



Penyrheol

Summer Newsletter



**Our Year 11 Prom Goes
'Vintage'**

Trip to NEW YORK

**Magistrates Mock Trial
Competition**

& More!



A Message from the HeadTeacher

Dear Parents and Pupils

Please take time to read about some of the many activities undertaken by our pupils this term inside our newsletter. There are many exciting events and achievements which take place in and out of school to hear about. Our sports teams and individuals continue to excel and do us all proud.

You should know by now about the school uniform review that we have undertaken this year and the changes we have brought in at the request of parents to make uniform more affordable, in a wider range of styles and from more suppliers. Full details are on our website: www.penyrrheol-comp.net. Please ensure that the correct uniform is being worn for school.

GCSE results day this year is Thursday 22nd August. School will be open for Year 11 pupils from 9.00 a.m. and Year 10 pupils from 10.00 a.m. We are expecting our Year 11 pupils to have achieved another set of excellent results for the school.

One significant change for next academic year is that Mrs Judith Tanner will be stepping down from her role as Deputy Headteacher, although she will continue to be teaching some French and Welsh on a part-time basis. Madame Tanner has been at Penyrrheol for 27 years, 20 of those as a senior leader, and has made a very important contribution to our direction and success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for the hard work she has put in over the years for the benefit of young people in this community. I would also like to welcome Mrs Rhian Davies Jones, who will be our new Deputy Headteacher, in charge of our curriculum and staffing. Mr Damian Benney will continue as Deputy Headteacher, but will take charge of pupil welfare and discipline.

Next academic year begins on Wednesday 4th September for our pupils as we are having two INSET days at the start of September for staff. Until then, have a very enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.



Mr A. J. Tootil
Head Teacher



Important Dates & Information

AUTUMN TERM 2019	TERM DATES		HOLIDAY DATES		TERM DATES	
	Mon 2nd September	Fri 25th October	Mon 28th October	Fri 1st November	Mon 4th November	Fri 22nd December

SPRING TERM 2020	TERM DATES		HOLIDAY DATES		TERM DATES	
	Mon 6th January	Fri 14th February	Mon 17th February	Fri 21st February	Mon 24th February	Fri 3rd April

SUMMER TERM 2020	TERM DATES		HOLIDAY DATES		TERM DATES	
	Mon 20th April	Fri 22nd May	Mon 25th May	Fri 29th May	Mon 1st June	Mon 20th July

Bank Holidays

Friday 10th April 2020 - Good Friday
Monday 13th April 2020 - Easter Monday
Friday 8th May 2020 - May Day/VE Day
Monday 25th May 2020 - Spring Bank Holiday

Inset Days

Monday 2nd September 2019
Tuesday 3rd September 2019
Friday 25th October 2019
Friday 14th February 2020
Friday 3rd April 2020

Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification

Year 10 carried 8 hours of community participation on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July as part of the GCSE WBQ Community Controlled Assessment Task. Some pupils prepared and taught PSE style lessons to years 7, 8 and 9 very successfully. Other pupils worked with the National Trust Warden at Rhossili and Llangennith.



Dylan Thomas Prize

Each year, Swansea University hosts the International 'Dylan Thomas Prize'. Young writers are asked to write reviews on the books that have been nominated for this prestigious prize and this year, **Rhianna Rees** from Penyrheol Comprehensive entered a review, on the book 'House of Stone' written by nominee Novuyo Rosa Tshuma. Rhianna was a last minute entry, so she crammed in many hours over night reading the 300 page book. She then crafted the review in the early hours of the morning and only just made the deadline!



Rhianna tells about the night she attended the award ceremony:

"I was driven to Swansea Guildhall, and on arrival, was immediately confronted by many college and university students. Positive that I wouldn't win against them, I sat back to enjoy the announcements. As third place was announced I clapped and eagerly awaited the 2nd place result. I was a ball of anxiety when my name was announced and I had to collect my prize, which was a copy of every nominated book at the event! I shook hands with Tshuma and had my photograph taken with her. After my review had been read out, my face was hurting from the massive amount of smiling I had done!"

As an additional prize, I was excited to receive an invitation to the evening gala event, where the winner of the actual Dylan Thomas Prize would collect their £30,000! In my best clothes, I sat inside the new Swansea Bay Campus and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The book I had reviewed didn't win, with the 1st prize being awarded to Guy Gunartne, author of 'In Our Mad and Furious City'. It was an exceptional event."



