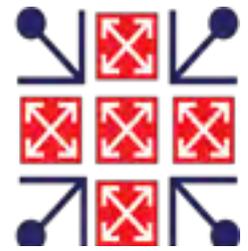


# Llantwit Major School

## Ysgol Llanilltud Fawr



**School News**  
**February 2022**

# Contents

1. Greetings
2. Geography
3. Eco Club
4. A School With A View
5. Sixth Form Enrichment
6. Performing Arts and Media
7. School Council
8. Cymraeg
9. ICT Interviews
10. Sixth Form News
11. Back to Nature Garden
12. History
13. MoD News
14. Year 7 Celebrations
15. Art and Design
16. PE
17. Aspire
18. Enterprise
19. Hay Winter Festival
20. Mathematics
21. Français
22. A Challenge to a Better Life
23. School Dates for the Spring and Summer.
24. Who can I talk with?
25. School Reports

## Greetings

Dear Reader,

I am sitting in school with the sunlight shining through the window at the end of a busy day. There have been so many wonderful and talented students with whom I have talked today that it is difficult to decide where I can begin the story of Llantwit Major School. I ended the formal school day by talking with a Year 11 student who has taken four mock examinations this week but who still had time to discuss philosophy with me. I had started the day discussing the school rugby team with a Year 10 student. Everywhere that we turn we find students who are learning and growing. I leave you with the following pages where our students and staff tell their own school stories.

Mr Burden.

# Geography Department News: KS4 & 5



Having jumped in the river in September – the time had come to sit the NEA examination! Mrs Trotman was very proud of the mature approach all pupils demonstrated before Christmas whilst preparing for, and completing the paper. They can all be proud of their efforts and know they have secured a good 20% in preparation for the summer! The countdown has begun.

Year 12 and 13 have also been working hard in lessons in preparation for their examinations. With the write up of their Individual Investigation in full swing (guided by Mr Rees and his GIS looms!) Year 13 have been taking time out to 'have fun' by testing each other on their AO1 knowledge for their energy topic. Could you use the ball to locate the largest consumer of oil before the timer is up? (see bottom right picture).



# Geography Department News: KS3



Year 8 had an eventful half term creating and exhibiting their volcanoes to show their understanding of large scale tectonic processes and resultant land-forms.



We had some very creative and 'explosive' designs – with some very tasty cakes too! Ardderchog!



Inspired by COP26, we took a trip to town to gather data on the issue of litter. Having examined the global issue, we were interested to see the extent to which the damage can be seen locally.



Pupils wrote this up as a formal report or made a 3 minute documentary to display their findings in preparation for their entry into the Young Reporters for the Environment competition. Mrs Trotman was blown away by the quality of entries and is hopeful we can continue our winning streak! Superb work by all!

Next in Geography...

Year 7 – Orienteering – who will be quickest to find their way around the course?

Year 8 – David Attenborough's Jungle.

Year 9 – Our local landscape – a trip to the beach and Boverton.

# Eco Club News

Eco Club are thrilled to announce that they have been successful in their Platinum Eco School's renewal this year. It is a prestigious award that is very difficult for secondary schools in particular to obtain, highlighting the dedication and commitment required to secure it again this year. Julie Giles, Eco Schools Co-Ordinator said *"I am delighted to confirm that you have retained your platinum Eco-Schools status and wish you every success with your projects for the coming year. Maintaining the Eco-Schools Platinum status is a fantastic achievement. The school, staff and pupils, should feel proud of their hard work and commitment."*



*It was a pleasure reading your case study highlighting the Back 2 Nature project, what a great achievement and asset it will prove to be! I will be sharing that as an inspirational case study with other schools. Well done also on the other activities you managed to undertake this year including your litter picking activities, waste minimisation actions and involvement and success in YRE. I'm also really pleased you managed to attend the MOCKCOP and hear that your pupils were so engaged. Keep up all the great work!"*

We are extremely proud of all the hard work pupils, staff and volunteers put in to make this award happen. Thanks everyone! If you would like to get involved, see Mrs Trotman .

Next in Eco-Club...

Growing a range of fruit and vegetables.

More litter picks.

Planting more wild flowers.

# A School With A View



For my personal project in photography, I chose the theme of joy. While it's not common for people to enjoy school, I love it. Here is a wide shot of L block. I like this photo because it captures the majority of the new build, and I think it looks quite nice.

I chose to photograph blue floor corridor because this place reminds me of my old school that got demolished. Something about it gives off a real homely feel. This corridor also holds my favourite classes - English, French and my form class. Something about here makes me feel very happy.



Here is a shot of the whole school, more or less, and the netball court. This photo brings me joy because it has all of my favourite classes in one photo: the English department, the drama department, and the DT department.

Here is a picture of School Street. The editing process took a while, but I love the result. This photo encapsulates the architecture of the old building really well I think. I like it a lot.



I edited this photo to look more like it was night when I took it. This is solely the new building, and I'm pretty happy with how the end result came out. This building brings me immense joy whenever I see it. It's the first thing I see everyday when I come into school.

Designed by: Lyla McGuinness.



# Sixth Form Enrichment



Before Christmas, 80 Sixth Form students were treated to a trip to London to de-stress after a productive and hardworking term! Whilst we were unfortunate not to watch Hamilton, the opportunity to grab some last minute Christmas presents was well worth the trip up the M4! A fun and eventful trip was had by all .



Year 12 Seren students sampled student life at Jesus College Oxford University in November. They were treated to a whistle-stop tour of the city and a delicious lunch before participating in mini lectures and seminars on how to *'think like an Oxford student!'* Could you discuss the question *'To what extent is a freshly cut flower more alive than you?'*



Next in Sixth Form...

Year 12 vs Year 13 El Classico.  
Pizza and darts event.



## Drama

Last term students in drama enjoyed a range of topics. Year 7 students explored mime theatre and Year 9 students created performances exploring Musical Theatre, Artaud and Brecht. Year 10 explored the theme of Jealousy through Greek text Medea, Blood Brothers by Willy Russell and also a play called 'Face' about consequences and bullying. This term students from Years 7 to 10 will be involved in the creation of the theatre which explores Welsh history. Through this process, they will develop their skills as performers but also, just as importantly, their skills in leadership, teamwork, collaboration, communication and respect for others.

Huge congratulations to the Year 11 Drama students who have completed their unit 1 performance and design examination, where groups had to write, create, perform and design a piece of theatre. It was an excellent day for all involved.



