



Penyrheol

Christmas Newsletter

Cardiff Fashion Week

Annual Awards Evening

Charity Week Raises £1,747

School Year Group Wins £1000

& Much Much More!



A Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Pupils

2017 has been called 'Year Zero' with regard to GCSE examination results in Wales. This is because results across Wales fell as pupils sat their first exams in new courses for English Language and the two Maths qualifications that now exist. The exam board and the Welsh Government took the opportunity of these new courses to raise the standard required to achieve the higher grades. Our English Language and Maths/Numeracy results in 2017 were lower than we had expected because of this, although the fall was not as great as the average decrease across Wales.

However, I am delighted to say that the pupils who left us in summer 2017 achieved outstanding results in performance measures that take the whole curriculum into account. In the new Capped9 measure (based on points scores in each of English Language, Maths, Numeracy, two Sciences plus the best four other results) we were in the top 25% of similar schools to us across Wales. In the Level 2 Threshold measure, which is the percentage of pupils gaining five or more higher grade GCSEs, we were the very top school in Wales of a similar type! Our Science and our Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification results were also in the top 25% of similar schools in Wales. All excellent achievements and strong evidence of our broad and balanced curriculum, the quality of our teaching, the effort made by our pupils and the support and encouragement of parents. Working together we can continue to aspire to even better results in the coming years.

Our Christmas Carol Concert takes place at St. Catherine's Church, Gorseinon, at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 21st December this year. We would love to see you there supporting our orchestra and choirs as we celebrate together this special time of year.

Term ends very late this year, at lunch time on Friday, 22nd December, and the Spring Term begins for pupils on Tuesday 9th January 2018. Parents of Year 11 and Year 10 pupils should note that there is a GCSE English Literature module for Year 11 pupils and a BTEC Health and Social Care exam for Year 10 pupils on this date, so pupils should be spending time revising for these exams over the Christmas break.

Nadolig llawen a blwyddyn newydd dda i gyfeillion Ysgol Gyfun Penyrheol.

Yours faithfully

ALAN TOOTILL
Headteacher



Important Dates & Information

TERM	TERM BEGINS	TERM ENDS	MID-TERM HOLIDAY		TERM BEGINS	TERM ENDS
SPRING TERM	MON 8 JAN	FRI 16 FEB	MON 19 FEB	FRI 23 FEB	MON 26 FEB	THU 29 MAR
SUMMER TERM	MON 16 APR	FRI 25 MAY	MON 28 MAY	FRI 1 JUN	MON 4 JUN	TUE 24 JUL

Bank Holidays

30 March 2018 - Good Friday
2 April 2018 - Easter Monday
7 May 2018 - May Day
28 May 2018 - Spring Bank Holiday

Inset Days

8th January 2018
16th February 2018
29th March 2018

Staff News

At the end of term, we say farewell to Mr. P. Bedford (Maths) who leaves us for pastures new. Mr Bedford has worked at Penyrheol for over 17 years, so we shall certainly miss him, but of course, wish him every success and best wishes for the future.

We have several staff leaving us temporarily at the end of term and into the early part of the Spring term...all of whom are taking maternity leave. These are Mrs. D. Essery (Maths), Mrs. C. Young (Languages), Mrs. S. Capper (Science) and Miss. L. Sanger (Well Being).

School Governor News

As we break for Christmas, we say huge thanks to two of our Community Governors who are both stepping down this term, Mrs. Angela Phillips, whose 4 year term of office has come to an end, and Jonathon Rogers, a past teacher at the school, who is resigning due to the pressure of his work at Gower College. Their contribution to the school has been enormous and we thank them both very much.

Replacing Angela and Jonathan will be Mrs. Susan Letson and Mr. Mark Griffiths. We welcome them to Penyrheol.

Also joining our Governing Body is our Head of Welsh, Mr. Nigel Binding, who replaces Mr. Richard Marks as teacher governor.

We now have one Parent Governor vacancy, which will be filled in the New Year.

History Fieldwork - Kidwelly Castle

During October, The History Department took all Year 7 pupils to Kidwelly castle as part of their studies on the Medieval period.

The Norman Castle was originally made from earth and timber, but by the 13th century had been rebuilt in stone. It was built using a concentric design with one circuit of defensive walls set within another to allow the castle to be held even if the outer wall should fall.

The pupils investigated how castles developed between 1066 and the 15th century and, whilst at Kidwelly, were encouraged to use their findings as evidence of how people lived at the time.

It was a very blustery day but the pupils enjoyed their trip which ended with lunch at the nearby Pembrey Country Park.



Literacy across the curriculum

Literacy skills are essential for success in all aspects of the curriculum.

All pupils need to be technically accurate in their writing so it is important for them to practise punctuation and spelling.



Literacy Challenge 1 - Spelling

Can your child spell the following words?

a lot	definite	necessary	sentence
accept / except	disappoint	occasionally	separate
accommodation	embarrass	opportunity	specific
achieve	essential	ordinary	suggestion
acquire	excited	properly	surprise
beginning	finally	receive	though
believe	immediately	recommend	thought
business	interest	repetition	through

Literacy Challenge 2 - Proofreading

If pupils can't spot the errors in someone else's work, they're not likely to find the errors in their own.

