welsh by the end of key stage 1, and are fully bilingual when they transfer to the secondary school at the end of key stage 2.

Children admitted to the "A" stream from non-Welsh speaking homes are introduced sympathetically to the Welsh language initially, but Welsh then becomes the main medium of learning throughout the "A" stream. Many parents, understandably, are apprehensive about their child entering the "A" stream because they fear that they will be unable to help their child's learning. However, contrary to their fears, there are numerous examples of pupils from non-Welsh speaking homes who have progressed successfully through our "A" stream and, increasingly, more and more pupils from non-Welsh speaking homes are attending our "A" stream classes as parents realise the advantages of bilingualism in later life .

Immersing pupils in Welsh from as early an age as possible is an effective and successful method of enabling pupils to be fully bilingual on leaving the primary school. Pupils are far more receptive to learning a "new" language in their early years at school when the Welsh vocabulary of the pupil develops naturally as a means of communication.

Being a phonetic language, Welsh is a relatively easy language for the child to learn to read and write. In general, pupils who learn to read and write in Welsh at key stage 1 progress smoothly to reading and writing in English in the final term of key stage 1 and at the beginning of key stage 2.

"B" stream: Pupils entering the "B" stream at key stage 1 are taught to read and write in English alongside Welsh as a second language and, in accordance with L.E.A. policy, the pupils are increasingly exposed to Welsh as they progress through the school. This system, in common with other "B" streams and category "B" schools within the L.E.A., however, does not achieve the same level of bilingualism in pupils, and on the whole pupils attending the "B" stream are only able to communicate to a limited degree in Welsh when they transfer to the secondary school.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION:

Pupils are educated in mixed ability classes most appropriate to their age in the language stream of their parents choice. Most classes contain pupils of mixed ages and transfer from one class to another within the language stream is based on the age and number of pupils in the class. An infant class cannot exceed a maximum of 30 pupils.

There are currently four classes in the "A" stream, three classes in the "B" stream, and a Welsh medium reception class.

Key stage 1 pupils integrate for singing lessons in the school hall for two sessions each week, and key stage 2 "A" and "B" stream pupils integrate for year group teaching in English and Mathematics. All key stage 2 pupils receive free singing lessons weekly whilst years 3 and 4 receive free recorder tuition from the visiting peripatetic staff of the Carmarthenshire music service. Weekly tuition is also available for key stage 2 pupils on the recorder, clarinet, guitar, violin, trumpet at a charge of £105.00 per year and the harp at a charge of £122.50 for a minimum of 35 lessons per year. Pupils in receipt of free school meals are entitled to free tuition on one instrument.

TEACHING METHODS:

Teachers adopt a range of teaching methods and strategies within the classroom depending on the nature of the work, and the age range and ability of the pupils. Pupils are offered opportunities to learn through investigation and problem solving, research and finding out, group work, paired work, independent work, whole-class work, asking and answering questions, use of the computer, fieldwork and visits to places of educational interest, creative activities, watching television and responding to musical or tape-recorded material, debates, role-plays and oral presentations, designing and making things, and participation in athletic or physical activity. Lessons formats normally involve a teacher-led introduction, a class activity with differentiated group work, and a plenary activity, and there is usually a high level of interaction between the teacher and pupils, particularly in literacy and numeric lessons.

CURRICULUM:

Our school curriculum follows the curriculum and assessment framework in Wales and the revised National Curriculum for 5 to 11 year olds (Key Stages 1 and 2) in Wales, introduced in September, 2000.

Pupils under five years of age are given opportunities to develop and apply a range of skills identified in the six areas of learning and experience prescribed in the non-statutory "Desirable Outcomes for Children's Learning before Compulsory School Age".

The six areas of learning and experience for skill development in the Desirable Outcomes for the under fives are:

- Language, Literacy and Communication Skills;
- Mathematical Development;
- Personal and Social Development;
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development;
- Creative Development.

A statutory baseline assessment is carried out within 7 weeks of a child starting school in the Reception Year or Year 1 to establish their starting point and provide information for teachers to plan individual pupils' learning to enable them to progress to the National Curriculum at the beginning of Key Stage 1.

The National Curriculum enables pupils in key stage 1 and 2 to further develop and apply a range of important skills that pupils first developed in the six areas of learning and experience in the Desirable

Outcomes for pupils of pre-compulsory school age. These skills overarch subject areas and help prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life, e.g. to be able to communicate effectively, work with number, use IT and solve problems.