**Considering GCSE or A Level Theatre? Check out our social media channels @llantwitperforms for the latest videos of student work. You will find us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter.**



## Music

Students from year 7-10 are focusing on Wales through the exploration of performing, composing and listening to Welsh Music. This involves a range of style from traditional folk music to popular bands like the Stereophonics. Developing skills in musicianship has proven benefits for students' capabilities in languages, maths, memory, concentration, attentiveness and social skills. The music department created an online Christmas concert last term which students from Orchestra, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Guitar club performed in. There were also items from small ensembles at KS3, KS4 and KS5 and solo items. Well done to all students involved in our first online performance.



### Learn a Musical Instrument

Is your child interested in learning an instrument at school? Through a series of providers, we are very pleased that we can offer a range of instrumental tuition for students at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School. If you wish to register your interest for lessons, please contact Miss Toms.





## Media

Year 12 Media students enjoyed a visit from Screen Alliance Wales and Bad Wolf Studios exploring marketing for films. Students in Year 12 will have to create a marketing campaign for their own film for their coursework. Megan Robinson Booth said, "The session was really interesting to consider what decisions impact how much money is put into marketing". We look forward to working more with industry professionals in the future.



Year 13 Media students have been working on their coursework portfolios using a variety of software to design and create



media products. Mia and Fiona explored the construction of gender in different media. Mia looked at the modern magazine focusing on publications by Beaur Media and Fiona wrote and filmed a period drama.





Llantwit Major School Presents

Book and Lyrics by  
HOWARD ASHMAN

Music by  
ALAN MENKEN



LITTLE SHOP  
OF  
HORRORS

5th - 8th July 2022  
Llantwit Major School

Based on the film by Roger Corman, Screenplay by Charles Griffith. Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director) Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City by the WPA Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization  
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

# Student Council



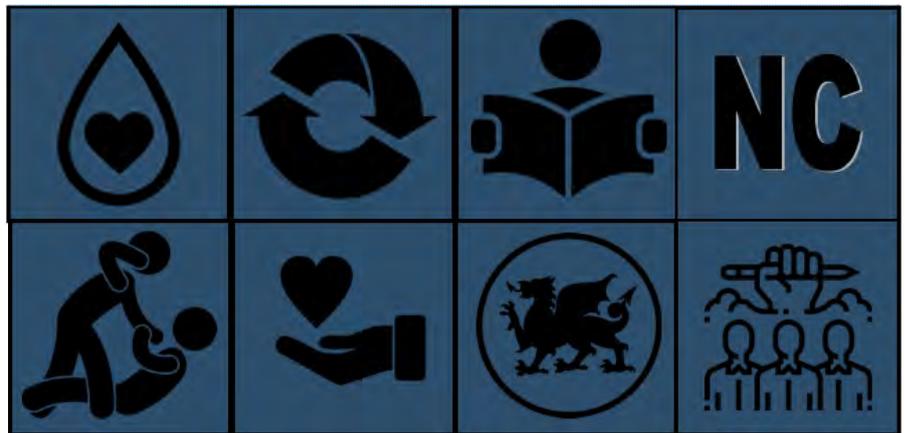
## Student Council Progress Update

As a council we have three main focuses this year:

- Concentrate on the needs of individual learners and provide appropriate support where required.
- Make our school safe for our learners.
- Continue to improve the use of welsh language and welsh culture.

Under these headings we have lots of projects going on which we hope will make our school the best it can be for our students and staff.

- > Project Period
- > Reusable Bottles
- > Mentoring
- > New Curriculum
- > Friendships
- > Fundraising
- > Bilingualism
- > Student Ambassadors



Scan the QR Code to view our student latest progress update.

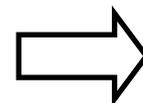


### Spotlight on one of our projects:

Deputy Senior Prefect, Izzy Thomas, is leading a project with the support of the school to combat period poverty in her community and she hopes to get more people talking about menstrual health and inequality. "Our school has lots of supplies of products, so we have been working to educate our students about where the products can be accessed but most importantly in supporting students to feel comfortable about talking about their bodies. I

think it is important that our students feel empowered to talk about their bodies openly"

Scan the QR code to meet the 2021-2022 Student Council



# Cymraeg / Dwyieithrwydd

## Shwmae!

This year the Urdd celebrates its century. Since 1922, the Urdd has provided opportunities for more than 4 million children and young people in Wales to enjoy sporting, cultural, residential, humanitarian and volunteering experiences through the medium of Welsh.



To commemorate the Urdd's 100 years, they set a challenge to break two Guinness World Book Records.

Years 7 and 8 participated in this challenge by learning and performing the Welsh song 'Hei Mistar Urdd'. The Urdd were successful in breaking the two World Records!

Firstly, the largest number of videos of people singing the same song uploaded to Twitter in one hour.

Secondly, the current record was 250 – the Urdd and its members uploaded 1176. Da iawn pawb!



Nesaf yng Nghymraeg...

Dydd Miwsig Cymru.

Year 10 Unit 1 Speaking Exam – 30<sup>th</sup> / 31<sup>st</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

Year 11 Unit 2 Speaking Exam – 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2022.

# Year 12 ICT Interviews



Well done to the current cohort of Year 12 ICT students who all successfully passed their mock job interviews at the start of February! Professional guests were invited to the school from Viridor, South Wales Fire & Rescue, Dow Silicones and Careers Wales to conduct the interviews. All were very impressed by the high standard displayed by the pupils. Pupils were described as "a credit to the School" and "an impressive group who will go far".



The Year 12 students also found the interview process an excellent learning opportunity as they get ever closer to entering the job market. "It was really good, I believe that it will benefit me in the future." said one of the class. Whilst another said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the interview information and advice sessions." They would also have a great day a great success. Da

Next in ICT...