Can your child find the errors in the text below? There are 5 in total.

As the delayed train rolled lazily into the station, the anxious and exhausted passengers' cheered in delight. The train is en route to Holyhead along the scenic North Wales coastline.

Unfortunately heavy rain meant that the track had flooded and it meant that many would not make it to their destinations at all.

A family of four were eager to return home for their long-awaited supper while a cyclist pushed her bike ready to cycle the extra two miles homeward. An elderly lady clung to her luggage, afraid it would be taken from her in the rush of people.

Check to see if you're right.

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PENYRHEOL – RECOGNISING

A4 Nominations: September - Half Term

SUBJECT	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Art	James Harvard Kiera George	Emma Morgan Harri John	Libby Thomas Eleanor Brain	Brandon Green Edan Reid	Millie Smith Isabelle Allen
Business Studies	N/A	N/A	N/A	Stefan Farcas Jay Roberts	Zac Whitehouse Thomas Davies
Computer Science	N/A	N/A	N/A	Stefan Farcas Molly Bates	Laura Dyer Sam Ruggles
Drama	Alfie Atkinson Elima Banicau	Sarah Laviors Emma Morgan	N/A	Jordan Smith Krystle Davies	Mia Cozens Aimee Davies
D & T	Mia Williams Niamh Kelly-James	William Evans Alice Austin	Kyle Harris Brandon Logan	Scott Holiday Steffan Richards	Aimee Davies Aimee Pulling
English	Harvey Thomas Georgia Reid	Leon Beynon Corey Griffiths	Jake Burder Lewis Mason	Brandon Green Ffion Ryan	Lee Raynor Corey Griffiths
French	Millie Lewis Oliver Toshack	Alice Austin Oscar Scott	N/A	Sofia Evans Ffion Ryan	Catrin Thomas Nia Downing
Geography	Hayden Jones James Harvard	Joe Bates Holly Isaacs	Jayden Paoella Chloe Roberts	Darcy Bass Damon Watts	Ffion Berell Caitlin Grigg-Williams
History	Morgan Lecrass Elima Banicau	Amber Kavanagh Ryall Sharp	Dylan Caswell Lily-Mai Dyer	Chloe Grigg-Williams Sofia Evans	Iona Beynon Kimberly Randlesome
I.C. T	Kiera Baljak Niamh Kelly-James	Ethan Bowers Samuel Howells	Jenni Watkins Harry Cunliffe	Katie Broome Lia Moruzzi-Jones	Caitlin Grigg-Williams Matthew Newcombe
Maths	Charlotte Powell Georgia Reid	Briony McCumsky Ethan Bowers	Sophie Lewis Kyle Harries	Sofia Evans Edan Reid	Matthew Newcombe Nathan Pyart
Media Studies	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dewi Griffiths Celyn Willicombe	Iona Beynon Nathan Pyart
Music	Alan Gifford Ervine Bongat	Ellie West Jasmine McLean	Amy Evans Kyle Harries	Krystle Davies Isobel John	Katie Thomas Zoe James
P.E. (Boys)	Iestyn Lewis Alfie Moruzzi-Jones	William Davies Aidan Wilkinson	Bowen Haynes-Foster Joseph Herbert	Ellis Steward Jay Roberts	Zak Harrison Callum Bolton
P.E. (Girls)	Eden Bevan Olivia Francis	Millie Everest Ellie May West	Libby Thomas Kelcy Hooper	Krystle Davies Lia Moruzzi-Jones	Sandy Saunders Lauren Francis & Lauren Evans
R.E.	Olivia Hicks Hannah Roberts	Lowri Rowlands Olivia Ilewellyn	Rhianna Rees Sam Lovering	Eleri Thomas Saraia Walker	Isabelle Allen Joshua Bainbridge
Science	Alfie Atkinson Owen Harris	Mia Graham Ceira Gibbs	Harry Cunliffe Nena Simon-Vaughan	Molly Bates Jack Vincent	Sukie Selby Carys Edwards
Spanish	N/A	N/A	Leon Clarke Sam Lovell	Jay Roberts Phoebe Tucker	N/A
Vocational Studies	N/A	N/A	N/A	Leigh Derrick Aimee Griffiths	Katie Jones-Hancock Ffion Brine
Welsh	Ervine Bongat Jessica Kelly	Kiera Newport Sasha Shanks	Naomi Buckley Nia Davies	Emily Thomas Thierry Evans	Lauren Evans Owen Barnfield

