



Penyrheol Newsletter

Summer Term 2023

Goodbye to the Class of 2023!!

Student Voice Roundup

And lots more...



A Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers and Pupils,

It is my pleasure to introduce the Penyrheol School Summer Newsletter. Please take time to read about some of the many and varied activities undertaken by our pupils. I am incredibly proud of what our pupils have achieved this term.

I would like to thank the hundreds of parents and carers that 'voted' for the 4 core values in the recent parent/carers survey. The 4 core values as chosen by parents/carers/pupils/staff are Respect, Aspire, Thrive,

Belong. This newsletter shows just how much our pupils are thriving in so many different ways both inside and outside of school. Respect!

GCSE results day is Thursday 24th August. School will be open for Year 11 pupils from 9:00am and Year 10 pupils from 10:00am. We wish all our pupils every success.

We have a number of staff that are moving on from Penyrheol this summer. The teaching staff that are finishing this term are Miss Williams (English), Mr Howells (Maths), Mr Roberts (Maths) Mrs V Davies (English) and Mr Marks (ICT). We thank these colleagues for their service to the school and wish them well in the next stage of their careers. The non-teaching staff that are leaving are Miss Morris-Guy (Cover Supervisor), Mr Phillips (TA), Miss Bath (TA), Ms Ridgeway (TA) Mr O'Sullivan (TA) and Mr Battini (D&T Technician). Again, we wish them the best of luck and we thank them all for their service to the school.

The next academic year begins for our pupils on Tuesday 5th September as we have two INSET days on Friday 1st and Monday 4th September. In September, Penyrheol School celebrates its 50th Birthday so keep an eye out for some community and school celebrations over the next 12 months. For the next 50 years, we look forward to our pupils having high aspirations and working hard to thrive in school whilst feeling that they truly belong at Penyrheol.

I hope all pupils and parents/carers have a very enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday.

Yours faithfully



D Benney

Headteacher/Pennaeth



Term Dates

Term	Term Begins		Mid-Term Holiday Begins	Mid-Term Holiday Ends		Term Ends	Total Days
Autumn 2023	Friday 1 September	Friday 27 October	Monday 30 October	Friday 3 November	Monday 6 November	Friday 22 December	76
Spring 2024	Monday 8 January	Friday 9 February	Monday 12 February	Friday 16 February	Monday 19 February	Friday 22 March	50
Summer 2024	Monday 8 April	Friday 24 May	Monday 27 May	Friday 31 May	Monday 3 June	Monday 19 July	69
Total							195

Bank holidays

Good Friday - Friday 29th March 2024
Easter Monday - Monday 1st April 2024
May Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday - Monday 27th May 2024

Inset Days

Friday 1st September 2023
Monday 4th September 2023
Friday 22nd December 2023

Attendance



Well done to the following pupils who achieved 100% attendance;

June	Form	Pupil
	7E	Michael Aspland
	8S	Ashton Southard
	9M	Mari Jones
	10H	Leiland James

Perfect Prefects



On Friday 7th July, some of our Year 10 pupils were invited to interview for the position of the new Year 11 prefects. A big well done to the following;

Head Boy - Charlie Griffiths

Head Girl - Hannah Beech

Deputy Head Boy - Gethin Tudor

Deputy Head Girl - Katelyn Coleman

Senior Prefects

Alex Lewis

Rhys Williams

Amber Phillips

Evelyn Popham

Cerrys Morgan

Hattie Hughes

Ashley Morris

STUDENT



VOICE

Our Student Voice Committee meet every half term, and allows our Form Reps to bring to the table any concerns and suggestions our pupils here at Penyrheol have.

Our last meeting with our Year 11 pupils - Head Boy/Girl, and Deputy Head Boy/Girl - took place on 26th May. Pupils enjoyed drinks and cakes to wish our four outstanding pupils a fond farewell. The meeting was as productive as always and ended with some sound words and advice from Year 11.....

Rhys James

“Take every opportunity given to you, I could have done a lot more”.

Milly John

“Make the most of it! I’m sad to be leaving today”.

Jacob Hills

“I really wish I learnt to revise when I was younger, I’d have had it nailed now in preparation for my GCSE’s”.

Alex James

“Time goes really fast, especially Year 7. Enjoy it while you can”.

BRISCO GORSEINON 10K 2023

On Sunday 30th April, fifteen of our students took part in the Brisco Fun Run by handing out bottles of water and directing runners - fundraising for their trip to Florida next year.





MORGAN'S ARMY

NO ONE FIGHTS ALONE



On Tuesday 27th June, staff and pupils wore yellow to school and were asked to make a donation. We raised £642.40 for Morgan's charity.

Swansea Half Marathon



In June, Mrs Fussell and her daughter ran the Swansea Half Marathon and raised £540 for the Alzheimer's Society.

GOT T★LENT

We love to hear of our pupils achievements outside of school, and Grace Bevan certainly should be super proud of herself! Grace has recently completed her black belt grading in kickboxing, and went on to competing in the European World Championships in Gloucester - and came first place winning gold and a fantastic trophy. Grace's family are very proud and so are we! Da Iawn Grace!!

.....



CONFIDENCE | DISCIPLINE |
SELF DEFENCE
FITNESS | FOCUS

Goodbye to the.....



What an amazing five years our wonderful Year 11 pupils have had with us!! Mrs Fox and Mrs Harries sum up just some of the fun and interesting activities pupils have experienced, and we have some oldie but goodie photos!!

Year 7

Llangranog and Legoland
'Celebrating Success' assembly
Summer concert
Enterprise day
Eisteddfod

Year 8 and Year 9

COVID – online learning, loom assemblies.

Year 10

Straight into GCSEs. The whole year group coped really well.
Military boot camp
Reach the Beach football tournament winners.
Prefect nominations and appointments

Year 11

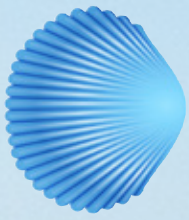
Time to knuckle down – Final GCSE exams are looming.
Annual show – Matilda – a number of our pupils performed main parts.
GCSE music showcase
Summer concert
Leavers Assembly



REMEMBER!!!

GCSE results day - *Thursday 24th August*
Good Luck!! See you there!!

A night at the Prom



It was a night to remember by all. As the bus arrived at the Manor park in Clydach on an exceptionally warm sunny day in June, all pupils were wowed by how stunning the venue was. They looked beautiful in their dresses and ever so smart in their suits. As they got off the bus they were all excited for the night ahead.

The theme had been kept top secret, so pupils were delighted to find out a beach night had been planned. Tables were labelled as beaches around Swansea, and pupils were able to look on the seating plan to see where their tables were.

