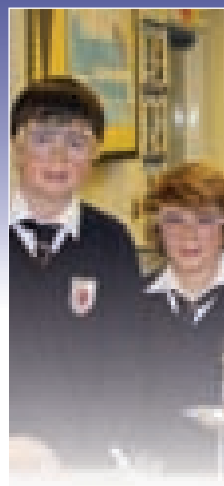


Welcome to the first edition of the **Porthcawl Post** for the school year 2012-2013



Porthcawl Post

Porthcawl Comprehensive School Newsletter ~ Autumn 2012



Headteacher's Farewell Address

Firstly, a very warm welcome to our first "Porthcawl Post" of the new academic year 2012/13. We extend a special welcome to our new readers associated with the new Year 7 intake representing over twenty primary schools and to other students who have joined the school throughout other year groups.

Our school roll is now 1,440 pupils, amongst the largest in the history of the school, and we have in excess of 300 students in the Sixth Form studying a record number and variety of subjects.

It has been a delight to witness our new Year 7 pupils settle down quickly under the caring and watchful eyes of Mrs Sloggett and Mr Booth. Congratulations to Mrs Sloggett on being appointed Deputy Headteacher.

I am sure, like me, you will be impressed by the contents of our autumn edition of the "Post" and the variety of articles and reports showing the huge range of events and activities with which our young people have been involved in recent months.

The summer of 2012 brought some of the best examination results achieved by pupils in the history of the school. Nearly one third of all entries at 'A' Level gained the top A*/A grade awards and

almost 100% of entries passed at grades A-E.

At GCSE level in Year 11, 77% of pupils gained five or more subjects at A*- C with a significant number of young people gaining eight, nine and sometimes ten GCSEs at the top grades.

I should like to heartily congratulate our pupils on their outstanding achievements at all levels, praise the staff for their hard work and thank parents for their continued support in making such impressive results possible. Well done to all.

The attendance of pupils as a whole over the last academic year was in excess of 93% which, I have no doubt, contributed to the excellent results.

Parents should look out for two important leaflets. Each year the school constructs a three year Development Plan setting out its priorities. A summary of this plan is contained in a leaflet and should have been received by parents recently. Secondly, parents will be receiving our annual "What's On" leaflet which sets out the many extra-curricular activities going on in school during and after the school day.

The Governing Body of the school met in October and welcomed three new parent representatives namely Ms Shears, Mr Ashton and Mrs Williams.

The Governing Body provides the strategic and policy direction to the school. Any matters that parents wish to raise should be directed to Mrs Carlson, Chair of Governors, at the school address.

This is my final Headteacher's address after almost ten and a half years at Porthcawl Comprehensive School and nearly thirty-seven years in education. My successor, Mr Andrew Slade, currently Senior Deputy Headteacher, has been appointed and takes up his new post on January 1st 2013. I wish him and the school every success in the future.

I leave Porthcawl Comprehensive School with many enjoyable and pleasant memories and I should like to thank all staff, parents, governors and especially pupils for their support, kind words and good wishes extended on my retirement.

I believe the school is being left in good shape, in a strong position and especially in good hands.

I know that together with the excellent teaching and support staff, Mr Slade will continue to build upon the successes of the best school in Bridgend County Borough Council and one of the best in Wales.

Goodbye and farewell to you all.

K Dykes Headteacher

Housekeeping News

Well, September comes and we all embark once again. The school year commences with the usual flourish of excitement. We are delighted with the numbers of learners in Year 7 and Year 12. Children from as many as twenty different primary schools have elected to join us. Also there are record numbers back into the sixth form. This provides a challenge, but one we are delighted to face.

May I make the usual polite reminders as we start the year. Any pupil who needs to "sign out" during the day will need to do so at 'Attendance' in Reception. Thus, from a fire safety perspective, we know who is on/off site. Also would you be sure that your son/daughter has a note to explain their signing out. As a school, we do not permit Years 7-11 to leave the site at lunchtime. Any child who lives locally may go home for lunch, so long as their Head of Year has a note from that parent.

Would it be possible NOT to drop off items at reception. Reception soon becomes very cluttered, and the receptionist cannot leave her desk to deliver items. Should you need to drop something off for your child, please arrange to meet him/her at reception during break or lunch time.

The school has a first aid person (Mrs Dee), and not a school nurse. The first aid person can offer basic first aid while parents are contacted to assist their children. Consequently, we do not have the capacity or facility to look after sick children. If your child is ill, please do not send them to school, as we will only contact you to collect them.

