



Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy
Ffordd Nebo Road, Llanrwst LL26 0SD

Headteacher's Greeting

Dear Pupils, Parents and Partners of Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy,

It is a pleasure, as the school's New Head teacher, to write this introduction to the Bont 2014. As you can see from the magazine, 2013/14 was a busy and successful year for the school. We had a successful inspection in March 2014 that acknowledged all the hard work of pupils, staff, governors and partners in the community, including our Primary Schools. The report also acknowledges the successful partnership we have with Sodexo the company that manages the school site, ensuring that the school buildings and land is kept in excellent condition for our pupils – for their work and their leisure from day to day.

Some of the sections I am most pleased with are the recognition of the way that our pupils co-operate and get on with each other, including the work that last year's 6th form did organising and running numeracy and reading sessions with year 7 pupils. It is heart-warming to see how the foundation begun by our 6th form leadership teams during 2013/14 is now being built on by the 2014/15 leadership teams. You can find out more about the contribution of pupils to the school's development including the work of the School Council, the Eco Council, Sports Council and Leadership Teams in the magazine.

It was sad to say farewell to Mr Paul Matthews Jones at the end of the summer term, as he left for a new challenge as Head teacher of Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen in Caernarfon. Read the lyrics written by the Music Department and Drama Department for Year 7's farewell to Mr Matthews Jones for his work and his influence over the last 4 years, changing the success and development of the school and leading us to our successful inspection. The challenge for us now is to continue to build on the strong foundation that he has left, the success of the Inspection and to ensure that the school goes from strength to strength as we aim for excellence in all areas.

Enjoy the stories, successes, creative work and more as you read the Bont. It is sure to bring fond memories for us all!

Yours sincerely,
Miss Elan Davies, Head teacher.

A fond farewell to staff

At the end of the summer term the school bid a fond farewell to Miss Gemma Bourne, Miss Mari Scanlon and Mrs Tracy Howes. All three have moved on to new posts and new challenges – we wish them well in their future careers and thank them for all their hard work.

At the end of the summer we also saw Mr Paul Matthews Jones leaving for a new position as Headteacher at Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen, Caernarfon. Mr Matthews Jones said: "It has been a pleasure and an honour for me to be head of this special school. I have enjoyed every second. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, every pupil and every parent who has worked with me. The pupils deserve this excellent school and I have no doubt that the school will go from strength to strength in the forthcoming years." Mr Matthews Jones has led the school successfully through our recent inspection making many changes along the way. We know he will inspire and move his new school forward in a similar way and we wish him all the best in his new post and in his future career.

A New Headteacher

In September Miss Elan Wyn Davies was appointed as the school's new Permanent Head teacher. Miss Davies was born in Rhuddlan, Denbighshire and has been Deputy Head at the school since September 2012. She previously worked as an English and Literacy Adviser for Cynnal, working with schools in Gwynedd and Anglesey as well as Conwy.

Here are a few facts about Miss Davies:

Name: Miss Elan Wyn Davies

Position: Headteacher

Favourite Colour: Teal

Favourite Pet: Cat

Favourite food: Pizza

Food that I dislike: Salmon

Favourite film/TV programme: Downton Abbey

Favourite place in the world: Betws y Coed and Rhuddlan

Good advice?! Life is not a sprint but rather a marathon – pace yourselves!

What is your goal as headteacher?

"To ensure a happy school and working hard to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential and develop into active and conscientious citizens. I look forward to working with the pupils, staff, parents, governors and the local community to ensure the best future for the young people of the Conwy Valley. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last two years at the school and very much look forward to the next few years as Headteacher. I feel very lucky to have been appointed Headteacher of this unique school."

All staff and pupils at Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy would like to congratulate Miss Elan Davies on her appointment as Headteacher – the first Headmistress in 400 years! We are delighted to be working with her.



Achievement

A Level Results 2014

"We are extremely proud again this year of the Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy pupils' excellent performance. This year's results show increasing success in A Level, Occupational A Level and the BTEC courses, as well as the progression of the Welsh Baccalaureate. Among the highest performing pupils this year are: Lowri Roberts A*, A*, A, A; Elin Arfon, A*, A, A; Elin Wrennall A, A, A; Leah Hamilton A*, A, B; Lois Wynne A, A, B; Gwen Thomas A*, A, C; Amy Jones and Ceri Noble A, B, B; Roxanna Richardson Distinction*, A, C; Emily Watson Bacc, A, B, C; Erin Owen, Stephanie Jones and Hanna Dobson A, B, C; Erin Rossington Distinction-Merit, B, B; Morgan Evans Double Distinction, B, C; Jack Williams Bacc, B, C and Elen Hughes a Isabelle Adams B, B, B.



Today is therefore a day of celebration, and another opportunity for the school and its governors to congratulate all of the pupils, their families and our dedicated staff for their hard work. We wish all of our pupils the best and every success in their future lives. We will look forward to following their successes through university, further education and careers."

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy is again celebrating a year of excellent results. We are extremely proud of all our pupils and of their successes, and on behalf of the whole school, we congratulate them and their families on the great results! Our success is fully deserved and we look forward to welcoming most of the pupils back to the 6th form. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank all our staff for their continuous hard work. We have additional reasons to celebrate this year; the BAC adds to the achievements and the qualifications of our pupils and their full CVs.

GCSE Results 2014



Once again a number of our pupils have achieved top results, including year eleven's twins this year! In the picture are Llywela (3A*, 6As) and Ceridwen Edwards (3A*, 7As) from Cerrigydrudion and Jasmine (1A*, 7A, 2B) and Hannah Cash (1A*, 4A, 4B) from Dolgarrog. The following also achieved excellent results: Rhiannon Hughes (5A*, 4A, 1B), Ilan Owen (3A*, 4A, 3B), Joshua Bradnam (5A*, 4A), Rachel Gates (5A*, 3A, 2B), Branwen Morris (3A*, 5A, 2B), Llion Roberts (2A*, 7A, 1B), Joanthon Coates, (5A*, 3A, 1B), Luca Carpena (3A*, 3A, 3B), Ciara Rickard (3A*, 2A, 3B), Joachim Rigotti, (3A*, 2A, 3B), Bee Wylie (2A*, 3A, 2B, 2C).

Ceridwen Edwards said: "I am extremely proud to have done so well after all the hard work!"

As the headteacher, I am also extremely happy to see all of the happy faces, which confirm what success means to these young people and how hard they have worked. They fully deserve their success! I congratulate them and their families. This year has been an excellent one and a very special one for this school, its pupils and the wider community, following a praiseworthy report from Estyn, and excellent A Level results last week. Today, as is the case every year, is a day for the pupils and with the improvement we've made in our English, Maths and Welsh results this year, there's plenty to celebrate. I wish them all the best in their future lives!

Paul Matthews-Jones,
Headteacher, Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy, 21/08/14

A GLITTERING AWARD CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE THE TREMENDOUS SUCCESS OF YSGOL DYFFRYN CONWY STUDENTS 2012/13



On the 17th of September Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy held its annual award ceremony to celebrate the success of its senior pupils. 2012-13 was an excellent year for the school, with its cultural work being celebrated at a national level through its achievements at the National Eisteddfod, and its sportsmen and women also having a tremendous year. The purpose of this evening however was to celebrate academic achievement. These were so numerous this year that there were, in all, a total of 96 prizes to be awarded. Presenting the awards was Guto Bebb, the MP for Aberconwy, who was pleased to be giving out so many substantial and valuable prizes.

The Headmaster, Paul Matthews-Jones, spoke of his pleasure at being able to celebrate such an evening. "The academic achievements of our students are remarkable. Tonight the school, and I as Headmaster, are celebrating not only GCSE and A Level results but also the efforts of the students, their parents and families, who deserve every bit of success and all the honour that has been bestowed upon them. I would also like to thank Mr Geraint James, the County's Chief Education Officer for being present here tonight and for all his department's support for education in the County Borough of Conwy".

The Dr Harold Williams Scholarship for excellence and the support of further study at a UK University was awarded to Haydn Jenkins who gained A*, A*, A and A grades in his A Level Examinations.

The William J Lewis Scholarship was awarded to two outstanding pupils: Ffion Adele Hughes who gained three perfect A* grades in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics and has already begun her Veterinary Science course at

Edinburgh University; and Benjamin Griffith who gained A*, A and A grades and is on his way to Warwick, another Russell Group University, to study Mathematics. Holt Scholarships were awarded to Angharad Evans (AAAC) and Mali Wyn Roberts (A* A* A). Those awarded prizes for best AS results also achieved outstanding results. These went to: Lowri Llwyd Roberts (AAAA), Elin Wrennall (AAAA) and Elin Arfon (AAAB).

The prize for best GCSE results was given by the Conwy Valley Rotary Club and so great was the school's success at this level that the prize had to be shared between eight students, all of whom were fully deserving of it: Hannah Bird, Lois Evans, John Brereton, Erin Jones, Ynyr Jones, Tolly Taylor a Talia Williams who between them achieved 50 A* and A grades!

Other highlights were the prize for outstanding achievement, which was awarded to Haydn Jenkins. The Mayor of Llanrwst presented the prize for the greatest contribution to the community to Annie Monks. Prizes were also awarded to students for their excellent National Curriculum results and for the first time this year prizes were awarded for excellence in the National Literacy and Numeracy tests.



In his closing address Guto Bebb praised the students and the school for their exceptional efforts, and also emphasised the importance of education and skills in the workplace.

This is an inspiring start to the 2013-14 academic year, which will surely be one of further success for the talented pupils of Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy.

Pupil Voice / School Council:



School Council 2013/14.



Head Pupils 2013/14



Eco Council 2013/14



6th Form Leadership Teams 2013/14

The School Council's role this year was even more important due to the March inspection. The Inspection report captures some of the vital contributions that the School Council make to the school's day to day and annual development:

"The school council has been a key influence on the school's organisation, including discussing whole-school priorities and policies and taking part in whole-school self-evaluation. Two pupils are members of the governing body and make an important contribution, including expressing their opinions on teaching and learning resources, and ideas on improvements to the site for pupils."

This year the Council discussed many topics including:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- What makes a good lesson?
- The school's priorities including improving English and Attendance
- Ideas for future School Eisteddfods and Activities Weeks
- ICT Across the Curriculum and the new Wi-fi system (including its slow progress!).

They met regularly each half term and ensured that their work was shared with other pupils through their noticeboard, the governing body and the school website.

The Council was chaired this year by Carradog Hughes and Morgan Evans, year 13 who were supported by Annest Ellis and Jessie Bailey. Each year had at least two representatives on the Council and fed back to their Year Forums and Class Forums on the work of the Council.

6th Form Leadership Teams:

Another important development this year for Pupil Voice was the Leadership Teams set up in the 6th Form. These included all members of the 6th form who got to choose a team to contribute to. These included a Literacy, Numeracy, Sports, Performing, Primary-Secondary and PCAI/Welsh Dimension group. They have now set up an exciting remit that the future 6th formers will have to live up to. Read more about their work in the 6th form section.

Eco Council

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy Eco Council

The Eco Council has been very busy this year. Our targets for the year were to rid the floors of rubbish and to try to save energy. We visited Venue Cymru to see other schools like us that were trying to be more eco-friendly. During our visit we were given excellent advice on how to begin being more eco-friendly.

In September we put signs about saving energy above the light switches of every room in the school. These had been made by school pupils during skills week in the Summer of 2013, and in December we started to go around the school during break and lunchtime, making a record of which teachers didn't switch off their lights when their rooms were empty. If a teacher left their lights on, an A3 poster was put on their door, warning them to switch the lights off next time. The repeat offender was Mrs Eira Wyn Jones Cymraeg 1!

In order to get rid of rubbish on the floor we created posters to remind everyone to put rubbish in the bin. The posters were put up all around the school. To everyone's surprise, this worked brilliantly and the school is now a much tidier place than it was before. We have made amazing progress during the past year, the most since we began in 2011. In fact, our council managed to win the Silver Award this year and we are very proud of this!

BOBs

This year's Year 8 BOBs team were a busy group – training with Mrs Nia Williams and helping primary school pupils to learn about healthy eating and cooking at the Glasdir Fair Trade Event.

A group of the year 8 pupils, Jessica, Elen, Dafydd and Joe, also took part in the Secondary School BOBs cookery Competition at Bodnant Food Centre. They won the second position prize in the competition. Here are some pictures from the event and the adjudicators, Dai Chef and Gwyndaf Pritchard, judging the food. Jessica and Elen were recognised amongst the main chefs of the competition and they came equally second in that category. All of the competitors/BoB members of every school received praise for their behaviour and attitude towards the particular challenges, as well as for their skills in teamwork, managing and cooking.



New Youth Worker for Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy:

In April, Elliw Baines Roberts was appointed as a new youth worker for the school in partnership with the Urdd and our Primary feeder schools. Elliw has been working with staff, pupils and our primary schools to establish clubs and to support activities that develop the Welsh language in informal situations.

Here are some facts about Elliw:

Name: Elliw Baines Roberts

Age: young ;) !!

Job: Youth Officer Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy & Urdd

Favourite colour: Every colour! Pink, yellow and blue are favourites!

Pets: Yes - a dog and a cow!

Favourite sports: Rugby and Tug of War!

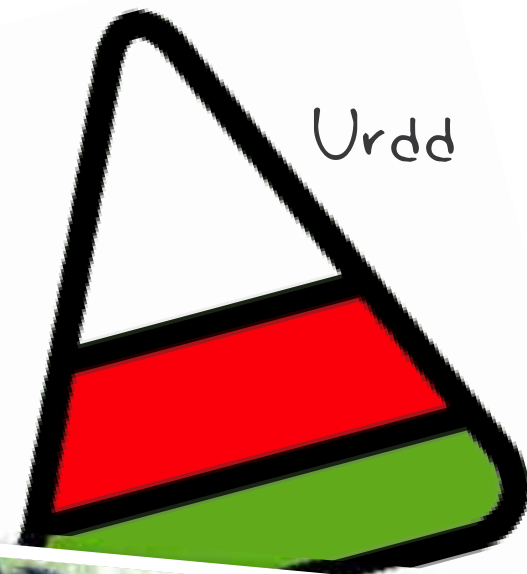
Favourite food: Indian food, fruit, vegetables, roast dinner, ice cream, dulce de leche, which is like a caramel sauce, and Asado (lots of roasted meats) when I go to Argentina!

Least favourite food: Cheese and nuts

What will you do in your job?: I organise clubs at school and outside of school hours in the local area, and I work with the Urdd and Menter Iaith clubs and officer as well as local primary schools. I hope to be able to organise trips as well. I work with the Urdd which provides young people with excellent opportunities. The objective is to promote the Welsh language within the school and in clubs and events, in a way in which everyone can enjoy.