Every pupil had a personalised leavers stick of rock (what's a beach theme without it) and instead of a place card, there was a shell handwritten with their name as a keepsake. The turquoise and sandy colour scheme was really pretty.

Enter another surprise – the magician! He wowed all the guests with his amazing up close magic. He especially confused the table of Science teachers who couldn't work out how their missing playing card ended up in the middle of a whole crunchie bar! The pupils absolutely loved him and the look of pure amazement on their face as he continued to wow them over and over was priceless!

Then came food. A stunning 3 course meal ending in the most delicious chocolate brownie. However, the eating didn't stop there. Out came the chocolate fountain with so many items to dip and a fully stocked sweet table.

Then came the Head Girl and Head Boy speech which was well written and summed up our memories of the last five years.

It was then onto the "Prom Awards" with some very funny awards given out. We wish we could have given an award to every pupil as they all are very special to team Penyrheol but we were already cutting into the dancing time.

It was then time to get the party started!! The room was lit up in many colours all around and the dance floor was full! The pupils chose the songs and it was lovely to hear some golden oldies being played at their request. I didn't think 'Come on Eileen' would ever be requested but people were running to the dance floor for this one!! When it got too hot, we were lucky enough to sit outside in the beautiful grounds and take in the warm evening air – that was until it was time to dance again!

We also had a professional photographer inside taking beautiful prom pictures on request, and a fantastic photo booth for the more fun group photos. Sadly the night had to end but it really was the perfect prom!







Pupils Recognised for Attainment

SUBJECT	YEAR 7	YEAR 8
HEAD OF YEAR	Grace Bevan (Effort) Taya Tymkiv (Attainment)	Dylan McComa Ellie Pennino
ART		
BUSINESS STUDIES	Not applicable at KS3	Not applicable
COMPUTER SCIENCE		
CONSTRUCTION	Not applicable at KS3	Not applicable
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY		
DRAMA	Peyton Thomas (Effort) Lacey Steele (Attainment)	Jack Dalling Lowri Gambell
ENGLISH	Jasmine Morris (Effort) Cameron Hughes (Attainment)	Joshua Payne Dylan McComa
FASHION & TEXTILES	Dylan Tudor (Effort) Molly Pompa (Attainment)	Andrew Nolan Peyton Johnson
FOOD & NUTRITION	Trystan Allen-Chapman (Effort) Aimee Besley (Attainment)	Charle Williams Lowri Gambell
FRENCH		
GEOGRAPHY	Joseph Lewis (Effort) Ava Pennock (Attainment)	Griffiths Cadogan Ellie Pennino
HISTORY	Steffan Samways (Effort) Anya Patrick (Attainment)	Annabel Williams Griffith Cadogan

and Effort - Summer Term 2023



YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Thomas (Effort) (Attainment)	Lillie Ahearn (Effort) Ryan Davies (Attainment)	
able at KS3	Not applicable at KS3	Max Morgan (Effort) Kai Hughes (Effort) Summer Ferris (Attainment) Emily James (Attainment)
able at KS3	Not applicable at KS3	Leon Wood (Effort) Logan Giles (Attainment)
Owen (Effort) (Attainment)		Harry Williams (Effort) Max Morgan (Attainment)
ter (Effort) s (Attainment)	Amelia Hawkins (Effort) Thomas Bamford (Attainment)	William Adams (Effort) Tiana Boast (Attainment)
lan (Effort) (Attainment)	Hannah Evans (Effort) Ben Hughes (Attainment)	Kai Morgan (Effort) Harry Armour (Attainment)
ams (Effort) (Attainment)	Miley-Brooke John (Effort) Shey Jones (Attainment)	Chloe Holloway (Effort) Bogdan Parvu (Attainment)
ogan (Effort) (Attainment)	Martha Shepherd (Effort) Kamsi Ebisi (Attainment)	Jack Paslow (Effort) Evan Smith (Attainment)
ams (Effort) n (Attainment)	Lizzie Hines (Effort) Serenity-Jade Green (Attainment)	Evan Smith (Effort) Nicole Farcas (Attainment)



Pupils Recognised for Attainment

SUBJECT	YEAR 7	YEAR 8
ICT		
MATHS		
MEDIA STUDIES	Not applicable at KS3	Not applicable at KS3
MUSIC	Bentley Earl-Park (Effort) Borys Muc (Attainment)	Polly Mock-Davies (Effort) Faith Evans (Attainment)
P.E BOYS	Leo Antonio (Effort) Jake Hoskins (Attainment)	Philip Stevens (Effort) Harrison Riseley (Attainment)
P.E. GIRLS	Rosie Bird (Effort) Aimee Besley (Attainment)	Pollyanna Richards (Effort) Liam Carey (Attainment)
PRODUCT DESIGN	Ella Wilcox (Effort) Caydian Evans (Attainment)	Tegan West (Effort) Liam Carey (Attainment)
RVE	Dylan Davies (Effort) Anya Patrick (Attainment)	Dylan McCormick (Effort) Griffith Cadogan (Attainment)
SCIENCE	Elise Tyler Byrne (Effort) Jack Griffiths (Attainment)	Polly Mock-Davies (Effort) Melissa Grassie (Attainment)
SPANISH		
WBQ	Not applicable at KS3	Not applicable at KS3
WELSH	Serena Hooson Jones (Effort) Anya Patrick (Attainment)	Declan Sullivan (Effort) Kate Garland Thomas (Attainment)

and Effort - Summer Term 2023



YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
able at KS3	Not applicable at KS3	Thomas Sidford-Price (Effort) Levi Schuman (Attainment)
avies (Effort) Attainment)	Sophie Nicholas (Effort) Shay Jones (Attainment)	Amber Phillips (Effort) Kianna Macey-Cloke (Effort) Noah Cartmill-Pearce (Attainment)
ns (Effort) y (Attainment)	Billy Brown (Effort) Alex Pike (Attainment)	Steffan Freeman (Effort) Luca Deias (Attainment)
hards (Effort)	Emily Matthews (Effort) Kamsi Ebisi (Attainment)	Maddison Jones (Effort) Lacey Dalling (Attainment)
t (Effort) Attainment)	Hollie Bamford (Effort) Josh Jones (Attainment)	
mas (Effort) n (Attainment)	Charlotte Morris (Effort) Sophie Brewer (Attainment)	Cerrys Morgan (Effort) Hannah Beech (Attainment)
avies (Effort) is-Mcgregor ment)	Abby Johnson (Effort) Alexander Pike (Attainment)	Leon Wood (Effort) Grace Kirmse (Attainment)
able at KS3	Not applicable at KS3	Niamh Bird Bevan (Effort) Dylan James (Attainment)
van (Effort) mas (Attainment)	Rhianna Jones (Effort) Oxana Olaru (Attainment)	Niamh Bird Bevan (Effort) Gethin Tudor (Attainment)



Cluster Football Tournament



On 6th July, we held a hugely successful football tournament for our Year 6 transition pupils on the 3G pitch. The morning was great fun, with Pontybrenin being the winning team. We look forward to next years event.