I should like to end this piece on a personal note. As many know, I will be taking over as Headteacher on 1st January 2013. I am delighted with the opportunity to lead our school, and look forward to the challenges of the future. I must pay tribute to and thank Mr Dykes for his kindness, encouragement and guidance over our time together. Thanks also to all those who offered a kind word of encouragement or congratulation, it has meant an awful lot to me.

I look forward to seeing you over the year.

A Slade - Deputy Headteacher

Attendance Awards

An excellent whole school attendance of over 93% was once again achieved for the academic year 2011/12, and yet again proved to be one of the highest in the country.

This year's guest, Shrek, decided to leave his favourite swamp, (the Maths Dept?), to help present pupils with prizes, as he joined the celebration of pupils' excellent attendance at the end of last term. The mighty ogre followed a distinguished guest list, who have participated in the attendance draw, which includes Prince Charles, Tony Blair, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Simon Cowell, Barack Obama and the caped crusaders, Batman and Robin.



Pupils with 95% attendance or more, are rewarded each term by being included in a prize draw for each year group, culminating in a special draw in the summer term for various prizes kindly donated by "Double Overhead". The Grand Draw, at the end of the academic year, which involves all the pupils in the school, saw pupils win many fabulous prizes, provided generously by the "Friends of Porthcawl".

Each year, our aim is to include more pupils in the draw, but they must achieve an attendance of 95% or above. Please note, however, that if your child is taken on holidays for two weeks in term time, then his/her attendance will automatically drop below 95%, thus taking away the excitement of being included in the Grand Draw.

K John - Senior Year Tutor

European Day of Languages

Hallo, Guten Tag, Bonjour, Hola, Ciao, Shumi, Hello.

On Wednesday the 26th of September, all pupils in Year 7 celebrated European Day of Languages. The day started with 7ST's (Mrs S Thomas) form assembly. The form talked about the importance of languages in the world, both in our education and in the global workplace.



Pupils who led the assembly were: Marcus Fish, Scott Dixon, Rhys Leary, Elizabeth Williams, Skylar Evans, Beth Burke, Dylan Matthews, James Powell and Rebecca Owen. Year 7 raised the roof off the Dance Studio by singing three songs, which we had been rehearsing in our languages lessons: "Hallo Mutter", "Bonjour Salut" and "Yn Ei Law". Then at the end of the assembly we handed in our European Day quiz sheets, hoping we would be the winners of the prize!

In the canteen, special menus in French, German, Italian, Spanish and Welsh were displayed, to celebrate the day. Every Year 7 pupil also received a European Day sticker! Staff in all lessons that day tried out greetings in different languages to get into the spirit of European Day of Languages.

The day went very well and we all enjoyed it. Thank you to all staff who made time to put this special day together.

By Mia Pass, Mollie Hodgson, Harriette Dorsett and James Powell.

Auf Wiedersehen, Adios, Goodbye!

Duke of Edinburgh Ball

Twenty four members of the Silver Duke of Edinburgh 2010-11 cohort were invited to the Hi Tide to receive their Awards on Thursday September 13th 2012. The now former pupils arrived dressed in their ball room attire, and proceeded to tuck into the excellently presented buffet. It was hard to imagine that these pristine looking individuals were the same motley crew that ventured into the mountains in July 2011. To swell their ranks were a few individuals who collected either their Bronze Award from previous years, or in the case of Jordan Feeley and Ian MacIver, their highly prestigious Gold Awards. The Gold expedition was held in Snowdonia a few years ago and these former pupils have been striving ever since to complete their Award with a residential course.

Recruitment

An unprecedented demand for the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award has occurred this year with almost fifty Year 13 pupils expressing an interest. It will be with great regret that some will have to be told that only thirty training places exist! It seems that with every passing year, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Porthcawl Comprehensive School goes from strength to strength. A full programme is being planned with a visit to St Briavels Castle in Gloucestershire, a practice expedition in the Black Mountains, and the qualifying expedition to the west of the Brecon Beacons. The students who successfully complete the arduous demands of the Award's four sections will be able to put a very valuable qualification on their CVs. However, this is but a minor reward compared with the experiences they have had, the friendships they have forged and the skills they carry forward into life.

Members of last year's Silver Award group have made approaches with the view to continuing with the Award at Gold level.