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
	Daniel Germinie Niamh Kelly-James	Lowri Rowlands Leon Beynon	Dylan Caswell Lily Thornhill	Charlotte Masters	Chloe Francis Catrin Thomas
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Kieran Swistun Katie Broome	Cath Morgan Adam Cook
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Connor Bragg Molly Bates	Jacob Williams Sam Cousins
	Jack Corse Charlotte Powell	Jocelyn Benjafield-O'Sullivan Leo Thomas	N/A	Lucy Griffiths Caitlin Braden	Ruth Jones Willow Hovvels
	Morgan Christopher Scarlet Williams	Lauren Slater Leon Beynon	Jenni Watkins Kieran Tucker	Lia Moruzzi-Jones Nathan Williams	Kayla Mears Jessica Jones
	Hollie Bainbridge Harvey Thomas	Holly Isaac Laith Hazell	Leon Clarke Mollie Arnesen-Williams	Alyssa Patrick Dominic Prothero	Iona Beynon Chloe Fagg
	Liam Rosser Hollie Binbridge	Elliot Jones Joe Bates	Sophie Lewis Libby Thomas	Sofia Evans Ffion Ryan	Nia Downing
as	Khalid Jargisa Isabella Badger	James Caldon Amber Kavanagh	Jessica Francis Aimee Pritchard	Ben Tench Alexandra Wilson	Ffion Berrell Iona Beynon
e	Abigail Thomas Mia Williams	Lowri Rowlands Ruben James	Luca Rabaiotti Megan Davies	Harriet Powell Ciaran Bond-Morgan	Isobel Owens Dylan Court
as e	Haydn Jones Khalid Jargista	Olivia Llewellyn Ffion Thomas	Ffion Prior Rhianna Rees	Ella Whitton-Stroud Declan Davies	Sukie Selby Katie Thomas
e					
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dewi Griffiths	Katie Hancock Jones Katie Thomas
	Amelia Kent Alfie Atkinson	Charlotte Benney Josh Griffiths	Megan Eames Nia Davies	Connor Haley Isobel John	Phoebe Dene Kimberley Randle- some
	Cameran Clayfield James Havard	Jake Kennedy Casey Jay Turner	Brandon Glynn Ethan Thomas	Christian Evans Jonathan Donaldson	Ben Christmas Morgan Gay
	Shona Maddocks Summer Thomas	Holly Isaac Mali Schberg	Arwenna Griffiths Nia Davies	Chloe Grigg-williams Darcie Bass	Millie Smith Chloe Fagg
	Alan Gifford Millie Lewis	Mia Evans Summer James	Arwenna Griffiths Luca Rabaiotti	Scott Holliday Harriet Powell	Matthew Newcombe, Abbie Messer
	Georgia Reid Kiera George	Ethan Bowers Corey Swistun	Daniel Arthur Morgan Davies	Edan Reid Taylor Derrick	Callum Everest Mary Buckland
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Jay Roberts Ffion Waters	N/A
K	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ffion Perry Saraia Walker	Jessica Jones Ffion Brine
	Summer Thomas Liam Davies	Millie Everest Niamh Thomas	Hari Canon Jessica McNulty	Steffan Farcass Evie Lisk	Caitlin Grigg-Wil- liams Iona Beynon

AUTUMN TERM A4 WINNERS

Every Half Term, two pupils are nominated from each subject for the A4 winners Award which recognises effort and achievement above and beyond what is expected of them at school.

From these nominations, each Head of Year chooses the winning pupils.

Here are this terms' winners:

September - Half Term

Y7 - Alfie Atkinson 7U and Mia Williams 7M.

Y8 - Olivia Llewellyn 8D and Charlotte Moslin 8R

Y9 - Rhianna Rees

Y10 - Callum Evans 10S Darcie Bass 10S

Y11 - Ffion Berrell 11D and Kieran Davies 11E

Half Term - Christmas

Y7 - Luke Evans 7M and Sophie Phillips 7S

Y8 - Briony McCumsky 8M & Elliot Jones 8S

Y9 - Nia Davies 9M and Lewis Brannigan 9E

Y10 - Lucy Griffiths - 10S & Alex Messer - 10E

Y11 - Iona Beynon 11E & Adam Cook 11S

Congratulations to all!

Melissa Shines Brightly!

Congratulations to our school receptionist Melissa Keenan who has been voted Regional winner of the 'Stars in Our Schools' nominations this term. Melissa was nominated by Teaching Assistant Michelle Pow who wrote the following:

"No star shines brighter than our wonderful receptionist, Melissa. When you meet her at the office it's like she's greeting royalty; everyone else is ignored and she focuses on you 100%. She is like a Mother Hen, cooing and brooding over both pupils and staff. She is the lady with the magic cream to heal all ailments. She always has a smile on her face, always asks how you are and she's always sympathetic, nurturing and ego boosting. When you've talked to Melissa your day has that little burst of sunshine. Once met never forgotten."

YEAR 9 WIN £1000!



On Thursday 19th October at the Guildhall, Swansea, four Year 9 pupils, Sam Lovell, Aaron Thomas, Ffion Prior and Megan Eames, collected £1000 on behalf of the school.