Drama Club



Year 9 pupils who attend Drama Club performed for the whole of Year 6 as part of an assembly in the theatre on Tuesday 6th July. They have been meeting regularly after school to devise the scenes that featured advice and guidance on how to successfully and happily transition from Primary to Comprehensive School.

They also produced two videos. The first featured a tour of our school and the other involved interviewing teaching staff from different departments about their subject.

They asked 2 important questions: 'What do you expect from a pupil at Penyrheol?' and 'What can a pupil from Penyrheol expect from you?'

We are extremely proud of the enthusiasm and commitment of the pupils involved and the engaging and informative Theatre in Education performance they presented.

Well done to....

Amelia Hawkins
Lillie Ahern
Sophie Nicholas
Jimmy Elliot
Christina Evans
Oxana Olaru

Joseph Salter
Mollie Bird
Keira Morgan
Kirsty Scoberg
Kamsi Ebisi
Faye Peijic

Joanie Peacey
Ami Rose Williams
Tom Apsimon
Ella Brannigan
Scarlett Emanuel



Dates for your diary

Join us in
October for our
school production
of *The Sound of Music*!!



Dunvant Male Choir was established in 1895 and is the oldest choir in Wales with an unbroken history having continued through two world wars and the Covid-19 pandemic. Mr. Luckwell (Head of Year 9) and Mr. Binding (Head of Year 8) are both members.

As announced in the recent Summer Concert, Penyrheol's music department are going to

Penyrheol Comprehensive
School Links with
Dunvant Male Choir

be the guest performers at the choir's 2023 Christmas Concert which will be held at St. Catherine's Church, Gorseinon on Saturday, December 16th.

Tickets will be available from the choir's website or from the school Office from mid November.

More information is on the poster. It would be great to have your support so do note the date in your diary!

Dates for
your
diary

**Christmas
Concert**

Featuring the pupils of
Penyrheol Comprehensive School

December 16th, 2023 - 7pm
ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH
GORSEINON

*Order your tickets from
www.dunvantchoir.wales
Entry price is £10 per person
and seating is unreserved*

Field Trips

Our geography department has been very busy this term and pupils have enjoyed many trips outside of school.

GCSE Field Work

Location - River Ilston and Three Cliffs

Pupils collected data on flows as part of their GCSE course.



Year 8 go to the Brecon Beacons

On the 5th July, Year 8 pupils visited two locations, Garnwant County Park and Pontneddfechan, learning about waterfalls and the National Park.

Charlie Mooney and Ethan Phillips wrote; “We arrived at Brecon Beacons and split up into two groups. We followed the path up the river until we reached the waterfall then made our way back to the bus and travelled to the visitor centre for lunch and ice cream. We then went on another walk through the flowers and past rivers, before travelling the 1 hour and 10 minute journey by bus back to school”.

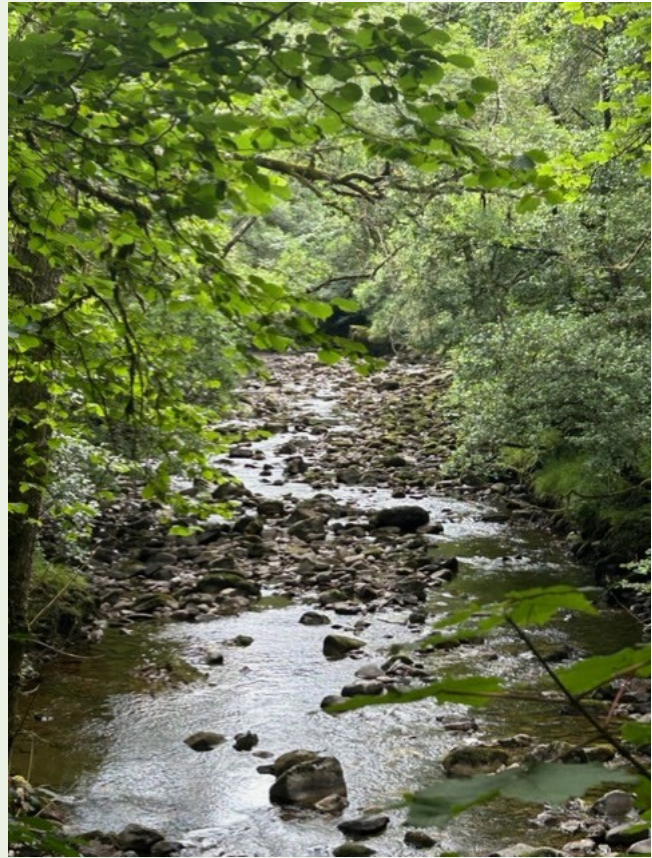


Photo credit: Charlie Mooney



GOWER

On Monday 11th July, Year 9 pupils visited several locations around Gower learning about coastal and river landforms.

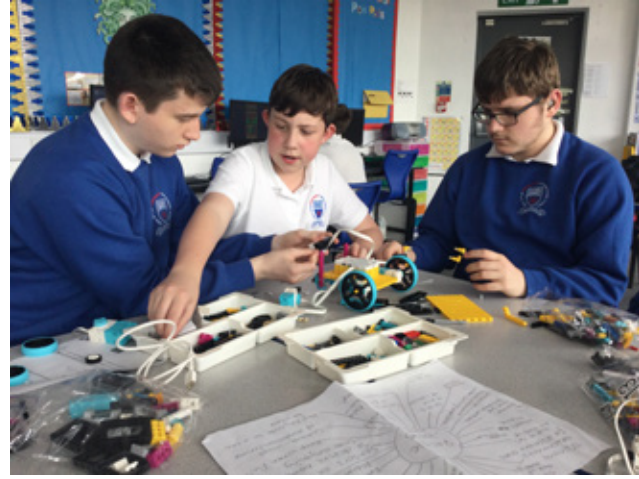
The STF have had a very busy and productive term. They have been designing and building recycling robots. They have spent time with staff from the University of South Wales to learn how to programme their robots. They have been entered into the competition with Technocamps and the RAF and their design have made it through to the final!! Watch this space for more news!

UPDATE

We are delighted to say that Team : Recycle Bot Mark 5 (Sammy, Jaydon, Theo and Caydian) came second in the live challenges. They won a stem kit and metal RAF water bottle each. They won the STF Classroom a Bluetooth speaker.

