

The Bilingual Calendar

Your bilingual calendar does not have to be restricted to a traditional wall calendar. You can show the time of year or month by choosing something which symbolises the weather during that period of year therefore tying in seasons, months and weather e.g. shells with the names of the months written on them for Summer, leaves for Autumn months and so on. Your 'calendar' could even be a play area which continuously changes in accordance to the time of year.

Using a bilingual calendar with young children every day will help them to begin to learn:

- the days of the week
- the date
- the month
- the weather
- the seasons

To help increase the use of Welsh in your setting, encourage the children to listen to the words in Welsh. When the children become more familiar with the Welsh words encourage the children to tell you which day it is, what the weather is like and so on. You can find factsheets for the weather and seasons on the NDNA website. By listening to the Welsh words first and then attempting to repeat them, the children's vocabulary will be increased. Language skills the children are learning through communicating in English will also help them to develop their language skills in Welsh.

Young children's skills will also be developed in the following areas:

Language, Literacy and Communication skills:

Both English and Welsh can be developed through this activity.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Children can take turns to talk about their own birthday date, discuss what the weather is like today and how they feel when it is sunny or windy and so on.

Creative Development:

The changing weather can stimulate sensory experiences. Encourage the children to express what the weather is like using their senses: what they see, what they hear, what they smell, what it feels like. Encourage the children to use their imagination when discussing the weather. This activity can be extended to enable children to engage in creative movement using their bodies to 'act out' the weather systems.

Mathematical Development:

Children can learn to recognise the numbers and how the dates follow in sequence (1, 2, 3, and so on). Children can also learn to select and place the correct objects on a calendar, practitioners can help them compare the weather today with what it was like yesterday.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World:

Encourage the children to discuss the changing weather such as sunny, windy, raining and snowing and the changing seasons. Ask questions about the weather and use words from the appropriate season factsheet. Help children to begin to learn about cause and effect with the rain (wet), wind (blowy), sun (hot), snow (cold).

Physical Development:

Children can develop their fine motor skills and hand and eye co-ordination with the days of the week activity. Encourage the children to point to a calendar and select suitable objects with the finger and thumb to stick the objects on to the calendar.

Days, Months & Time

Day – Dydd – Deethe (as seethe)

Pronunciation Guide:

Sunday	Dydd Sul	Deethe Seel
Monday	Dydd Llun	Deethe LL-een
Tuesday	Dydd Mawrth	Deethe Ma-oor-th
Wednesday	Dydd Mercher	Deethe Mare-ch-airr
Thursday	Dydd Iau	Deethe Yah-ee
Friday	Dydd Gwener	Deethe Gwen-airr
Saturday	Dydd Sadwrn	Deethe Sad-oorn

On the following page you will find the days of the week in Welsh, with an English translation below. Having printed and laminated the sheet, cut out the days and, following a discussion with the children regarding which day it is, each morning pick out the suitable card and ask the children in turn to help you stick the card on your register using bluetack so as to help educate them as to the changing nature of the days and how there is a new day for each register.

Dydd Llun

Monday

Dydd Mawrth

Tuesday

Dydd Mercher

Wednesday

Dydd Iau

Thursday

Dydd Gwener

Friday

Times

Time – Amser – Am-sair

O'clock – O'r gloch – Oar glo-ch

One – Un – Een

Two – Dau – Da-uh

Three – Tri – Tree

Four – Pedwar – Ped-oo-arr

Five – Pump – Pimp

Six – Chwech – Ch-ooch-eh-ooch

Seven – Saith – Sithe

Eight – Wyth – Ooh-ith

Nine – Naw – Nah-ooch

Ten – Deg – Dayg

Eleven – Unarddeg – In-are-theg

Twelve – Deuddeg – Day-theg

Quarter – Chwarter – Ch-ooch-are-ter

Half – Hanner – Han-air

To – I – E

Past – Wedi – Wed-ee

Month – Mis – Meese (as Geese)

Pronunciation Guide:

January	Ionawr	Yon-ah-oor
February	Chwefror	Ch-oo-ev-roar
March	Mawrth	Ma-oor-th
April	Ebrill	Ebb-rhi-ll
May	Mai	My
June	Mehefin	Meh-he-vin
July	Gorffnaf	Gore-phen-av
August	Awst	Oust
September	Medi	Meddy
October	Hydref	Hud-rev
November	Tachwedd	Ta-ch-weth
December	Rhagfyr	Rhag-virr

Cymdeithas Genedlaethol Meithrinfeydd Dydd Cymru Swyddfa, 2 Ty'r Goron 11 Stryd y Ffynnon Rhuthun Sir Ddinbych LL15 1AE

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