The revised National Curriculum in Wales gives all pupils access to the statutory curriculum by providing teachers with the flexibility to select content from an earlier or later programme of study which is more appropriate to the needs of individual pupils (including SEN pupils and gifted/talented pupils). It also provides opportunities for pupils to develop and apply Communication Skills , Mathematical Skills; Information Technology Skills; Problem-Solving Skills; Creative Skills; the Curriculum Cymreig; and Personal and Social Education, where appropriate, in all National Curriculum subjects.

Each subject in the revised National Curriculum in Wales has a Programme of Study which describe what pupils should be taught at each key stage and Attainment Targets which describe the expected standards of pupil performance. The Level Descriptions for each Attainment Target enable teachers to assess the performance level of the pupil in all aspects of the Programmes of Study.

The revised curriculum is based on a 36 week teaching year and a minimum weekly contact time of 21 hours for Key stage 1 pupils (Years 1 and 2) and 23.5 hrs for key stage 2 pupils (Year 3 to 6). The school operates a sequence of themes or topics which integrates aspects of some/most or all of the curriculum subjects in a cross-curricular series of experiences and activities for pupils. Themes are arranged over a two year cycle to ensure full coverage of programmes of study in all subjects.

The following subjects of the National Curriculum in Wales, 2000, are taught at Ysgol Rhys Prichard :

"A" stream

**Welsh (first language)
English (at Key Stage 2)
Mathematics
Science
Design & Technology
Information, Communication Technology
History
Geography
Art
Music
Physical Education**

"B" stream

**Welsh (second language)
English
Mathematics
Science
Design & Technology
ICT
History
Geography
Art
Music
Physical education**

The school also follows the L.E.A's Agreed Syllabus for the teaching of Religious Education to Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils and a programme of Personal and Social Education.

Complaints concerning any aspect of the school's curriculum should be addressed initially to the headteacher. If the headteacher is unable to resolve the complaint to the satisfaction of the parent, the complaint should be referred to the Governing Body of the school. If the Governing Body is unable to resolve the complaint, it should then be referred to the Director of Education.

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT:

Parents are asked to sign our home-school agreement when their child starts school. The agreement seeks promote the ethos and values of the school and foster a strong partnership between the home and school. It explains the school's responsibilities to pupils, the responsibilities of parents and what the school expects of the pupils in terms of being ready for school, attendance and punctuality, schoolwork and homework, behaviour, pastoral care, home/school links and extra-curricular activities.

SPORTING AIMS AND PROVISION FOR SPORT:

The school aims to provide opportunities for pupils to participate in a wide range of sporting activities and promote the benefits of an active and healthy lifestyle. Pupils are encouraged to take a full and active part in the Physical Education curriculum and extra-curricular activities offered by the school.

All pupils take part in gymnastic, dance and minor games activities in weekly physical education lessons, and pupils in Years 2 to 6 attend Llandovery Swimming Pool during the year for free swimming lessons. (Please note that all pupils must wear a swimming cap for school swimming lessons). Year 3 & 4, and year 5 & 6 pupils in both language streams integrate for games lessons on alternate weeks. Rugby and netball is played during the autumn and spring terms, and rounders and cricket during the summer term.

All children take part in our annual inter-house school sports, held in June, and many pupils represent the school in the annual Llandovery and district primary schools sports

Older pupils are given opportunities to represent the school in a range of extra-curricular sporting competitions/ tournaments that are organised throughout the year. The school takes part in annual rugby, soccer, netball and swimming competitions organised by the Urdd, and cross-country and athletic events organised in the area. We also organise an inter-house swimming gala for key stage 2 pupils at Llandovery swimming pool at the end of the summer term.

All pupils are required to bring their own appropriate clothing for physical education (dark shorts/white t-shirt), games and swimming lessons. The school, however, provides a set of rugby jerseys and netball skirts for inter-school matches and tournaments.

All pupils are required to participate in the full range of curricular activities specified in the programmes of study of each subject in the National Curriculum for Wales, 2000. Pupils may only be withdrawn from aspects of the Physical Education curriculum for medical reasons on receipt of a medical exemption certificate from a doctor. Pupils may be temporarily withdrawn from a physical education lesson for medical reasons on receipt of a letter from the child's parent.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP:

A daily act of collective worship is held for all pupils in the school. Collective worship at our school is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character and is held during class assemblies for four mornings each week. Infant pupils assemble in the school hall for collective worship on Tuesday mornings, junior pupils assemble in the school for collective worship on Wednesday mornings, and the whole school assembles in the school hall for collective worship on Friday afternoons.