The prize was given by the county for:

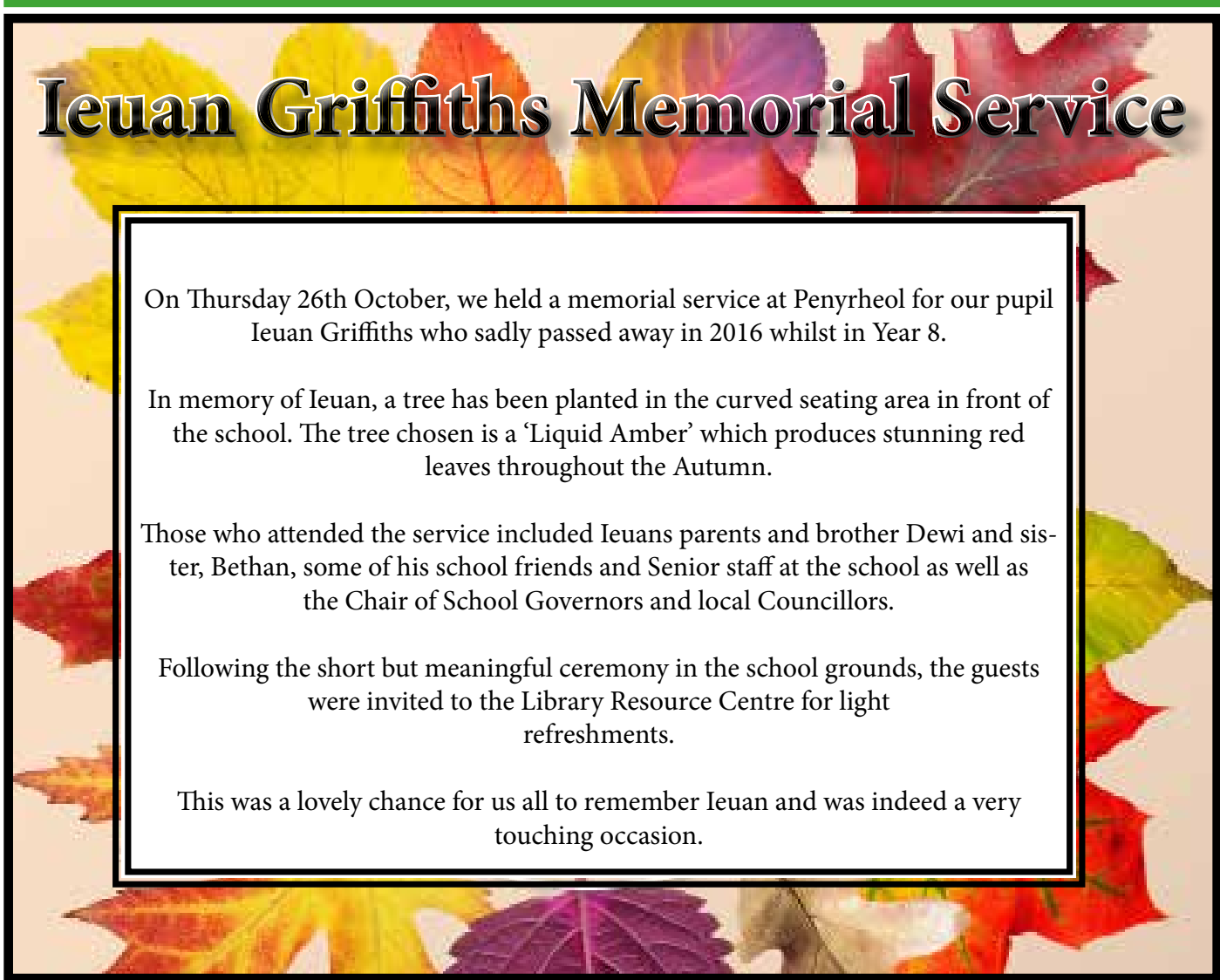
'Best Year Group Attendance in Swansea 2016'

The picture shows IAP winners receiving their prize from Ospreys players, ex-Penyrheol pupil Keelan Giles and Nicky Smith.

Pastoral Support Officer for Year 9, Mrs. T. Dyche said they were delighted to win the prize and the £1000 would be used to further encourage pupils in gaining excellent attendance.



Ieuan Griffiths Memorial Service



On Thursday 26th October, we held a memorial service at Penyrheol for our pupil Ieuan Griffiths who sadly passed away in 2016 whilst in Year 8.

In memory of Ieuan, a tree has been planted in the curved seating area in front of the school. The tree chosen is a 'Liquid Amber' which produces stunning red leaves throughout the Autumn.

Those who attended the service included Ieuans parents and brother Dewi and sister, Bethan, some of his school friends and Senior staff at the school as well as the Chair of School Governors and local Councillors.

Following the short but meaningful ceremony in the school grounds, the guests were invited to the Library Resource Centre for light refreshments.

This was a lovely chance for us all to remember Ieuan and was indeed a very touching occasion.

A Career in Me

We were delighted to welcome Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard to our pupils about pursuing a career in medicine.

A Local Girl!