Which clubs will be held, and what have you enjoyed so far?: There's a table tennis / ping pong club at 1 o'clock during Wednesday lunch hour. There will be a jewellery making, face painting, pool and darts clubs from September (as well as much more)! On Monday evenings, Clwb Ffermyr Ifanc Llanrwst is held, on Wednesday evening there's Aelwyd Llanrwst and I'll also be heading to Clwb Ieuencid Ysbyty Ifan occasionally. I work with the primary school, I really enjoyed the dramatic productions for the primary schools' book quiz in May, they were excellent!

If anyone has an idea for a club, come for a chat to discuss. I'm here to help!



Like the Facebook page - Clybiau Dyffryn Conwy



In May, a Group of year 9 boys went to Eisteddfod yr Urdd in Bala with Elliw, the Youth Officer and Sian Breakell the 5x60 officer, to compete in an Adventure Challenge on the last Saturday. The team won and everyone got to choose a Urdd hoody as a prize. Well done! These are photos of some of the challenges they did.



Pitching a tent, blindfolded! This was a bit too difficult and it wasn't long before those blindfolds came off!

A sleeping bag and bag packing race!



Bow and arrow challenge!

Extracurricular Activities

5 x 60 activities with Sian Breakell

A Group of school pupils attended several climbing and sailing sessions in Plas y Brenin during the year as well as clubs in and out of the school. Here are some of the photos for you to have a taste of what they got up to!



John Muir Award

Seven Year 10 pupils Went to Cwm Idwal with Janet Pierce and Elliw Baines in June to complete their John Muir Award. They walked around Cwm Idwal learning about the rare plants, the names of the mountains surrounding the cwm and enjoying the magnificent views! Thank you to Guto from the National Trust for leading the Group.



C2 Radio Cymru

The Youth Officer arranged for Magi Dodd and Gwynfor to come from Cardiff in June to visit the school and a group of Year 9 pupils and to hold a radio workshop. Thanks to the girls for taking part, they enjoyed learning how to produce, present and record their own radio programme.



Charities



As a school, we work with Crest Co-operative to collect clothes to be recycled. Thank you to those who brought bags full of clothes, teachers, parents and pupils alike. The school receives money for each tonne collected for Crest.

If you need to clear your wardrobe to make room for new clothes, or need to get rid of any clothes, bring them to school. Elliw Baines, the Youth Officer, has plenty of bags available!



Crest Co-operative is a social enterprise.

Accepted items:

- Children's clothing
- Adult clothing
- Pairs of shoes
- Bags
- Belts
- Bed clothes
- Towels

Items NOT accepted:

- Cushions
- Duvets
- Bric-à-Brac
- Dirty clothes / items

Physical Education

DYFFRYN CONWY FIXTURES AND RESULTS FOR 2013/14

Rugby:

U18's	YDC v St Davids Coleg Menai v YDC St Davids v YDC Ffeinal Eryri Glynllifon	48-3 (won) 0-55 (won) Won Won
U16's	YDC v St Davids YDC v Eirias YDC v Glan Clwyd YDC v Glan y Mor YDC v Llanfyllin YDC v Hawthorns Pontypridd	50-0 (won) 37-0 (won) 49-12 (won) 53-7 (won) 27-3 (won) 26-29 (Lost)
U15's	YDC v Eirias YDC v YJB YDC v YDH	5-24 (lost) 24-18 (won) 12-8 (lost)
U14's	YDC v YJB YDC v St Davids YDC v Eirias	50-0 (won) 50-0 (won) 19-20 (lost)
U13's	YDC v Eirias Twrnament Conwy Twrnament Conwy YDC v YJB YDC v Eirias YDC v Dyffryn Ogwen	50-5 (won) Won Won 53-0 (won) 24-14 (won) Lost

Football:

U18's	YDC v Aberconwy YDC v Holyhead	6-2 (won) 2-2 (Lost on pens)
U16's	YDC v Tryfan	2-4 (lost)
U15's	YDC v YJB	2-8 (lost)
U14's	YDC v YJB YDC v YJB YDC v Aberconwy	1-1 4-0 (won) 2-4 (lost)
U13's	YDC v Creuddyn	2-2 (Lost on pens)



Physical Education

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy Athletics Records 2007-2014.

Event	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
100m	Lidia Wilson (2011) 13.02	Holly Martinez (2013) 14.66 Sara Roberts (2014) 14.66	Leah Mari R (2013) 13.43
	Sam Thomas (2013) 13.60	Sam Backshall (2007) 12.62	lestyn Thomas (2011) 12.25
200m	Lidia Wilson (2011) 30.89	Rachel Johncock (2007) 28.12	Lois Evans (2011) 31.72
	Tomos Williams (2011) 30.78	Tom Jones (2011) 26.69	lestyn Thomas (2011) 24.56
300m	Sara Roberts (2013) 54.03	Rachel Johncock (2007) 44.77	Abi Backshall (2011) 46.33
	Owain Jones (2011) 50.24	Alex Tolson (2011) 44.84	lestyn Thomas (2011) 39.32
800m	Sara Roberts (2013) 3.04.1	Abi Backshall (2010) 2.30.3	Abi Backshall (2011) 2.34.4
	Tomos Land (2014) 2.45.5	Jac Ellis (2014) 2.31.28	Lewis Dallimore (2010) 2.36.3
1500m	Lea Royle (2010) 6.25.6	Lois Roberts (2010) 6.27.8	Lisa Allsup (2009) 6.15.5
	Owain Jones (2011) 5.45.2	Ben Hayward (2008) 5.31.3	Lewis Dallimore (2010) 5.33.6
TJ	Glain Roberts (2007) 7.60m	Stacey Jones (2007) 7.70m	Annest (2010) 7.87m
	Sion Pringle (2007) 8.57m	Tom Jones (2011) 9.82m	Andre Channer (2007) 10.33m
LJ	Gwawr W (2011) 3.91m	Abi Backshall (2009) 4.20m	Gwawr Wynne (2013) 4.32m
	Sion Pringle (2007) 4.17m	Alex Tolson (2011) 4.35m	Owain Jones (2013) 4.86m
HJ	Heledd Roberts (2013) 1.25m	Bronte Butters (2008) 1.31m	Nia Jones (2007) 1.35m
	Elgan Hughes (2007) 1.40m	Tom Smith (2013) 1.45m	Tom Smith (2014) 1.63m
SP	Elinor (2009) 7.12m	Izzie Barry (2013) 7.55m	Leah Mari R / Lidia Jones 7.90m
	Dylan Jones (2014) 8.00m	Josh Williams (2014) 11.20m	Charlie Mills (2007) 10.49m
DT	Sioned (2009) 14.10m	Teleri Lloyd (2007) 15.45m	Millie Mullins (2007) 15.30m
	Jack Hughes (2010) 18.78m	Erol Ozkan (2010) 18.77m	Charlie Mills (2007) 27.80m
JT	Heledd Roberts (2013) 14.35m	Llinos Williams(2013) 19.80m	Jasmin Kepil (2009) 20.10m

I had football trials for North Wales girls’ team. In the trials we only had to play matches, but as we were playing the coach would switch our positions to see how we were. At the end of the trials we got asked to give our details and we would receive a letter in a few weeks if we got into the team. After waiting for weeks for the letter it finally came! I was really nervous because I didn’t know what it was going to say, but when I opened it, it said I GOT IN! The letter said to start training every week from the 9th of September 2014 and will receive my kit on the day. I’m really excited for the first session and can’t wait to play.

Jordan Jones 8T

During half term a very interesting and enlightening skills day was held with some of Wales’ most well-known literary figures. The chaired poet, Meirion MacIntyre Huws; the actress, Rhian Cadwaladr; and the authors, Bethan Gwanas and Marged Roberts, were all invited to hold creative writing sessions with year 7.

It was a day to remember and everyone enjoyed taking part. Here are some of the poems created:

TU ÔLY LLENNI

Dwi’n smart a dewr, a dwi’n enwog
Fy hoff gig yw cig oen
Mae gen i dri deg cegin
Ydw, dwi’n llond fy nghroen.
Ond hoffwn fwyta o fy llaw
Gibab, un nos, ynghanol glaw.

Mae gen i goron lachar,
A llygaid run lliw â ngwaed
A gosgordd hir o weision
A chlogyn at fy nhraed.
Ond dydw i ddim yn fawr fy ngwên
A hyd ‘n oed gwaeth - dwi’n mynd yn hen.

Fe’m ganwyd i yn Frenin
Fy enw yw enw ‘nhad
Ni allaf ddianc rhagddo
Dwi’n unben ar fy ngwlad.
Ond o! am lonydd am un dydd
I weld y byd a ‘nhraed yn rhydd.

7 Tudur’s Poem



BE WELAIST TI

Be welaist ti gyfaill wrth deithio’r byd?
A welaist ti wartheg yn hawlio pob stryd?
A smotiau ar dalcenni a chyris poeth iawn.
A saris amryliw a phob mandir yn llawn.
Eliffantod can tunnelli? A welaist ti rai?
A chasgliad o ddolis yn mynd yn llai ac yn llai.
A welaist ti Joey yn ffedog ei fam?
A beiciau yn rhesi yn Amsterdam?
Oedd na blu gwyn ym mhobman, neu readrau di-ri.
A gwynt fel llafn cylllell yn mynd drwyddot ti?
Neu dywod yn toddi dan haul canol dydd.
A chathod mawr perig yn crwydro’n rhydd?
A welaist ti dedi-bêrs ciwt du a gwyn,
A lesu’n groes llonydd ar ben rhyw fryn
A cherfluniau sy’n symud am Lira neu ddwy.
Neu galon ac enwau wedi eu cerfio ar lwy?
A welaist ti dderyn ag adenydd chwim.
Achos yma’n fy mhowlen wela’i ddim.

7 Pandy’s Poem

COFY COED

Pwy oedd yn crwydro brynau’r defaid un tro,
A’r cerrig yn tincial dan ei ‘sgidiau fo
A’r rheiny yn sgleinio, roedd o’n grand o’i go?
Pwy oedd y llanc pump oed?
Gofynnwch i’r coed.

Pwy oedd biau’r piser yn ‘Nhai’n Foel un prynhawn.
A’r haul ar ei uchaf a’r caeau yn llawn.
A rhawiau’n lladd nadroedd yn y corsydd mawn?
Pwy sy’n nabod sŵn ei droed
Neb ond y coed.

Tybed pwy a wisgai’r hen, hen fwgwd nwy;
Mewn cwt o dan ddaear, â’i galon yn ddwy.
A phob bom yn syrthio yn addo mwy
Pwy deimlodd ei fod yno erioed?
Holwch y coed.

Ac i ble’r aeth y bwystfil, anferthol o fawr
A’i draed fel boncyffion a fu’n ysgwyd y llawr
Dim ond darn ohono sydd ar ôl yn awr.
Pwy brofodd nerth ei droed?
Y coed!

7 Machno’s poem

7 Tudur were also busy composing poems on the theme “school”. This was their take on Maths and Art:

MATHEMATEG

Mathemateg yw gwneud symiau mawr a twyllo gyda chyfrifiannell.
Mathemateg yw profion anodd bob tymor.
Mathemateg yw cael pob sŷm yn gywir, a phopeth yn iawn.
Neu’r ateb yn anghywir a dechrau eto a mynd yn flin.
Mathemateg yw ffracsiynau, ffactorau a lluosrifau.
Dydi mathemateg ddim bob tro yn hawdd.

CELF

Celf yw tynnu llun ond ffrindiau yn colli paent ar y llun a chael ffrae gan yr athro.
Celf yw colli glud ar y llawr.
Celf yw cymysgu glas a melyn i wneud gwyrdd a coch a glas i wneud piws.
Celf yw lluniau Picasso ar y wal.
Celf yw mynd i fewn i’r ystafell i arogl paent wedi sychu.
Celf yw tynnu esgid i ffwrdd i’w chopïo a mygu yn oglau traed Jaco.
Celf yw gwastraffu paent a chael ffrae.
Celf yw mynd adra hefo paent ar fy nhrowsus a mam yn mynd yn boncyrs!
Celf yw mynd adref a rhoi llun arbennig i mam.



English

This year some of our pupils from year 8 took part in a national competition for Water Aid. Here are some of their winning poems:

RAINFALL

the sky
is turning
grey, clouds,
are gathering up
above, plants are
slowly withering, rivers
and waterholes are drying.

I have been talked of for days,
farmers are waiting for me,
everything relies on me, then
DRIP DROP, DRIP DROP.

People sing, and dance as I fall through the sky, rivers burst their banks
in excitement, as I lash against people’s iron roofs, and give plants a new breath of life.

Thunder and lightning begins,
BOOM CRACKLE, BOOM CRACKLE
Young children hide from the terrible noise,
and shelter in their unprotected huts.

People hide from me, indoors
for I am rain.

Ethan Witt 7C

RAIN

The water that falls down on us is also known
as rain, but most of us here in Britain
seem to think it’s a pain. think
of those in other countries
longing for that drop,
they need it
more than
anything
and
they
can’t
just
get
it
from
the shop.

Rosy Pearson



Year 9 Set 1

EXAMPLES OF PERSONIFICATION AND PATHETIC FALLACY IN DESCRIBING THE PLACES WHERE WE LIVE IN THE CONWY VALLEY

Llanrwst sits alongside the ever flowing river Conwy. The famous marker town nestles in the heart of the Dyffryn Conwy Valley, neighbouring Trefriw and Betws y Coed. This calm, mystical and relaxing environment is hard to substitute.

Dolgarrog welcomes visitors with a huge smile sleeping amongst the mountains. It is the heart of the community full of kind and loving people.

Eve Jones

Llanrwst is a lively, historic town. The river runs through the town, sparkling and glistening. The huge clock tower stands in the middle of the square, staring at the busy surroundings. Standing behind the small town is a completely different world. A land of dancing, swaying trees. There is nothing but green to be seen, and there's nothing but the sound of wildlife and nature to be heard.

Elin Cawley

Trefriw welcomes everyone with a warm heart. The people of Trefriw welcome everyone, it doesn't matter who it is they will always make you feel welcome and at home in the village.

Shauna

Trefriw gives a warm welcome to everyone. The trees sway with the wind. The flowers dance along the paths. The Fairy Falls trickles down the rocks.

Georgia

Rowen sleeps between the mountains like a baby. It is cared for well. But the village cries as the school closes. The school is silent and the rooms are empty and cold. The wind whispers through the trees and forces the leaves to dance. Dark clouds roll over casting their eerie shadow. The river babbles happily along. Tourists invade the quiet corners as they ramble over the patchwork hills. Sheep stare, rabbits hide. The shy fox stays underground. The sun keeps a watchful eye from above.

Gwion Jones

Eglwysbach is a sleepy village, sitting quietly in the Conwy Valley. It is a shy village which doesn't attract

much attention from fairly local people which it should because of its welcoming attitude towards its few visitors.