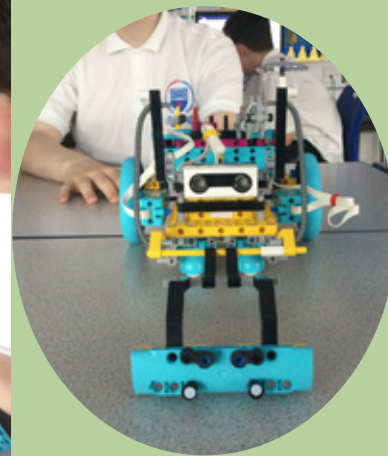
The judges from Technocamps, RAF and Kev Johns were all very impressed by the research, hard work, creativity and excellent behaviour the pupils presented on the day.

Pupils did 2 pitches to judges and



then a live competition task. They regulated themselves and we are extremely proud of all of them! Despite a fire alarm going off and throwing them all off kilter they came back in determined to put their all in.

Tech Champs



STF staff and pupils have visited Oystermouth Castle this term. They have been involved in a project to film the castle. Working in partnership with Gower College Swansea they have created a full VR model of the Castle and a number of 360 short films. They were then taught how to edit their film

by staff from Gower college. The work they produced was very professional and it shows how inclusive technology can be. They were asked to present their work to Primaries across Swansea at an education collaboration at Oystermouth Castle on the 29th June, Welsh Government, Local Authority, University, College,

Comprehensive and Primaries were all impressed with the incredible work produced by our pupils.

Check out the following link;

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=fMWW-cUN5b9s>



Urdd Camp Visit

30th June – 2nd July 2023

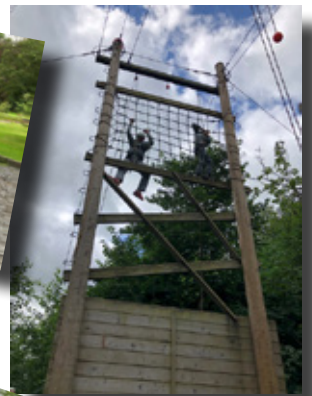
An activities weekend was planned for the Glan-llyn Urdd Camp, based near Llyn Tegid, Bala Lake. 31 pupils were joined by Mr. Binding, Miss B.R. Davies and Mrs. Goodwin (Senior TA). On the journey North, we had an unexpected stop in Aberystwyth due to the driver having to take a break and because we had no toilet on the coach! That then delayed our lunch and afternoon activities. But we continued in true Penyrheol style! For our stay, we had the exclusive use of the Llys Aran block which had ample meeting room space with TVs and fridges so tea and coffee could be made and a game of charades was even enjoyed by some on the Saturday night!

Activities were varied, as can be seen from the photos and included:

- kayaking
- canoeing
- paddle boarding
- archery
- high ropes course challenges, including the descender!
- 10 pin bowling
- sports in the sports hall
- swimming
- bush craft: making fires before enjoying toasted marshmallows!
- vertical climbing wall
- watching Hotel Transylvania 3 after the Darlithfa (meeting room) had been transformed from a disco hall!

We had lunch, tea and supper on the Friday, breakfast, lunch and an evening meal on the Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday – a beef roast with Yorkshire pudding, a selection of veg with gravy followed by crumble and cream. A good selection of fruit was also available at every meal and any dietary needs met.

Weather was generally good after a few showers on Friday afternoon and the journey home allowed pupils to take in the magnificent scenery of North, mid and West Wales as we travelled on the A487 coastal road admiring such places as Machynlleth, Aberystwyth, Aberaeron and we arrived home at the Swansea West (Penllergaer) Services area just after 16:15.





First World War Battlefields

In April of this year, the History Department ran its largest ever tour, comprising of 91 students and 10 members of staff, to the First World War Battlefields in Belgium and France.

We were very lucky to avoid the disruption at Calais and after a bouncy crossing in gale force eight winds, were on our way to Ypres. The weather wasn't very kind for the first two days, but as always, the beautiful town of Ypres was resplendent and pupils enjoyed visiting the various shops. We visited several sites, such as the excellent Hooze Crater Museum, Tyne Cot Cemetery and Langemark German Cemetery.

The next day, we continued our tour, visiting the superb In Flanders Fields Museum in the Cloth Hall. Several pupils accompanied Dr Rees to the top of the Cloth Hall where the views were amazing, although

a few were rather queasy to say the least! After lunch, we visited Essex Farm cemetery where John McCrae wrote his famous poem 'In Flanders Fields', then returning to Ypres for dinner and best of all, attending the famous last post ceremony at the Menin Gate.

On Sunday, we drove down to the Somme region of France to visit the many memorials there. The Canadian Memorial at Vimy Ridge was outstanding as usual and although the weather was cold, our visits to Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park and the magnificent Thiepval Memorial were really well-received by pupils. We were very grateful to Avril Williams and her tea-rooms for providing us with a superb packed lunch!

Our tour ended with visits to Mametz Wood, where we were able to take a great group photograph.



The Menin Gates, Ypres



Trenches at Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park, Somme

It was an important tour for several of our pupils who were able to visit the graves or memorials of relatives, which is always the most rewarding aspect of the tour. Dr Rees, Mr Luckwell, Miss Davies and Mr Rees also paid visits to relatives who perished during the conflict.

By Monday the weather had changed and pupils enjoyed the blue skies and sunshine at Disneyland Paris, where by the evening everyone was 'Mickied'

out! Unfortunately, due to the Paris traffic, we were unable to go into central Paris and the decision was made to drive to Calais to catch an early ferry, which we were able to. The return crossing was very different – the Channel was a millpond and the day was beautiful.

Our pupils conducted themselves magnificently throughout the tour and represented the school and the community brilliantly. As staff, we were all very proud of

them and hope they enjoyed the tour. Our drivers, Mark and Phil, from Owens of Oswestry were brilliant and a big thank you to Mr Luckwell, Mr Thomas, Mrs Evans, Ms Rees, Miss Davies, Mr Rees, Mr Davies, Mrs Keenan and Mrs Wingrave-Rix for giving up their time to accompany the tour.



Tyne Cot Cemetery



Langemark German Cemetery



Dr Rees and Mr Luckwell

Group photograph at Vimy Ridge



Group photograph at Mametz Wood Welsh Memorial



Penytheol staff at Mametz Wood



Year 11 with Mark, one of our drivers



Try at Home



Make your own fidget Toy with Miss Thomas

Follow this guide to create your fidget toy at home, you can do this using any fabric you have laying around or even use an old piece of clothing.

You will need:

- 2 x 10cm X 15 cm piece of scrap fabric for the front and back
- A 10cm X 15cm piece of fleece for the front
- Thread and pins
- A marble or small round object



Step 1: Gather your equipment and fabric. Cut along the RED line of the pattern piece.