The professor is in fact an ex-pupil of Penyrheol, who left to study at The University of Birmingham, before progressing to the highly acclaimed position of Head of the RCGP (Royal College of General practitioners), Professor Stokes-Lampard now specialises in womens health and speaks frequently on TV about the importance of the NHS.

Believe in Yourself!

The professor (or Dr. Helen as she prefers to be called) gave an inspirational talk on how to become successful in medicine and stressed the importance of believing in yourself and the importance of having someone else believe in you, whether that be a parent, teacher or a friend. She referred to the school motto: **‘To Achieve... you need to Believe’** and told the pupils that there is no reason why they cannot achieve their dreams, just like she did!



Dr Helen, also spoke about subject choices and advised that Chemistry is the most important science for anyone interested in working within medicine. Closely followed by Biology and Physics. She also stressed that it is vital to get good grades in English and Maths as well as learning a language and being I.T. literate.

It's not all about Science!

What also became clear was the importance on having extra curricular hobbies such as sports, music and drama or getting involved in volunteering, the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and hobbies such as cadets. She said that when being interviewed for university or for future jobs, these interests are paramount in showing that you are a well-rounded person and not just a science geek!



“The best satisfaction comes from

Medicine Anyone?

...spoke to the school in November to speak with a selection of
...ing a career in medicine.



Q and A

The pupils asked for advice on becoming a GP, a vet, a Midwife, A dentist, a physio and a surgeon amongst others and were glad that they were on the right path with the subjects they had chosen. Dr Helen also stressed that it's not a problem to deviate from your original plan. If you take a particular line of study and change your mind, it is not wasted time and indeed, spoke of her own deviation from general medicine into women's health via several other jobs and opportunities along the way.

Hard work pays off!

It sounded daunting to hear that the journey from University to being a consultant takes ten years, but the Professor was clear to state that the hardest work, brings the most enjoyable results!

Our session, which took place in our Library Resource Centre, was a huge success and we thank the professor for taking time out to visit us and for inspiring a future generation of scientists!



...in the jobs where you work hard"

It's All About

Annual Charity Week

This year, our student Voice have chosen two excellent charities to support and the proceeds of our annual charity week will be split between the two. Our events during charity week included cake sales, 'I'm A Teacher Get Me Out of Here', Art and Craft sales and even a fortune telling booth! A fantastic £1,747 was raised in total.

Our 2017/18 charities are:



Dolen Cymru is an independent charity which fosters a unique country to country link between Wales and Lesotho. Since 1985 life-changing partnerships have been created between communities, schools, health organisations and individuals. Alyson Heard (past teacher at Penyrheol) will soon be volunteering in Lesotho and will be ensuring that the link between Penyrheol and Lesotho remains active and strong.

Prince Harry, who is patron of the charity says:

'I am so very proud to be associated with Dolen Cymru. The work that it does in assisting and encouraging organisations and individuals in Wales to establish contact and foster friendships with their counterparts in Lesotho is quite invaluable.'

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan was nominated as one of our chosen charities by a member of our own Student Voice. Ffion recently experience losing a grandparent to Cancer and knows only too well how it can affect your life.

Student voice overwhelmingly agreed that this charity needed supporting and are therefore thrilled to be presenting Macmillan Cancer Support with a cheque for £461.00

At Macmillan, they know how a cancer diagnosis can affect everything. So they support and help people take back some control in their lives. From help with money worries and advice about work, to someone who'll listen if you just want to talk.

We hope our donations to both charities go some way to making a difference!

ut Giving...



...Especially at Christmas!

Ty Hafan 'Snowdog' Christmas Card Appeal



With Christmas drawing near, staff and pupils have been given the opportunity of placing a 'Snowdog' card on our display board in the school foyer instead of sending traditional Christmas cards around the school.

This was felt to be environmentally friendly and since everyone posting a card made a donation to the chosen charity of 'Ty Hafan Hospice' as also a lovely opportunity to support such a great charity!

In addition to our charity week, the school organised a Foodbank Collection for our local Foodbank in Gorseinon. The amount collected was overwhelming and we understand that it weighed approx. 1 tonne!



#SustFashPenyrheo

It has been an incredibly exciting 10 months a

Back in February Mrs O'Sullivan started an eco fashion after school club in support of the talented Y7 (now Y8 pupils) to create an amazing denim dress made entirely from scraps of denim from the Waterfront Museum but was then selected to showcase at Cardiff Fashion Week! Mrs O'Sullivan's dress made from bamboo silk, which was dip-dyed in 100% natural onion skin dye and featured a

Pupils also did some extensive fundraising over the summer and autumn terms to get their designs showcased at Cardiff for the show. Our after-school club designs featured on all 3 of the catwalks at Designer Village! Our designs are in photos all over the internet and videos from S4C etc. 15 pupils and their parents came along to represent the school, took time to speak to visitors and show their designs to the pupils! They were:

Olivia Llewellyn (Y8), Ffion Johns (Y8), Alice Austin (Y8), Laurene Govier (Y8) and Louise

The following pupils also helped to make the dresses but unfortunately couldn't make the catwalk