Loui



A town plodding along a few steps behind this modern age, trying to catch up with the present. The rusted sign-reading "Welcome to Llanrwst" – beckons us to step forth into the crowds of familiar strangers; Although it is almost LOST in its coat of moss therefore the sign might as well be non-existent. Sleeping soundly submerged in the mountains and TOWERING trees, awoken only by the sound of the Conwy River screaming breathless protests as pollution fills its banks.

Cadi Edwards

Llangernyw has the beating heart of the Conwy valley.

Gwydion

Llanrwst is a happy town; the many perky daffodils dance in the breeze down by the shivering river. The houses stand proud, watching over the cars crawling past on the roads below. The historic clock, guards the town's impressive primary school, watching the children play each day, laughing silently at the jokes of the town.

Amelia

Trefriw is your classic little-village-in-the-country with its cheerful smile and open arms to any visitors. Holding fast with little but enough.

Llanddoged makes everybody feel welcome with its smiling building and bouncy facade. Every building stands tall, shoulders broad, as the happy people wonder around. Gloopy rain falls, but nobody cares, the elders stand talking in the blossoming courtyard, yattering on about chatter and gossip from the day before. The fields and countryside glisten in the sunset, even with grey clouds settling above, beauty overtaking the small town as it happens. With open arms, Llanddoged welcomes everyone who comes with kindness and respect – Llanddoged loves everyone and smiles at everyone as they enter and leave every day.

Bethany Roberts



Eglwysbach, a fresh young village in the heart of the Conwy Valley. Where children play in the local park, and sheep graze the large fields. With the sun beaming down; the village is alive, awoken by the screaming of the small river, trying to break its bank after the heavy rainfall.

Eglwysbach is a friendly village, that lights up when you enter.

Lois

Llanrwst welcomes with open arms; the green of the fields with flowers dancing and trees swaying in the cold breeze. The bridge stands great while the river travels underneath. The streets are alive by day, dead by night. The historic buildings rise above all.

Jac

HERE IS HANNAH'S TAKE ON OUR USE OF THE 'VISUALISER' IN ENGLISH LESSONS
Try to visualise a visualise that's visualising a visualise because it's a visualise and that's what visualises do and since it's a visualise it's visualising a visualizer and since visualising is fun try to visualise that!
No. of visulis - !11

Hannah Roberts

"The novel was about a young boy's life. The funny thing about the book was that the Boy always fought with his Brother, as do I. I always fight with my brother, but as they do in the book, we always make up in the end."

Heledd 7M

"My favourite book that I Read was 'Flipped'. It's very interesting and it shows the backgrounds of two young people. The author is Wendelin Van Draanen. I really enjoyed this book because a lot happens in it."

Elliw Jones

"I enjoyed the book 'Gangsta Granny' by David Walliams very much. It was funny and very interesting. I think that children from Y6 to Y8 would enjoy this book."

Siwan Fflur Roberts 7M

"Out of all the books I Read for the Readathon challenge I preferred 'Llwyth'. The storyline was very adventurous and exciting. The story went back many years. I loved the characters' names. The people included their animal tribe in their names: Drogen, Branwen, Arthur and Bleddyn. My favourite character was Branwen because she's a very brave and intelligent character. Bethan Gwanas is the author of the book and I think that the book is appropriate for years 8/9 and older. In my opinion, this was an excellent book and I give it a full 10/10.

My favourite book was 'The Hen Who Dreamed She Could Fly'. This novel is very interesting and it's about a hen which wants to lay an egg. It's a very emotional and exciting novel. The author of the book is Sun Mi Hwang and it was translated from Chinese to English.

Elliw Fflur Ford 7M

On September 11th, 2001, the world watched their television screens in shock as the two towers of the World Trade Centre in America fell to the ground. Over 31,000 people were killed or injured in the tragic incident including many brave rescue workers. Before long it became clear that Al-Qaeda, a terrorist movement in the Middle East, was responsible for the attack. In my opinion, this book was extremely good because I'm very interested by this subject. There are many interesting facts and striking images in the book.

Lowri Everiss 7M

I enjoyed 'When Summer Ends' very much because I found it funny and appropriate for ages 11-15. The book was about a girl who fell in love over the summer holidays. She went back to school and there was a new maths teacher. The new maths teacher was the one she'd fallen in love with over the summer.

Erin Edwards 7M

My favourite book was 'Swshi' by Gwen Lasarus because there was humour in it and it was exciting. Many things happen in the book, such as Corin and her friend, Catrin, starting a band. The book was very good and very funny. I would encourage anyone to read the book because of its humour and its strong storyline.

Gwen Arfon

MATHEMATICS: MATHS MASTERCLASSES

Gwion Jones, Anna Carpena and Hannah Roberts attended ‘Maths Masterclasses’ sessions at Bangor University. These were Hannah and Gwion’s experiences:

In early 2014, I, along with a few other Year 9 students, attended this year’s Maths Masterclasses, where we learnt some high-level mathematics, including some things that wouldn’t be taught until University. There were five lessons over ten weeks, one every fortnight, and we had two different lecturers each time. We learnt about things such as matrices, imaginary numbers and PowerPoint formulae. My favourite lesson was probably the aforementioned formulae one, although I also loved a lesson we had on binary code. I found the whole thing very interesting and enjoyable, and it gave me a lot of respect for the many different parts of mathematics. If given the chance, I’d love to do something like this again.
Hannah M. Roberts.

This year, I and two other pupils went to mathematics sessions at Bangor University. We learnt a lot and the lecturers were very interesting. Some of the things we learnt about were: mathematrix, 3D shapes and imaginary numbers. This experience will help me when I come to do my GCSEs and A Level. I enjoyed myself and I made some new friends.
Gwion Jones

PROJECTS

Rewarding Projects are intertwined in the maths scheme of work for year 7 and 8 by now. These are Angharad Butler’s experiences (Y 7).

We had the opportunity to develop our communication skills, thinking and problem solving, and maths through fun and interesting projects. In the first project we worked as a team to

compare which mobile phone company had the best “deal”. It was great to work with friends and the project was interesting for children of our age because most of us have a mobile phone. In the project there were different characters and we had to consider how often they phoned, sent text messages and used data by going on the internet. The second project was to design a farm which would make profit. We had to calculate the area and perimeter as well at choose animals that would yield the biggest profit. Another project I enjoyed was the ski trip for a family of four. It was a fun project and there were many factors to consider in arranging an affordable holiday for the family. I believe that the projects were a success and that they showed us the importance of mathematics in real life.



MENTER MATHS

The intervention programme to give some year 7 pupils a boost to their maths skills was run by a group of sixth form pupils, under the excellent leadership of Stephanie Jones (Y 13). 20 pupils were part of the project this year, and every pupil thought that their numeracy skills had improved as a result. Very positive feedback was received by the pupils and the vast majority of them believed themselves to be more confident in maths lessons, and that having a ‘buddy’ in the sixth form helped them to settle in the school. We hope now to expand on the project in the future.

‘MATHS CHALLENGE’ COMPETITION, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The pupils who won prizes in the junior competition:

Y 8

Rosy Pearson	Bronze
Howard Wingfield	Bronze
Ifan Jones	Bronze
Thomas Pollard	Bronze
Cari Jones	Bronze

Y 7

Cieran Kelly	Silver
Patrick Lynch	Bronze

The pupils who won prizes in the intermediate age range were:

Y 11

Joshua Bradnam	Silver
Jonathon Coates	Silver
Rachel Gates	Bronze

Y 10

Meirion Layton	Silver
Rory Thorburn	Bronze
Charlotte Wright	Bronze
Owain Jones	Bronze
Harry Thomas	Bronze
Russell Wingfield	Bronze
Hannah Jones	Bronze

Y 9

Loui Harris	Bronze
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Additionally to these successes, many year 8 pupils took part in Bangor University’s maths competition. Congratulations to Cari Jones, Jac Cernyw, Efa Davies, Mali Williams, Howard Wingfield, Cara Gates, Ifan Jones and Rosy Pearson for being awarded certificates for exceptional performance.

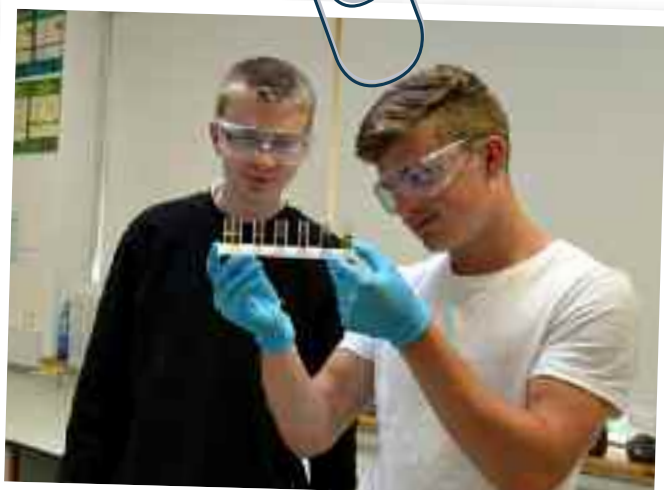


SCIENCE

BIOLOGY KS5

We went to a presentation at Ysgol Eirias which talked about bacteria, ancient/extinct animals and cancer. We learnt a lot and were inspired. The talkers were enthusiastic and spoke about their paths through education, including different careers and different ways of learning. Most aspects helped with our own biology course.

Tolly Taylor (Yr. 12)



TECHNIQUEST

In the spring term, girls, interested in Biology from Years 9, 10 and 11 visited Techniquet Glyndŵr in Wrexham to participate in a DNA analysis workshop. Through the day we extracted samples of DNA from unknown viruses and bacteria in order to discover their identity. The day helped us to understand the subject of DNA Analysis in more depth whilst also being a very enjoyable experience.

Sophia Dallimore (Yr.10)



At the beginning of April a Group of year 9, 10 and 11 girls went for a day to Techniquet Glyndŵr in Wrexham. At the beginning of the day, the university's staff took us to a laboratory and explained the day's timetable. Then, everyone was given lab coats to wear. During the day we were given the opportunity to pretend to be real biologists and discover which disease each sample of DNA they gave us was using electrophoresis gel. It was very interesting and an incredible opportunity. I would recommend that anyone who has the opportunity go, it will be a great help for the GCSE course.

Elain Jones (Yr.9)

SCIENCE KS3

An Australian forensic scientist came to the school and showed us how to solve crimes using science. We got to go around the Hall looking at evidence found on a pretend murder scene. We looked at blood samples, finger and foot prints, DNA, and fibre samples under a microscope. By the end of the workshop, we found out who the culprit was.

CHEMISTRY

We were invited by Bangor University Chemistry Department to attend a tutorial to synthesize aspirin as would be done in a pharmaceutical laboratory. We were told that we produced aspirin in the lab and tested its melting and boiling point. We also tested its purity.

QUIZ

We entered a competition at Bangor University in which we were tested by our abilities to complete some practical experiments. We also viewed some flash bang experiments in a lecture hall at the chemistry department. It was a fun and an enjoyable day.

Wil, Tolly and Aron

HISTORY

Artefacts Presentation, Year 7

At the beginning of every year, Year 7 pupils are given the opportunity to bring a family artefact to the history lesson and to present it to the other pupils. These were some of the many artefacts that were brought in by the Year 7 pupils this year.



Brass Tin

This brass tin was issued to soldiers by Princess Mary in Christmas 1914. It originally contained chocolate and cigarettes and a pencil in a bullet case, also a card from Princess Mary.

This tin belonged to my great grandfather Patrick Duffy who was in the Irish Infantry. These tins were a sign of support for troops overseas at Christmas.

Dylan Evans 7M

Tin Flask

The flask is made of enamel, which is a thin metal, painted in white. This tin was used to carry buttermilk or tea. During the Second World War people used these to take drink to workers who were either gathering hay or working the land. The farm probably had more than one because there were a lot of thirsty workers on the farm who wanted a paned! The lid comes off and can be used as a cup to hold the drink from the flask.

Pwyll Williams 7M

My grandfather clock

This clock was made by Griffith Owen of Llanrwst. The Owen family from Llanrwst is quite famous, it seems. The family was known for being the best at making clocks in the 18th and 19th century. Their most well known clocks were grandfather clocks. The clock has a door on the top and must be opened once a week and wound by placing a key in the clock face.

This clock is made of oak, which is often used to make clocks.

A fact for you: these clocks do not work if they aren't standing straight.

People used to travel across the world to buy Griffith Owen's clocks.

Elli Ford (7 Machno)

Churn

This is a churn from the 1930s. It was used to make butter on our farm until the nineteen sixties. Butter was made from cream that had been separated from milk, and to do this the handle for a long time.

The Equipment

This is some of the equipment used with the churn. The butter had to be moulded into the shape needed. It was possible to make a special mark on the butter with some of the equipment.

Lowri Medi Everiss (7 Machno)



Uncle Medwyn’s Cap

The item that I have brought today is a photograph of an old Canadian air force cap. This cap belonged to my uncle, Medwyn Edwards, who was my great grandfather’s brother. His airplane was shot down and plummeted into the English Channel during the Second World War when he was 24. He and his comrades were never found. My uncle Medwyn was one of nine children: five Brothers and four sisters brought up in Pentre Draw, Pentre Llyn Cymer, Uwchaled. It was a period of poverty and three of the brothers decided to emigrate to Canada to look for work. Medwyn then decided to join the Canadian Royal Air force following the outbreak of the Second World War. This cap was part of the official uniform that he would wear for important occasions and events. His brother, Emlyn Edwards, stayed at home in Pentre Derw to farm and he was my great grandfather.

Gruffudd Edwards (7 Machno)



The Shoe

This shoe was found blocked up in a wall with some cat bones in our house. The legend has it that a shoe in the wall keeps evil spirits away. In the year 1998 my family found the shoe when they were knocking down a wall. They say the shoe was hand stitched and the shoe is over 150 years old. It is supposed to be good luck when you put a shoe in a wall not two just one.

Finlay Watkins (7 Pandy)

Cobbler’s Anvil

The anvil was a tool used by cobblers over a century ago. This one is made of cast iron and it has three legs, one large, one mid-sized and a small one. The cobbler used these to hold a shoe while he made or repaired it. After placing the shoe on the anvil, the cobbler would nail on the sole with a hammer.

Lewis Wyn Jones (7 Pandy)



Bobbin

I have found a bobbin. It belonged to my great grandmother. My grandmother used it to make things out of wool. This bobbin is very old. My grandmother told me that it was very easy to use, but I think it looks very difficult. She could make lovely colourful patterns using this bobbin. I would like to try so I’ll ask my grandmother how to use it, perhaps she’ll remember.

Casey Mamwell (7 Pandy)

Metronome

This metronome was used by the singer, Ifan Jones, from Deiniolen around 1845. Ifan composed many classical pieces and it is likely that he used this metronome to compose. Written on the front are the names: France, Angleterre, Hollande, Paris, Belgioeua, Metronome, Maelzel. It is likely that this was made in Paris. Ifan’s wife’s ring is now on my mother’s finger. The metronome no longer works because the key and the weight are missing, but we still keep it on our piano.