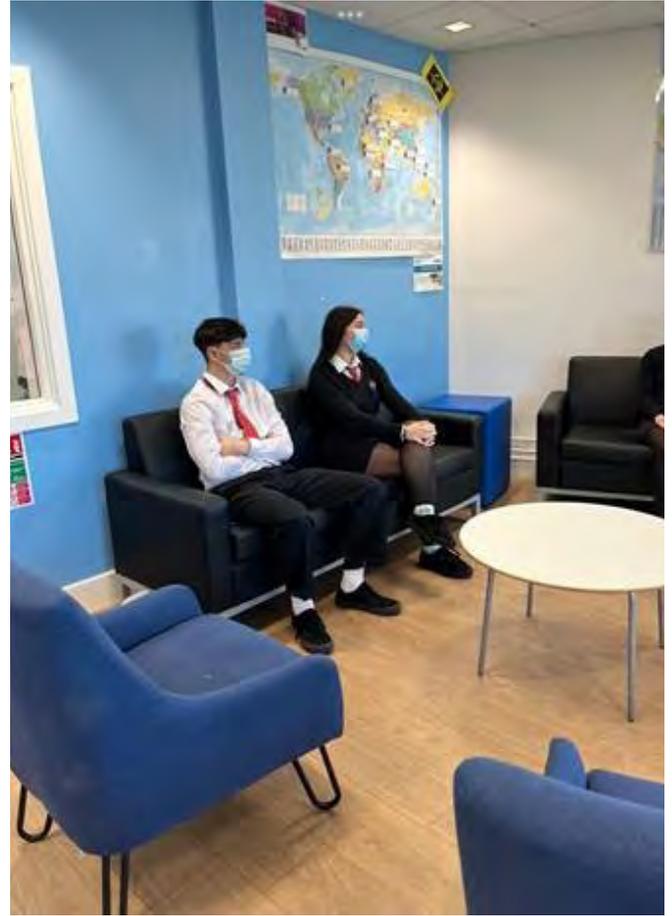
Year 13 will be building a gaming computer.

Year 10 will create video games and animations for the Digital Technology GCSE.

Year 9 are completing the CISCO Global Problem Solvers Challenge.

Years 7 and 8 will be creating a video for their Eisteddfod competition.

# Sixth Form News





### **Responding to student voice**

There have been a number of developments in the sixth form this term. Due to the ever-increasing size of the sixth form and hearing feedback from the students, it was decided that post-16 learners should be given a new silent workspace. Thus, we now have a silent study room (previously the LRC) with a full suite of computers.

### **Sixth form group study rooms refurbishment**

Thanks to the funding from the Big Fresh Company, we have been able to purchase new and improved seating for the two group workrooms. This seating was chosen by the school prefects who considered it *'a long term investment that will benefit the students who wish to study post-16 at Llantwit Major School. Additionally, the new seating improves social relationships and encourages bonding and cooperation between members of the sixth form'*.

The group work rooms, silent study room and access to the canteen throughout the day has meant students are much happier and the productivity of students has increased significantly.

### **Hamilton Trip**

In order to enrich the sixth form experience Mr Rees has introduced termly enrichment activities this year. The first of which in the autumn term was a trip to London to see the stage show Hamilton. Due to the unfortunate, and unforeseen, COVID cancellation of the show whilst on route, students were given the opportunity to put positivity and optimism into practice. After a change of plans that included an afternoon at the 'world renowned' Westfield Shopping Centre, students enjoyed the plethora of activities and shops to explore. One student optimistically pointed out "I was initially disappointed that the show was cancelled, however, I made some fun Christmassy purchases as I enjoyed exploring all London had to offer".

**Lily Starkey**

# Back to Nature Garden



We are now in the preparation stage for planting our vegetables for this year. Our 11 outdoor raised beds, poly-tunnel, planted orchard and wildflowers are going to be in full bloom come the summer thanks to the hard work of our pupils and supporters. We look forward to sharing our progress with the community this summer. All pupils are welcome to attend to help on Thursdays and Fridays during late lunch.

Our thanks go to the funding received from the National Lottery Community Fund, Vale Nature Partnership, our own PTA and Keep Wales Tidy. The outdoor space at Llantwit Major School has seen some excellent developments. We now have an outdoor space where pupils can gain extra skills and experience to take with them into the working world. It is great to see pupils of all ages getting involved in the garden activities.





# History Club is making History!



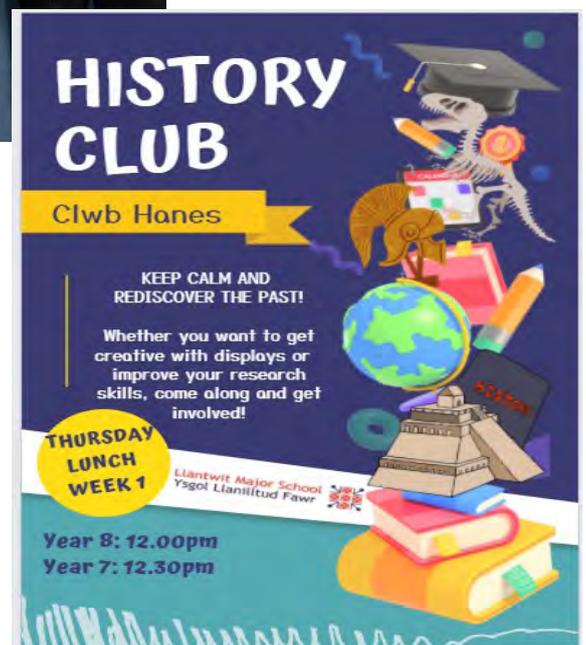
KS3's *Clwb Hanes* has seen a huge turnout, with more than 50 pupils wanting to step back in time.

On Thursday lunchtimes, pupils have the opportunity to explore a time period of their choice as part of a project that will not only develop their research skills, but allow them to become creative and ambitious learners whilst having fun. Pupils have shown a keen interest so far, and we are looking forward to seeing the project progress. Pob lwc!

Don't just take our word for it! A loyal member since the club began said: *"I love the free choice of what you're able to research in History Club. It makes me want to learn more"*.

One pupil expressed his passion: *"I like history. I find it enjoyable learning about the past, especially World War II"*.

Another pupil is particularly keen on *"the idea of presenting what we've learnt so everyone can see our work"*.



Next in *Clwb Hanes*...

Investigate an area of the past that interests **YOU!**

Get together with like-minded people and have **FUN!**

Develop our research and presentation skills to create a classroom display.



## **Remembrance Day 2021**

We kept our Remembrance celebrations close to home this year. Our MOD Ambassadors contributed to our whole school remote assembly. They, along with some of our Year 7 and 8 MOD students, wrote messages of thanks and remembrance on poppy crosses. We then held a short ceremony in our memorial garden on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, where the MOD Ambassadors planted the students' poppy crosses and laid a poppy wreath whilst one of them gave a remembrance reading. An understated yet poignant and personal tribute to our fallen heroes, veterans and those still serving.

## **Llantwit Major School Sharing Good Practice with SSCE**

We were asked by the Vale of Glamorgan to produce a video in conjunction with SSCE (Supporting Service Children in Education) sharing our good practice with regards to support for MOD students in the school. Our MOD Ambassadors represented themselves and the school brilliantly as they were filmed discussing the support and opportunities they have benefitted from during their time in school. This video will be shared on the MOD section of the school website and with other schools in the Vale.