My Experience of The Awards

At the beginning of Year 12, I was offered the chance to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. It consists of four parts which must all be completed in order to achieve the award. These are; volunteering, skill, physical fitness and an expedition. Mr Priest arranged a thorough training programme on Tuesday nights to ensure we were properly equipped for the training and final expeditions. We had guidelines on the number of months we had to spend on each section and everyone carried out different activities that counted towards the scheme. We had first aid training, practice expeditions, lessons on how to navigate and how to put up tents, and were also advised on what food to take.

When we were confronted by the challenging terrain and weather conditions on our second training expedition in the Black Mountains, I was grateful for the training we'd had and the experience of our first training expedition in the Forest of Dean to help get us through. After these experiences I was excited to join in planning the final expedition. We were given maps and had to plot our routes to each campsite. We measured distances, estimated the time it would take, planned 'escape routes' and, most importantly, decided when we could stop to eat!

On a drizzly day on the 14th of July, we were driven to the Brecon Beacons where we would begin the expedition. We were given a compass, a map and, after a quick burger, all the groups set off on different routes. It rained most of the time, the Welsh weather being as unpredictable as always. We walked through the mountains, which were incredibly beautiful, and turned up at the first campsite, not realising we had arrived until some of the teachers came to check we had arrived safely!

We woke up and packed up early on the second day. It was better weather, and we finished the second leg quickly so we had time to spend at the second campsite which was much nicer than the first.

On the third day we set off two kilograms lighter having eaten all of our pasta. As on the Black Mountains, it rained heavily, and as we climbed higher, the weather became worse and we were more exposed to the elements. We were soaked but we were becoming used to this and it was the last day and the end was in sight. Realising we couldn't get any wetter; we took a shortcut across the river. We reached the end point with enough time to spare to get hot showers. It was good to see the Porthcawl minibus, our transport home. Although it rained for most of the expedition it was a really good experience and it was nice to complete the expedition as a group. The whole experience was tiring but fun and really worth doing. It gave us all a sense of achievement. I am grateful to the staff for taking the time to prepare and support us so that we got the most out of the experience. I'd recommend the experience to others, and I hope everyone doing it this year enjoys it as much as I have.

India Rees



Roll of Honour

Silver

Georgina Dorr
Demi Rees
Nia Thomas
Sophie Howe
Lowri Patterson
Tyrell McCann
Rachel Halley
Kate Mackey
Cheryl McAndrew
Laura Delgado-Iglesias
Christie Owen

Amy Sheppard
Emily Fabin
Sidney Rogers
Rachel Kinsella
Ayesha Baldwin
Charlotte Hill
Thomas Newbery
Charlotte Jones
Alexandra Howells
Harmony Millar
Rachael Hopkins

Rachel Tayler
Hannah Skidmore
Edward Sham
Alex Houston
Lucy Davies
Hayden Lau
Owen Thomas

Gold

Jordan Feeley
Ian Maciver



Humanities Club!!! Dual Project

We have two on-going projects this year in Humanities Club, the first being a project on the school itself. For those not aware, the school will have been open for eighty years next year. Whilst researching this project, we have discovered a register that was from the first academic year of the school in 1933/34. Inside this register was a list of pupils' addresses in Porthcawl. We are currently dropping all these original addresses onto Google maps and creating a spreadsheet. We will compare this information with that of a class in our current Year 7 to see how things have changed over the last eighty years.

However, Porthcawl has changed so much since 1933 that some streets are not recognizable. We have enlisted the help of local and past pupil John David who will be visiting us shortly. Hopefully he will give us some clues as to where these streets would have been. We are also constructing a PowerPoint and website edition to celebrate the school's eighty year anniversary.

Secondly we are involved in a WWI Project with the Museum in Porthcawl, and are researching information about soldiers from Porthcawl who died whilst fighting in the war, as well the injured and those who came home safely. Ceri from the museum gave assemblies to most year groups last year asking for information, and we are researching the memorial at the moment during Thursday lunchtimes. Eventually we hope to plot the graves of those 'Porthcawl fallen' in France where they died, and possibly visit France to see firsthand their war graves.

The project will also include a celebration planned for 2014 in John Street with a reconstruction of a trench, a re-enactment of the troops leaving for war. There will be lectures to attend and war songs playing, and celebrations throughout the day. We are a big part of this research and planning and could do with your help in every aspect of this project.