Angharad Butler (7 Garmon)

Belgium

Over last Thursday and the weekend (the 10th to the 13th of July) we went on an educational trip to Belgium. We arrived at Hotel De Verde in Diksmuide at around 6.30 on Thursday evening after visiting a museum in Ypres. We had to start very early the next morning to travel to the Somme area in France. There, we saw the Vimy Ridge (a memorial for Canadian soldiers), a memorial for the Welsh in Mametz, the Somme Trench Museum, Thiepval memorial and the New Foundland memorial park. That evening we visited a chocolate shop called Leonidas.



On Saturday we had a tour guide. We Went to Essex Farm Cemetery, where John McCrae wrote his famous poem: 'In Flanders Fields', 'Artillery Wood', where the poet, Hedd Wyn, lies, Tyne Cot Memorial and a German Cemetery in Langemark. We also went to the Yorkshire trenches and shelters where many Welsh fought, and to the Passchenndale Museum. We then had two hours to go shopping in Brugge. The last place we saw was the Menin Gate, a memorial for soldiers from Britain. We saw a ceremony which has taken place every year since the Great War, apart from during the Second World War. On Sunday we bid farewell to France and Belgium, and we were back in Llanrwst by 7.30 in the evening.

My favourite parts of the trip were the Somme Trench Museum and the museum in Ypres. The Somme Museum made me feel as if I were in the war and the Ypres Museum had many interesting aspects.

The best part of the whole trip was the chocolate shop, 'Leonidas'. There, we could buy the famous Belgian chocolate. It was very tasty and everyone bought loads.

I would like to thank Mrs Jarvis and Miss Brychan for organising the trip, and also Mrs Chaka and Mr Beech for helping to look after us. Without them, we wouldn’t have been able to have this memorable experience.

Gwenan Lewis and Lois Siriol Williams

My Week with Hedd Wyn

My friend Tom Smith and I were given the opportunity to visit Yr Ysgwrn, the poet, Hedd Wyn’s home in Trawsfynydd during activities week.

We were given the background of his life as a shepherd and poet during his early years.

Hedd Wyn died on July 31st 1917 in Belgium during the battle of Passchendaele. Two weeks later he won his first National Eisteddfod chair for poetry. The chair he won was named 'the Black Chair' because it was covered in a black cloth as a sign of death.

Tom and I were fortunate enough to go to Belgium to visit his grave and where he died. It was a once in a lifetime experience to visit his grave in the centenary of World War I.

I am proud to say I have visited Hedd Wyn’s house and his grave and place of death in the same week.

Jaycob Salter 9T



Year 9's History Trip



Hedd Wyn's home and Tryweryn

On the Monday of activities week, our year got the chance to go on a trip to Meirionydd to visit Llyn Tryweryn and Yr Ysgwrn, home of the chaired poet, Hedd Wyn.

When we arrived at the lake we went for a walk along the damn and at the end we had a chat with some of the teachers about the history. Looking at the lake was a strange experience, knowing that little over half a century ago, a village and a strong Welsh community stood there. Now there is only water.

When we got back to the bus we headed to the memorial chapel where we spoke with Eurgain Prysor Jones, who used to live in the village. She told us some of the place's history.

Later, we headed to Trawsfynydd and to Yr Ysgwrn, where we had a very interesting conversation with Hedd Wyn's nephew, Gerald Edwards. He showed us how the poet was raised. We enjoyed chatting and visiting the Black Chair. It was soon time for us to go back to school. This was a very interesting trip and a good start to the week.

Dylan Roberts (9 Pandy)

Report on the History Trip

In history we have been studying Llywelyn the Great and why he built his castles. We visited Dolwyddelan Castle and Beddgelert to learn more.

First we went to Dolwyddelan Castle where Llywelyn was born and raised to be a great prince. After a long walk up a hill there was a castle, and from the bottom it looked like a box. But we got to the top and found out half of the castle had fallen down over the years. To start we went to the broken down part there wasn't much to see so we played in the ruins. We had a speaker who told us some history about the castle, and then we went inside. Finally, when we got inside I didn't expect to see what I saw. I thought there was going to be a dinner table as Miss mentioned we might have lunch in there, but it was very plain inside, dark and only a few windows. We went down to the dungeon which was dark but unfortunately we couldn't see much because it was locked off. After some ball dancing (which was fun) with my friend Hannah, we got to go up to the top tower, the stairs were really steep and it was pitch black. When we got up to the top there was a lot to see, the view was spectacular. We then returned to the bus after an interesting morning. I was glad we got to see the castle.

Our second trip was to Beddgelert. We learned this is where Llywelyn buried his dog Gelert. It was a nice day and the town was busy. On arrival we walked over a small stone bridge to meet the others for lunch. We ate our lunch and then went to the memorial of Gelert which was in the middle of the field and then we saw a ruined building, where there was a statue of a dog, where some people were riding it. It had started to rot. We went to the river and paddled and skimmed stones. This was fun. Luckily we were allowed to buy ice cream, I got a chocolate one, and it was really tasty. We then strolled around some shops and I bought some rock, 7up and a massive Cadbury's chocolate bar. Everyone got on the bus thinking it was going to end but Mr Roberts wanted to go and see the trains. Bad timing though because as we arrived at the station the little train was pulling away. That's when we left and headed back to school.

My favourite trip was the castle, there was more to see and we also learnt a little bit more.

Izzy Adams (7 Cennin)

History Trip

As part of the activities week we went to Tŷ Mawr Wybernant and to Castell Gwydir. In Castell Gwydir, we were guided by Mrs Maureen Hughes who told us the history. Castell Gwydir is a manor that was built in the Tudor era. The Wynn family were the owners then, but the owners now are Peter and Judy.

The manor is split into two parts, one for visitors and the other where Peter and Judy live. Above some Doors are the letters 'IW'. They stand for Ionhannes Wynn. Some people believe that there are ghosts in Castell Gwydir. People say that they have seen people on horseback and people walking along the corridors.

Tŷ Mawr Wybrnant was the home of William Morgan. William Morgan translated the Bible into Welsh. The Bible was translated in 1588. There is a vast collection of Bibles in many different languages in the house. We learnt a lot from Wil, the guide, including that the whole family had to share one bed and that they had to sleep sitting up. There was a blanket over the bed to stop rats from falling on the family while they slept. The babies slept in drawers. The children had to work from morning to night.

Elen Jones (8 Tudur)

Was Emily Davison Trying to Kill Herself?

Was Emily Davison trying to kill herself? Modern historians think not. We all remember that dreadful day when Emily Davison supposedly jumped in front of a horse at the Darby in Epsom. But new evidence has come to light in the form of restored footage and a scarf and these two items may change the way we think of that day forever.

Historians have been working long and hard to restore the footage of Emily Davison and now they have finished they think that Emily wasn't trying to kill herself but trying to put a scarf around the King's horse's neck. More evidence that confirms this is that the scarf that she was supposedly trying to throw around the horse's neck has also been found when being sold to pay for making home fees.

But to some this is a hard story to believe because Emily had a very troublesome past. Things that she did include: setting a post office on fire, hiding inside the House of Commons three times, going on a hunger strike and being arrested several times.

And the reason that this happened in the first place was the suffragettes. They were a woman's freedom group fighting for woman's rights.

As well as the news that Emily was not trying to kill herself is the news that she was trying to get the kings horse and not just any horse. She had it all planned out; where she could see the king's horse in advance, where all the cameras were looking. It was an advertising campaign gone wrong. And after all that planning, what went wrong? She underestimated the speed of the horse and when we asked the old suffragettes leader she said:

"This is a great tragedy that happened to an amazing young woman".

Rhydian Jones 9T



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A MOMENT TO THINK

This year, I was given the task of inspiring you, the school's pupils, and to encourage you to think during the morning tutorial. This was quite a feat, because I know that most of you are still asleep when you come in through those doors! During the year, I hope that you have benefited from the various resources on themes that ranged from Marie Curie to Nelson Mandela, the Holocaust to the World Cup.

Do remember that the door to my classroom is always open and that I am open to new ideas. I would appreciate any feedback, about the things you enjoyed the most as well as those you didn't enjoy so much.

I have already received very positive feedback about 'Dal ati' which encouraged you to continue to try and achieve a goal even if you were facing some difficulties. We watched a video clip of young athlete, Derek Redmond, who had trained all his life for a race before being injured. His father carried him across the finish line helping him achieve him continue despite his difficulties. The video has quite an effect on you. I know how much you like to have a video clip in every presentation!!

Perhaps the resource on honesty is what you enjoyed the most. You enjoyed looking at famous people and their mistakes and learning that it's much better to be honest because it is impossible to hide a lie forever. If we are caught telling small lies time after time, people will soon lose their faith in us. Believe me, that's the truth!! You only need to ask any adult and I'm sure they'll have a story to tell you!

I trust that you have learnt from these sessions and that I shall continue to inspire you in the next academic year. Remember, if you have any ideas for a new resource, come to see me. After all, the purpose is to inspire you, and your opinion matters!

Glesni Ellis Williams

GEOGRAPHY

THE VOLCANO MAKING COMPETITION

I chose to work with Mali to create the volcano. Over February half term, I went to Mali's house to create the volcano. I took some paint and cornflour. When I arrived at Mali's house, we needed to gather all of the ingredients, which were: cornflour, water, glue, salt, paper, newspaper, an empty bottle and cardboard. We cut out the cardboard into strips and a base. We glued the strips around the bottle to create the structure of the volcano. Then we glued strips of old newspaper which we had dunked into the mixture of flour and salt, onto the structure of the volcano. We put a lot of sticky newspaper onto the volcano and so we had to wait a long time for it to dry. When the volcano was dry we started to paint it. We painted a green ground, a blue sky and a brownish-grey volcano.

When the paint was dry we added stones, moss, tents and sand to create effect.

Thankfully, we came first in the competition! Mali and I were over the moon. Elain from 9Tudur came third, and Elgan from our class came second. Pictures were taken and they're all in the front of the class today... thanks sir! To celebrate, sir bought the four of us Easter eggs, thank you!

Mali and I had a lot of fun making the volcanoes and we learnt a lot as well!

Here are the names of year 9's volcano making competition:

1st - Mali Siôn and Elin Cawley 2nd - Elgan Roberts 3rd - Elain Davies



GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO PLAS TAN Y BWLCH

In March, a group from the sixth form was lucky enough to go on a trip with the Geography department, to Plas Tan y Bwlch by Maentwrog. Although we had a lot of fun, we were there to learn, and we studied afon Cwm Bychan, in afon Glaslyn's area, on our first day. On our second day we studied rural villages.



After arriving at Plas Tan y Bwlch, we had a warm welcome and then off we went on the minibus, towards the river. There was a group from Ysgol y Berwyn with us, and three pupils from Ysgol Bro Ddyfi. As we started walking, the Nant Conwy boys' fitness levels showed and we arrived at the top long before the other schools and the incessant sun shining on our backs.

In order to gather the data, we were split into groups and were mixed so that we worked with new people. There were three groups and each group had three spots each to cover. We were given equipment to look after as well as definite instruction on how to use it. Mrs Harris, Eryri National Park's Education Officer, certainly didn't want to see anyone misusing the metre sticks, however amusing we thought it was! We went to collect data by measuring the water pour, the size and shape of the stones from the river bed, the depth of the river and its width, and finally the gradient of each spot. We needed to be careful not to slip. Everything was going well until I fell into the water and got soaked from head to toe. Thankfully it was time to return to Plas Tan y Bwlch by then.

We had delicious food at Plas Tan y Bwlch, but there was a lot of calculating and analysis to do before we could relax in the lounge. The work included graphs of all types, and complicated work so we needed to concentrate. After that, we had a cup of tea and watched a film before hitting the hay.

After a night's sleep, and a hearty breakfast, it was time to head to the villages. We visited Maentwrog, Trawsfynydd and Gellilydan to gather our primary data. Then we looked up Penrhyndeudraeth on the web for our secondary data. In these villages we compared how rural they are and scored them from 0 to 5 on different aspects for example, the amenities available, the environmental state, and the amount of local produce found in the buildings. This took a whole morning and was very interesting. We found that these villages are full of mystery and character. After lunch we had another task to do: analysing, comparing and going over our work. This was interesting because everyone's opinion varied in terms of how rural we saw the villages. Before long, we had finished and it was time to return to Llanrwst.

This trip will certainly help me and the rest of the group in our exams. The group and I definitely enjoyed ourselves, and I would like to thank Mr Carwyn Meurig Williams, Head of the Geography Department for organising the trip, Mr Pierce for taking us there, and Plas Tan y Bwlch for welcoming us and for the excellent accommodation.

Ynyr Wyn. 12D.

DINORWIG, LLANBERIS

On the third of July, we went on a year 8 school trip to Electric Mountain, Dinorwig, Llanberis. The trip was an amazing and very interesting experience, and everyone who came on the trip will remember the trip forever. The views we saw on the way to Llanberis, on a Llew Jones bus, were very beautiful.

As we wandered around the Electric Mountain, we saw a giant turbine which turned very quickly. We went on an Arriva bus inside the mountain and a woman led us around, giving us facts about Dinorwig. The trip was very educational and I'm certain that every pupil and teacher learnt a lot.