Courtney Phillips (Y8), Kieran Harris (Y8), Mia Williams (Y7), Precayes Taylor (Y7) and

Mrs O'Sullivan and her CFW Young Designers would like to say a huge thank you to all the

Well done to all the pupils



at Cardiff Fashion

at the school's Design & Technology department!

global sustainable fashion campaign, Fashion Revolution. She was joined by a handful of very of denim and old jeans. Not only did the dress feature at a school exhibition and at the National Sullivan and the original pupils were joined by more pupils from Y7, Y8 & Y9 to create a second tured hand-cut and hand-dyed leaf motifs and an eco bling belt.

er designs and them-
k shows and within the
Amazing!
s and were exemplary

e Allen (Y10),

event:

Emily Sanger (Y9)



u to all staff and parents who supported us and made these pupils dreams some true!

s involved...High-5s all round!



#SustFashPenyrheol After School Club!

Sustainable Fashion @ Penyrheol



Mrs O'Sullivan's brand new #SustFashPenyrheol after-school club especially for the #SustFashWales show in April. The fashion show is the only one of its kind in Wales for Fashion Revolution and will showcase the work of pupils from this and previous clubs!

See the fashion show poster below...

Week 2 Tuesdays 3-4:30pm January 2018 until Easter 2018

Pop into G4 for a permission slip...
(they're hanging on my eco/green fashion wall)



Sustainable Fashion Wales presents:

A Fashion Revolution Show! Saturday 28th April 2018 – 7pm



Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau, Abertawe
National Waterfront Museum, Swansea

@SustFashWales #SustFashWales
@Fash_Rev #FashRev



Showcasing the best of both established & emerging sustainable fashion design within Wales & the UK!
All profits go to the Fashion Revolution Campaign

Our Visit to The Imperial War Museum

On the 10th of November, approximately forty-five students in Year 9 visited the Imperial War Museum in London. While we were there we visited many exhibitions, all of which were moving, but the most moving was probably the Holocaust exhibition. We spent approximately one hour listening to and reading the extensive information they had on the Holocaust and afterwards spent half an hour contemplating this information with a Holocaust expert.

Although this exhibition could be quite upsetting at times, it was very educational and enjoyable. This new knowledge that I have gained has truly astounded me as I had never realised prior to this, the severity of the discrimination and prejudice that took place during the Second World War. If I had the chance, I would definitely go again, not only to see the impressive artefacts they have on display there, but to possibly look at the Holocaust exhibition in further detail. I would also recommend this journey to anyone of an appropriate age as believe this horrific event should never be forgotten.

Kyle Harries

I loved seeing the aeroplanes, the tanks and the trenches. If I get a chance, I will definitely re-visit the museum as I found it so interesting and didn't get enough time to see everything! I managed to get some amazing photos of the planes and guns which was amazing!

Michael Davies

The Imperial War Museum was one of my favourite trips I've been on. My favourite part was the Holocaust exhibition and my favourite exhibit was the white model of the concentration camp. It was mesmerising and I learned so much.

Cara Morgan

I thoroughly enjoyed the visit and it was very moving hearing the personal stories of those involved with the Holocaust. It really opened up my eyes to some of the horrible things that happened in our past.

Luca Rabiotti

The Holocaust exhibition was very moving and emotional for me, but I learned a lot about how scared and traumatised the survivors were, even when it was all over. I would love to go again.

Molly Hurford

I thought The Imperial War Museum was extraordinary! I learned a lot about World War One, World War Two and the Holocaust. The Holocaust exhibition was captivating and I found out so much about how badly a lot of people were treated.

Rebecca Davies

Praise for Penyrheol Pupils

I just wanted to say that I was extremely impressed with the students from Penyrheol School, who came to visit the Holocaust Exhibition last Friday. They were polite and well-behaved throughout the day and both groups demonstrated a very good knowledge of the topic, with students keen to contribute to discussions.

It was clear that they had really engaged with the exhibition itself during the audio-guide tour, which was evident from the quality of the contributions that they made during the feedback session afterwards. Their reflections were extremely thoughtful and very mature. It really was a pleasure to run the sessions with them.

Jackie



CRUNCHING CRITTERS

As a perfect end to our charity week, pupils and staff take part in their very own version of 'I'm a Celebrity'!



Much like the ITV series, our charity event has become an annual tradition, but this year, who was going to 'volunteer' to enter camp? To be fair, it didn't take too long to encourage some of our newer teachers to take part and we soon had 4 members of staff willing to partake in our disgusting culinary challenges!



Mr J. Skinner (English)
Mrs. A. Llewelyn (Welsh)
Mr M. Davies (Welsh)
Miss. I. Davies (P.E)

and a last minute arrival to camp...

Ms. Emma Rees (Science), making 5 in total!

In addition, our Head Boy, Josh Bainbridge and Head Girl, Lauren Francis also volunteered - well...pretty much forced by their Student Voice colleagues to be honest!



The competition took place at lunchtime and the theatre was full of pupils waiting anxiously for someone to be sick!