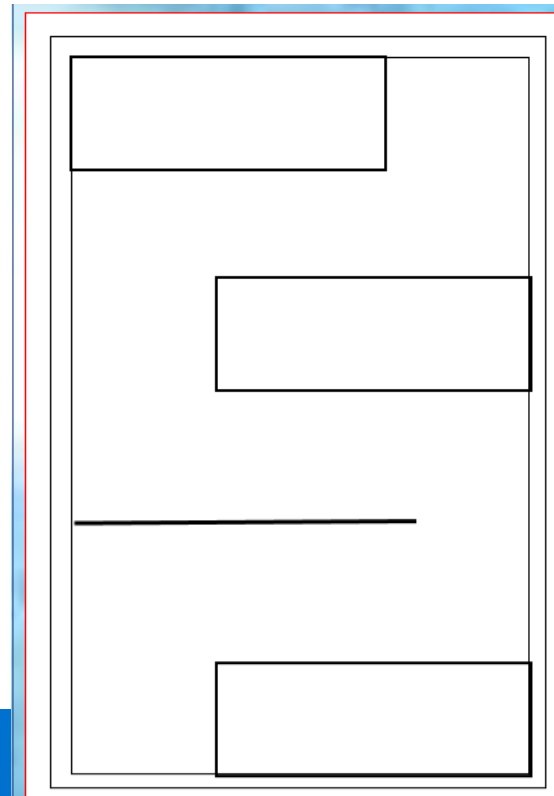
Step 2: Put the front and the back pieces together and sew around the pieces with a 1cm seam allowance (dashes line is a stitch line). Leave a gap to allow you to add the marble in.

Step 3: Turn right side out. Push the corners out using a point turner tool, a knitting needle, or a chopstick.

Step 4: Insert your marble and carefully sew around the gap closed.

Step 5: Pin the paper pattern piece on top of your fabric and sew the solid black lines, being careful of the marble inside.

Step 6: Peel off the paper and top stitch around the outside of your toy.



Showcasing some excellent work this term;



Year 7 have been busy making their 'Too busy to care' projects in RVE this term. They had to research a topic of their choice and make something creative to raise awareness about that issue. We had some interesting topics: racing pigeons, racism, global warming, use of weapons/ gun crime, autism and care for the elderly. Pupils did a fabulous job presenting these to their peers!



Too Busy To Care



Anya Patrick created this digital artwork and wrote this:

I created this digital art piece for R.V.E as a visual representation of what it can feel like to hide your feelings. We were asked to create something (a sculpture, drawing or poster) to represent a topic that we feel people are "too busy to care about". I chose mental health and wellbeing.

The concept of this piece

is that the left side is the mask that we present to everyone. It is slowly cracking and falling away to reveal the right side, which represents what we might feel on the inside - miserable and anxious.



Hollie-Poppy 7D

Table Talk

Based on what pupils have studied this term, here are some questions you can discuss at home;

Year 7 - Why is raising awareness of issues important? Who are the religious people who fought for human rights?

Year 8 - What do you think of the ethical theory of Utilitarianism? How should we treat others?

Year 9 - Is the death penalty acceptable? Is forgiveness possible?

Year 10 - What are the things that make us human? What are the qualities of God?



SPORTS AMBASSADORS

Our Silver Sports Ambassadors (Annabel Williams, Ellie Pennino and Sophie Pennino) have been busy this term, organising a Sports Festival for a number of local Primary Schools. The event was held at the beginning of July at the Elba Sports Centre, supported by the Active Young Person's Department. This event was extremely successful and highlighted once again the continued effort and hard work shown by these pupils in their role. They were also assisted on the day by the new Bronze+ Ambassadors from all the comprehensive schools in Swansea. A wonderful experience for all involved!

Finally, well done to Declan Pearson, Joshua Paynter and Sophia Edwards on being selected to be Bronze+ Sports Ambassadors at Penyrheol!

GREG REES SHIELD TOURNAMENT

In June, 12 pupils from Years 10 and 11 undertook some volunteer work at Tre-Uchaf Primary School, umpiring and refereeing sports matches as part of the 'Greg Rees Shield Tournament'. This tournament is held annually in memory of Greg Rees, an officer with South Wales Police, who sadly passed away a few years ago.

The tournament was a great success and the pupils involved were a credit to both themselves and the school, conducting themselves in an exemplary manner all day. Not only did this opportunity provide our pupils with a valuable experience, it was also lovely for our former Tre-Uchaf pupils to revisit their old primary school and catch up with the teachers who once taught them!

Greg's son Will Rees, who is currently a pupil in Year 9, presented the winning school, Pontybrenin Primary with the shield, together with a colleague of Greg's from South Wales Police.



ROUNDERS

The Girls Rounders teams have played several fixtures this term, including matches against Gowerton, Pontardulais and Dyffryn Amman Comprehensive. They have competed very well in these fixtures, winning some matches and narrowly losing others. The effort and commitment shown by these individuals to both training and matches has been excellent. A huge well done to all involved!



ATHLETICS

A number of pupils across Years 7 - 10 competed at the Afan Nedd Tawe Inter-Schools Athletics Competition last month. There were some very strong performances across all teams, but the most notable performances of the day came from Sophia Edwards in the Junior Girls 300m, where she finished 1st in her heat and 4th in the final. The Junior Girls Relay Team consisting of Ellie Pennino, Sophie Pennino, Sophia Edwards and Amy Besley also qualified for the final.



GYMNASTICS

Good luck to four of our pupils, Megan Griffiths, Ava Williams, Valentina Sias and Hollie Bamford, who fly out to Turin in Italy later this month to represent their club and Wales in Sports Acrobatics. A wonderful achievement – good luck and enjoy this amazing experience!

OTHER SPORTING NEWS

Olivia Francis

Congratulations to former pupil, Olivia Francis who has been successful in securing a contract with Manchester United Ladies FC. Olivia is an exceptional talent, who over the last few seasons has represented Wales at both U17 and U19 level. The PE department and school would like to wish Olivia all the very best with her move to Manchester and the forthcoming football season.

Harri Houston

Congratulations to former pupil Harri Houston, who is currently away on tour in South Africa with the World U20 Rugby Championships. Wishing Harri the best of luck in the forthcoming games!



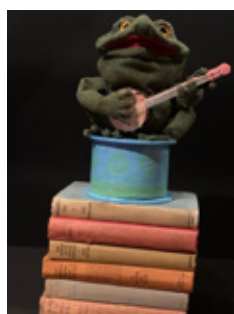
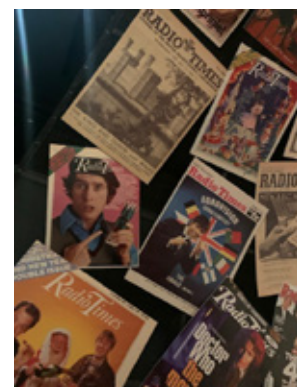
Art & PHOTOGRAPHY

Cardiff Museum and St Fagans

On 22nd June, Year 10 Art and Photography pupils attended a school trip to Cardiff Museum and St Fagans where they learnt about the history of the Welsh culture.