## **MPCT Partnership links in school**

Staff Morgan from MPCT has been completing activity mornings with pupils at our feeder primary schools this half-term. He has been working with selected students in Years 7 and 8 in school and as part of an after-school Leadership Course.

# Year 7 Celebrations



## **Christmas Celebrations**

A successful first term for Year 7 culminated in the Christmas Celebration Assembly. Whilst this was a remote assembly, students were still excited to reap the rewards for a positive first term. 55 students ended the term receiving 0 behaviour points and were rewarded with certificates and a chocolate bar. The highest achievement point scorer in each form received a certificate and chocolate bar. Amazon vouchers went to the top 3 Achievement Points Scorers in the year:

**7 Dysgu** - Michael Stephenson

**7JWC** – Oscar Cook

**7MS** – Dexter Palfreman-Brown  
Form of the Term was **7MS**

**Da iawn pawb!**

## **Year 7 Graduation 2021-22**

Another remote celebration was our Year 7 Graduation. The students had a 6-week period to meet the criteria in order to receive their Graduation Certificate.

**162** students achieved their Graduation certificates, which was fantastic! There were also individual awards for each form group: The **Ambition Awards**, nominated by Subject Teachers and the **Readiness Awards**, nominated by Form Tutors.

3 **Bilingualism Awards** were awarded to students based on their 'Use of Welsh' around the school.

Finally, Elliot Thomas won the

**Transition Award**

**Llongyfarchiadau pawb!**



## **Llantwit Major Youth Council**

Llantwit Major Youth Service staff work with a small group of selected Year 7 and 8 students during an after-school club once a week.

They also work with young people outside of school, as part of the Llantwit Major Youth Council. If your child is interested in being involved in discussions and plans for the town then they can join the council. More details have been shared on the Year 7 Pastoral Google Classroom.

# Art and Design: Key Stage 3



Year 7 Art and Design students spent last term refining their basic skills through a series of creative workshops.

Classes had lots of fun experimenting with a range of different tools and media to practise their mark making skills.

They also developed their drawing skills and use of shade and tone to create observational studies of leaves.



This term Year 7 are moving on to study colour theory with the aim of producing a creative landscape painting, inspired by their chosen Welsh artist.

Year 8 Art and Design students worked hard last term to produce fantastic Pop Art portraits based on their chosen celebrities.



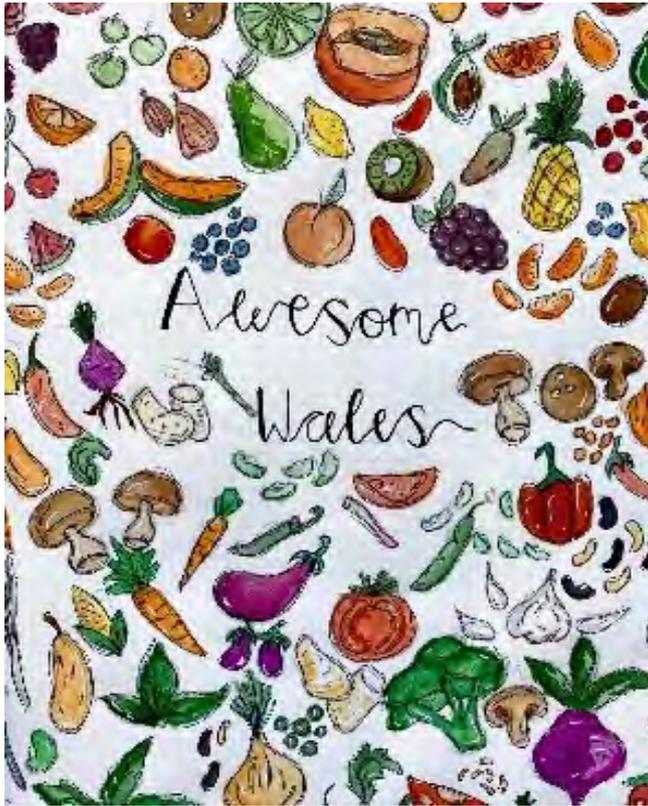
This term they are going to be working independently to create portraits of well-known Welsh celebrities. Students will choose and research their favoured Welsh portrait artist and produce a portrait that is influenced by their style. The creative portraits will then be displayed to celebrate Eisteddfod.



Next in Years 9 and 10

**Year 10 GCSE Art and Photography** students begin their **Personal Projects**.

# Art and Design: GCSE Coursework



Year 10 GCSE Art, Craft and Design and Photography students began working on their Personal Projects in January. The groups were able to choose from a selection of titles/themes and will go on to develop an exciting creative project, based on that theme.

So far students have been focused on completing their initial research into their titles. They have then created an introduction to their projects in the form of a title page, mind map and mood board.

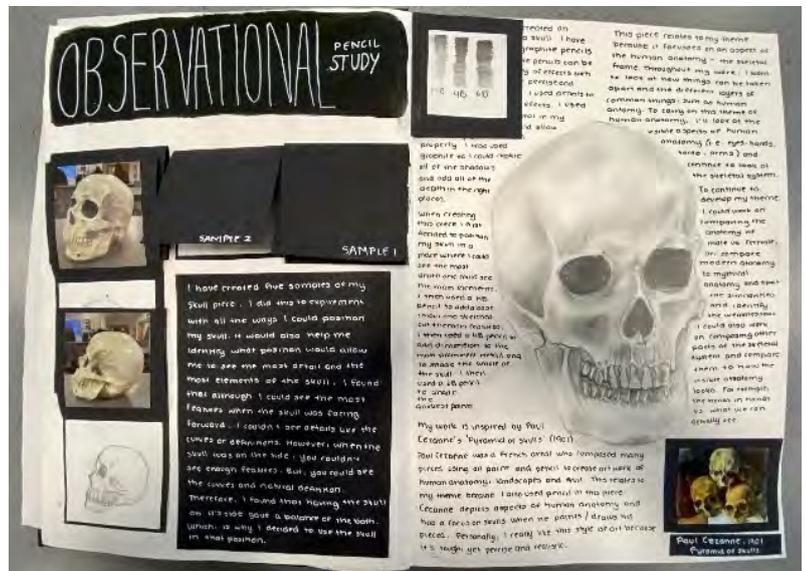
Next, they will move on to develop a series of observational drawings/paintings and photoshoots of 'things' linked to their chosen titles. We are very excited to see students start to independently develop their creative work.