In conclusion, on Tuesdays at Humanities Club, we are planning the school's eighty year celebrations and are intending taking a trip to the Glamorgan archives. On Thursdays we are concentrating on our WWI Project, with a trip to France to visit war graves scheduled for next year. Please come along to D3 on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes and learn more about our local history. Bring lunch with you!!!!

Humanities Club

GCSE

TEXTILES

Last summer, I was getting ready to sit lots of GCSE exams, one being Textiles. Part of the course was to design a textile product. After reading the brief, I decided to make a costume for stage or screen. My inspiration was The Royal Ballet Company, so I chose a classic ballet show as my theme, 'The Nutcracker'. After hours of thinking of what I wanted to do, I settled on a 'Sugar Plum Fairy' costume. Here, my finished costume is modelled by the wonderful Deputy Head Girl - Natasja Bryant.

Eleri Connick 6NS

The photograph is of my GCSE Controlled Assessment Task. The brief was to design and make a costume for a local theatre production. I chose to design a costume for Captain Hook in a production of Peter Pan. The photos were taken on the beach near Sker House and modelled by my brother Dan. I am now taking AS Textiles and am thoroughly enjoying it!

Lucy Pugh-Bevan 6CD

MUSIC Summer Concert

During the last week of the Summer term, the Music Department put on an evening of entertainment in the Jubilee Theatre. It was a celebration of the year's work and an opportunity for parents to hear their children perform. All music groups had the opportunity to perform and showcase pieces that they had worked on throughout the year. It was also a perfect opportunity for our 6th Form leavers to give their final performances at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

Guests arrived to a complimentary glass of Pimms, which helped set the mood to our summer concert, and at 7 o'clock, lights went down and the show began. There were amazing performances from the Junior Choir, who initially sang a beautiful rendition of 'Sing' by Gary Barlow, but later rocked out in jeans to 'When I grow up' from the musical Matilda. Miss Mayo even taught them dance routines and we had some solo lines from budding Porthcawl stars.

Parents were fortunate to hear wonderful

performances from Junior Orchestra, Senior Orchestra, String Group, Wind Band and the Year 12 Band. Once again, the Department is indebted to our fantastic Peripatetic teachers not only for their help during the concert but for all their hard work and effort throughout the year. Mrs Williams and Mrs Hnyda conducted and accompanied many of the evening's performances and we would like to thank you once again.

Throughout the evening, we had performances from leavers Christopher Hontoir, Peter Greenwood and other solo performers. It was a pleasure to hear such amazing performances from our leavers and the Music Department would like to wish all our Year 13 pupils every success and happiness for the future. We are sure that they are all going to become stars – what a talented bunch!

A big thank you once again to all staff involved in making the evening such a success.

The Music Department.

What is involved in a double maths A level and why study it?

This year, two exceptional students Sydney Rogers and Lewis Williams qualified with A levels in Further Maths and Maths A levels. This means that they sat 12 units of Maths and qualified with two A levels in Maths.

Lewis achieved a double A* and Sydney had an A* and an A. Both students have gone to Bath University to read Maths after also achieving a pass in their STEP qualification. Before they left us, we asked them to write an article for us on what motivated them to take on this challenging double A level and how they found the whole experience.

Lewis Williams

Maths had always been my favourite subject at school, yet I had never put much thought into pursuing the Further Maths A Level when initially choosing my options, mainly for the fear of a mathematical overload. Upon arrival in Year 12, I decided to give it a go; looking back now I am so glad that I chose to do so.

The Further Maths course obviously compliments the single Maths course extremely well. The Further Pure modules such as FP2 and FP3 require knowledge of the Core modules, C3 and C4; if you are revising for the Further Pure you will be killing two birds with one stone as you are simultaneously covering all the topics that appear in the Core modules. The Further Pure modules provide a greater insight into the ideas behind key concepts used throughout maths, making it easier to apply your knowledge to a question in an exam. Essentially, opting to take Further Maths as well as Maths will drastically reduce the volume of work

