

21st May 2026

Ref: WM/ParentCarerLetter/EndofTermLetterMay2026

Dear Families,

I hope you're keeping well.

We've had a fantastic half-term across our schools in the Federation where and staff have worked hard to ensure we continue to make progress in our learning.

Riverbank School

Sports Day: Our learners had an amazing day filled with laughter, fun with a range of sporting and sensory activities. It was wonderful to see our pupils developing their confidence and I was so proud of everyone's effort, determination and positivity throughout the day- well done all

Expressive Arts Enrichment Day: Our learners showcased their creativity and enjoyed exploring art, music and drama through a range of existing, hands-on activities, where pupils had the opportunity to use different instruments and join in the fun.

Positive Behaviour Support Workshop for families: Families across the school joined us by coming together to learn, share ideas and strengthen the connection between home and school. The session focused on understanding behaviour, exploring solutions to behaviours that challenge, building confidence and exploring practical strategies that support happy, confident learners every day.

Woodlands School

Table Cricket visit to Lords: I'm so proud of our learners continued efforts and success by our Table Cricket team. This term learners attended Lords Cricket in London and placed 5th out of 100 teams that entered.

Minecraft Champions: A huge congratulations to our learners who are Minecraft Champions and took 1st place in the Minecraft Finals. This success has required months of dedication, practice and teamwork, with sessions requiring key skills such as refining ideas, problem solving and working as team.

Storey Arms: A highlight over the last few weeks was learners attending a caving adventure and continuing our outdoor learning which required working together and supporting each other every step of the way

Ty Gwyn School

Sports Day: Our learners had a fantastic event with their sports day. It was so much fun to see everyone enjoying themselves and showcasing their skills and effort.

Eurovision Disco: We celebrated Eurovision by hosting a disco where our learners shined and had lots of fun celebrating and enjoying. The afternoon was full of music, colour, excitement and good times and certificates awarded across the afternoon.

Citizens Advice Bureau: We continue to work with external agencies to extend our support for families. Citizens Advice Cardiff and Vale provide free, confidential and impartial advice on a range of areas including debt, benefits, housing, employment and family. If you or your family need help they visit the school every second Friday of every month, appointments can be made through the school office

Fairwater Campus: As you'll know from my previous communications with you, the Fairwater Campus has been a project we've been involved in for several years, and these past few months we've continued to work incredibly hard with the project team to finalise our new school buildings. Leaders and staff have spent plenty of time at the Campus and excitement across our schools is building for everyone.

Transition events: I wrote to you a few weeks ago to invite families to our transition events to discuss the transition arrangements for learners at Woodlands School and Riverbank School, as we prepare together for our move to the Fairwater Community Campus.

This transition represents an exciting milestone for our Federation. Our priority throughout this process is to ensure clarity, reassurance, and continuity for our pupils and families, with a carefully planned transition offer that supports every child according to their individual needs. Our transition programme will consist of a range of activities designed to explain next steps, share what has already been put in place, outline what the new provision will look like, and highlight the additional support available should any pupil require it.

Transition Presentation to families: We held in-person presentations for new and current families, providing an opportunity to hear directly from senior leaders, ask questions, and I was delighted that across the four sessions over 150 families attended, thank you.

During these sessions we covered:

- The Western Learning Federation and the roles of Woodlands and Riverbank Schools
- Overview of Woodlands and Riverbank – Culture, Uniform etc
- Provision and class structures
- School day session times

WESTERN LEARNING FEDERATION

Mr Wayne Murphy - Executive Headteacher
Miss Rachel Faulkner - Deputy Executive Headteacher
Ffordd Vincent/Vincent Road, Trelái/Ely, Caerdydd/Cardiff, CF5 5AQ



- Transport arrangements
- Catering, break times and lunch times
- Curriculum overview
- Closure days, INSET days and phase entry
- Whole-school transition visits

Transition Visits to Fairwater Community Campus

We recognise how important it is for pupils and families to become familiar with the new environment. Therefore, each child will be invited to attend a transition visit to the Fairwater Community Campus with their family. These visits will take place between 15th June and 15th July 2026. Dates and times will be carefully planned and shared via a separate personalised letter.

Although the new schools are currently still under construction, we have worked closely with BESL the principal contractor for the build to undertake detailed risk assessments to ensure visits are safe and purposeful. Families will have the opportunity to see a showroom classroom and begin developing familiarity with the new setting, which we believe is an essential part of a successful transition. **Further details will be shared shortly.**

Teacher Meet Opportunities

Throughout June and July, both Woodlands School and Riverbank School staff will be in contact to arrange opportunities for pupils and families to meet teaching staff. These meetings will support the development of strong, positive relationships with existing and, where appropriate, new members of staff, ensuring that key information is shared and that each child's needs are well understood ahead of the move.

We are incredibly excited to welcome new pupils and to continue celebrating the achievements of our current pupils as they move into a state-of-the-art learning environment. The Fairwater Community Campus will provide outstanding opportunities for our pupils to learn, grow and achieve together, supported by the expertise and shared values of the Western Learning Federation.

Letter from Cardiff Council

Cardiff Council have asked us to share a letter relating to provision for children and young people with additional learning needs and its publication report which is accessible on the Federation website <https://www.westernlearningfederation.co.uk/letters-from-the-executive-headteacher-llythyron-g/>

I'd like to wish you a wonderful half term break
Wayne Murphy
Executive Headteacher of the Western Learning Federation