

MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

SUMMER TERM / TYMOR Y HAF

Start / Dechrau:	Monday 8 April 2024 / Dydd Llun Ebrill 8 2024
Half Term / Hanner Tymor:	Monday 27 May 2024 – Friday 31 May 2024/ Dydd Llun Mai 27 – Dydd Gwener Mai 31 2024
End / Diwedd:	Friday 19 July 2024 / Dydd Gwener Gorffennaf 19 2024

Week Beginning – Monday 3 June 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin</i> 3 2024	Week 33/ Wythnos 33
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Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to this week's edition of Major News.

Many of you will be aware from discussions with your child/children that we have been working hard to improve our canteen facilities this year. As a result of pupil voice, we reopened the canteen for breaktime service in January. This move has been very positively received by the pupils. We have also had a second serving hatch installed over the Whitsun break which is resulting in both break and lunchtime service being quicker.

We are also completing a lot of stakeholder voice at present with the aim of continuing to make our school better. One of the things raised in the recent parent survey was the length of lunch (currently an hour, which is longer than most schools across Wales, with the average being around 40 minutes) and the desire for a greater staff presence at breaktimes and lunchtimes.

We are therefore going to trial a single, slightly longer break and single, slightly shorter lunch this half term, with effect from Monday 10th June. This will give us the opportunity to test whether we can serve all the pupils comfortably in a single sitting. We will also analyse behaviour across the site during lunchtime. Having a single lunch should also make for a more settled period 4, as currently during period 4 half of the school are out on lunch when the other half are in lessons. This inevitably results in some noise and interruptions, which can be a barrier to learning.

Each year group will still have an allocated outdoor space to use during the trial. Pupils regularly raise the desire for more indoor spaces to use at breaktimes and lunchtimes when the weather is poor. At present, we are unable to provide more indoor spaces as they are being used for lessons. Switching to a single break and lunch would allow us to provide more indoor spaces and would also provide us with the flexibility to offer a wider variety of extra-curricular activities at lunchtime. In addition, more staff will be out and about on duty to ensure a calm, orderly environment as there will only be one lunch and break to supervise, not two.

Pupils have been informed of the intention to trial this new approach in form time this week. I would like to reiterate that the period will be just that- a trial. We will try this for a few weeks, then conduct lots of stakeholder voice to see what everyone thinks of the new approach and whether it's something we should continue with on a more

permanent basis. Parents/carers also raised in the recent parent survey that they felt registration would be better placed at the beginning of the day, rather than just before and after break in order for pupils' form tutors to be their first point of contact each day. We are unable to make this change at this point in the school year due to timetabling constraints, but if we did proceed with a single break and lunchtime on a more permanent basis then we would seek to place registration at the beginning of the day.

I will update you regarding the impact of the trial in future weekly newsletters.

Many thanks for your continued support and I wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs C L Robins

School Calendar

Week Beginning – Monday 10 June 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 3</i> 2024		Week 34
Monday 10 June / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 10</i>	Year 12 back in lessons	
Tuesday 11 June / <i>Dydd Mawrth Mehefin 11</i>		
Wednesday 12 June / <i>Dydd Mercher Mehefin 12</i>		
Thursday 13 June / <i>Dydd Iau Mehefin 13</i>		
Friday 14 June / <i>Dydd Gwener Mehefin 14</i>		
	Coming Up/ <i>I ddod</i>	
Monday 17 June / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 17</i>	Year 10 Numeracy mock exam	
Tuesday 18 June / <i>Dydd Mawrth Mehefin 18</i>	Year 10 Numeracy mock exam	
Wednesday 19 June / <i>Dydd Mercher Mehefin 19</i>	Year 9 Royal Navy Rocket Building Year 10 Trip: Seren – Swansea Uni	
Thursday 20 June / <i>Dydd Iau Mehefin 20</i>	Year 9 Royal Navy Rocket Building	
Friday 21 June / <i>Dydd Gwener Mehefin 21</i>		

Music Department

We are delighted to announce that Daisy Jones, Yr 13, has won first place in the Urdd Eisteddfod, Maldwyn, Woodwind Solo Yr 10 and under 19 years old category.

The competition took place on a beautiful sunny day in North Wales. Despite the long journey to get there, Daisy performed on stage at 6:00pm, competing against a very strong field of entries. Her dedication and exceptional talent truly shone through, and she was deservedly announced the winner at 7:00pm, just as the warm evening sun bathed the venue. When accepting her award on stage, she was delighted to be able to converse with the presenter in Welsh. Bendigedig Daisy!

Daisy will be continuing her musical studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in the Autumn and we wish her all the best in her performing career.

Congratulations to Daisy on this fantastic achievement! We are all incredibly proud of her.



Welsh Department

Longyfarchiadau enfawr/Huge congratulations to Miss Ball for winning the Welsh Champion award for last half term. The Criw Cymraeg have been really impressed with your use of Welsh and voted for you as their worthy winner. Da iawn! 3433 use of Welsh points were awarded on classcharts last half term which is incredible! Remember to use your Cymraeg whenever you can around the school to get as many points as you can this term to win rewards!