They were not disappointed...Thanks to the large screen displayed behind the nauseous contestants, they could clearly see who was struggling and it wasn't hard to see why, as the dishes presented to them were genuine critters just like the TV show!



TERS FOR CHARITY!

were invited to the theatre to see staff and pupils
'Celebrity Get Me Out of Here' and raised **£270!**



THE MENU

Upon Arrival - **Critter Cocktail**
First Course - **Eggilicious Antastic Surprise**
Main Course - **Locust Lasagne**
Desert - **Sagoworm Semolina**



The atmosphere was electric in the theatre as the pupils cheered (and booed) the contestants and as you can see from the photos, all meals were digested...some more easily than others! The competition went to a tie-breaker where two contestants had to each eat a real Witchity Grub!

Our eventual winner and newly crowned 'King of the Jungle' was Mr Skinner, who raised his trophy with pride.! Quite right too, since the event raised a mighty £270!



Penyrheol Comprehens

As always, the Awards Evening was a delightful occasion. A celebration of hard work, effort and friends as well as school staff and special guests and governors. As the audience arrived, they (Year 9) and Zoe James and Ki

30 awards in total were presented to pupils by senior staff, who each received much deserved attention, who talked about the importance of following a career that you love and are passionate about. She wanted to be a nurse but others convinced her to become a doctor. After a year of training to be a doctor which was to be a nurse. She is now very happy with her career path. She earns less money but nursing is a big part of anyone's life and it is vital to follow a career path that excites and interests you. The evening finished with photog

1	Memorial Award for outstanding service to the School
2	Penyrheol Award for outstanding service to the School
3	English Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in English
4	English Achievement Award for most praiseworthy effort in English
5	Mathematics Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Mathematics
6	Mathematics Achievement Award for most praiseworthy effort in Mathematics
7	Marion Williams Science Award for best GCSE performance in Science Subjects
8	Science Achievement Award for most praiseworthy effort in Science
9	Art Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Art
10	Business Studies Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Business Studies
11	Child Development Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Child Development
12	Design Technology Award for best GCSE performance in Design Technology
13	Drama Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Drama
14	Welsh Baccalaureate Award
15	Geography Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Geography
16	History Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in History
17	ICT Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in ICT
18	Media Studies Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Media Studies
19	Lloyds Bank Cup for best GCSE performance in Modern Languages
20	Music Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Music
21	Performing Arts Achievement Award for best contribution to Music and Drama
22	Physical Education Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Physical Education
23	Sporting Achievement Award for commitment to Physical Education
24	Religious Studies Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Religious Studies
25	Vocational Education Award for best performance in Vocational Studies
26	Welsh Excellence Award for best GCSE performance in Welsh
27	Thomas Award for Special Effort
28	Community Council Millennium Award for the best contribution to the Community
29	Headteacher's Award
30	Catherine Williams Award for outstanding GCSE performance

Annual Awards 2016/2017

and results. The evening took place in the theatre, which was filled with winners, families and were treated to some beautiful piano playing courtesy of pupils Dylan Caswell and Nia Davies (Year 11).

applause from the proud audience. Our guest speaker this year was ex-pupil Sarah Jane Whittle- out rather than following someone else's idea of what your career should look like. Sarah always e a doctor she realised it wasn't what she wanted to do. She dropped out and followed her heart made the point that earning money and being happy in your career have to be balanced up. Work his was a refreshing speech, that resonated with the pupils and indeed, many of the audience. The graphs and light refreshments.

Rhidian Lerwell
Isobel Bass
Eve Davies
Bethan Turner
Charlotte Belton
Ben Curvis
Rhidian Lerwell
Stela Kovacheva
Kelsey Poole
Zak Spackman
Eve Davies
Georgia Rees
Dena Davies
Caitlin Cavalucci
Tom Herbert
Rhys Jones
Angel Gelemerov
Dominic Waters
Isobel Bass
Nia Thomas
Sammie John
Dylan Hughes
Danielle Griffiths
Niamh Fleming
Heaven-Leigh Jones
Caryl Jones
Brandon Williams
Shauna Lewis
Jenna Davies
Eve Davies



THE LITTLE MERMAID

October saw our production of 'The Little Mermaid' come to life and what a spectacular show it was!

As soon as we entered the theatre, the 'Disney' magic was sprinkled upon us, as the tables were decorated with fairy lights and seaside trinkets.

As soon as the curtains opened, the colourful lights and costumes pulled us into the 'under the sea' atmosphere where every member of the cleverly used ensemble wore amazing fish hats!

All the pupils involved were clearly enjoying their part in the show and there were some splendid performances, particularly from Summer James (Sebastian), Ellie Griffiths (Ariel), Samuel Howells (Flounder) and Aimee Davies (Scuttle). Naomi Thomas (Ariel) should also be mentioned for her lovely singing voice and Willow Hovvels made a gorgeously gruesome 'Ursula', whom she clearly loved portraying!

The dancers were excellent this year, with lovely use of solos and duets in addition to the bigger dance numbers, which nicely featured Dance Captain Ruth Jones, amongst others.