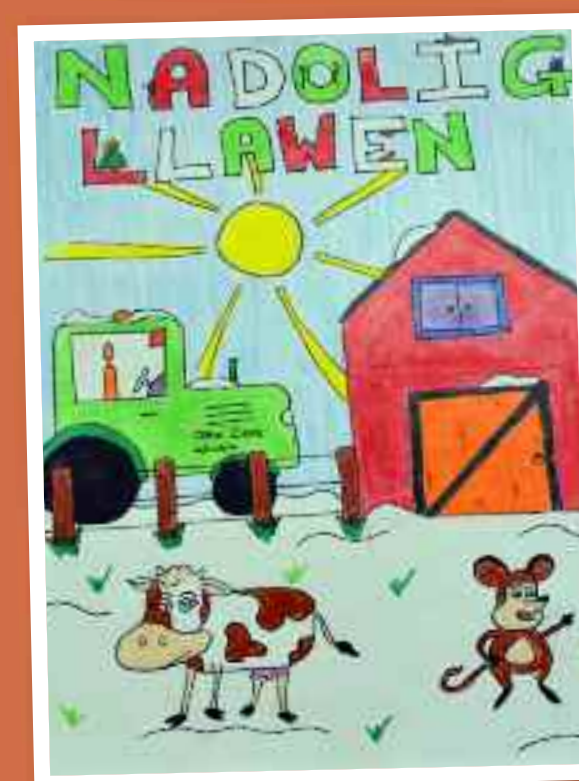
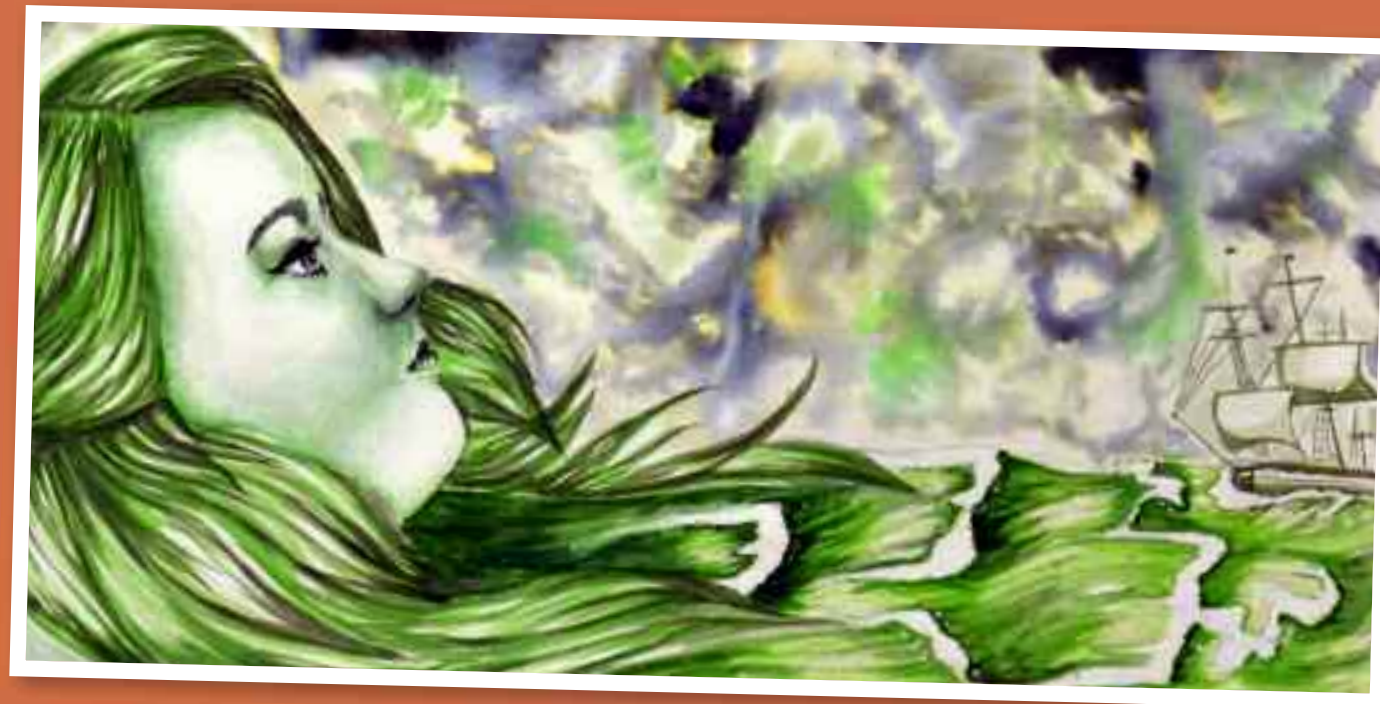
The process starts at Llyn Marchlyn Mawr and the water comes down to be pumped by the turbine to create electric. After this it is moved down to Llyn Peris before being pumped back up to Llyn Marchlyn Mawr using the electricity that it has generated. Electricity produced here is sent to London so that everyone from London can have electricity.

It was a wonderful trip and I'm sure that many of the pupils enjoyed themselves.

Alys Erin Hughes 8C

Art

Here are some examples of the pupils' excellent artwork!







Congratulations to Gwen Thomas and Elin Arfon Year 13 – their Design and Technology A Level Project has been nominated to go forward to the Innovation Competition throughout Wales.



DRAMA

We had another busy year and the pupils had various different opportunities.

Extracurricular Trips

Year 10 to 13 Drama pupils went on various extracurricular trips this year. The pupils went to watch "Tafliaid Carreg" in Ysgol y Moelwyn in November. We also went to Glasdir, Llanrwst to support the drama "Dim Diolch" by Cwmni'r Fran Wen. The pupils wrote reviews of the performances giving their own opinions. "I enjoyed the performance of "Tafliaid Carreg", which was full of energy, and the acting was very good." (Leah Roberts Year 10.) "I really enjoyed the performance Dim Diolch! There wasn't one part of it where I was bored or that I didn't enjoy and would definitely suggest it to others." (Faye Chapman Year 10.)

Public Performances



In February we held a public performance of year thirteen's practical work, and invited the chief examiner, Mr Peter Davies. We had two evenings of performances of a high standard, and it was a pleasure to perform to a welcoming audience. Thank you to everyone for the support.

An after school drama club was established this year. The club now has over 30 keen members and I'm very proud of them and their hard work over the year. Thank you very much.

The Drama Club's Story by Efa Celyn

I noticed a poster advertising the drama club in September and decided to go because it looked like fun and I was interested in performing. The club was held every Thursday from half past three to half past four, and I'm very glad to have joined.

During the first few meetings we played a lot of games to get to know each other. My favourite game was "splatt". But we also worked on our acting skills, creating characters and experimenting with mime and movements.

After half term we were busy preparing a performance for the school's Christmas show. We wanted to put on a fun performance which looked at Christmas from a different angle. Miss Llio Japheth wrote the piece for us, making sure that everyone had a part. We practised movements as a chorus, reciting the parts together. I was one of the shepherds and I had fun trying to find an appropriate costume, which consisted of a dish cloth and a dressing gown.

I was nervous before the performance because I was the first to go on stage. But it went well. The audience was laughing and everyone enjoyed the performance. We had a Christmas party with food and disco music to celebrate.

In January we started working on performances for Eisteddfod yr Urdd. We decided that we wanted to do a dramatic presentation (Cyflwyniad Dramatig) on the theme of "Power". Miss Japheth worked on the script and asked members what their opinions were on the story and script. The script was about the Power of love using the idea of Yoda from Star Wars. We started by learning a song and movements, adding to the scripts as we got on. I got to play the part of Yoda, one of the main characters in the performance. I enjoyed dressing up and painting my face green! My favourite part of the performance was the make-over mime with Gok-wan. We were successful and got through to the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol in Bala.

We were competing early on Thursday morning and everyone was dressed up in colourful clothes and was very excited. When we heard that we'd been chosen to go through on stage, everyone went to the fairground to celebrate, including Miss Japheth! We were all very happy and looked forward to performing on stage.

Backstage I got my own microphone. The stage was very big and we needed to make sure that we filled it. Everyone performed very well and we were all happy at the end. After waiting a long time for the results, they arrived. We got FIRST place. Everyone was shouting in the pavilion. It was a long day but it was worth it!

After the Eisteddfod, the drama club continued to meet. We made and decorated masks for our own unique characters. My mask was like a princess. After making our masks we chose appropriate costumes for the characters from the drama storeroom. I chose a long pink dress. We have been working on creating a "silent movie" using our masks and costumes. We had the opportunity to film and edit and to include background music.

To finish the year we went ten pin bowling to Llandudno and had food to celebrate the busy year and the success in the Eisteddfod. Miss Elliw Baines, Miss Angharad Ellis and Miss Llio Japheth came with us and we had fun drinking slush. I won a game!

It has been a very busy year and I'm happy and proud to be part of the drama club. I hope to be able to join again next year. It was been an excellent year and I've had many opportunities and much fun!

THE URDD



This year, for the first time the school competed in the Cyflwyniad Dramatig (dramatic presentation) competition at Eisteddfod yr Urdd. Miss Llio Japheth wrote the presentation. 27 pupils from year 7 and 8 took part in the performance and each one gave his/her best to the practices and preparation. The pupils were competing on the Thursday of the Eisteddfod and they gave an excellent performance, giving their all. They got first place; congratulations to all of them..

Another talented group from year 7 also competed in the Urdd with the Ymgom competition (sketch). They also came first in the county round and so went on to represent Conwy in Bala. They performed very well and received good feedback but unfortunately didn't get through on stage.

The department would like to thank every pupil that contributed this year and gave his/her time to represent the school. We're very proud of you.



MUSIC

This has been a very busy year for the Music Department. The year started on a high note with news of Côr Ieuenctid Dyffryn Conwy's success in Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Dinbych in August. This is a choir which comprises older pupils of the school and the younger teachers. The choir, led by Miss Angharad Ellis and with Anwen Mair on the piano, came third in a tough competition. This success initiated more performances from the Côr Cymysg Hŷn (the school's mixed senior choir). In fact, owing to this success, the choir has contributed extensively to the school and the area throughout the year. We are lucky to have such enthusiastic and dedicated pupils.

During the autumn term, the department's main extracurricular activity was preparation for the carol service which took place in Capel Seion, Llanrwst. As well as a performance by the Côr Hŷn (senior choir), there were a variety of performances by the Côr Iau (younger choir), Y Parti Bechgyn Iau (younger boys' group), y Parti Merched Iau (younger girls' group), the harp ensemble, and many soloists and duets. One of the evening's highlights was the performance of "Anfonaf Angel" with the Côr Iau starting and the Côr Hŷn joining unexpectedly to create a thrilling effect. We were asked to perform in many concerts over the Christmas including in Capel Tabernacl, Llanrwst, "Wedi'r Wyl" Concert in Pentrefoelas, and "Nadolig Llanrwst" on the Square.

After Christmas we started practising for Eisteddfod yr Urdd. We decided to compete in six competitions, and again the pupils' dedication to the task of learning quite tricky songs was excellent. The Côr Iau's items as well as the ones for the younger girls' and boys' groups were a challenge. But they learnt "Coch Bach y Bala", "Oen Duw" and "Croesi'r Paith" very well. The song for the Côr Hŷn was an adaptation of "Field of Gold" (Cae o ŷd). The piece for the Parti Merched Hŷn (senior girls' group) was an arrangement of the wonderful song, "Law yn Llaw", by Fiona Bennett. We had a lot of fun with the boys learning the old favourite, "Hen Feic Peniffardding fy Nhaid", and they made up movements to go with the words. In the end we decided not to include most of them!

After all of the preparation, it was time to compete. Every choir and group performed to a good standard in the Eisteddfod Cylch as well as in the Eisteddfod Sir, where the Côr Iau and Parti Merched Iau, Y Côr Hŷn and the Parti Merched and Parti Bechgyn Hŷn got first place. We went ahead to Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd in Bala where, unfortunately we didn't have much luck. But that's the Eisteddfod for you!



In March, the school was in charge of the Annual Concert in Capel Melin-y-Coed. This was an excellent opportunity, not only to practise the group pieces for the Urdd, but also for the individuals, duets and ensembles who were competing. It was an opportunity to perform to an audience before the Eisteddfod Sir. This concert was much larger than usual! It was an honour for us to perform to such an enthusiastic audience, in a chapel that had excellent acoustics. This was another memorable concert.

Our final concert this year was Eisteddfod Llanrwst Cymanfa Ganu (hymn singing festival) in Capel Horeb. Many items were performed by some of our older pupils, including some who had just left us and who came back to help, Fair play to them!

As well as all of these extracurricular activities, day to day life in the department has continued as usual. This includes preparing for external exams, practical work with Key Stage 3, and working with the peripatetic teachers, who contribute so much to the success of the students in their instrument playing and singing.

A special event this year was the internationally famous pianist, Iwan Llewelyn Jones', visit to the school. He held a one day course for our Sixth form as well as Ysgol y Creuddyn's Sixth Form on the Concerto for Piano by Ravel. This was an exceptional performance and a very beneficial one for the pupils. As a result, they had a much greater understanding of this complex set piece.

A new element introduced this year was the emphasis on literacy which is placed now in subjects such as Music. The department has responded positively to this challenge, and has seen written work of a very high standard produced by our pupils.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the pupils, and the parents very much for supporting the Music Department SO MUCH. Without your support it would have been impossible.

Activities Week



YEAR 7 PUPILS YEAR FORUM INTRODUCTION



Year seven has flown by and I must say that we've enjoyed ourselves. We've had many great opportunities during the year. Everyone was somewhat worried about coming up from primary school, but we had no problems settling in. This was mainly because we'd had a day to visit in October and another full day in June, so we knew our way around the school.

We had two days of activities in September, which was an excellent way of getting to know new friends as well as our form tutor and other pupils in our form. Everyone, including the teachers, was very kind and it was very easy to make new friends.

At the beginning of the year we went on a trip to Glan Llyn for two nights, and took part in activities run through the medium of Welsh. We had a lot of fun, and because it happened quite early in the year, it was another opportunity to make friends and mix with pupils from other form. We did activities such as canoeing, climbing, ropes course, swimming, rafting and much more.

At the end of the year, we had the opportunity to make DVDs for the year 6 who will come up next year, so that they have a taste of what to expect. In the DVD we showed the school uniform and the sports uniform, we gave our opinion on the school; we showed pictures of all of the classes and much more. We had a lot of fun doing this!

It has been a successful year and I'm looking forward to going to year 8 in September.

Angharad Butler.

A TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA WITH 'ONLY KIDS ALOUD'



Back in April, Elenid, Efa and I had the opportunity to go on a trip to South Africa with Only Kids Aloud. I must admit that this was one of the most valuable experiences I've ever had. We set off on the 29th of April. We all met in Llandudno where a bus came to meet us and take us to Heathrow, London. After arriving here, we started on our journey, which took 16 hours, to South Africa, stopping in Dubai on the way. It was a long and exhausting journey.

Having arrived in South Africa, we went to the hotel. There was a funny parrot in the reception area waiting for us! Everyone loved it! We were staying in Capetown, in the Capetonian hotel.

After relaxing a little and getting over the journey, we got to see our rooms and who was sharing with whom. Then we had supper in the hotel and the lovely surprise of meeting Bryn Terfel! After finishing our food, we went straight back to our rooms and slept for the night. The next day we got up early and had breakfast in the hotel. We then walked to the Artscape, where we had our first practice with our new conductor, orchestra, opera choir and Bryn Terfel.

After lunch we went to see African wild penguins on the Beach in Boulders. On the way we saw a beautiful View of Capetown and Table Mountain. In Boulders, there were poor children begging by dancing and playing African drums. They were dressed in bright colours and had painted their faces to draw attention. After a busy day we all had chips because we weren't keen on African food.

On Friday we had a break from practising and we went on a memorable trip to Robben Island to see Nelson Mandela's prison cell!!! We went on the boat on the sea and we saw seals and dolphins on the way. Then we got to the island and had a trip around it. We then went to the prison where Nelson Mandela was held, and we saw the exact cell. We also saw the other prisoners and heard their stories.

On arriving back in Capetown, we relaxed outside in the fine weather before going to prepare for the first concert and release the first song, written especially for Only Kids Aloud by Paul Mealor. We sang nine songs in various different languages at the concert. We heard opera singers from Capetown singing solo, and they were excellent.