Year 9 GCSE Art, Craft and Design students have been making excellent progress with their coursework portfolio. The group have been focused on developing and refining their basic skills using a range of media.



Most recently the group have been working on a project in collaboration with the sustainable shop, Awesome Wales, based in Cowbridge and Barry. They are working to create promotional imagery for the shops 'Ffresh Veg Box' subscription.

At the end of the project students will create a piece of artwork to be displayed in the shop. We cannot wait to see the work on show!



Next in Years 11, 12 and 13 Art Coursework Deadlines:

Year **11 GCSE Art** and **Photography** students are working to **complete their coursework** by **Friday 25th March**.

Years **12 and 13 AS/A Level Art** students are working **complete their coursework** by **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**.

# Art and Design: GCSE/AS/A Level Coursework



Year 11 GCSE Art, Craft and Design and Photography students are currently working to complete their coursework.

The deadline for all coursework is 3pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Students are making progress with their projects and we are excited to see the final outcomes they create.

The department is open most lunchtimes for Year 11 students to work

on their coursework/ use materials. Art Club also runs every Monday evening until 5pm – students are invited to attend to complete work independently.

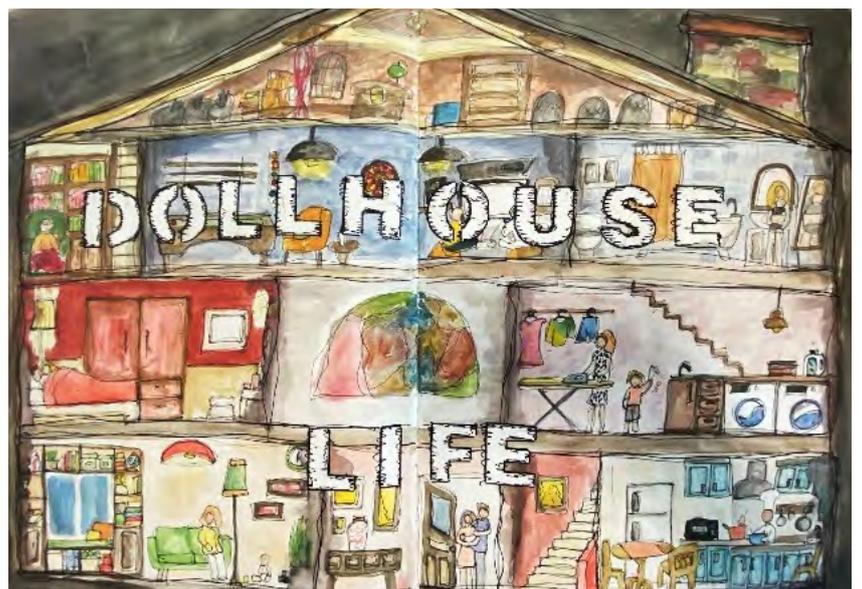


Year 12 and 13 AS/A level Art, Craft and Design students are also working to complete their coursework.

The deadline for all coursework is 3pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

We cannot wait to see the culmination of their hard work and are looking forward to this year's end of year Art Exhibition.

Students are encouraged to make use of their free periods and work in the Art Department when rooms are available – a timetable is displayed on the classroom door. Art Club also runs every Monday and Tuesday evening until 6pm – students are invited to attend when possible.



# Physical Education

## Spring Term Extracurricular Timetable

The new extracurricular timetable for pupils in KS3 and KS4 is out which includes the sports on offer to pupils and the days they are allocated for each year group.

PE EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2021-2022					
WEEK 1/WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1 3-4PM	BOBBY (ALL YEARS) (P/SP) NETBALL (ALL YEARS) (MS/YS)	GYMNASTICS (ALL YEARS) (M)	IRISH FOOTBALL (ALL YEARS) (Y)	YEAR TWO BALL GAMES (Y2M) (S) (S) BOYS FOOTBALL (ALL YEARS) (S) (S)	LUNCHTIME – SEETH FIRM BASKETBALL (S) SWIM CLUB (S) (S)
WEEK 2 3-4PM	BOBBY (ALL YEARS) (P/SP) NETBALL (ALL YEARS) (MS/YS)	GYMNASTICS (ALL YEARS) (M)	IRISH FOOTBALL (ALL YEARS) (Y)	YEAR TWO BALL GAMES (Y2M) (S) (S) BOYS FOOTBALL (ALL YEARS) (S) (S)	LUNCHTIME – SEETH FIRM BASKETBALL (S) SWIM CLUB (S) (S)

## Christmas Homework Project Winners – How Sport has impacted Your Life

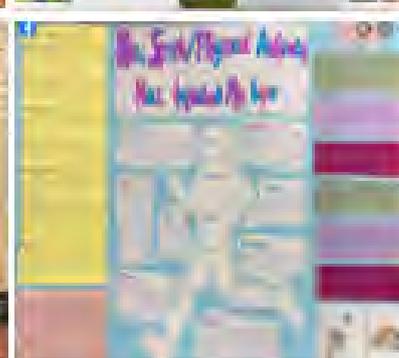
Congratulations to the last homework project winners which was based around how sport has impacted their life. We received a wide range of excellent project and were really impressed with all the entries. The winners were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> → Daniel Qaimuri (Year 8)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> → Lily-May Colston (Year 9)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> → Josie Thomas (Year 8)

Please keep an eye out for the next Project coming soon!! All information can be found on the 'Llantwit Major PE Dept facebook page' and on the 'Health, Fitness and Well-Being Homework Projects Google Classroom. Code can be found below:



Google Classroom Code:  
**cj7vxpv**





= Llantwit Major School - PE Dept



= @LlantwitPE



**RYAN FELLOWS**



**KATIE SIMS**

## HEALTH FITNESS AND WELL-BEING LEADERS

Earlier last year, the PE Department offered a new opportunity to 6<sup>th</sup> form pupils in the form of the Health-Fitness and Well-Being Leaders.

We received a fantastic amount of applications for the role and would like to congratulate the following pupils on the appointment;



**ISABELLA WILKEY-SMITH**



**BEN GODFREY**

**Ben Godfrey**  
**Isabella Wilkey-Smith**  
**Ryan Fellows**  
**Katie Sims**

We have no doubt these pupils will fulfil the role to an excellent standard and continue to promote sport and physical activity to the younger year groups in the school!

## Welsh Rugby Jersey Raffle Winner

Thank you to everyone who purchased a number for the signed Welsh Rugby Union Jersey. We managed to raise a substantial amount of money which will be used for a new unisex KS3 and KS4 football kit along with providing courses for our newly appointed Health, Fitness and Well-Being Leaders.