'House of Stone' is a captivating tale and an entire year's worth of history lessons, all rolled into one harrowing book – and it is fantastic! An extremely moving book, the horrifying events are told with an extraordinary amount of humanity, understanding and skill, all of which keeps the reader spellbound and on the edge of their seat.

Everyone in this story has been tarnished in some way, especially so for the three main characters: Abed and Agnes, by their attempts at survival during the bloodshed of Zimbabwe's rise to independence, and Zamani by his self-serving nature and addiction to the idea of having a sense of normalcy, no matter the cost.

As Zamani worms his way into the family he is lodging with, despite the very recent loss of their only son, he uncovers their past to make it his own. The traumatic and tormenting events are revealed only by Zamani's manipulations, using anything at his disposal to make his life as comfortable as possible. He abuses the control he has over the mourning parents, as well as the dark secrets revealed unto him, to keep himself situated comfortably within the family, spitting down on anything that stands in his way.

Novuyo Rosa Tshuma has an incredible way with words, keeping the story lively, effortlessly reaching at the reader's heart, easily eliciting any emotion. With the history of Zimbabwe breathing within the words, she conjures the world as it was, filled with heartache, terror and trauma. And yet, no matter how devastating events become, you simply cannot put the book down. This is the book's greatest asset: the suffering is so very, sinfully attractive and the characters are so perfectly damaged, and that is all down to the expert craftsmanship. It will stay with you.

By Rhianna Rees

SWAP SHOP!

We are thrilled to announce that from the Autumn Term in September, we are re-launching our Uniform Swap Shop, and as you can see from the poster opposite, you can literally take what you want or need - You don't even need to have something to swap!

This scheme not only saves you money, but is fantastic for the environment as we can:

RE-USE - RE-CYCLE & RE-EDUCATE!

The Swap Shop will also be open informally Monday-Friday throughout the Summer holiday break, up until 21st August.

Please call into the school reception at any time between 8.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. and speak to the member of staff on duty. They will be thrilled to help you.

If you have just left Penyrheol and have branded uniform that could be re-used - please donate at reception. Likewise for unwanted school coats, shoes, kit bags and even prom dresses!

RE-USE - RE-CYCLE & RE-EDUCATE!



UNIFORM SWAP SHOP!

Swap or Not - The Choice is Yours!

FREE! - Please take what you need. Our donated and sometimes brand new items are here waiting for you. You don't have to have items to swap.

FREE! - Perhaps you have out-grown your uniform or coat...Swap it here, for a new size.

And please don't forget to **donate** your 'good as new' uniform when you have finished with it and help our school re-cycle, re-use and re-educate!

**POLO SHIRTS * TROUSERS * SKIRTS * SWEAT SHIRTS * SHORTS *
P.E. KIT * COATS * KIT BAGS * SHOES**

(All uniform MUST have school crest and/or logo)

Re-Use



Re-Cycle

Penyrheol Comprehensive School

Penyrheol School at The

On the 15th June, 2019, our team travelled to London to compete in the National Final of the **Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition.**

We left on Friday, 14th June, to stay overnight in London; we were to travel to the Royal Courts of Justice on the morning of Saturday, 15th June. We knew it was going to be a tough competition as there were 16 teams in the final from all over the United Kingdom.



Our Team:

Defence Lawyer 1 - Abigail Goudge 8R
Defence Lawyer 2 - Millie Lewis 8M
Prosecution Lawyer 1 - Morgan LeCrass 8R
Prosecution Lawyer 2 - Ethan Bowers 9S
Prosecution Witness 1 (Victim) - Millie Lewis 8M
Prosecution Witness 2 - Alfie Atkinson 8U
Defence Witness 1 (Defendant) - Georgia Reid 8M
Defence Witness 2 - Sophie Clarke 8M
Magistrate 1 - Sophie Wilson 8M
Magistrate 2 - Phoebe Hall 8S
Magistrate 3 - Ella Williams 8S
Legal Advisor - Hannah Roberts 8U
Usher - Shona Maddocks 8S
Court Artist - Libby Evans 8R



Royal Courts of Justice

We had to compete in two rounds. In the first round, the team had to play the defence side. This meant that the defence lawyers, defence witnesses, magistrates and the usher took part. The case was about a woman who had had her phone stolen from her. The case for the defence was that the prosecution witnesses could not be certain that it was the defendant who had committed the crime; they could not actually identify him in court as they had not seen his face.