Double Success at Double Mathematics

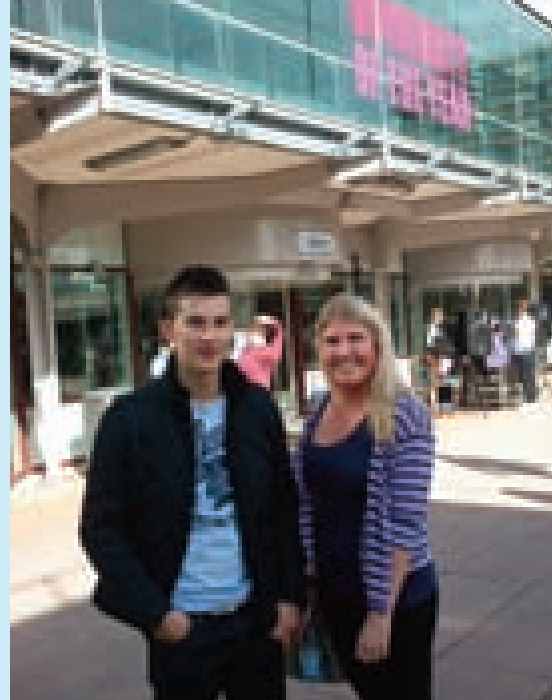
compared to that of two distinct individual subjects.

Studying Further Maths also allows you to study both Mechanics and Statistics fully, whereas without it you can only take two of the four available modules. Completion of these four illustrates how Maths can actually be applied in the real world, which may be of use to you in the future.

Although the work can be very complicated initially, most notably in FP2 and FP3, the satisfaction and reward of overcoming the challenge is immense. Taking Maths and Further Maths alongside another subject at A Level will be useful if you are considering a degree in Sciences, Engineering, Economics and Business, and is almost essential if you wish to continue with Maths at university. The beauty of having a degree in Maths is that your job options are almost endless which is great if you are still undecided; I still have no idea what career to pursue!

Sydney Rogers

For my A levels I studied Physics, Maths and Further Maths. Further Maths definitely wasn't what I expected it to be, it was a lot more



interesting and totally different to what I had imagined. I also found it really beneficial towards studying for my A levels and in a way made the lessons easier to understand.

People often asked me what difference does it make being a girl studying Maths? I feel as long as it is something you want to do and enjoy then you won't have a problem. I have really enjoyed the whole new window of Maths.

This year the double Maths has attracted 4 pupils and we currently have 4 more signed up in Year 12. Perhaps, if Maths is what you enjoy and are good at and these comments have interested or inspired you, then this double A level choice could be the option for you.

Junior Maths Challenge Results Spring Term 2012

A very successful challenge for the Maths department this year as 21 pupils obtain certificates out of the 66 entries. This was not an easy challenge and all the pupils who entered did well. If you were not successful this time then there is always next year – have another go.

Our Year 8 entry was especially strong and Daniel Song improved on his Silver Certificate from last year to obtain a Gold Certificate, well done Daniel! There were also 4 pupils who had a Silver Certificate and 11 Bronze Certificates from this year group. Well done last year's Year 8, and good luck for Year 9 when you do the Intermediate Challenge!

Over two hundred and forty thousand pupils from across the UK sat this Challenge and with the top 6% achieving the Gold, the next 13% the Silver and the next 21% Bronze then the achievements by last years' 7 and 8 is excellent. The Junior Maths Challenge is set by the UK Mathematics Trust at the University of Leeds whose aim is to advance education of children and young people in maths.

Examples of some of the questions that pupils had to attempt.

- Which of the following has one factor other than 1 and the number itself?
A) 6 B) 8 C) 13 D) 19 E) 25
- What is half of 1.01?
A) 5.5 B) 0.55 C) 0.505 D) 0.5005 E) 0.055
- Tommy Thomas's tankard holds 480ml when it is one quarter empty. How much does it hold when it is one quarter full?
A) 120ml B) 160ml C) 240ml D) 960ml E) 1440ml

Congratulations go to the following pupils

Year 8

Gold
Daniel Song - Best in School

Amy Osborne
Lydia Pickett
Cameron Rees

Silver
HeeChan Kang
Matthew Owens
Alex Hunt
Cerian Jones

Liam Joseph
Liam Crockett

Year 7

Bronze
Rhys Davies
Josh Brown
Jack Ellis
Jessica Bennett
Sultaan Mohammed Azam
Calum Joseph

Silver
Jaycie Dyer - Best in Year
Mitchell Davies
Emily Stradling
Katie John

Bronze
Alice Webber

Answers
1. E) 25 all square numbers have an odd number of factors !!
2. C) 0.505 3. B) 160ml



BTEC PERFORMING ARTS

DRAMA

On the 3rd – 5th July, the BTEC Performing Arts presented their annual musical “Three Men and a Baby”, an adaptation of the 1987 classic.

People were like “What? I thought that was a film?” and yeah it was, but being the clever, witty ‘ittle folks we are, we subtly slipped in a couple of well known songs, some cheeky dance routines and a spewing, pooping baby.