Pupils really enjoyed their day where they got to take photographs which will be presented in their coursework books. Pupils were also able to attend an exhibition at Cardiff Museum which was based on 100 years of the BBC.

Here are just a few examples of some of the fabulous photos our pupils captured...



Little People Project

Year 9 were introduced to a Photography unit of work where they were inspired by the photographer.

David Gilliver who specialises in long-exposure photography (the art of 'Light Painting') as well as macro photography (my 'Little People' and Toy

series).

Pupils first created scenes using backdrops, props and of course little people that are just 2cm's tall.



Lincoln David



Mari Jones, Caitlin Rohman, Keaton Taylor, Ellamay Thomas



Lucy Harvey, Charlie Para, Mollie Bird, Kiera Morgan, Erin Watts, Kirsty Scoberg



Ffion Weed, Kai Jones, Cadie Hamer



Jayden Taylor, Sammy Benney, Theo Beckinsale



Wellbeing at Penyrheol

During the final half of our Summer term, pupils were presented with another month of wellbeing challenges. On Wednesday 7th June, we asked pupils -

“For the rest of this term are you up to doing a weekly – perhaps daily – challenge to walk/run yourself fitter!”



Pupils were given advice on counting steps and physical activity, and were posed the question - *“so, how many steps do you do?”*

Our summer fitness challenge focused on pupils becoming more active during break and lunchtimes. Pupils were given a map of the school site, and we marked out an easy route for improving fitness.

A Year 8 pupil started at the blue dot and followed the route around the annexe until they reached the yellow dots. The results counted:

Steps: 920
Distance: 0.5 miles
Calories: 52

Pupils could further challenge themselves by doing the route twice, zigzagging across areas or trying 3 laps which equates to 1km!





Turn your steps into Achievement points!!!

Pupils were encouraged to download a free app, record and save their walk on their phone/watch, and then write their achievement on the list in their year team office or to see Mme. Hyndman in the canteen and be awarded extra points to Class Charts!

Can you continue walking over the summer holidays???

MONDAY



5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down

12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone

19 Get outside and find the joy in being active

26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it

TUESDAY



6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings

13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side

20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity

27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy

WEDNESDAY



7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good

14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you

21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement

28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people

THURSDAY

1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month

8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share

15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it

22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh

29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today

FRIDAY

2 Say positive things in your conversations with others

9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently

16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way

23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to

30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)

SATURDAY

3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it

10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them

17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful

24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for

SUNDAY

4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it

11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it

18 Look for something good in a difficult situation

25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

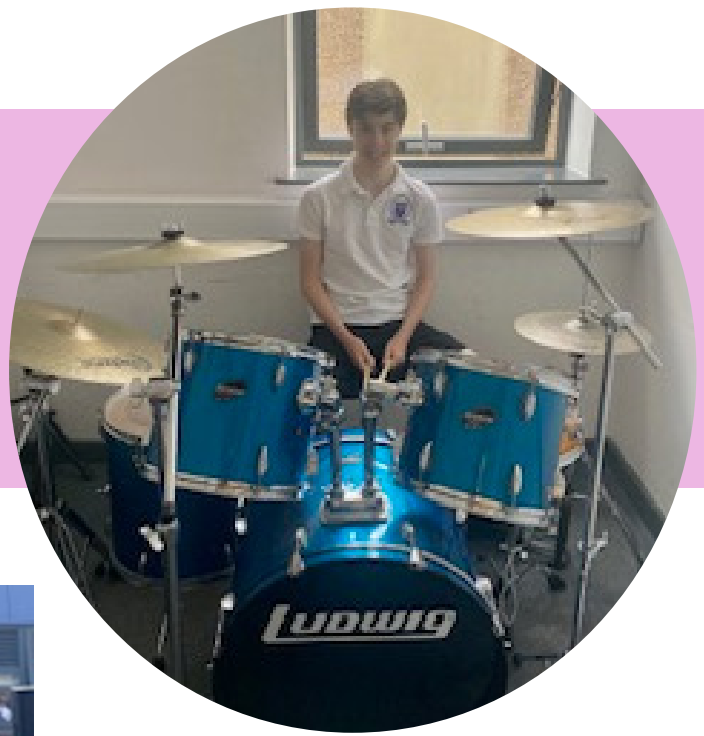
Happier · Kinder · Together



It was a delight to welcome Year 5 and 6 students from our feeder schools to join us in our Orchestra Transition Day and Summer Concert. Primary and senior school students rehearsed in sectionals before joining together to play as a full orchestra. It was a busy day but the students maintained focus throughout and worked hard to produce beautiful music. Rehearsals continued the following day as senior school ensembles and soloists rehearsed and decorated the theatre. There was a fantastic turnout on the night of the concert and the atmosphere was warm and supportive as our talented students performed a wide variety of pieces. The primary and senior orchestra played two well known pieces; 'James Bond' and 'Mama Mia' and it was a treat for the ears! Other performances included guitar groups and soloists, choir and vocal ensemble, instrumental groups and many more. A huge congratulations to all students that took part and a big thank you to all who came to support such a wonderful event!

Talent

Massive congratulations to Noah Cartmill-Pearce who achieved a Merit in his Grade 6 Drum exam. Well done, Noah!



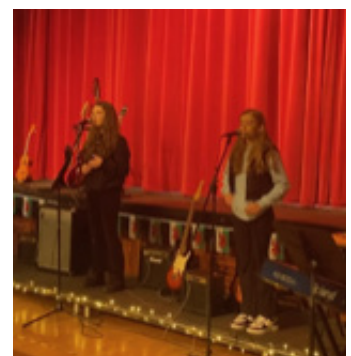
Rock Gig

On Thursday 22nd member of our Rock Group performed an outdoor lunchtime gig for pupils. Pieces performed included Seven Nation Army, Brazil and Freaks. It was a huge success with pupils chanting for encore after encore. Several pupils have already requested for another gig to take place soon. A great experience for all involved.



Eisteddfod Showcase Winners

After the success of the Year 7/8 Eisteddfod, winners of each onstage competition were asked to perform in a lunchtime showcase on Thursday 23rd March for parents, carers and even headteachers from our feeder primary schools came to watch the performances.