**Congratulations to Mrs Cox who won the Jersey!**



## Lead Director of BBC News inspires Aspire



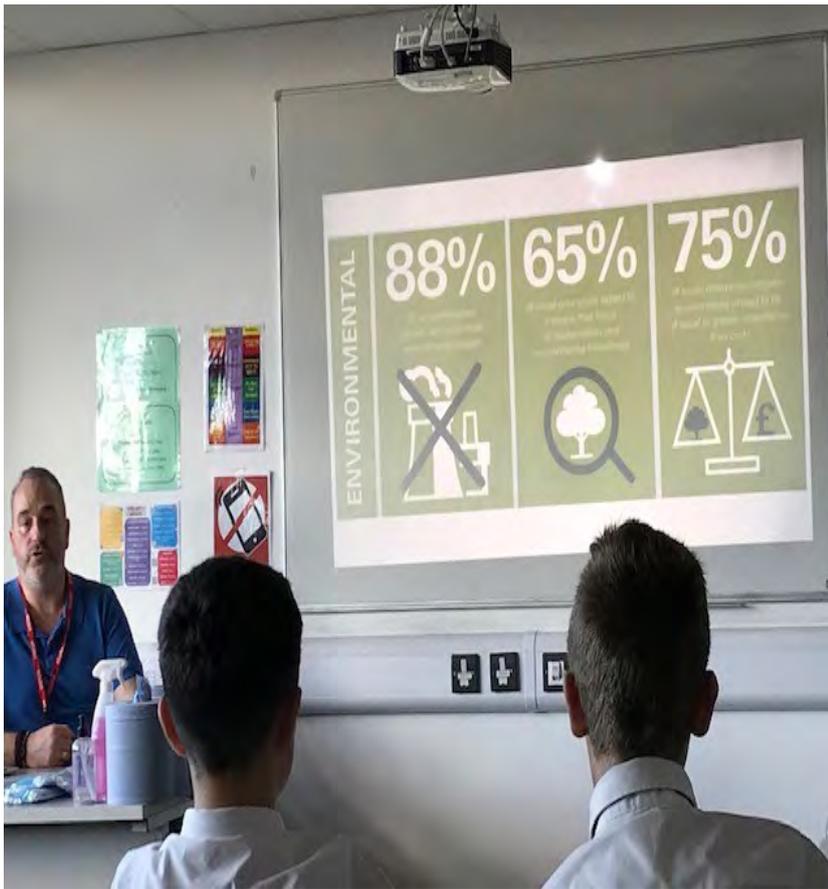
On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January, Aspire Scholars in Years 9-11 were privileged to have Richard Murrell, Lead Director of BBC News, deliver a talk and question and answer session live from London. Having directed some of the BBC's most prestigious programmes over the past decade, Richard detailed how his career progressed as well as discussing some of his favourite experiences. We were all thoroughly entertained by his tales of riot training and what can go wrong.

In addition to the engaging anecdotes and tales from the broadcasting world, Richard also underlined important lessons in success. He reminded us that reaching our goals does not come easily; indeed, it took him seven applications to get his first job at the BBC at the start of his career. In reaffirming the importance of perseverance, he demonstrated just how much you can achieve if you do not give up at the first hurdle. We are grateful to Speakers for Schools for arranging the talk.

### Next in Aspire

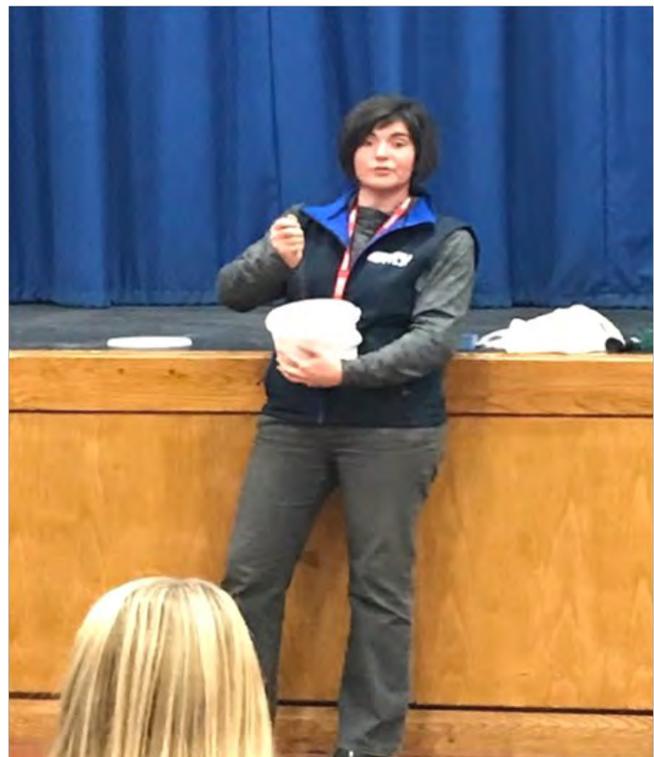
Pupils will be participating in a half-day conference on aspiration and coping with challenges with a special (soon to be announced) guest speaker. Having studied Plato's 'Republic', we will soon be launching our essay competition in which students will be convincing us with their own thoughts and ideas. The Bar Mock Trial team will be preparing to compete in the prestigious national competition.

# Enterprise



As part of their studies, GCSE Business pupils learn what a social enterprise is. **Awesome Wales**, a social enterprise, is the Vale's first zero waste enterprise. Their representatives came in to talk to the pupils about the aims of a social enterprise. They have stores in Barry and Cowbridge with their main aim of protecting the environment by providing a plastic free shopping experience. Within their stores all their products are ethically produced and locally sourced. They also provide an environmentally friendly coffee shop.

Pupils in Year 7 have worked on the theme of 'Build a Farm' whilst incorporating enterprise into their learning. Within maths pupils learn how to plan a farm with a focus on measurement and in IT they learn about the variety of technologies used in agriculture. This learning is put into context with a visit from a local farmer, Abi Reader who delivered a very informative presentation on her role as an entrepreneur and how she uses both maths and technology in her day-to-day activities as a farmer.