English Department

A Day of Discovery

When was your last family day out? Take a trip to museums and libraries, exploring historical documents, artefacts and literature. These visits can inspire a love of learning and reading about various topics.

<https://gem.org.uk/9-educational-benefits-of-bringing-children-to-museums/>

A week in sport

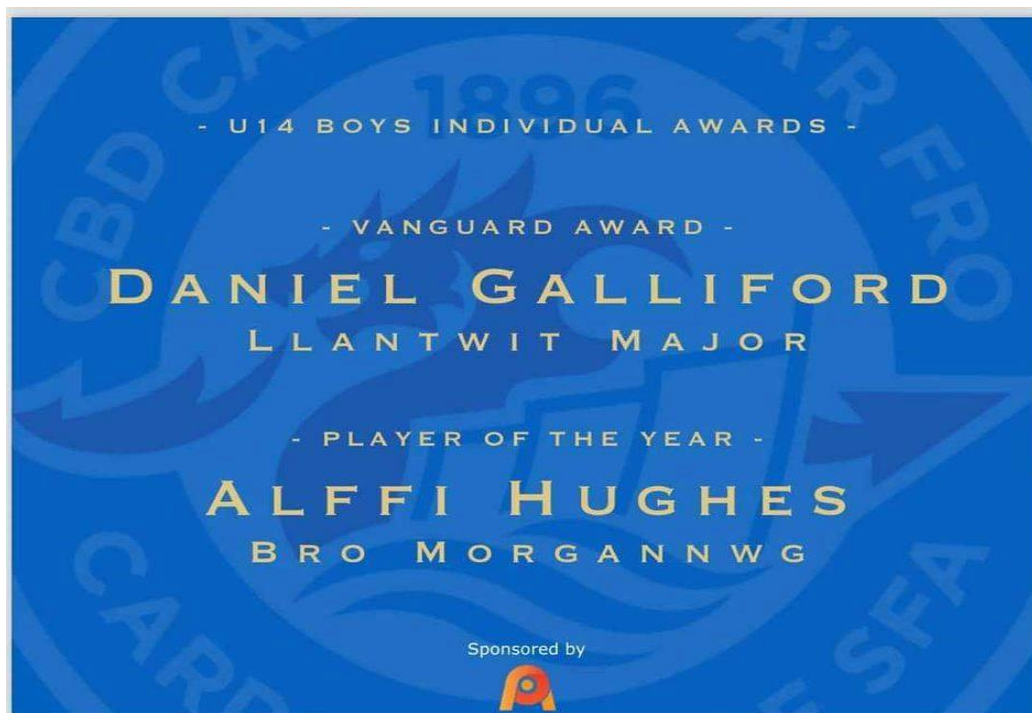
What an unbelievable achievement from Yr 8 pupil Lily Davies and Yr 9 pupil Asha Williams who represented Wales and played in the Welsh Schools FA against the English Independent Schools FA in Beaconsfield Town FC. Unfortunately, the result was 2-0 to England but they both played really well and gained their Welsh Caps! A huge well done from all of us here at [#teamllantwit](https://www.facebook.com/teamllantwit)



Archery will be starting on Tuesday 11th June on the field for 4 weeks. The club are hopeful to offer free sessions throughout the Summer to interested participants! [#teamllantwit](https://www.facebook.com/teamllantwit)

Booking Link: <https://shorturl.at/upPzv>

A huge well done to Yr 9 pupil Daniel Galliford who was presented with the Vanguard Award for Cardiff and Vale during his end of season presentation. Congratulations from all of us here at #teamllantwit



Make a difference

Become a YOUNG AMBASSADOR

Have you got :

**A Passion for Sport,
Commitment,
Ability to be a
Sports Leader?**

The Young Ambassador programme seeks to develop young leaders and volunteers by giving them responsibility as ambassadors for PE in schools and clubs.

The ROLE of a Young Ambassador is to:

- Increase participation and healthy lifestyles in schools
- Be a role model and advocate for sporting activity
- Be the young people's voice on PE in schools and communities

What type of events can you get involved in?

After school clubs (registers/promotion/assistants), community clubs, promotional work, case studies and consultation in schools.

Activities include -

- Athletics events
- Multi sports
- Tennis festivals
- Football festivals
- Cricket on the beach
- Primary School after school sessions



@ValeSports www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

For more info contact: Angela Stevens

Healthy Living Officer (Sports) tel: 07751 355089 e-mail: astevens@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



RS Department

We have had special assemblies this week for years 7-10 about knife crime.

PC Thomas came to speak to our students along with 2 other colleagues.

We covered what is meant by knife crime and heard from a victim who'd recovered from a knife incident.

This was an important assembly and gave us much to reflect upon.