All in all, this was a really enjoyable show which left the audience feeling happy and entertained.

Penyrheol is proud to have such an active Drama department and recognises the importance of drama in raising confidence in pupils who may otherwise struggle and in nurturing talent in those who excel... Congratulations to Mrs Williams-Sheaf and her team for such a successful show!

We are already wondering what the next school production will be...it will take some doing to beat this one!



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Sightseeing & Shopping in New York Easter 2019

This trip is offered to pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and there are only 50 places available.

Day 1 - Arrive in New York mid-afternoon, Pupils will have the afternoon to unpack and use the swimming pool in the hotel. We will have an evening meal in Harold's restaurant opposite the hotel.

Day 2 - Pupils will be bussed out to the Woodbury Common Shopping Mall, just outside New York for a day of shopping in one of New York's finest premium outlet malls.

Day 3 - Full day tour of New York by bus and walking. Evening meal at the famous Bubba Gump restaurant in Manhattan.

Day 4 - Waterways tour taking in the Statue of Liberty and many more sights and a visit to the One World Observatory deck to see the sights of New York City at dusk. In the evening, we will attend a sports game.

Day 5 - Bussed out to the City Mall on the way to the airport for the last chance to shop before returning to the UK.

Day 6 - Arrive back in Penyrheol Comprehensive School at about midday.

The price of £1050 is inclusive of the following:

- UK Bus Transfers
- Flights and Taxes
- Hotel accommodation on a half board basis (breakfast and evening meal)
- US Bus Transfers, trips and visits

**Letters are available now from Mrs Tate
(G9 during registration) for anyone
interested.**

ALONE AT HOME

(WORKING TITLE)

What would happen if you left your children alone at home?

What would they do with a long weekend to themselves?

Do you wonder how capable and independent your children are growing up to be?

We are looking for families with children aged 8-16 who want to participate in a unique experience that explores issues around parenting and child freedom.

Alone At Home (working title) is a new series for Channel 4. In each episode, the home featured will be fitted with remotely operated cameras that will film 24 hours a day with the aim of observing the children's experience. Working with respected senior child development psychologists, the series will explore how the children deal with increased freedom and responsibility and will show the children's ability to cope. There will be designated spaces in the home for privacy.

**For more information, please email
families@electricray.com
or call 020 7061 8924**

The children will be monitored by chaperones and psychologists to help safeguard their physical and emotional welfare.
All data will be processed in accordance with Electric Ray's privacy policy.
An expression of interest does not guarantee participation in the series.

ELECTRIC RAY

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The 2016/17 DofE group received their Bronze Award during an assembly and celebrated with a Pizza Party! Congratulations! Much hard work and determination goes in to completing the programme and achieving the award.

The 2017/18 group have already completed two training days and are well on the way to completing the three sectional activities: skill, physical and volunteering. A lot of fun has been had already on the training days and lots of laughing (usually at the staff!). Staff are really looking forward to seeing this group progress on training days over the Spring Term.



News from the 2015/16 group... after saying that they would never wear walking boots again, camp out nor walk for one hour never mind two days, many of them are seeking to complete their Gold Award! Good luck to them!

I would like to thank the support staff who give up their weekends to spend tramping around the countryside in the rain and mud with big smiles on their faces!! Without them Penyrheol could not offer this excellent provision.

Ms. H. Steel (DofE Coordinator)



PSE Day & Careers Fair

Autumn PSE Day took place on 5th October and saw us welcome a host of people keen to share their knowledge on a range of issues.

We had guest speakers from the Lifeboat, NSPCC , the police, and the school nurse .

Sessions focussed on a variety of topics such as drug and alcohol misuse, keeping healthy, revision techniques, being organised, applying for college and jobs, online safety, personal image, human rights, bullying, decision making, politics, racism and emergency life saving.

‘The session on exam preparation was helpful because it was not only productive, but we came away with material that was beneficial.’

We were privileged to be the pilot school for the launch of a new school resource for Organ Donation Wales. Feedback from staff and pupils has been given to the organisation to help secure an effective package that can be offered to all school in Wales to ensure pupils are well informed about organ donation, the need for it and the law in Wales.

We were also very fortunate to have the NSPCC spend the day with us delivering their ‘Protect and Respect’ programme to Year 10 and 11 pupils which tackles issues to do with sexual exploitation and consent.

Years 9 and 11 were treated to a ‘Have A Go’ session with Gower College. During this session, pupils were able to sample different courses the college have to offer, such as plumbing and childcare.

‘Have a Go was useful because it helped seeing options for the future and trying them out.’

Year 11 also visited our Careers Fair. Our Careers Fair was once again well attended by a variety of local organisations including: Gower College, Swansea University, the Army, RAF, Musicality Academy, UWTSO, Pisys.net, Big Ideas Wales, Wolfestone, 3M, DVLA Nursery, City and County of Swansea and Asda.

We are extremely privileged to have so many people willing to spend the day supporting our pupils.

‘The whole day was fun and gave us very useful information.’