The Magistrates' verdict was 'Not Guilty'.

For the second round, the team had to take on the roles of the prosecution. This meant that the prosecution lawyers, prosecution witness, magistrates and the legal advisor took part. The case was about a fight that had broken out between a taxi driver and a passenger. Some witnesses stated that the defendant, Charlie Smith, had intentionally kicked the driver but others claimed the defendant had acted in self-defence. As we were prosecuting for this trial, we had to say that Charlie Smith had intentionally kicked the driver.



Our court artist drew a sketch of court proceedings for all of the trials in our competition. Pictured left is one of her drawings.

After a considerable wait for the results, the winning school was announced. We did not win but all 16 teams were congratulated. Although our team did not win, our final position was 8th. We are extremely proud of ourselves as 350 teams had originally competed in the competition when we started the rounds in March!

Our team reached the final because we persevered, showed determination and put a lot of effort into our practices. Not only did we enjoy the competition, but we have also made new friends along this incredible journey. We would not have gone to the finals without the help of Miss Rhodes and Miss Davies - the team cannot thank them enough.

Written by The Mock Trial Team

GIRLS SPORTS NEWS

ATHLETICS

Pupils attended two County Athletics Championships this term - the Afan Nedd Tawe Championships in May and the Inter-Schools Cup Match in June.

There were a number of excellent performances from the girls:

Afan Nedd Tawe County Athletics Championships - 1st May 2019

Olivia Francis (Year 8) - 2nd in 800m (U14 age group)
Kelcy Hooper (Year 10) - 1st in 3000m (U16 age group)
Darcie Bass (Year 11) - 1st in 800m (U16 age group)

Darcie Bass has also been selected to represent ANT at the Welsh Schools Championships in Cardiff on Saturday 6th July 2019.

The following athletes also placed in the top 6 in their respective events:

Ffion Williams (Year 8)
Kelcy Hooper (Year 10)
Lydia Taylor (Year 10)

Inter-Schools Cup Match - 19th June 2019

Olivia Francis (Year 8) - 1st in 800m (U14 age group)
Emily Ford (Year 8) - 1st in Shot Putt (U14 age group)

The following athletes also placed in the top 6 in their respective events:

Ffion Williams (Year 8)
Holly Bainbridge (Year 8)
Kelcy Hooper (Year 10).

NETBALL

**The Year 7 Netball team won the County Netball Plate Final at the end of April.
Team members were:**

Ava Williams, Alex James, Olivia Stock, Layla Kerr, Grace Johnson, Daisy Thomas,
Chloe Eames, Millie John, & Macy Jenkins.

GYMNASTICS

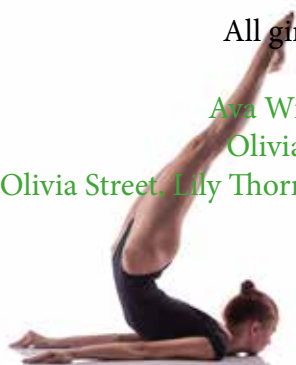
Seven pupils represented Welsh Schools at the [British Schools Sports Acrobatics Championships](#) in Stoke on Trent at the beginning of May.

All girls performed exceptionally well in their respective events:

Ava Williams & Megan Griffiths - 7th in the Under 14 Pairs event.

Olivia Street & Lily Thornhill - 8th in the Under 16 Pairs event.

Olivia Street, Lily Thornhill, Aimee Griffiths, Jessica McNulty, Jade Jenkins & Megan Griffiths - 7th in the Under 16 Group event.



BOYS SPORTS NEWS

FOOTBALL

Well done to the Year 8 Football team who reached the Swansea Schools Football Final narrowly losing to Morriston in the match. But still a great achievement.

Both the Year 10 and 11 football teams won the Swansea Schools Plate finals., with year 10 beating Morriston on penalties and year 11 beating Gowerton 3-2.