Knife crime can include one or more of the following:

- carrying a knife
- trying to buy a knife if you are under 18
- threatening someone with a knife
- owning a banned knife
- injuring or fatally wounding somebody with a knife
- intent to injure or harm somebody with a knife
- a robbery or burglary where a knife was carried as a weapon



If you'd like to discuss this further with your child, we recommend using information from the following sources:

The Ben Kinsella Trust <https://benkinsella.org.uk/knife-crime-awareness-assembly/#>

South Wales Police <https://www.south-wales.police.uk/police-forces/south-wales-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/knife-crime/>

Drama Department



GUYS AND DOLLS 6 WEEK COUNT DOWN

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/llantwit-major-school>

The costumes have been ordered, the set has been sketched, the dance routines and scenes are blocked. The cast of 100+ have been dancing their socks off this year to put on this fantastic production. While the cast are in drill mode (rehearse, refine, repeat) it's time for our audiences to book them tickets!

Guys and Dolls tells the overlapping stories of high-roller Sky Masterson, who falls in love with mission worker Sarah Brown, and lovable rapsallion Nathan Detroit, engaged for 14 years to Miss Adelaide, a headliner at the Hot Box Club. Nathan runs a famous floating crap game, and an ongoing plot line involves his quest for a safe place for the game as Adelaide continues her quest to convince him to marry her. Meanwhile, Sarah, mistakenly believing that Sky set up an illegal game at the mission, tries to fight her affection for the charismatic craps shooter.

Prom Information



LLANTWIT PROM SHOP

FREE PROM SUITS AND DRESSES FOR HIRE

or make a donation to our [Breakfast Club](#)

All suits and dresses available in wellbeing. Speak to the Year 11 Team or Sixth form team to enquire. Thank you to our community and local business owners for their generosity.

Online Safety Workshop

FREE South Wales Police Online Safety Parent/Carer Workshop

Tuesday 11th June 5pm - 6:30pm

Venue: Llantwit Major School

Across the UK parents and schools are seeing an increased concern regarding our students' **safety online**. To support parents/carers at home *South Wales Police* and the *Children's Society* have partnered to provide a workshop which highlights the current risks, warning signs and practical guidance to help support you in keeping your child safe online.

Online Exploitation is the act of developing a relationship with a child to enable their abuse and exploitation both online and offline. Online platforms, such as online gaming, social media, messaging and live streaming, can be used to do this.

If you would like to attend this session please email tomsh@llantwitschool.org.uk to confirm your attendance. There are a limited number of spaces and spaces which will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Refreshments will be provided.

School Essentials Grant

The School Essentials Grant is available to eligible families on lower incomes with children attending school from reception to Year 11. All looked after children also qualify for the grant of:

- £125 per learner
- £200 for learners entering Year 7

The 2023 to 2024 scheme has now closed but applications can be made for the new grant year from 1 July. Details are available on local authority websites via this [link](#).

Help and Support Information

If you feel you may need help and support with the cost of living crisis the links below may be of use.

Is my child eligible to receive free school meals?

<https://www.gov.wales/free-school-meals-information-parents-and-carers>

Services and support that help with food costs. Information on food vouchers and food banks.

Penarth food pod:

https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/press_and_communications/latest_news/2022/March/New-Food-Pod-opens-in-Penarth.aspx

Vale Food Bank: <https://vale.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/#Vale%20foodbank>

Food Vale: <https://foodvale.org/where-can-i-get-support/>

How to get free or cheap food: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/shopping/how-to-get-free-or-cheap-food/>

Find information on grants and benefits available to you such as Council Tax Reduction.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Grants-and-benefits.aspx>

Get help with household and energy bills.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Household-and-energy-bills.aspx>

If your child is in receipt of free schools meals and you would like to discuss any aspect of their school life please contact Mrs L Pownall at pownalll@llantwitschool.org.uk

Classroom Expectations



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Be Ready

Engaged

Safe

Take Responsibility



BEING THE **BEST** WE CAN BE



Key Academic Dates 2023/2024

Summer 2024:

- **Start:** Monday 8 April 2024
- **May Day BH:** Monday 6 May 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024
- **End:** Monday 22 July 2024 (**INSET**) (Students finish on Friday 19 July 2024 @ 1pm)

INSET Days:

- **INSET Day 5:** Monday 8 July 2024
- **INSET Day 6:** Monday 22 July 2024

General Information

Contacting School

Please refrain from telephoning the school, other than for urgent purposes. For all general enquiries please email llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk. **Please be reminded that we operate an appointments only system for meeting with parents/carers and if you present at school requesting an immediate appointment we will not be able to accommodate you.**

Forgotten Items

We can no longer accept the delivery of forgotten items such as PE kit, books, lunch boxes etc. during the school day. Please ensure your child arrives at school with the equipment needed for the day. In the exceptional case that you do need to bring an item into school for your child, you will be asked to leave it on the desk in the main entrance. This is to reduce traffic on to the school site and ensure student safety during lesson transitions.

Medication

Please note we **do not** stock medication of any kind in school, including paracetamol, and we are not allowed to dispense medication without parental consent. If your child receives prescribed medication a medical form, available from main Reception to be collected by your son/daughter, will be required to be completed and returned to Reception. Should your child need medication throughout the school day please ensure they bring just what is needed for the day to school with them.