On the last day of our trip we packed because we were leaving early the next day. We went to practise in the Artscape. We didn't do much other than practise that day. When we came to sing again in the second concert, everyone was sad to be leaving Capetown. Everyone sang very well but some members were very tearful. We then got to sing our favourite song, which is 'When I grow up' from the musical, Matilda, to the parents who were there, and the other artists in the 'VIP Lounge'. We had food there and had our photos taken with soloists and other choirs from a choir in Capetown. We also met the main actor from the film Merlin.



On the final morning we got up very early in the morning to go to the Airport. We went to a shop in the Airport, 'Out of Africa' to buy souvenirs and presents for our friends and families.

On the journey home some of the children were ill, and people believed that the airline had given us food poisoning. Then we arrived home safely and were very glad to see our families again! It was a memorable trip! Efa Celyn (year 8), Elenid Alun (year 8) and Modlen Alun (year 7)



Many year 7 pupils were competing this year in the Eisteddfod in Bala. I and the other pupils have enjoyed the experience very much and we are already looking forward to next year!

We got through to Bala on many competitions - parti bechgyn (boys’ group) 7-9, parti merched (girls’ group) 7-9, côr (choir) 7-9, ymgom (sketch) 7-9 and the cyflwyniad dramatig (dramatic presentation) 7-9. We came first in the cyflwyniad dramatig! It was great to be on the stage, a great honour and a memorable experience.

At the end of term, we had the pleasure of going ten pin bowling gin Llandudno as a reward for our hard work and contribution to the Urdd. We had a lot of fun and to end the evening, we went to McDonalds for supper as a ‘treat’.

Gruffudd Edwards 7M

SKILLS WEEK

Skills week was a great week and it gave us many experiences. We had the opportunity to work with pupils from other form groups. the first activity was a trip to Beddgelert and to Castell Dolwyddelan.

First we went to Beddgelert. Visiting such a placid and tranquil place was a memorable experience. As we walked towards the grave, I felt a cold shiver run down my back. On the grave was the story of Gelert, which was written in detail. The teacher out read the story. We then had ice cream in a shop in the village and ate it in the woods.

Then we went to castell Dolwyddelan, which was on a high hill. Castell Dolwyddelan is one of the rare castles that hadn’t been done up. There was a lot of information about Llywelyn Fawr, and I found this very interesting. The castle was very high up, and there was a chance for us to walk to the top - some didn’t dare.

Also, during skills week, we had a Film Club. After watching a film, we had to write a review of it. This gave us a chance to learn properly how to write a film review in a very interesting way. We watched the films ‘Frozen’ and ‘Hunger Games.’ Everyone enjoyed!

Elliw Ford and Alex Winestein 7M

ACTIVITIES WEEK

Activities week was one of the highlights of our first year in Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy! Not one day was boring! The week was an excellent opportunity to improve our team work skills with other pupils.

Many different activities were held throughout the week, from creating puppets to raft building in Glan Llyn. Every pupil took part in every activity during the week.



Day 1: 5x60 activities and creating puppets

For the first half of the day we got to create puppets with Gruff Wyatt. Then during the afternoon we had the opportunity to go out into the sun to learn and develop our hockey, rugby and tennis skills. This was a successful and varied day, and the weather was wonderful!

Day 2: Core Group

On our second day, a group of people came to see us to talk about the fire service, road safety, women’s aid, the red cross, the food standards agency, the police service and rivers in seasons. Each session lasted 25 minutes. In the afternoon we got to perform a show with the puppets that we made on Monday. This developed our team working skills and built our confidence.

Day 3: Sponsored Walk

On Wednesday we went on the sponsored walk, which was 7 miles long. It was very tiring, but a lot of fun. We walked in groups up to Coedwig Gwydir. Once we got to the forest we had food and drinks before starting back down. The weather was wonderful and the sun was shining!

Day 4: Eisteddfod Llangollen

Visiting Eisteddfod Llangollen was an excellent and exciting experience! The sun was shining and we got to appreciate different traditions and cultures, and eat delicious ice cream!

Day 5: Glan Llyn

On our last day we were lucky enough to have the opportunity to visit Glan Llyn. We thought that this was the best part of the week. We built a raft, canoed and climbed. We also jumped into the lake! The trip was excellent and a lot of fun! We look forward to next year’s activities! Heledd, Gwen, Siwan

Mabolgampau!

The sports day was excellent! The sun shone and it was great to see everyone so eager to compete. There was a variety of competitions and there was something for everyone. 100m, 200m, 300m, 800m races, long jump, shot put and the javelin. One pupil, Tomos Land 7T beat the record for the 800 metre race.

Dominique Jones was the only girl from Y7 to take part in the 800m this year, and she came 4th.

Lowri Everiss and Tom Cawley won shields for the best female and male athletes in year 7, and these were their successes:

Lowri Everiss: 1st 100m, 1st 200m, 1st 300m, 1st long jump, 2nd javelin.

Tom Cawley: 2nd 100m, 1st 200m, 1st 300m, 3rd 800m, 1st long jump, 2nd javelin.

These were year 7’s results on that day:

COMPETITION	BOYS	GIRLS
100m Race	1st - Llŷr Cawley 2nd - Tom Cawley 3rd - Cieran Kelly	1st - Lowri Everiss 2nd - Dominique Jones 3rd - Heledd Hughes
200m Race	1st - Tom Cawley 2nd - Tomos Land 3rd - Dylan Jones	1st - Lowri Everiss 2nd - Dominique Jones 3rd -
300m Race	1st - Tom Cawley 2nd - Tomos Land 3rd - Gruffydd Edwards	1st - Lowri Everiss 2nd - Dominique Jones 3rd - Modlen Alun
Long Jump	1st - Tom Cawley 2nd - Llŷr Cawley 3rd - Dylan Jones	1st - Lowri Everiss 2nd - Alaw Thomas 3rd - Catherine Fenner
Javelin	1st - Dylan Jones 2nd - Tom Cawley 3rd - Sam Jones	1st - Catherine Fenner 2nd - Lowri Everiss 3rd - Alaw Thomas
Shot Put	1st - Dylan Jones 2nd - Sam Jones 3rd - Llŷr Cawley	1st -Catherine Fenner 2nd - Elliw Jones 3rd - Heledd Hughes
High Jump	1st - Tomos Land 2nd - Cieran Kelly a Dylan Jones	1st – Heledd Hughes 2nd - Catherine Fenner 3rd - Gwen Arfon

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART!



COMPETITIONS

This year has been great. We’ve enjoyed ourselves very much in the Art lessons. Everyone in year seven has had the opportunity to enter various competitions and we’ve been really successful during the year. One of the competitions was Bangor University’s Art Competition. Gwen Arfon and I won the first and second prize for making a natural pattern. We won tickets to go to Green Wood Forest Park and a trip for my class to go to Bangor University to do art all day with Bedwyr Williams! This was an excellent experience and we enjoyed ourselves very much. Our work was shown in an exhibition for everyone to see in Bangor. This was a very proud moment.

We also competed in the Urdd. Modlen Alun came 2nd through Wales with her 3D work that we did in school.

Also well done to Amber Lloyd. She came 3rd in the ‘Llanrwst Christmas Card’ competition. She won £10 and got to turn on the Llanrwst Christmas tree lights. Alun Owen came 2nd in the competition and he got £20.

Many have won a prize this year for designing a Christmas card for the Royal Welsh. Out of nine prizes, our year 7 pupils won two prizes, and year 8 and 9 won three. We look forward to the photography competition results for next year’s Royal Welsh Show, as well as the results for the mascot designing competition for the Blue Sky charity.

A successful year in the world of art!
Charlotte Griffiths 7P

SCHOOL COUNCIL

This year the School Council had improved the school by strengthening language and literacy skills such as mutation and punctuation. Our language skills have improved over the year because we have been contributing to the school’s literacy plan. These are just some of our achievements this year and things we have contributed towards:

- A NEW BALL BOX
- EVERYONE’S VOICE WAS HEARD
- REPORTING BACK TO THE YEAR FORUM
- THE SIXTH FORM PAINTED THE BLOCK SO THAT IT LOOKS SMARTER



Things that we are proud of:
This year many visitors came to the school to see our achievements and how we learn. They asked questions to the School Council and gave us a glowing report. Everyone, including the School Council is over the moon!

Clwb Rygbi
Nant Conwy

Many year seven boys are keen members of Clwb Rygbi Nant Conwy. We had an excellent season with Nant Conwy under 12s! In the Eryri League we lost two games against Pwllheli, we drew two and won every other match. We had a tournament in Colwyn Bay at the end of the season, and we won against Mold in the final round, one try to zero. We have the best front row in Eryri league. We have a strong and a fast team!

Llŷr Cawley 7P

Year 8 Success Stories:

Year 8 was an interesting and busy year for many pupils. We saw a variety of different achievements academically and within the subjects, as well as in extracurricular fields. The beginning of the year was very different to the previous as the pupils started in September excellent experiences from Year 7 behind them, and confidence in starting a fresh year at Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy. The pupils had many different experiences, including competing in the Police’s Core Programme Quiz, starring on Stwnsh Sadwrn, and gaining new responsibilities representing their year on the Year Forum and on the School Council.

Here are some contributions from year 8’s busy pupils this year:
I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone all the best on the rest of their journey through school, and especially during their time in Year 9.

Mrs Ffion Jones, Head of Year 8



THE POLICE’S CORE
PROGRAMME QUIZ

Congratulations to year 8’s team for coming second in the police’s quiz in Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy. The team members: Ffion Cash 8 Machno, Niamh Mainstone 8 Garmon, Heledd Roberts 8 Garmon, Abbie Wilding 8 Pandy and Alys Hughes 8 Garmon received a certificate and a cinema ticket each as well as chocolate to share! The prizes were presented to them by PC Meirion Williams and Mr John Roberts.

Heledd Roberts and Alys Hughes report on their experiences.
“The experience of being part of the quiz team for the police’s core programme quiz was very interesting. We learnt many things that we didn’t know before. First, we got six books from Mrs Ffion Jones to read and to review, and we were lucky enough to have the help of P.C. Meirion Williams to explain the rules in more detail. Everyone had to revise every evening until the quiz, and the most difficult thing was to remember the answers!

Before the quiz we were all nervous because the other teams seemed experienced. But as the questions went ahead, we realised that we had a chance of winning even though it was quite challenging. After doing our part, we had to wait for the results. We were very proud to represent Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy and coming second through Conwy. It was an excellent experience and we have all learnt many things that will be useful to us in the future.”

YEAR FORUM AND THE
SCHOOL COUNCIL



Ifan Prys Jones 8 Pandy
I had the Chair’s role in the Year Forum. I was also elected to represent year 8 on the School Council. So I am the messenger who transmits what’s discussed on the Year Forum to the School Council, as well as the other way around. I have enjoyed the experience and am more than ready to continue to do my part in Year 9.

Harrett Williams 8 Cennin
This year I have represented my class 8 Cennin on the Year Forum. We have discussed a variety of issues, including what pupils would like in school and what we think could improve the school. My job is to discuss the ideas with the rest of 8 Cennin and take those ideas to be discussed at the Year Forum meetings.

Harry Hughes 8 Cennin
We have discussed different ideas this year in the Year Forum, many of the issues have been how to improve lunch time activities and as a result the school now provide footballs and rugby balls for pupils as well as other social activities such as the film club. I think we have discussed some good ideas and have passed those on to the School Council.

8 PANDY’S EXPERIENCES



Here are some pupils from 8 Pandy reporting on their experiences in Year 8.

“I feel that Year 8 has flown past and I have enjoyed very much. Here are my highlights.
I was part of the Cyflwyniad Dramatig (dramatic presentation) and competed in Eisteddfod yr Urdd Y Bala and of course performed on stage with the group and won the first prize! I’ve also very special experiences in the school enjoying myself and socialising with friends.”
Elenid Alun

“In year 8, one of my highlights was to go to two football matches: Everton v Arsenal and Manchester Utd v Everton. As well as this, my friends and I took part in 5 x 60 activities.
At the beginning of the year I got the opportunity to go to see the bike race, Tour de Britain. Towards the end of the year my friend, Sam, and I will go to Belgium and France.
Year 8 teams were very successful this year, the girls’ football team played very well, as did the boys’ rugby team. We mustn’t forget our success at Eisteddfod yr Urdd, the Cyflwyniad Dramatig (dramatic presentation) coming first.”
Meilyr Williams

“Year 8 has been a good year! I have enjoyed many things such as: competing in the Welsh Tournament with the girls’ football team, reaching the final 8s and playing a very close final match!
I enjoyed the skiing trip to Austria, which was excellent! I got to meet new people and have incredible experiences. I have had fun in Year 8 and I look forward again to the sports day.”
Caitlin Thomas

“Time has completely flown past since I started Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy in the New Year. I have made many new friends and have been very happy. I experienced going to Alton Towers during the Easter holidays which was very fun! I’m really looking forward to the activity week, which I’ve heard is exiting.
So far, Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy has been amazing and I’m definitely looking forward to Year 9.”
Ella Murphy

“To tell you the truth, the year has flown by and I’m sure everyone will agree with me that the year has been a very busy one with many achievements for everyone.
The Inspection showed how good Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy is, especially year 8. Everyone worked very hard and that is how we got such good feedback.
We had many different opportunities this year, and there was a variety of clubs to everyone’s taste!”

STWNSH SADWRN

A group from year 8 had a special and unique chance in June, which was to appear on S4C’s Stwnsh Sadwrn. Every pupil had the chance to take part, but the lucky ones were Efa Celyn Davies, Amy Francis, Cail Jones, Trystan Jones and Tyler Griffiths and they went all the way to Cardiff to film the programme on a Saturday morning. Of course Iwan Owen, Aeron Jones, Sally Murray, Mali Cotcher and Ffion Cash had key roles as well because they were filmed in school, to prepare items and the ‘Ffrindiau Ffab’ (Fab Friends) quiz to play live with the pupils in the studio. Here’s the story of this incredible experience!



“Well, the journey was a long one, down to the south. We were in the car for four hours! When we arrived at the hotel, we went straight for food and I was starving after the long journey. Of course we needed to go to bed early because we had to get up at the break of dawn to go to the Stwnsh Sadwrn studio. I enjoyed the experience of being on the programme, we had a lot of fun and laughed a lot. There were competitions, jokes, Jack Russell’s antics, and of course the gunging!”

Trystan Jones
“I was chosen to be on the TV program Stwnsh Sadwrn and it was an amazing experience to meet all the crew. I had the opportunity to take part in a various number of activities; some of my favourites were Jac yn y Bocs and Ffrindiau Ffab. I would love to have the opportunity to do something like that again.”
Amy Francis

“My friends and I were chosen to film for Stwnsh Sadwrn in the school with Kate and Arwel. We spend all day filming! We went out to show our individual talents and we enjoyed very much. After lunch, we were filming in the classroom and talking about the ones who were going to the studio in Cardiff. We prepared a quiz for them, “Ffrindiau Ffab”, and we decided who would be gunged live on TV! Poor Tyler!