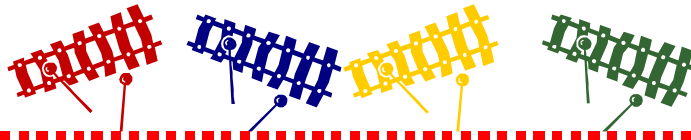


music for wellbeing

Mr Zorn went to Pontybrenin primary to teach pupils about the benefits of music to a child's mental health. He did various vocal and instrumental games with pupils from Nursery through to Year 2. Including is a lovely article about

the benefits of making and listen to music on a child's mental health, which would be useful for our pupils to bear in mind if they are struggling, or want to have more positive mental health.





THE BENEFITS OF MUSIC

Music is essential in the total growth of a child. It contributes to the physical, intellectual, social and spiritual growth of a child and therefore needs to be supported as an essential part of a child's education. According to an article written in Healthy Kids Magazine, just 15 minutes a week with group singing may significantly improve spatial intelligence--the kind needed for high-level math and science. Frances Rauscher, a psychologist at the Center for Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, compared 19 preschoolers enrolled in music programs with 14 classmates who took no music lessons at all. After eight months, the children with musical training experienced a 46 percent boost in spatial IQ scores, while the IQ scores of the children with no music lessons had increased only six percent. Frances Rauscher concluded that music lessons seem to strengthen the links between brain neurons (cells that can transmit and receive nervous impulses) and build new neural bridges that are necessary for good spatial reasoning.

Listed below are a few more ways in which music can enhance your child's development:

- ◆ Music is perfectly designed for training children's listening skills and concentration. Good listening skills and **school achievement** go hand in hand.
- ◆ Music helps to develop a child's imagination and creativity. Making music is a **creative experience** which involves expression of feelings. It can help develop a child's personality (especially a shy individual), by easing their way into self-expression in the way of humor, happiness, beauty, or sadness through speech/song as well as movement. Children often do not have the words to express themselves and need positive ways to release their emotions.
- ◆ Music improves the child's **muscular coordination**. It develops precise control of smaller muscles in the arms, hands, and feet through movement and instrumentation as well as internal muscles used in breathing and singing.
- ◆ Music promotes **coordination of words and actions**.
- ◆ Music helps teach counting and alphabet skills. It builds **memory retention** and **verbal and nonverbal skills**.
- ◆ Music boosts a child's **self-confidence** by performing in public.
- ◆ Music teaches **cooperation and teamwork** through music ensemble rather than through constant competition.
- ◆ Music enhances the ability to relate to others through the development of many **social skills** such as sharing. Most importantly, music provides an opportunity for acceptance. It provides an opportunity to meet new friends and just have fun.

Caryn's MusiCreators classes will include all aspects of musical learning. The goal is to instill the joy of music in children by engaging families in **developmentally appropriate music activities** involving the whole child – the child's desire for language, the body's urge to move, the brain's attraction to patterns, the ear's lead in initiating communication, the voice's response to sounds, as well as the eye-hand coordination associated with playing musical instruments. Children will be involved in many fun activities such as movement games and dances; listening activities, stories and poetry; instrumentation used with songs, stories, and poetry; and plenty of singing. So enrich your child with the gift of music!



BEAT BOX

In May, one of our many talented Year 7 pupils was 'head hunted' by Mrs Williams, the headteacher of Pontybrenin Primary School, who was so impressed with Ty-Rhys' Eisteddfod Winners performance that she asked if Ty-Rhys would hold a workshop and perform for the juniors!!

Ty-Rhys received some really positive feedback.....

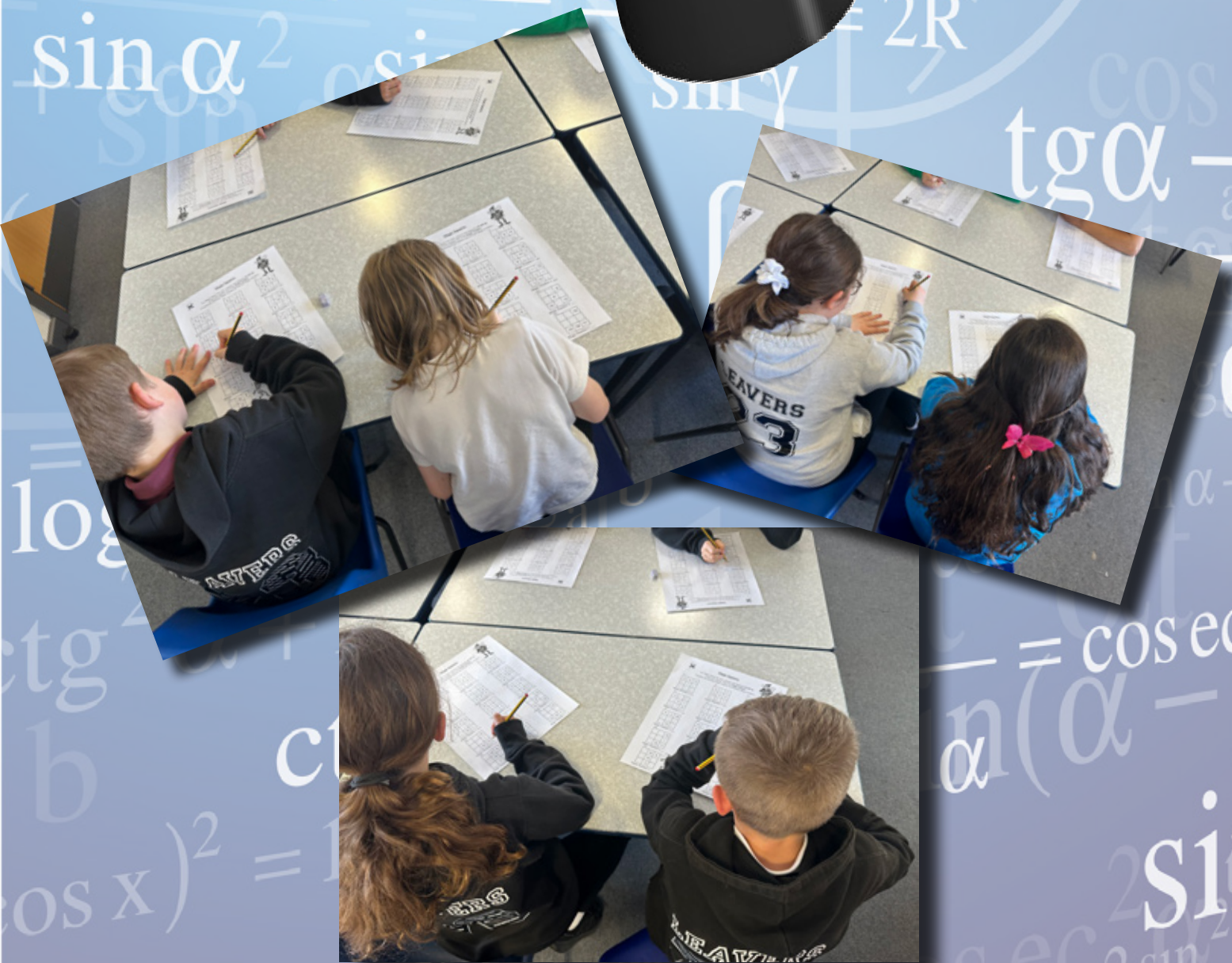
"Ty Rhys has inspired me to try Beat Boxing. It was so cool!"