On an individual note:

Well done to Year 10 pupil **Tom Davies** on a very successful season with the Swansea School Boys U15 squad.

Congratulations to all those that trialled for the Swansea School boys Teams this year. With Year 7 boys **Ryan Bond-Morgan** and **Sam Seager** successfully making it in to next year's under 13s squad.

A big well done to the following year 10 boys also who have made it into the Llanelli Reds Football academy for the up and coming season:

Ryan Davies, Tristan Thomas, Sam Lovell and William Picton-Jones. Well done boys and good luck.

RUGBY

A group of our Year 9 rugby players attended the Swansea Schools Rugby trials over the last two months. Four pupils have been successful in securing a place in the 2019/20 squad: **Dylan Griffiths, Oscar Scott, Leo Thomas and James Caldon.** These players will now undergo an extensive pre-season ready for the Dewar Shield competition in September.

After an excellent season with Swansea Schools rugby, **Hari Houston and Cameron Scott** have received awards at this year's presentation evening. **Hari Houston** received Player of the Year. **Cameron Scott** received Man of Steel and runner up Player of the Year. This is a huge achievement and an excellent representation of Penyrheol school by these boys receiving two of the top awards. Both Cameron and Hari have been selected for the Ospreys U16s training squads for the upcoming season. We wish them the very best of luck.

ATHLETICS

Boys for the County Athletics Champs (1st May)

Dylan Griffiths (Year 9) - 4th in Shot Putt (U14 age group)

Elima Banicau (Year 8) - 5th in 200m (U14 age group).

Inter-Schools Cup Match - 19th June 2019

Ashleigh Bevan (Year 7) – 4th in Javelin (U14 age group)

Ryan Davies (Year 10) – 6th in Long Jump (U16 age group)



NEW YORK 2019

DAY

We flew from Heathrow Air
Hilton Garden Inn Hotel, Ne

DAY

We started with a 90 minute
River Cruise, where we saw a
famous Statue of Liberty! Af
Yankee Stadium where we w
Yankees v The Chicago Wh
baseball m

DAY

We got up early for a visit to L
we went o the One World Obs
enjoyed a walking tour around
a visit to the 9/11 Memorial, T
The Empire State Building, T
Park. We ended the day v
'Bubba Gu

DAY

After breakfast, we had time
the Woodland Common



1

port and arrived at the New York, late afternoon.

2

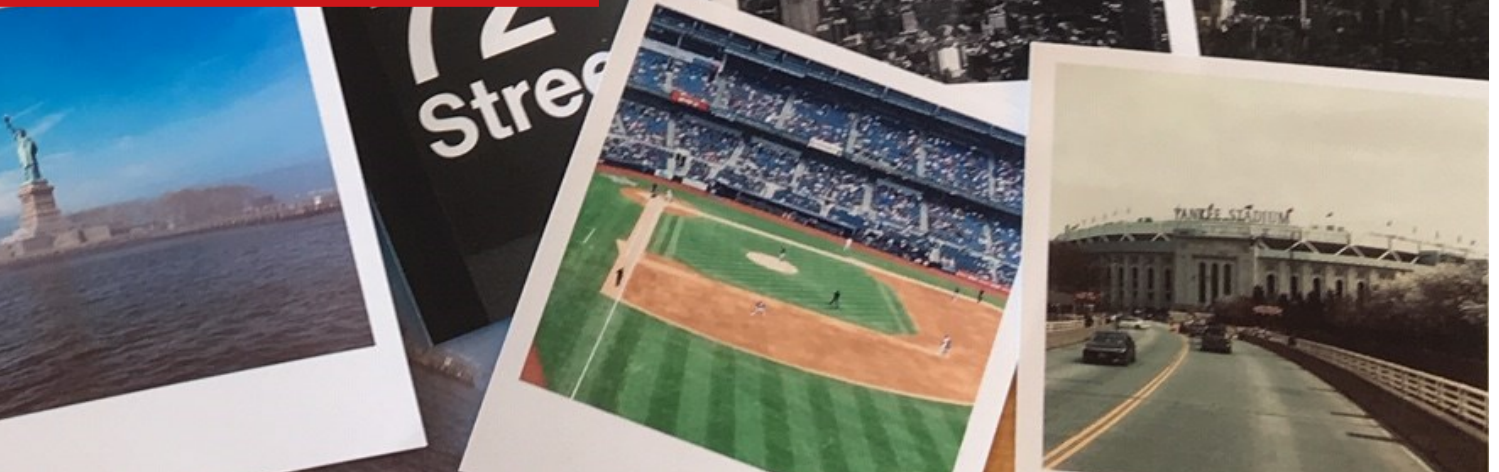
e New York Waterways amongst other sites, the afterwards we went to the watched the New York White Sox in an amazing match.