## Next in Enterprise

All Year 8 pupils will have a presentation by role models from Big Ideas Wales, the Youth Entrepreneurship Service

# Hay Festival Winter Weekend 2021



Llantwit Major School was lucky enough to gain access to a handful of tickets to Hay Festival's Winter Weekend at the end of November. Pupils were able to hear a variety of talks on different topics. Feminism and the roles of women in history was discussed by Sally Nicholls as she discusses her recent novel *The Silent Stars Go By*: 'Seventeen-year-old Margot Allan was a respectable vicar's daughter and madly in love with her fiancé Harry. But when Harry was reported Missing in Action from the Western Front, and Margot realised she was expecting his child, there was only one solution she and her family could think of in order to keep that respectability. She gave up James, her baby son, to be adopted by her parents and brought up as her younger brother.'

The very entertaining and award-winning wordsmith, Hip Hop artist and poet Karl Nova discussed his teenage years growing up in Africa in his new novel *The Curious Case of Karl Nova*. He even treated the pupils to some of his rap songs where they were able to join in. He was definitely a firm favourite and was very entertaining for all ages.

Finally, award-winning author, environmentalist and zoologist Nicola Davies explored her new novel in which dark forces are destroying nature. Those with the ability to listen to animal thoughts stand in their way. Her new novel *The Song that Sings Us* sounds like a must read.

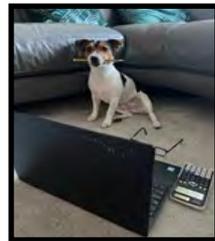
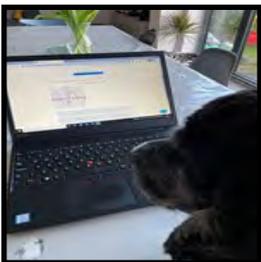


Book recommendations:

*The Silent Stars Go By* by Sally Nicholls.  
*The Curious Case of Karl Nova* by Karl Nova.  
*The Song that Sings Us* by Nicola Davies.

The wonderful magical world of ...

# Mathematics



This week in the national news, there was an article about animals being able to understand mathematics.

The article mentions many different animals including Japanese ants using mathematics to help them grow, develop and survive.

This article got us as a department thinking about our pets at home to see if they ever use maths in their day to day lives and as you can see from the pictures to the left we were shocked by our findings!

Here is a QR code to the article if you would like to read it yourself! If you have any photos of your pets doing maths please send them to us!



**Revision zone!** Scan the QR code for 5 questions, if you answer them don't forget to show your teacher for a prize!

[Numeracy \(Years 7, 8, 9\)](#)



[Foundation GCSE](#)



[Higher GCSE](#)



Our Year 11's were tasked to create revision flow charts around right angled triangles. I am sure you will agree this revision resource definitely looks (and tastes) amazing!



**Dates for your diary:**

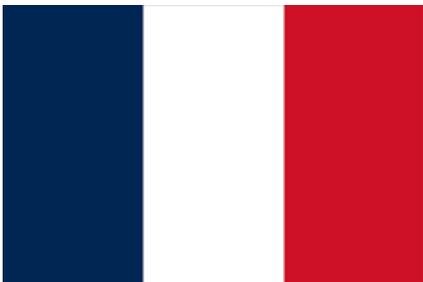
**Pi Day:** 14th March

**Maths Day:** 23rd March

# LE FRANÇAIS? FORMIDABLE!!!

## Year 7 (sixième)

Just some of the activities from this term. Here all pupils are working extremely hard on the Chromebooks. Activities include accessing the activities on websites such as Linguascope and Atantot. All pupils have been given the relevant passwords to continue to use the websites!



## Year 10 (troisième)

The class 10B have just completed their Year 10 French Writing, Listening and Reading exams on jobs and enterprise. Good luck in the real thing next year!

## Year 9 (quatrième)

Year 9 pupils are practising their speaking skills, taking part in conversations concerning 'Aux magasins'. This is very useful for our holidays this year!

## A reminder for Year 11 (seconde)!

Exams are creeping closer, so make sure that you're revising! Check with your teacher for revision sessions. Strive for greatness!

### GCSE French 2022

**1st April- 13th May Speaking**

**Monday 23rd May PM Listening**

**Monday 23rd May PM Reading**

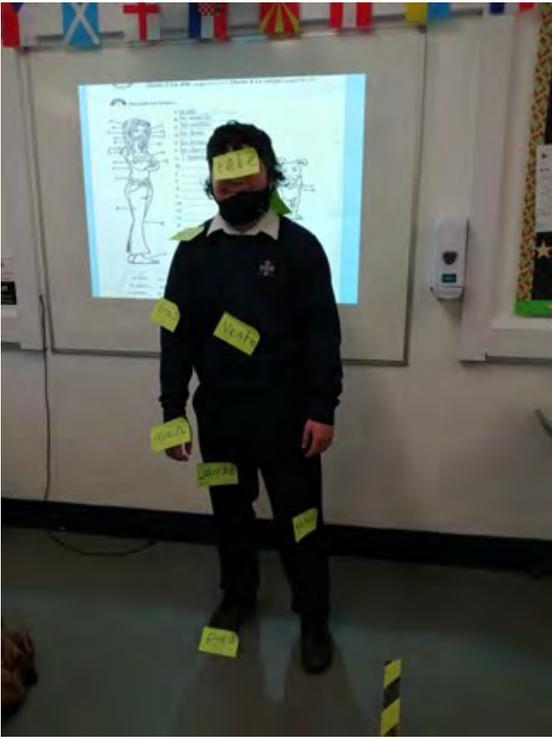
**Thursday 16th June PM Writing**

Article écrit par Lyla McGuinness 10NBW

# FRANÇAIS? FORMIDABLE!!!

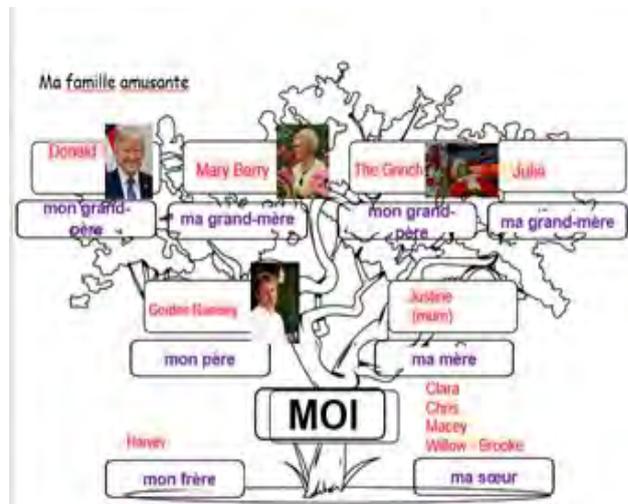
## Year 8 (Cinquième!)