Parents also have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship in school, if they so wish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

The school also follows the L.E.A's Agreed Syllabus for the teaching of Religious Education to Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils.

Religious Education is compulsory for all pupils at Ysgol Rhys Prichard, including pupils of pre-compulsory school age in the reception class. However, parents may withdraw a child from religious education by informing the Governing Body in writing. The R.E. syllabus is of a broadly Christian nature but recognises the teachings and practices of other major religions. The religious education curriculum forms an important role in promoting the spiritual, moral and social development of pupils in the school

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS:

Pupils with SEN have an entitlement to the full National Curriculum although some pupils may be disapplied from subjects or part of subjects through a statement of SEN. Pupils without statements can only be disapplied for a short term through Sections 365-367 of the 1996 Education Act.

Special educational provision at the school is based on the five stage model contained in the "Code of Practice" on the identification and assessment of pupils with special educational need, co-ordinated by Miss M. Davies, the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (S.E.N.C.O.).

All pupils are screened annually and upon entry to school using standardised tests and individual diagnostic tests, where appropriate, recommended by the L.E.A.'s Special Needs Manual for schools. These tests, together with National Curriculum attainment, teacher observations, class records and, where appropriate, SAT's results, contribute to the formulation of an individual educational plan containing targets of achievement for pupils with special educational needs.

All pupils with special educational needs receive additional support from their respective class teachers, and every effort is made to integrate pupils with special educational needs into mainstream classes. Some pupils with special educational needs receive in-class support whilst others are withdrawn for individual/small group support from the special needs support teacher.

ABSENCE:

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that their children attend school regularly and should telephone the school before 9.10 a.m. on the first day of absence if their child is unable to attend school. All schools are required to record a pupil's absence as either authorised or unauthorised. If parents fail to notify the school of an absence it will automatically be recorded as an unauthorised absence against the child. Parents should inform the school in writing if an absence is known in advance. The school reserves the right in all cases of absence to determine the category of absence.

When a child has a medical appointment during the school day parents should let the school know when the child will be collected. No child will be allowed to leave school unless collected by a responsible adult.

In the event of adverse weather the headteacher will liaise with the headmaster of Ysgol Pantycelyn regarding the conveyance of children living in outlying areas home early. This is necessary as children in both schools often share the same transport. Parents will be contacted by telephone to ensure that someone is at home before a child is allowed home early on school transport.

Information on school closure during inclement weather will be broadcast on Radio Wales/Cymru, Radio Carmarthenshire and on Carmarthenshire County Web Site as soon as possible.

ABSENCES

Average Attendance : 93.61%
Authorised Absences : 5.98%
Unauthorised Absences : 0.41%

TRANSPORT:

The local education authority provides free school transport for children who reside over three miles within the catchment area of the school. Pupils living outside the school's catchment area are not entitled to free school transport. Parents should discuss school transport matters with the School

Transport Officer in the Education Department, Carmarthen. Parents of pupils living outside the catchment area may be asked to make their own transport arrangements or contribute towards the cost of travelling on official school transport.

N.B. The roadside adjacent to the pavement in front of the school has been designated a parking area for school buses only. Parents are respectfully asked not to park their vehicles in this area, particularly when collecting their children from school at the end of the school day. The co-operation of parents in this respect will be much appreciated and will reduce traffic congestion and the risk of injury to pupils.

HOMEWORK:

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. It helps pupils to develop as independent learners, promotes a partnership between the home and school in supporting the pupil's learning, helps to consolidate and reinforce work undertaken at school, and helps pupils develop good work habits for the future.

Pupils will be given a variety of work to be undertaken at home, depending on the age and aptitude of the child. Pupils will be issued reading books to read at home, given table facts and spelling lists to learn and a variety of written and research work. Presentation of homework is expected to be of a standard similar to that expected of school work. Homework will normally be time-tabled by the class teacher to allow sufficient time for completion (usually a minimum of 2 nights), and all pupils are expected to complete homework on time.

We expect Key stage 1 pupils to spend approximately one hour per week on homework (including reading with a parent); pupils in Years 3 and 4 approximately 15 - 20 minutes per night; and Year 5 and 6 pupils approximately 30 minutes per night on homework.