3

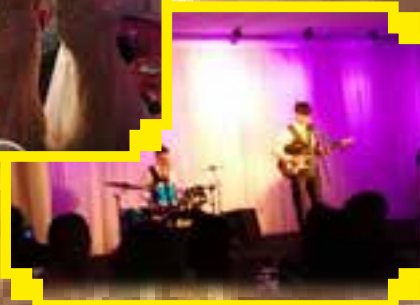
Lower Manhattan where observatory, after which we d the area. This included The World Trade Centre, Times Square and Central with a lovely meal at mps'!

4

to do some shopping at n Shopping Outlet.



Year 11 Leaver



After being treated to the boy's performance, the girls hit the dance floor again and there were plenty of fun moments. Year 11 also enjoyed a pick and mix sweet cart and a chance to dress up in Vintage Style and have their photos taken. A book out of all these photos has been put into a book.



Class of

rs Prom 2019

e, the DJ took over. Staff and pupils
ty of unique moves to be seen. Year
and a Selfie Mirror where they could
printed out there and then. A print
booklet for staff and pupils to view!

2019



A Year of Music

AUTUMN TERM

HAIRSPRAY the MUSICAL

The school show was a wonderful opportunity to express our talents not only individually but as a school. During the rehearsals everyone enjoyed having fun and contributing to the production together. The rehearsals were not something dreaded but looked forward to. The most unlikely of friends became close, we all became one big family supporting each other through these months. Not forgetting the confidence we got from these fellow pupils that we still experience now. Not forgetting how the teachers would always be on hand for help, nothing was impossible to achieve.

The long hours and early weekend mornings were more than enjoyable and were worth the amazing outcome. All the stress built up towards the nights, was lost once on stage while looking out into the audience faces and realising that all this hard work was more than worth it. It also opened many people's minds to see the hidden talent in many quiet pupils. Overall this show gave us incredible memories and amazing opportunities that we will never forget or take for granted.

Thank you for unforgettable experience, we can't wait to see how the next show turns out, we know it will be outstanding!!

**Ffion Thomas 9U
& Holly Isaac 9S**

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

On the 19th December, 2018, our schools Music Department held a Christmas concert for the pupils to perform their best Christmas songs on a variety of instruments to their family and friends. The rows in the church were full of friends and family wanting to hear what the talented pupils could do.

There were a variety of performances from a choir who sang beautiful songs, an orchestra that played dazzling Christmas songs to people who read verses, smoothly and clearly, from the Bible. The school even got the parents involved by giving them lyrics to well-known Christmas carols and had some congregational songs. All the parents joined in to create a real Christmas atmosphere.

My favourite part was when the whole church sang a song. This was really heart-warming and brought everyone together in the Christmas season

Alfie Atkinson 8U

ROCKING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

This year, we have had the opportunity to perform in multiple different concerts and gigs which allowed us to express our talents whilst improving our confidence and developing our abilities to perform.

One fantastic opportunity was the gig which took place on the first floor in our school during break time. Whilst it was a very enjoyable experience, it also benefited us by allowing us to show the amazing pieces prepared and giving all pupils a huge confidence boost. We were immediately joined by a very supportive audience as we were performing and it was great to see pupils and teachers appreciating the music and spending their break time watching those who participated. Whether you were a singer or playing an instrument, we were all able to work together to put on a fantastic performance.

The gig created a very uplifting atmosphere in the school and it made me extremely proud to be a part of such a wonderful occasion.

Katie Randell

cal Memories!



SPRING

EISTEDDFOD

On the 21st of February, an Eisteddfod was held to celebrate the talent of the pupils in year 7 and 8. It was a full day of performances from both year groups such as; groups, solos and even dance performances! It was an action-packed day for everyone!

