



Ysgol Gyfun

**PENYRHEOL**

Comprehensive School

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

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## Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 5

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher letter it has been a very busy fortnight for Year 11s. They have started their English GCSE Group Oral Presentations, they have undertaken their Science and Geography NEAs, they have performed their Drama assessment and they have performed their Music Performance Exam. On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November we had a live Music Showcase in the theatre for the Year 11 Music GCSE pupils to perform their examined pieces to an audience. It was a lovely evening and I was very proud to attend and listen to such an eclectic mix of music performed by our pupils. Year 11 also took their Interim Reports home on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

It has been a busy week for charity at Penyrheol. Last Friday (15<sup>th</sup> November), we had a non-school uniform day and raised hundreds of pounds for Children in Need. This week, we had charity sales and events on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and at lunchtime today, we have our annual 'I'm a Teacher, get me out of here' event in the theatre at lunchtime. The staff have a 'delicious' selection of bugs and critters to eat. Photos will appear in the next letter.

### **Sporting News**

In boys football news, congratulations to the year 10 boys football team who started this year's league with a 7-1 win over Dylan Thomas, well done to all involved.

Year 8s also continued their good start to the season with a fantastic 5-2 win against local rivals Gwyr.

The biggest result, however came from our year 11 boys team. Last week they beat Gwyr 2-1. This was a fantastic achievement as this is their first win ever so well done to all the boys involved.

In boys rugby, it was brilliant to see fifty pupils from Year 7 and 8 travelling to Pontarddulais for a rugby fixture last week. Year 8s won their game with Year 7s just losing out. It was great to see two physical games playing out. Year 7 and 8 host Gowerton next Tuesday at Penyrheol. It would be fantastic to see the same numbers turning out again.

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Year 10 rugby have their Ospreys bowl quarter final next Thursday away at Gwyr. We wish them the very best for the final rounds of the competition.



There has been more success for girls football this week in the Swansea City School Tournament. The rain on Monday certainly didn't put them off. The U13's 7-a-side football team won their pool and qualified in the semi-final. They won a tough semi-final against Bro Dinefwr and qualified through to the final! After reaching extra time due to a draw, they sadly lost by 1 goal in a very close and tough match against Morryston. Overall, the Penyrheol football team came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Swansea City School Tournament, what a fantastic achievement!!

The girls also have a football match against Bryntawe and Olchfa next week. We wish them luck!

Our Netball teams across all year groups have been actively engaged in recent weeks, participating in matches against Morryston and Bishopston Comprehensive schools. Despite facing some strong opposition, the teams demonstrated commendable determination and resilience throughout their competitions.

Participation in training sessions remains high, reflecting the strong commitment of numerous students across the school. This week, our Year 10 and Year 11 teams competed, and their performance against Morryston deserves recognition. The Year 10 team displayed excellent skills on court to secure a convincing victory, winning 15-2. Our Year 11 team also competed very well, narrowly missing out on the win.



Well done to all involved!

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



### Sport Outside of School

The following two pupils in Year 8 continue to excel in their respective sports in recent competitions outside of school. Lacey Owen-Morgan in Equestrian and Mia Gardner-Rolfe in Swimming. Well done girls - keep up the good work!



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## Past Pupil Sporting Success



Past pupil Daniel Gemine was selected for the Ospreys squad that played away against Ulster in the United Rugby Championship. Dan made his debut replacing Welsh legend Justin Tipuric in the second half.

Dan has only just turned 19 and we are so proud of what he has achieved in his rugby career so far. With his passion, commitment and work ethic, he will go a long way. He has the support of everyone at Penyrheol.

## 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 25<sup>th</sup> October, I was joined by Olivia (Year 7), Ffion (Year 8), Joseph (Year 9), Jack (Year 10) and Amelia (Year 11).



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Olivia is incredible kind and helpful, she is always looking out for her peers and willing to support them. She helps other pupils feel that they **Belong** at Penyrheol.

Ffion was nominated for **Belong** as she has stepped up and been an extremely supportive friend to pupils in our year group, and made them feel comforted in times when it was needed.

Joseph has written, produced, performed and created the most inspirational song, that was recently played on BBC Radio Wales. He also released a CD of his original songs. This embodies **Aspiration**. If you would like to hear Joseph on the radio, click on this link and listen in from 52 minutes and 30 seconds:

[BBC Introducing with Adam Walton - 02/11/2024 - BBC Sounds](#)

Jack is **Thriving** in school. He has 164 achievement points and 0 behaviour. He has 100% attendance. He is a model pupil!

Amelia demonstrates our core value of **Belong** by being part of the Prefect Team, representing the school in netball, and for always helping the year team in the mornings and supporting other pupils where needed.

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 stayed at 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	29	1
8	25.4	2
9	17	2
10	13.5	1.4
11	13	1.4

Over the last two school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved **over 12** achievement points for every behaviour point awarded.

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

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney

Headteacher

### Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	ALN Review Week
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 10 Interim Reports Issued PTA Christmas Fayre 3:15pm – 5:30pm)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 11 QA Book Look (with pupils) Year 8 Enterprise – Branding
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 8 Enterprise – Branding
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 8 Action Fortnight Year 9 Progress Evening (3:15pm – 6:15pm) Year 11 Mock Exams Start Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	ALN Coffee Morning Lesson 1

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