SEX EDUCATION:

No formal sex education is given at the school but advice and support is offered to individuals, when necessary, on an individual basis. At the end of year 6, pupils are given a video film and a sympathetic talk by the school nurse about the changes which take place in the body during early adolescence, as part of the National Curriculum Science Order requiring key stage 2 pupils to learn about the main changes that occur in the body during the human life cycle

PASTORAL CARE:

The headteacher is in overall charge of the school and is responsible for all aspects of school life. These responsibilities are delegated to the deputy headteacher in the absence of the headteacher. Class teachers' are responsible for the general welfare of their pupils during the school day (excluding the lunch break).

Two teachers and a class assistant supervise pupils on the playground during morning and afternoon break, and at the beginning and end of each day. Teachers share the responsibility for the treatment of minor injuries but refer more serious cases to Miss S. Morgan, the school's nominated medical officer (and a former nurse), for advice and treatment. All injuries referred to the medical officer are recorded in an Accident Log Book. Staff are regularly trained and hold appropriate qualifications in First Aid.

Class teachers inform the headteacher when a child is taken ill in school, and the parents are contacted to arrange for the child to be taken home. The child will be kept comfortable in school if the parents cannot be contacted, but if the condition deteriorates, the child will be accompanied to the doctor's surgery or Llandovery Hospital. In the event of an accident causing serious injury to limbs, head, eyes

All reasonable precautions for the safety of the children are taken at all times. Two teachers and care assistants supervise pupils at playtimes, and seven mid-day lunch-time supervisors are responsible for the conduct and welfare of children during the lunch hour. Children are supervised in the school canteen during lunch and later in the playground (or in the classrooms during inclement weather). In order to reduce the risk of injury on the playground infant children play in a separate area of the playground to junior children. Pupils may be excluded from school during lunchtimes if their behaviour cannot be controlled by supervisors. The headteacher normally remains on the school premises during the lunch period to oversee the supervision of pupils.

The security of the premises is protected by an intruder alarm outside school hours, and all valuable electrical items and computers are security marked. School Gates are closed during the school day, and the only entry point to the school is the new main entrance. All other doors are kept locked apart from playtimes. Visitors to the school are expected to sign in at reception.

All classrooms in the main building are linked to each other, the staffroom and the headteacher's study by an internal telephone system.

Fire drills are practised each term to ensure that effective exodus of children and staff from the buildings in the event of a fire. The local education authority arranges periodic testing of the fire fighting appliance in the school.

Children are regularly reminded of the "Green Cross Code" and at the end of term a police officer visits the school to remind children about road safety and aspects of safety in the home and community, e.g. danger from farm machinery.

The older children are encouraged to take a Safe Cycling Course at the school prior to transfer to the secondary school.

SCHOOL CLOTHING:

Pupils are expected to wear school uniform in school and attend school neatly dressed at all times. The uniform consists of the following items of clothing:

Burgundy sweaters; burgundy or white polo-shirts; grey trousers and skirts; grey or white socks/stockings. Alternatively, white, burgundy or T-shirts (or pink gingham dresses for girls) may be worn in the summer term.

The following items of clothing (with the school name and logo) may be ordered from the school:

Burgundy sweatshirt £10.00

Burgundy or White Polo shirt £9.50

White, or Burgundy T shirt £5.00

Items are ordered at the end of each calendar month. Please allow 14 days for delivery.

N.B. Parents are asked to ensure that all school uniform is LABELLED with the child's name to help the school to identify lost clothing.

SCHOOL MEALS:

The cost of a school meal is £1.65 per day. Dinner money is collected on Monday mornings by a school meals clerk. Pupils absent from school on a Monday should bring their dinner money when they return to school. Parents are asked to ensure that all monies are enclosed in an envelope marked "Dinner Money" with the child's name and class and the amount due enclosed. School meals are cooked on the premises and served with a glass of water.

N.B All cheques for dinner money need to be made out to Carmarthenshire County Council.

A nutritious packed lunch may be brought to school as an alternative to a school meal but it should not include a drink in a glass container or canned drink.

Parents in receipt of Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance are entitled to free meals for their child(ren).

Free meals application forms are available from the school or: **The Director of Education,
Education Department,
Pibwrlwyd,
Carmarthen. SA31 2NH.
Tel. 01267 228135**

No free meals can be given until authorisation is received from the Education Department. Parents of pupils already in receipt of free meals must ensure that they submit an application for renewal to the Education Department at least 10 days before the present authorisation expires. (The headteacher may be able to authorise free meals at school provided the necessary evidence is presented with the application form).

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:

Annually the children take part in a Christmas performance where parents are invited.

