

Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 8th November 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 4

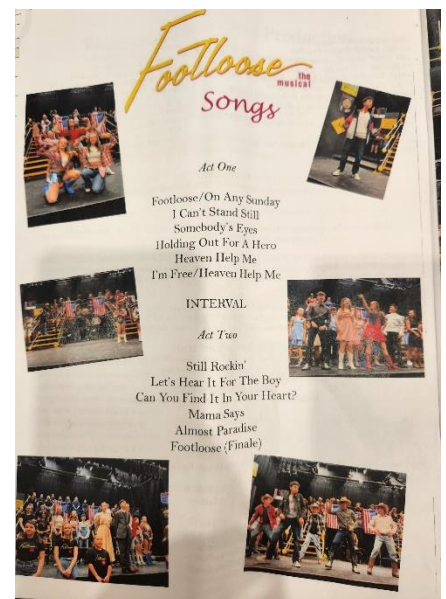
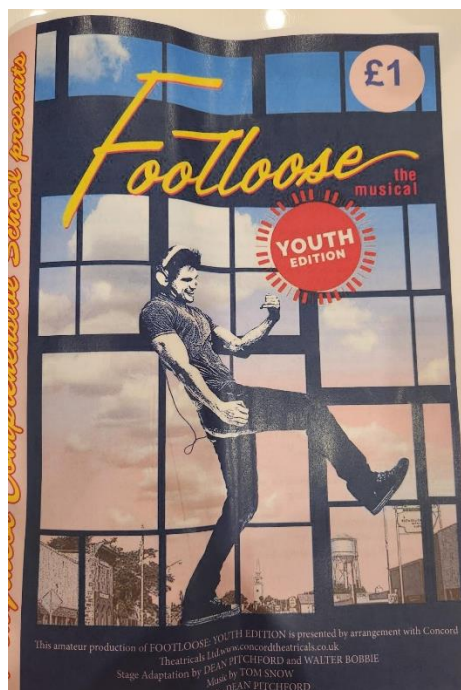
Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher's letter, we have had the school show (more on that later), our STF pupils have had a Pumpkin Trip, our Philosophy & Ethics Department have taken a trip to the Imperial War Museum and our Year 11s have sat their Numeracy GCSE exams. For our Year 11s, we have our fingers crossed that they get the results they deserve. On Thursday 7th November we had our outgoing Year 11's Awards Evening. It was fantastic to see our past pupils return and to celebrate their successes with them.

This morning, we hosted another well attended ALN coffee morning in the canteen. I have attached Parent/Carer feedback on the ALN coffee mornings which has been collated by Mrs Metcalfe-Day.

Footloose

In the week before half term, we enjoyed another spectacular school show. Over seventy pupils were involved and they put on four performances which had the audience (metaphorically) dancing in the aisles. The show is a true community event and we are appreciative of the support the pupils had from their families and friends. Roll on next year! Photos from the performances will be included in our Termly Newsletter which will be out before Christmas.



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Sporting News

Cross Country

On October 22nd, 27 pupils participated in the Afan Nedd Tawe Cross Country Relays. The Year 11 boys team achieved a commendable 5th place, while the Year 8 and 9 girls' team secured an impressive 4th position, with a mere two seconds distinguishing the 2nd and 4th positions. Well done to all involved!

The Cross Country development race which was postponed last month, will now take place on Tuesday 19th November at the Elba Sports Centre. Can any students interested in taking part in this event, please see a member of the PE Department.

Netball

Well done to Ellie and Sophie Pennino (Year 10) who have been selected to train with the Afan Nedd Tawe Schools U16 Netball squad.

Annabel Edwards (Year 10) and Libby Beynon (Year 8) have both been selected to train as part of the West Wales Regional Netball teams. Congratulations

Girls football

Before half term the U13 girls football team had a superb game against Cefn Hengoed winning 8-1. Following this the U15s also played a brilliant game against Bishop Gore and won 3-0. Both teams were fantastic and showed excellent teamwork and dedication. Both U13s and U15s have lots more fixtures coming up over the next few weeks and we wish them good luck in their performances.



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Girls Rugby

Year 7 and 8 girls had a rugby festival which took place in Dylan Thomas. This was an excellent festival that encouraged participation and learning of new skills. All of the pupils played very well and thoroughly enjoyed the day.



Boys Football

Congratulations to the year 7 boys football team for a well-earned 2-1 win over Olchfa before half term. All the boys involved performed brilliantly and were once again a credit to the school.

Year 11 boys started their campaign with a 3-1 loss to Dylan Thomas. Once again they performed well against a very strong opponent.

Boys Rugby

Before half term Year 8 rugby had an excellent away win at Olchfa 63-0. It was an excellent squad effort with our substitute players also making a big impact in the game. Year 7 and 8 are due to play Pontarddulais next week away. Year 7 will have their first friendly game after all their training, so it will be an exciting first fixture for the pupils. Our Year 9 and 10 rugby teams await their upcoming fixtures in the next stages of the Ospreys Cup.

Sport Outside of School

Huge congratulations to sisters Aimee and Freya Besley who represented Team Wales at the RLSS UK Life-Saving championships in Leeds. A wonderful achievement - well done girls!

Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday

Every fortnight, five pupils are nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday'. Pupils are nominated for embodying one or more of our four Core Values. On Friday 25th October, I was joined by Weitong (Year 7), Alex (Year 8), Oliver (Year 9), Cody (Year 10) and Josef (Year 11).



Weitong has been a joy to have as one of our new year 7 pupils. He is so polite and friendly and always has a big smile on his face. He already feels that he **Belongs** at Penyrheol.

Alex is such a **Respectful** pupil. He is kind, helpful and works hard in lessons. What more could we ask for? He is a model pupil.

Oliver participated in the school show, where the

backstage atmosphere was wonderful. Everyone looked out for each other and everyone worked together. Oliver was part of the cast, but also assisted the crew and staff backstage by holding the door for many cast members to access their dressing rooms and the stage quietly. He embodies **Belonging**.

Cody is **Thriving** this year. Cody has returned to school with a very positive mindset. His attendance is excellent and he is racking up the achievement points.

Josef is our Deputy Head Boy. Josef is an 'all-rounder' and demonstrates all 4 of our core values. He was nominated for **Respect** as Josef is hugely respectful towards all staff and his peers on a daily basis. What an amazing role model he is.

These pupils have embodied our core values over the last 3 weeks. Congratulations to all our winners. Who will it be next time?

Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has decreased slightly to 89%. Wherever possible, please ensure your child attends school. Missing school means missing out on learning.

Parents/carers can track their child's achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour

points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **over the last two school weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	31.3	0.6
8	23.6	1.4
9	13.4	1.9
10	12.8	2
11	9.3	0.7

Over the last two school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved over **13** achievement points for every behaviour point awarded.

As always, thank you to all parents/carers for their continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney

Headteacher

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Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks

Monday 11 th November	GCSE Geography NEA (this week)
Tuesday 12 th November	Year 11 Music Showcase in Theatre (5:30pm – 6:30pm)
Wednesday 13 th November	Year 6 MAT Maths Challenge (2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.)
Thursday 14 th November	GCSE Drama Unit 1 Assessment
Friday 15 th November	Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need
Monday 18 th November	Charity Week Year 8 Summative Assessment Week Year 10 Interim Assessment Week Year 11 English Group Presentations
Tuesday 19 th November	Climate Change Summit- Theatre
Wednesday 20 th December	Year 11 Interim Reports Issued
Thursday 21 st December	Year 11 Music Performance Exam
Friday 22 nd December	Health & Wellbeing Lesson 1 Year 11 Music Performance Exam