The first half of the day was the year seven and was filled with many nervous but brilliant people's entries. These included homework competition winners and actual performances from many members of year 7. Pupils recited poems, performed songs, danced and played an array of instruments.

The pupils that won these competitions received points for their houses.

For the second half of the day the talented pupils of year 8 had their turn. This included many of the same competitions as the year 7 half, but was equally as enjoyable. One of the most memorable categories was the drum performances as they played catchy songs that engaged the audience. During this half of the day we both performed as a group. We came second and therefore were invited to perform in the winners showcase a few weeks later.

At the showcase, the winners were invited to perform and the choir also performed two songs. The feedback from the parents was positive and everyone enjoyed the evening.

We think that the showcase was a great idea and we wish the year 7 and 8 pupils of next year good luck for their performances and we hope they do well and showcase their talent.

By Ella Brown 8E & Morgan Lecrass 8R

YEAR 11 MUSIC SHOWCASE

Back in March, the Year 11 Music showcase was held, embracing the fabulous talents that the year 11 music class had to offer. The night contained a variety of performances which showed what the class were capable of and what hard work they had put into their pieces.

I think everyone would agree that the night both started and ended with a bang and the atmosphere never dulled down throughout.

With fairy lights and snacks for the audience, the showcase really had it all and showed what a talented group the Year 11 music pupils were!



Katie Havard

SUMMER

TRANSITION ORCHESTRA & SUMMER CONCERT

We started playing the flute at the start of this year, and we ended up joining the school Orchestra and playing many different pieces of music. Before our Summer concert we had a Transition day on Monday 24th June. This was when we all got together and played pieces with primary schools pupils in years 5 and 6. To start the day we were in sectional rehearsals to perfect our pieces with strings in the Theatre and the Woodwind, brass and percussion sections in Mrs Phipps's room.

After lunch then we put the pieces together as a whole orchestra and ran through them in the Theatre. It was fab to hear all 80+ instruments playing all together.



We then took part in the Summer Concert which was amazing! We'd encourage any pupil to start to learn an instrument, it really is lots of fun!

Abigail Thomas 7E & Sophie Brannigan 7E

Beyond the School Gates

This term we celebrate some of our past pupils & their theatrical successes!

Congratulations to three of our past pupils who are all about to begin courses in Performing Arts at top drama schools:

Robin Haley has successfully auditioned for The Arts Educational Schools in London, where he will be studying for three years in Musical Theatre.

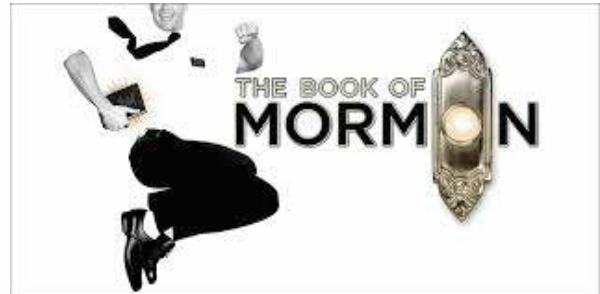
Nicholas Heaton is off to study Professional Acting at The Drama Studio, London.

Isobel Bass is beginning a one year foundation course in acting at GSA (University of Surrey).

All three pupils enjoyed taking part in our school productions and in addition, attended our local theatre academy, Musicality which is run by our Library Resource Manager, Amanda Murphy.

Gorseinon certainly does have talent!

This should be hugely inspiring for all those taking part in our next school production of 'The Addams Family'. All the above students started exactly the same way and it just shows that with hard work, dreams can come true!



Past pupil **Alex James-Hatton** is now appearing in the original cast of The Book of Mormon UK and European Tour!

Alex, who left Penyrheol in 2015 studied at ArtsEd before being signed by a major London agent. His first job was in the Original West End cast of 'Heathers, the Musical' and then he starred as Jack in Jack and the Beanstalk at The Liverpool Empire with Strictly Come Dancing judge, Shirley Ballas.

Alex is over the moon to be cast in the The Book of Mormon, which he has always said would be his dream job! As well as playing Elder White in this fantastic musical, Alex is also understudy for the lead role of Elder Price.

The tour which started in Manchester will be coming to Bristol in January 2020, so those wishing to show their support should make a bee-line for tickets now, as the show is sure to continue its sell out success.

Congratulations Alex!