I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to film and work with S4C, I would love to have this opportunity again in the future.”
Ffion Cash

“The visitors to the school were Kate, and Arwel with his camera. During the morning we were outside filming what we enjoyed doing in various locations, even by the river! Then we went inside and talked a bit about the five who were travelling down to the studio in Cardiff, and we pulled funny faces in front of the camera. Of course, we were the ones choosing who would get gunged, and that person was Tyler! Eugh!”

YEAR 9 TAKE PART IN SOME INTERESTING ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE SCHOOL!

Here are a few examples.

My name is Loui, I play goalkeeper for Llandudno Junction under 14s seniors and for Conwy County under 14s. This season I have had a very good year for Llandudno Junction winning the league, the League Cup and coming 2nd in the North Wales Coast Cup. This year the county haven’t played many games but next year there is thought to be a lot more so I am looking forward to that. This year I have really enjoyed my football and our successes and hope to play it in the years to come.
Loui Harris 9 Pandy

FOOTBALL

My name is Sam Roberts I’m in Year 9 and I like to play football. I have played football since I was 5 years old. Now I am 14. When I was 8 I was scouted for Wrexham and play for them all the way until before Christmas this year. I now play for Connahs Quay F.C. With half of the season with Connah’s Quay I took part in the Welsh Finals this year. My biggest achievement with football was with Conwy County when I was 9 years old. We went down to South Wales and won, so we were crowned the best County in Wales. I enjoy playing football because is fun to play and to keep fit.
Sam Roberts

FALCONRY

My interest in falconry began after visiting Bodafon Farm with my mam and her friend Rob. I always enjoyed seeing the birds flying and the bond between a bird and the trainer. I have had my barn owl, willow, for over a year now. I have hand reared him from the age of 5 weeks. Hand rearing means me feeding him rather than the mother. As he got older I had to get him used to different equipment such as a glove, jesses, an.. and swivel. I have trained him to fly to me for pieces of beef. I have to weigh him daily before flying him so that he is at the right weight. It is a hobby I thoroughly enjoy.

Molly Jones 9C

NANT CONWY RUGBY CLUB

Nant Conwy Rugby Club is based in the Conwy Valley in North Wales. Many of the Junior Section players go to Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy and the other primary schools around Conwy. Junior Section starts at the age of seven to sixteen. There are ten groups of ages, under 7’s, 8’s, 9’s, 10’s, 11’s, 12’s, 13’s, 14’s, 15’s and under 16’s. After, you move on to Youths then forward to Seconds and if you’re good and tough enough you might get chosen to play for the first team!

I have been a member of Nant Rugby Club for 7 years and I am at present playing for the Under 14’s. We have around 22 players in our full squad. We train every Friday night in Nant at 6.30 – 7.45 and we play all our games on Sunday mornings.

We play different teams from around North Wales, such as Wrexham, Pwllheli, Colwyn Bay, Ruthin, Mold, Llandudno and much more. The most challenging teams for the under 14’s at the moment are Pwllheli, Ruthin and Wrexham mainly because they are much bigger than us! We normally play these teams twice a season (one home and one away) which is from September to May.

The Eryri Cup is held each year for the age groups of under 12’, 14’s and 16’s. This season we went to the semi-final and lost to Colwyn Bay because of a poor referee, and in the final at Nant, Colwyn Bay got smashed by Pwllheli by over 40 points! We have won the Eryri Cup once in 2012 when we were under 12’s, we beat Pwllheli 7-0 in the final! It was a close game!

Normally we go on tour every season to England or Cardiff. On the tours we enter tournaments, where we usually do very well. We have fun in the evenings, playing games which involve everyone in the squad. Last year we went on a bus down to Cardiff. To go on tour we have to raise money by bag packing in ASDA or Tesco where we normally raise up to £600.

Over the years we have won many tournaments such as the Anglo Welsh in Wrexham and the Welly Evans in Llandudno. We have also entered a 7’s tournament when you just play seven a side. Unfortunately we lost in the final against Pwllheli but it was a good game. Some of the under 14’s squad have been playing together for 7 years now and over the years more people have joined and strengthened the team.

Nant Conwy is one of the most picturesque clubs in North Wales. The club has a shop, bar, kitchen and changing rooms. Feel free to join at any time and the club will make sure you will have a warm welcome and a good time.

Elgan Roberts

TRAVELLING

Ever since I was 10 I have been going on the ferry from Dover to Dunkirk (France) and exploring Europe in my camper van. Travelling and seeing other cultures has been a passion ever since. All the countries I have been to whilst travelling Europe in my camper van are France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Holland, Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland. I would highly recommend travelling to anyone. On my travels I have seen many great things like the Eagles Nest (Hitler’s holiday home), Dachau the First Concentration Camp, a D-day landings grave and much more.

Nye Meaker

GOLF

I started playing golf at the age of eleven. I enjoy playing golf because it’s fun and I enjoy having a challenge when I do competitions.

I have played in many competitions and, I have won some to. Recently I won best nett under 18s in the Welsh Northern Girls Championship in Conwy Golf Club and I’ve won the Welsh Northern Counties Championship for Girls in our team which is Caernarvonshire and Anglesey County. I won the individuals best nett which was in Bull Bay.

I play at Conwy Golf Club which I’m a member of. I like playing at Conwy Golf Club because, it’s a beautiful course and the food in the Bistro above is amazing from Chloe Adams dad.

Shauna Lyons 9T

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Mountain biking is either a sport you love or hate. You can come across all different types of terrain, including un-even rugged surfaces and sudden drop-offs. You can start off as a beginner but can advance to a professional if you put the time and effort into the sport. Mountain biking is different for everyone. For me? I love it. I love the way it keeps me fit and healthy, raising my tolerance levels as well as building muscle. I love the way it’s always different, and not a routine you can expect. All of these things are great and amazing. However, my absolute favourite part of mountain biking is the adrenaline rush that comes with flying through the trees. There is no better feeling than the satisfaction that comes with mountain biking and, because of this, I will never stop loving the sport that is amazing, adventurous and advantageous.

Bethany Richards

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is made up from four different sections, physical, skill, volunteering and expedition. Two expeditions are to be completed, the first being the training with an instructor and the second which is the final, where you are assessed.

Two sections out of the three remaining must be taken part in for 3 months and the other one for 6 months. We chose to do our physical for 6 months.

We have completed our training and final expedition, passing successfully. Our training expedition was recorded one of the worst, weather-wise, as there was torrential rain with lightening – the weather was so bad, in fact, the second day’s route was cancelled.

From one extreme to the other, our final expedition’s weather was scorching hot. Sun cream was essential. Duke of Edinburgh Award is a great way to get outside, improve your skills, give something back to the community, make new friends and have fun!

Anna Carpena and Amelia Maddox

SKIING

I started skiing with Clwb Sgïo Gogledd Cymru in primary school. The teacher offered the opportunity for children from year 3 to year 6 to take part in skiing lessons in Plas y Brenin, Capel Curig. Many children went on Monday evenings during the winter, and the best were chosen to represent their schools in races each year. I was

fortunate to be chosen and out little school in Betws y Coed, with less than 30 children, competed against large private schools which had teams who practise in France! In the races, everyone is timed going down the slope and through the poles, this is called ‘slalom’. I compete as an individual. I was third in north Wales. I also compete as part of a team of four, and everyone’s time is put together and the fastest wins. Our team came third in the team competition. Having enjoyed the lessons through school so much, I started going on Saturdays and Tuesdays. This year the lessons were cancelled because the slope was unsafe, but they’ve started again. And I’ll soon be starting again. I’m looking forward to skiing again.

Morgan James Kirkham

CRICKET

Hello, my name is Aron Hughes. I am fourteen years old and I play cricket for Llanrwst, Eryri and north Wales. Last year with Llanrwst, we won the under 13s league. I play for the second team and we’re in first place. I’ve played cricket since I was five. I enjoy playing and hope to continue for years.

Aron Hughes

WATERPOLO

On Friday evenings, the Water polo Club is held in Llanrwst swimming pool. For those of you who haven’t heard of water polo, it’s a bit like handball, but obviously in the water, and the goals are similar to football goals. Water polo could be quite dangerous, but there are rules. You cannot hurt other team members or take the ball under water, you must only throw with one Hand, and you must pay attention to what’s going on in the game! The club is very popular and we have two teams. We enjoy playing in tournaments against other teams. We have a lot of fun and are successful!

Elin Cawley

SNOWBOARDING

I’ve been snowboarding for a year. It’s a great way to meet new people. Snowboarding gives you great balance and strength, but it takes some practice to get right! I don’t compete because there’s nowhere to compete in north Wales. I go to Manchester to snowboard some times, but usually I go to Llandudno. I got a board for Christmas, and I go to Manchester with my friends.

Estyn Visit, March 2014:

On the 10th of March 2014 Estyn visited Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy. Their full report can be found on the school website or from Estyn's website. As a school we are very proud of the report, particularly the way that it recognises the contribution of our pupils to the wellbeing, ethos and success of the school. Here are some of the things we are especially proud of from the report:

"Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy is a good school"

"Effective co-operation with the 16 partner primary school ensures that pupils settle quickly at the beginning of Year 7."

"An extraordinarily inclusive ethos exists within the school, and pupils receive very strong support in class, or through the specific unit, to ensure that they achieve their full potential."

"All pupils are polite and behave very well."

"A prominent feature at the school is the variety of activities to support individual pupils to improve their literacy and numeracy skills successfully."

"all pupils feel safe at school and incidents of bullying are very rare."

"the school provides a curriculum and extra-curricular activities that introduce very interesting experiences for pupils and promote pupils' bilingualism successfully."

"A clear feature of excellence is the way in which the school values the backgrounds and abilities of different pupils and promotes high expectations within a caring community."

"The quality of provision and support for pupils with special educational needs is one of the school's strengths."

"the quality of teaching is consistently high."

"All staff share the vision of a school, which aims to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential."

"Another excellent feature is the new building and landscape of the school, which are extremely attractive... In addition, the site's landscape has been designed skilfully to present very attractive areas for pupils to relax during their break times."

Key Stage 4 and 5: The Baccalaureate 2013-2014

In December, a group of Year 10 students went to Liverpool to visit Anfield stadium, the Maritime Museum and to do some shopping before Christmas. The pupils enjoyed the trip, and the opportunity to visit the city.



Here is an article by Sophia and Ellie from Year 11 who went on the trip:

Last November, year 10 pupils had the opportunity to go to Liverpool for the day. After starting in the early hours we arrived at Anfield Football Club. We were given a guided tour of the stadium where we pretended to take part in a media conference following a match. We were photographed next to the kit of our favourite players in the changing rooms and we walked out onto the pitch, just like our heroes! It was amazing! Outside the stadium we held a minute of silence in order to show respect to those that died in the Hillsborough tragedy. We could see the huge amount of flowers left in remembrance of loved ones; everyone was touched by the experience.

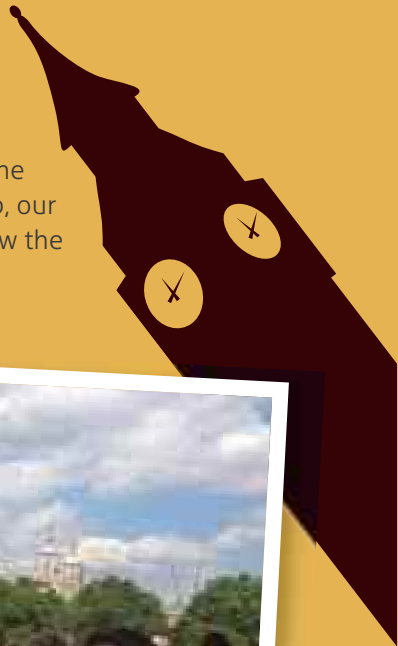
The next place on our list was the Maritime Museum in the Albert Docks. There we watched many short sketches telling the history of the people who experienced the Titanic tragedy. Our guide was full of grief as he told the story of the tragedy and we were given many fascinating facts about the Titanic. Afterwards we had time to go around the rest of the museum, including a spectacular exhibition about how the authorities succeeded in stopping cases of smuggling.

Finally, we had the opportunity to spend some time shopping in Liverpool One. We were amazed with the amounts of shops and went to the bus with empty pockets! We are sure that Mr Beech had had enough of the shopping by then – but we have an excellent time!

Sophia and Ellie, 11M

London trip, Summer 2014

During the Summer term, a group of Year 10 students visited London. They walked through the House of Commons and the House of Lords and also had an opportunity to talk to Guto Bebb, our Member of Parliament. They also visited the Tower of London and the Millennium Eye and saw the show, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. Everyone had a great time.



Here is a piece written by Talia from Year 12 who came with us:

Each one of us had a big experience during our recent visit to France and Belgium. The timing was perfect as it coincided with the 100 anniversary of the beginning of the First World War. We were fortunate enough to visit the graves and memorials for the soldiers killed in the war such as Essex Farm where were heard that one of the youngest soldiers killed in the battle was no older than fourteen years old. We also went to Ypres, a place that is famous because of the battle of Passchendaele in 1917; the Thiepval memorial which is sacred to the Lost Soldiers of the Somme; and the grave of the famous poet, Hedd Wyn. One memory that is seared in my mind is the experience of visiting the biggest graveyard in the world for the Commonwealth armed services, Tyne Cot cemetery. It was very impressive and awe-inspiring place in my opinion, a fitting memorial to the soldiers who were lost or killed. We also went to visit the memorial for the British and Canadian soldiers and we were in Langemark, the cemetery for the German soldiers. This was very interesting as it was completely different from the other memorials. Between everything I would say that on my behalf and that of the other pupils that we had an excellent experience and the trip will be of great advantage to me and my friend and fellow pupil, Chloe when we move on to write our English Literature coursework next year.

Talia Assunta Williams 13B

Trip to Ypres and France, Summer 2014

A group of Year 9, 10 % 12 students visited Ypres in Belgium and to the Somme in France during July 2014. This was a very special journey as it is the centenary of the beginning of the First World War. We visited many war cemeteries as well as Vimy Ridge, Thiepval and the Passchendaele museum and the Somme. We were also given the opportunity to visit Mametz Wood where many Welsh soldiers were killed; we also saw the grave of Hedd Wyn, and after reading a poem, we placed it by his grave. We also went to the 'Last Post' service by the Menin Gate. We spent an afternoon in Bruges and spent some free time in Ypres buying chocolate! Everyone enjoyed this trip and at the same time had the opportunity to learn more about this catastrophic war. Here are some of the photos from the trip:



Collecting money for charity

The school is always trying to raise money for charity. During the year we have collected money for many charities, such as: Jeans for Genes, Children in Need, Cancer Research, Operation Christmas Child, Meningitis and Macmillan. Here are Year 10 pupils taking part in a Macmillan coffee morning last year :



Presenting a cheque to Macmillan in March.