- The school competes in the annual Bobbybusters Quiz, organised by Dyfed Powys Police; the Carmarthenshire Primary Schools road safety competition; the annual Welsh book quiz organised by the Carmarthen Library Service; and the annual reading, maths, and art competitions, organised by the Llandovery Rotary Club.
- Members of staff assist in the running of the Adran yrUrdd held after school on Thursdays for key stage 2 pupils during the autumn and spring term. Pupils are encouraged to compete in the annual Urdd Eisteddfod and the sporting competitions organised by the Urdd annually.
- Children are encouraged to become members of the "Scholastic Book Club" and the Welsh book club "Sbondonics" to promote wider interest in reading.
- The school is actively involved in helping a number of local and national charities.
- Harvest Thanksgiving gifts/collection is forwarded to various charities.

ANCILLARY SERVICES:

i) **Medical:** The school medical officer arranges for the periodic examination of all pupils on the school register. Parents will be given an opportunity to be present during the examination. Prior to the examination parents will be required to complete a form concerning the child's medical history.

ii) **Dental:** Similarly the school dental officer carries out regular dental inspection of all children. Children found to require treatment will receive an appointment to attend the dental clinic in Llandovery, shortly after the inspection.

iii) **Psychological:** The services of the educational psychologist is available when required.

TUCK SHOP:

The school follows a healthy eating policy. Fruit is sold to pupils during morning break (20p). Cold water machines are placed within the school to provide children with drinking water.

LINKS WITH PARENTS:

Parents are at liberty to visit the school as individuals or in groups for personal interviews with the headteacher or members of staff provided they first of all telephone the school to arrange a convenient time.

Circular letters are forwarded to parents:

- a) inviting parents to attend various functions - sports, concerts, or any social events, visits, etc.
- b) informing parents of school holidays, school rules, etc.
- c) changes of dates of medical or dental inspections, etc.
- d) dates of annual parents meeting with school governors.

FORMAL SCHOOL VISITS BY PARENTS:

Formal school visits are arranged in the autumn and summer terms for parents to attend school to discuss their child's progress privately with the class teacher. The visits in the autumn term provide teachers with an opportunity to discuss individual pupil targets with parents, explain the kind of work to be undertaken by the child during the year, and possibly suggest areas where parents can contribute to the child's learning. In the summer term parents are issued with a progress report on their child and are invited to school to discuss this report in greater detail with the class teacher.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS ENTERING CHILDREN INTO THE SCHOOL

- Involve your child in adult conversation whenever possible - NEVER talk down to him/her.
- Discuss arrangements for shopping, holiday trips, etc with him/her.
- Play games with your child.
- READ to your child regularly - every day if possible.
- Encourage your child to paint and crayon - activities which provide an opportunity for conversation and increase in confidence.
- Help your child to realise how numbers occur in real life (not by doing sums but by counting in various ways, e.g. How many dogs on the farmyard?)
- Teach your child simple nursery rhymes.
- Ensure that your child can accomplish simple tasks for himself/herself: tie shoe laces, dress himself/herself, and that he/she is toilet trained.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION:

The school has an active parent/teacher association. Its aims are set out in its constitution drawn up in 1975, namely:-

- to encourage co-operation between the staff, the parents and all others associated with the school.
- to engage in activities affecting the education and welfare of the pupils in attendance.
- to secure regular contact between the parent and teacher to further their mutual understanding for the well-being and benefit of the child.
- to organise functions to raise money for the purchase of books and additional equipment for the school.

The P.T.A. committee organise fund-raising events each term to raise funds for the school, e.g. raffles, whist-drives, bingo evenings, treasure hunts, auctions, spring fayres, 100 Club, and recently car park stewarding in the Network Q rally. P.T.A. members also assist in the other school events, such as the children's Christmas party and sports day.

THE MARY ELIZABETH MORRIS TRUST:

The charity of Mary Elizabeth Morris was established in 1982 to provide financial assistance to past or present pupils of the Ysgol Rhys Prichard or Ysgol Gyfun Pantycelyn (who are under 25 years of age) to enable them:

- to provide outfits, clothing, instruments, ties, books on leaving school, university or other educational establishment to prepare for and enter a profession, trade or calling;
- to travel in this country or abroad, to pursue their education;
- to study music or other art;
- to continue their education at college or university or other institution of further education (including professional and technical) approved by the trustees.

Parents of pupils in Year 6 who have attended Ysgol Rhys Prichard for a minimum of 2 years are invited to apply for financial assistance to purchase sports clothing and equipment prior to their transfer to secondary education.

The school also receives an annual donation from the Trust to provide a Christmas tree and Christmas party for the pupils.