



# Case Study: Big Bocs Bwyd at Penybont Primary School



## WHY?

At Penybont we have been learning a lot about sustainability and food waste, we have also been increasingly concerned with parents struggling with the cost of living. We wanted to be able to support the local community now but also educate our children about how we can live more sustainably and reduce food waste to help develop a brighter future.

## HOW?

We have set up a Pay as you Feel Shop on the school grounds and launched it to the community on 16<sup>th</sup> May. We have been successful in securing a Growing Gardens Award from Keep Wales Tidy, which will help us to grow fruit and vegetables to sell in the Big Bocs Bwyd. Bridgend Rotary have donated fruit trees and £100 to create a fruit orchard and Ernest Cook Trust have awarded £500 to help us to develop our growing garden.

## WHO?

The whole staff team at Penybont have helped to drive this project forward. We now have a children's committee that will help to run, promote and develop new initiatives. Film Club have recorded our progress, Gardening Club have collated ideas for the development of our growing garden, Eco club have completed a sustainability survey that we can use as a benchmark and Welsh Club have helped to create signs. The School Governors have shown their support running workshops and making beautiful patchwork blankets to sell in the store.

## Challenges and Barriers

- *Planning Permission – the requirement for planning permission was not confirmed until April, we applied straight away but due to the lengthy nature of the legal process it has limited how we are allowed to promote it. I would recommend applying whatever the advice given.*
- *Time – the amount of time that needs to be committed to the project to make it a success. Ensure that you get the whole school behind the project and share as many jobs out as possible!*
- *Understanding – without being able to have a media launch it has been difficult to get the message out to the community about the purpose of the BBB.*



## Benefits of our BBB!

*Community – we have started to develop stronger links within the community Bridgend Rotary have been in to plant fruit trees with reception*

*Authentic projects – Claire Davids one of our school governors ran an upcycling workshop with year 3/4 to make tables and chairs for our new coffee shop area.*

*Learning from the experts – Year 2 have had a Baker talk to them about what its like to be a baker and show them top tips! Year 4 had Carl Edwards BBC News, teach them how to do power presentations. Year 5/6 have learnt how to screen print bags and worked with a media company on logo design and WWF ran a sustainability workshop.*

## BBB Top Tips!

- *Embrace the Big Bocs Bwyd and get all the staff on board – teamwork makes the dream work!!*
- *Engage the children from the start in the project. They need to feel ownership.*
- *Be prepared for things not to go as planned, it's a huge learning curve for everybody involved – that's what makes it exciting!*
- *Get as many people as possible to complete the Level 2 Food and Hygiene*