During the year, many guest speakers visited the school to talk to Years 10, 11 and 12 on various subjects. PC Meirion Williams came to talk about the dangers of drug abuse, and there were visits from Gemma Levey from Barnados, the society for the homeless, Ann Jones from the Welsh Government, Barclays Bank, Patchwork Pate and local businesses and entrepreneurs, Angharad Harris from Snowdonia National Park, Lis Perkins from the Free Trade movement and Menter Iaith. Representatives from the Universities of Wales and St David’s Hospice have been to visit Year 12, as well as the ‘Youth Justice’ movement and Viva.

YEAR 11 Success Stories:

LEARNING PERFORMANCE

The year started off with year 11 concentrating on learning new skills to help them revise for their GCSE exams. They were highly entertained by three lively members of team who taught them some interesting revision ideas and strategies to help them memorise and revise using sound and visual recognition. The learning outcome will hopefully speak for itself when GCSE results are revealed!

END OF YEAR PROM AND RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

For the first time, both the Prom Night and Record of Achievement were held on the same night which seemed to be a ‘logistical nightmare’ I quote Ms Delyth Gray! However, the Record of Achievement which was held in Glasdir was a huge success (if a little hot). The guest speaker was Mr. Dylan Jones and was well received by everyone – over 300 in total. There was also the advantage of not having a stage as the girls could avoid the worry of walking up and down the stairs in 6ins heels!



I would like to thank all the Year 11 tutors for their hard work and help over the last year and everyone else who helped make Prom Night 2014 a memorable one.

T.McDonnell, Year 11 Progress Manager



Year 11 pupils then moved the celebrations on to the school hall where refreshments, a photographer and music awaited them. The highlight of the evening for me and others I’m sure, was watching Mr. John Roberts leading a train of pupils through the hall to the ‘Conga’ Priceless. The photographer Alwyn Hughes also commented on how many pupils wanted group photos – more than he had experienced in any prom before which proved how close knit this Year 11 were. A good night was had by all where pupils were happy to chat with the staff as well as their peers throughout the evening. Prom Night seems to get better each year with pupils looking extremely dapper!



SKIING TRIP

We arrived at school on Friday February 21st. Everyone was enthusiastic and excited about going on the skiing trip! The bus journey to Dover was very long but most of us slept. The boat was fast and we reached Dunkirk by midnight. In the morning we stopped in Germany to have breakfast, and it was interesting to see the variety of German food. By five o'clock we'd arrived at the hotel in Austria and everyone had been put in different groups. We went into town to organize our ski boots and equipment for the morning, but because of the tiring 30 hour trip everyone went to sleep straight after supper.

We got up early and went to breakfast by half past seven. The food was good, and there was plenty of variety. We all made sandwiches for our lunch and carried them with us until lunchtime. The journey to the ski location took five minutes and we were put in our groups and taken up immediately to start skiing. The weather was lovely and the atmosphere was wonderful. By lunchtime everyone had improved their skiing skills! In the afternoon, most groups had succeeded in completing many of the ski routes and some groups were going through the trees at speed! After skiing, everyone went back to the hotel for a shower and to relax by socialising and listening to everyone else's stories about their day. Supper was at six o'clock and we were all ready to go bowling after that. After 1 minute on the bus we were at the bowling alley and everyone had fun, competing against each other.

On the second day, it was another early start and the day followed the same pattern as on Monday, everyone working on improving their skiing skills and instructors gradually introducing different and more difficult trails. On the second evening we went shopping in Kidsbul to get presents for friends at home. On Tuesday night everyone went to see a ski show which included lots of different tricks. It was excellent and we all had a great time.

On the fourth day of skiing we went to a different resort where you could ski from Germany to Austria. This resort was more expensive and higher up, with special and interesting trails. That evening we all went to a disco and another school joined us. We made lots of new friends and had a lot of fun. On the last day no-one wanted to leave. Everyone took part in a slalom race and at the end of the day we were all given a certificate and medal to take home as souvenirs. By six o'clock everyone had had supper and was desperate to stay. The journey back felt shorter because we were all tired and travelling overnight. The whole week was unforgettable and everyone had had a great time and made lots of friends.

Branwen Morus and Miriam Hughes



THE SIXTH FORM

TRIP TO GLAN LLYN PCAI

We were very lucky as sixth form pupils to have a chance to organise a trip to Glan Llyn. It was a great opportunity to get to know year 7 pupils and to help them make feel more confident speaking Welsh. Firstly we had to book a date with Glan Llyn. We decided to go on December the 11th until December the 13th. We then organised a meeting with the year 7 pupils to let them know what sort of activities they have to offer. Many of the pupils showed an interest in the trip so we distributed letters and asked the pupils to return them as soon as possible. Once all of the pupils had returned the health and safety letter and paid for the trip, it was time to start sorting out how many rooms we would need and which teachers would like to come too. Miss Ellis, Mr Meredydd and Ms Hughes said they would like to come and we arranged that 6 sixth form pupils would accompany them. The 6 were Heledd Jones, Ynyr Jones, Lois Evans, Osian Roberts, Elin Jones and Lois Roberts.

After all the hard work organising the trip, everyone was looking forward to it. When the day of the trip finally came, everyone came to school carrying large bags and plenty of warm clothes! Everyone gathered in the hall and went to find their seats on the bus. During the three days there were variety of different activities such as a ropeworks course, canoeing, a walk, building rafts and swimming in the indoor swimming pool. We decided to watch the film Elf on the Wednesday night and held a fun eisteddfod, which was very popular amongst the children, on the Thursday night! Some were gunged and some won prizes. Everyone had a lot of fun, even the teachers who were judging the competitions. We had a whale of a time in Glan Llyn, thank you very much to all at Glan Llyn, the teachers and the pupils for being so well behaved.

HACIO'N HOLI



In July, the school received an exciting phone call from S4C. Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy were chosen as one of eight schools in Wales to be part of S4C's scheme to find out how interesting the young people of Wales found S4C. Following a number of planning meetings, we decided to invite two Welsh stars to the school to take part in a Chat Show with all of the year 12 and 13 pupils.

During November, the famous referee Nigel Owens and the actress Tara Bethan arrived at the school along with Hacio's presenter Catrin Jones. Some very interesting sessions were held during the day and the guests openly discussed their careers and personal lives. There was a feeling of excitement in the hall and the young people of Dyffryn Conwy voiced their opinions on different topics in a clear and mature way. Some weeks later, the school received another phone call inviting a group of pupils to take part in the television programme Hacio'n Holi. Eight pupils took advantage of the opportunity to go on an overnight trip to Swansea. Once again, the school was praised for the pupils' mature contributions on the show that was broadcasted on S4C a week later. For the last part of the scheme, the pupils were invited to represent the school in discussions in Hywel's Chamber in Cardiff. Here is a report by Hanna Dobson.

In November, six pupils from Year 13 went to Cardiff to take part in the last stage of the touring show; Hacio'n Holi Ysgolion. We debated over three current topics that were relevant to us, the young people of Wales, in Tŷ Hywel, the old Parliament which is now used for the benefit of young people. Tŷ Hywel is the only discussion chamber especially for young people in Europe. Its purpose is to ensure that the Welsh Government hears our voice, the Welsh of the future.



Following a long journey down to Cardiff, we arrived at the Ibis hotel and met up with pupils from seven other schools that had travelled from all corners of Wales. That night, we had supper in the Novotel next door where Nigel Owens and Tara Bethan were waiting for us with Catrin Haf, Hacio's presenter and our chairman for our debates the following day. Nigel Owens and Tara Bethan held a quiz for us after our supper to test our general knowledge. Personally I thought the questions were a bit harder than normal general knowledge questions but I won't complain too much as we came second in the end! (There's no doubt about it that it was the film and television questions that got us through! Obviously the young people of Dyffryn Conwy watch too much television!) We had a brilliant night in the company of Nigel Owens and Tara Bethan and meeting pupils from other schools.

The morning after, we had to get up fairly early to go for breakfast at 7.56am (I don't know why it was that particular time, eight o'clock would have made more sense but there we go – we weren't in charge!). After breakfast, we went on the bus to Tŷ Hywel to make a start on the debates. The first topic of discussion was Social Media, the second was the Welsh language and the third was our opinion on the Assembly – do the Parliament actually take interest in what the young people of Wales have to say? There were heated debates amongst the pupils and we took part in three interesting debates that were full of emotion under Catrin's leadership. The Welsh of the future had the opportunity to debate, discuss and contend as well as enjoy a tasty lunch in Tŷ Hywel.

During the afternoon, we went to the Parliament itself to see the Parliamentary Members at their work. It was a brilliant experience to see how the World is being run. It was done in a quite steady, quiet and impassive manner compared to the heated debates in Westminster.

It was a brilliant experience; a chance for us, the young people of Wales to voice our opinions on topics that are very important to us. Thank you very much S4C for offering us the opportunity to do this.



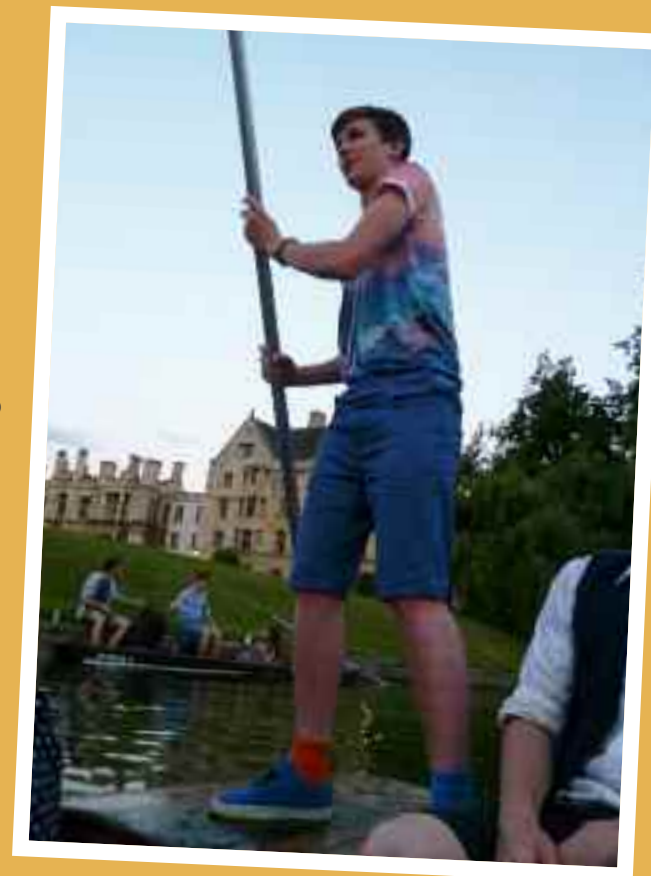
I couldn't possibly put into words how inspiring visiting Cambridge University was, not only for myself but for the other six students who attended. We were in absolute awe of the college buildings and surrounding city, and the atmosphere of dedication and intense focus each college provided. On arrival we split up into two groups of arts and sciences. The arts group looked into subjects including English, Languages, Law and Archaeology and the Sciences group enjoyed attending Engineering presentations and looking at more Science based courses. This gave us the ability to look around the colleges such as Kings, Clare's, Trinity, Queen's, Magdalene and St John just to name a few out of the 31 colleges, and be able to focus on our own specific fields of interest. We were also able to have a tour of the Cambridge University library which is host to over 8 million books! As our connections from Dyffryn Conwy are with Magdalene college (pronounced Maud lin) we were provided with accommodation at the college and had the fantastic opportunity to go punting along the river Cam. We had a guided tour via boat of some of the most spectacular views available in Cambridge and I can assure you that steering the boat was not as easy as our guide or Tolly made it look! After discussing with the rest of the group we couldn't be more thankful to Mrs Kelly Morgan for organising and giving us such a wondrous opportunity to be inspired and motivated! We also wish to advise prospective sixth form students who wish to aim high; please go to the university, be amazed and focused to work hard and see what you can achieve and be capable of! Most, if not all of us who visited are so willing to focus and buckle down for our last year in Dyffryn Conwy to achieve the high grades which are required and in the next year proudly be able to say we are students of Cambridge University! Once again I cannot thank Mrs Kelly Morgan and Mrs Janet Pierce enough, and also a big thank you to Magdalene college for being an excellent host college.

Natasha Bell

YEAR 13'S PROGRESS FILE CEREMONY

On May the 23rd, it was time for the school to say a formal goodbye to the Year 13 pupils in a Progress File Ceremony. Mr. Sion Jones gave a very interesting presentation about his time at Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy and his extremely successful career following then. It was a very emotional day for the pupils and teachers and we as a school would like to wish the very best to all of them. Here is part of Mrs Kelly Morgan's speech to the pupils;

"It was a privilege and pleasure leading you through your time in the sixth form class. Estyn came to inspect the school this year and the sixth form's contribution is very apparent in the report. Yes, Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy is a special school – but it's a special school for one very obvious reason. You, the young people of Dyffryn Conwy are the heart of the school and your vitality is its heartbeat. You will be starting a new chapter in your life in September. Make the very most of every opportunity that comes your way and we wish every success to all of you in the future."



SCHOLARSHIPS

We would like to congratulate a number of pupils for winning different scholarships to Universities. Well done you!

LEADERSHIP TEAMS

Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy's first Leadership Teams were established this year. 10 leaders were elected who would be responsible for different areas in the school. Every sixth form pupil joined with a team of their choice.

During the first meeting, priorities for each team were appointed and during the year, the teams addressed the priorities. We'd like to thank the leaders and teams very much because all the pupils have benefitted as a result of their work. Here are the Leadership Team's leaders: Isabella Adams, Elin Evans, Elliw Davies, Steffan Horan, Lana Jones, Siriol Elis, Kyra Hamilton, Poppy Backshall, Elin Arfon, Roxy Richardson, Morgan Evans, Emily Watson and Stephanie Jones.

RADIO CYMRU

In December, Radio Cymru visited the school to hold workshops with the sixth form pupils. They had the chance to have a go at creating radio programmes and experience interviewing different people around the school. It was a brilliant day and an eye opener for the pupils on different possible careers within the world of media.

IS THIS THE WAY TO DYFFRYN CONWY

In February, Owain Llyr came to the school to create a short film with the sixth form pupils as part of Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint's project, Ffilmiau'r Ffin. The crew worked hard and persevered to compose new words to correspond to the 'Is this the way to Amarillo? Tune. The song new title was 'Is this the way to Dyffryn Conwy?' They filmed scenes in Llanrwst town as well as in the school. A number of pupils (as well as brave members of staff!) played a part in the film and they set to work to edit it. We didn't know at the time that this short film would cause so much excitement. In just short of twelve hours over a thousand and a half had viewed the video on the internet. Close to four thousand people have viewed it by now. The sixth form were given a formal presentation by the pupils. We would like to congratulate them for being part of the scheme and receiving an OCN qualification for taking part.

Y BONT 2014