Pupils have been introduced to the parts of the body. Here are willing participants, correctly labelled. Interesting!



## Year 7 (Sixième)

Some very interesting family trees!



# A Challenge To A Better Life

Littering and the overuse of single use plastics is continuing to be a huge problem. Even as COVID-19 restrictions have eased and vaccine programmes are well underway, the 'Plastic Pandemic' has yet to cease.

There has been no visible decrease in the amount of rubbish and plastic that is littered around Welsh schools, towns and cities in the past few years. PPE such as masks and visors are still in extremely high demand and the materials produce a great deal of waste.

In addition to the continual litter and plastic PPE being produced and discarded inconsiderately, a new factor is now contributing to the ever increasing amount of plastic waste. As society is slowly getting back to normal and everyone is socialising a lot more, cases of common colds have skyrocketed. This has been especially prevalent over the winter months, when many colds circulate, but it is worsened by the fact that we have had limited contact with people in the past few years and now we are seeing everyone again. Because the Coronavirus is also still circulating, many people think they have COVID when in fact they only have a common cold, but they need to test just in case. Consequently, the demand for self-tests (lateral flow tests) has increased dramatically. The majority of the lateral flow testing kit is made out of plastic which is predominantly not recyclable and huge numbers of them are being used and thrown away every day. In fact, every time you do a self-test you are throwing away around 10g of plastic. This can add up significantly if everyone is testing every couple of days, which is the Welsh Government recommendation for secondary school pupils.

At the moment, our school still uses foil trays to serve some food in the canteen, although it has been noticed that there are some positive changes towards reducing the amount of plastic used and thrown away each day. The use of wooden forks instead of plastic ones has been introduced, which will make a huge difference considering how many people in the school purchase a meal from the canteen. I am hopeful that the use of plates for Years 7 and 8 will soon be extended to other years.

To combat the growing local crisis, more bins and facilities to dispose of and recycle our rubbish in high footfall areas around our town should be provided. If people could see a bin nearby, they might be encouraged to put their facemasks and litter in it, rather than drop it on the floor. Recycling bins or separated bins for general waste and recycling would help, because currently all of the waste put in our local bins is sent to landfill.

There is also a new service being set up by the recycling business 'ReWorked' to offer a solution to the plastic waste being produced by lateral flow test kits. The business sells recycling boxes to collect single-use PPE items and rapid flow tests. These items are then pressed into 100% recycled plastic boards, which can be made into furniture, bins and building materials.

Emily McDonagh, February 2022.

# Key Dates Spring and Summer 2022

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
World Book Day. Year 7.	03/03/2022
Eisteddfod. Years 7-8.	04/03/2022
Full Governing Body Meeting.	08/03/2022
Head of School Points Assemblies. Years 7-11.	04/04/2022
Parent Forum Meeting.	06/04/2022
Year 9 reports issued. Staff.	07/04/2022
<b>Easter Holiday/Easter Revision Sessions.</b>	11/04/2022 onwards
May Day Bank Holiday.	02/05/2022
PTA Meeting.	04/05/2022
Parent Forum Meeting.	25/05/2022
Governors Meeting.	26/05/2022
<b>Half Term/Half Term Revision Sessions.</b>	30/05/2022 onwards
Governors Curriculum Meeting.	07/06/2022
Year 9 tests fortnight.	13/06/2022
Sports Day.	23/06/2022
Year 6 Transition Day.	27/06/2022
Art/D&T/Textiles Exhibition.	27/06/2022
Year 6 Transition Day Concert.	27/06/2022
Year 4 Transition Day.	28/06/2022
Full Governing Body Meeting.	28/06/2022
Year 5 Transition Day.	29/06/2022
Year 10 reports issued.	30/06/2022
Head of School Points Assemblies.	04/07/2022
School Production.	05/07/2022
Year 7 reports issued.	08/07/2022
Sports Presentation Evening.	11/07/2022
End of year reward trip. Years 7 & 8.	18/07/2022
End of year reward trip. Years 9, 10 & 12.	19/07/2022
Last day of term for pupils.	19/07/2022
GCE - Year 12/13 Results	18/08/2022
GCSE - Year 10/11 Results.	25/08/2022

# Who can I talk with?

Year 7  
Progress Co-ordinator  
Mrs Marshallsay

Year 8  
Progress Leader  
Mrs Davies  
Progress LSA  
Mrs Tovey

Year 9 & 10  
Progress Leader/ Assistant Progress Leader  
Miss Knight / Mrs Williams

Progress LSA - Mrs Cox

Year 11-13  
Progress LSA  
Mrs Griffiths

Year 11  
Progress Leader  
Mrs Newton

Year 12 & 13  
Progress Leader  
Mr Rees

## *Any worries or concerns?*

*Contact us – all emails are received by a Senior Administrator and directed to the appropriate person.*



[llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



01446 793301



Parent Forum

# Parent Q&A's—Target grades & Progress grades

## ♣ **Are pupil targets individual or the same for the class?**

*Each pupil has individual targets. This target may vary subject to subject particularly in KS4 studies and post 16 courses*

## ♣ **If my child is exceeding their target will it be reviewed?**

*If there is sustained evidence of a pupil consistently surpassing a set target in a particular subject area then departments may revise the target. In most instances targets are modified at the end of a year of study rather than within a year.*

## ♣ **What do the progress grades mean each half term compared to the target grade?**

*In KS3 the progress grade is an estimation of where the teacher estimates the pupil to be by the end of the year. The ongoing assessment of work and the review of development of skills shown in pupils work supports this judgement. In KS3 progress levels are broken down into sub level indicators. For example 6A, 6B or 6C. The inclusion of an A indicates the potential for attainment at the upper end of the level with evidence of higher level skills.*

*In KS4 and post 16 the progress grade is a teacher judgement of the grade the pupil is likely to achieve by the end of the key stage. This means for KS4, the end of Year 11 and for post 16 at the end of Year 12 or Year 13 depending on year of study.*

## ♣ **If they are meeting their progress grade does that mean they can stop working?**

*As the progress grade is an estimation of where the teacher estimates the pupil to be by the end of the year there needs to be consistent evidence available to support the awarding of a level or grade.*

## ♣ **How do I know how to help my child if they are not meeting their target?**

*In each student book or digital portfolio there should be teacher feedback to support pupils and parents to understand the next steps of learning. These should be visible as formative comments. Guidance is also provided on the progress sheets which can be found in the front of pupils' books and portfolios. If further clarity is required parents are welcome to contact the school to ask for further guidance about this.*