"I have been trying Beat Boxing since he was there and I hope he comes back for another visit."

"The children thoroughly enjoyed having Ty-Rhys as he really inspired them to get involved in music. He spoke to the children so well and is a credit to Penyrheol Comprehensive. We would have him again in a heartbeat".

Maths Magic

On 16th May we had some fantastic Year 6 mathematicians visit us from our local Primary schools for some fun, and a challenge playing maths games against each other.



Swap Shop



Our uniform Swap Shop will be open at Ty Cynnydd from Monday 27th February 2023. Please come along and pick up or order uniform.

Ty Cynnydd is the house as you enter the school opposite the swimming pool.

Mrs Fussell is also available during break and lunch either in G1 or the school canteen to order items. Please refer to our website to download a copy of the order form. Return details are included on the form.

We have plenty of Penyrheol uniform in stock.

Please re-use, re-cycle and re-educate!



UNIFORM SWAP-SHOP OPENING HOURS

TY CYNNYDD

MONDAY & THURSDAY 8 AM - 8.30 AM

WEDNESDAY 3.05 PM - 3.30 PM

GROUND FLOOR WORKROOM FOR PUPILS

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 8 AM - 8.30 AM

PTA News

Meet Our PTA

*Chairperson: Tanya Fussell
Secretary: Michelle Pow
Co Secretary: Marie Tudor
Treasurer: Nadine Ireland*

Donations and sponsorship welcome!

The committee would like to thank everyone for their support during our first academic year. A special thank you to our Librarian Mrs H Lafferty for producing such fantastic publicity material and the 50-year banner, Mrs J Evans for all her assistance in creating our online presence, and to Mr A Trotman Site Manager and D Lavis. A big shout out to all Committee members that attend the meetings.

Christmas Fête and with many local businesses supporting us our raffle prizes were amazing. The Fête will return bigger and better this year!

We have been busy raising much needed funds selling tea, coffee, soft drinks, sweets and biscuits at all our after school events. This term we introduced "Freezy Fridays" selling tip tops during break.

Scheduled meetings will run every second Thursday from September at 3.30pm in the school Library (starting on 14th September), and monthly on a Thursday (starting on the 28th September at 6.00pm) in the community (venue to be confirmed). This will be an open meeting to promote the PTA and for new members to sign up (everyone welcome).

The PTA has come a long way in the past year. Our first mission was producing a 50 year calendar. Our very talented Head of Art and Photography, Ms V Hine, produced some wonderful photographs and the calendar was a great success. Next was the

From September we hope to be even more proactive. There is a lot to discuss as we move forward especially as we have an extremely busy year as Penyrheol Comprehensive School celebrates its 50th year.

We are very excited about forging strong links between the school, parents, pupils and the wider community. At the same time, we will be raising funds to support our pupils in their learning - whether that be equipment and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities.

Interested in joining Penyrheol PTA?

Reply form

Full Name _____

Name of pupil/pupils _____

Year/forms _____

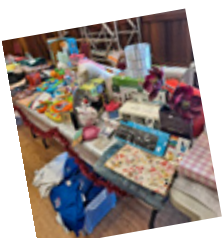
Contact telephone/mobile number _____

Contact e-mail _____

How would you like to help the PTA? _____

Thank you from the PTA committee and pupils at Penyrheol Comprehensive. If you need to contact us, please e-mail pta@penyrheol-comp.swan-sea.sch.uk or telephone: 01792 533066.

Have a fabulous Summer Holiday!!!



Keep up to date with all news and exciting events via our school website, social media, leaflets and posters.

Another joyful year with the DofE 2023 pupils, and thankful that the weather has been kinder to us this year than others.

Pupils completed their final expedition on the 8th and 9th of July in the beautiful Gower Peninsula, and a very well done in obtaining their Bronze Award.

This is the first overnight camp we've had since covid, so all the staff were really looking forward to the two-day expedition.

The pupils who completed the final are Katelyn Coleman 10Y, Hannah Beech 10D, Grace Kirmse 10M, Ethan Matthews 10H and Cerrys Morgan 10R.

Pupils were in good hands with Ms Steel leading the troops, Mrs Fussell in charge of the mini bus, and both Miss Evans and Mrs Thomas tracking the pupils from a distance.

We hope that our pupils have been inspired to go onto Silver and Gold awards.

If you are in the current Year 9 and are interested in joining the next group of DofE pupils there are still spaces left. Please speak to Ms Steel.

We are also giving the current Year 8 pupils the opportunity to complete the DofE Bronze award. More information will be sent out in September.

A big thank you to everyone who assists on the DofE and gives up their free time.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



WHERE are they now?

An interview with a past pupil

THEN...



Name: Katy Phillips (was Davies)

Dates attended Penyrheol
Comprehensive: 1999 - 2004

GCSE's attained: Welsh,
English Literature, English
Language, Drama, Geography,
Maths, Double Science, ICT

What was your most favourite subject and why?

I loved Drama and Geography! I was really interested in different countries and their culture etc but not so much about rocks and rivers haha! I loved showing off in drama and took part in the school play "Dracula spectacular" when I was in Year 7.

Who was your favourite teacher?

I had loads! My form teacher Dr Rees was great! But I also really enjoyed lessons with Mr Tate in Geography and the 3 Mrs Davies' in Welsh.

What is your fondest memory of your time spent in Penyrheol?

The group of friends I had and of course the pizzas in a bun at break time!

What did you go on to do after leaving Penyrheol?

I initially went to Gorseinon college to try my AS levels but it really wasn't for me. I needed something or someone to motivate me to actually go to class, so I finished there and came across a job advert for an apprenticeship in a travel agents. I got the job and continued with Tui Holidays for 15 years - 11 of them as a Superstore Manager.

Whilst at Tui I completed my NvQ level 2 & 3 in travel and tourism and also went back to college in the evenings to gain my higher diploma in Health & Social Care. After the pandemic I decided I needed a change and joined HM Land Registry where I have been for the last year or so and I really love it there!

What are you doing now?

HM Land Registry (civil service).

What do you know now that you wish you had known when you were at school?

Everything works out in the end. Getting good exam results is great but please don't stress about it too much! I always found I was better learning on the job rather than sitting an exam so maybe an apprenticeship or similar would work better for you than college or uni?

If you could offer our pupils any advice, what would it be?

Life's too short to worry and be unhappy. Just you do you.