To be fair, it was pretty awesome and went down a hit! Probably the best way to send off former BTEC pupil Andrew McQueen into the big wide world of show business, and a good end to the first year for Kieran Bluck and Ryan Jenkins (current Year 13).

But hey! Now there’s a whole new breed of BTEC’ers who’ll be hitting the Jubilee Theatre soon! Not exactly Broadway I know, but ah well!

So be sure to get tickets to our first production as a NEW production company - The Fellowship Theatre Company.

On October the 25th we will be performing ‘Sir We’re Stuck in the TV!’ an evening of Singing Acting and Dance in the Drama Studio!

BTEC Performing Arts



YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' FESTIVAL 2012



On July 11-12, a total of 140 pupils took part in a celebration of script writing, performing and directing to two sell-out crowds! Friends, family and teachers enjoyed six new plays written by and starring pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9. The plays formed part of the school's annual 'Young Playwrights' Festival', and the project involved pupils creating complete scripts as part of the KS3 English lessons. These scripts were entered into the Festival and the two winning plays from each year group were then rehearsed and performed by lower school pupils. Not only were the pupils responsible for writing and performing the plays but Year 10 Drama pupils were responsible for directing the six plays. The project focussed on the pupil in every possible way, expanding performance, directing and writing skills! Huge congratulations to all involved.

Mr Smith, Drama Department

THROUGH THE EYES OF A DIRECTOR!!!

As students of GCSE Drama we thought it would be a fun and totally new experience for us and we jumped at the chance of directing a play. It wasn't long before we realised that directing a cast of among 30 pupils was easier said than done! In total the project lasted for around two hours and took place in the Jubilee Theatre. Overall, every play produced an outstanding quality of work and the directors ended up having just as much fun as the actors and we all felt extremely proud of our groups. We loved the challenges and responsibility that came with directing other students and would seriously recommend it to anybody who gets the chance!

DIRECTORS' WORDS OF WISDOM

'I used my own experience to help others'
Ellie Henderson

'Be as creative as you can'
Tabitha Carrington

'I gained skills that will never be forgotten'
Katie Roberts

'That hard work can make a difference, despite the opening night stress it's all worth it come opening night'
Jack Jones



Playwright Winners

YEAR 7

A Day Out At The Olympics

Emily Stradling, Ethan Waters, Jamie Ferrier, Angel Williams

Trouble in Paradise

Mitchell Davies, Connor Thomas, Callum Fitzpatrick

YEAR 8

Gold Chasers

Ciera Johnson-Cooper, Katie Williams

The Book Traveller

Elin Morris, Maddie Dawson, Lauren Ellis-Stretch, Ellie Judd

YEAR 9

Hollywood Noire

Gethin Phillips, Connor Jones, Thomas Dorr, Elliot Williams

Substitute!

Rhys Owen, Megan Goldberger

Directors

YEAR 7

A Day Out At The Olympics

Jessica Wood, Tesnie Lewis, Richard Price, Chloe Rees, Molly Wright

Trouble in Paradise

Rhys Rowberry, Jordan Williams, Lewis Evans, Nick Jones, Cai Russell

YEAR 8

Gold Chasers

Jack Jones, Tabitha Carrington, Katie Roberts, Ellie Henderson

The Book Traveller

Hannah Berry, Jessica Torkington, Lois Hadley, Becky Bradford, Liv Norris

YEAR 9

Hollywood Noire

Bryan Thomas, Tom Shepherd, Callum Waters, Chris Long, Kelson O'Connor

Substitute!

Sam Pryce, Ellie Rosser-Stanford, Jessica Edwards



American Visit

Friday 29th June saw the return of our American friends to school for the fourth year running. It was a fun packed day with the group of approx 50, aged between 15 – 50, from First West Baptist Church, Louisiana delivering lessons in Drama, Music, PE, RE, Food Tech, History and English.

Throughout the day pupils experienced Vocal Workshops in Drama, Specialist Guitar Workshops in Music, Seminars and Presentations in History and RE on topics such as Civil Rights and in Food Tech pupils were able to sample some local Louisiana Creole flavours. Key Stage three English classes learned about life and culture in Louisiana.

As usual it was a rewarding day with pupils responding positively and enthusiastically to the range of sessions. Again the Americans were so impressed with the talent of our pupils and their general conduct and participation in lessons.

'I liked their warmth and that they were really welcoming'
Jessica Ivey

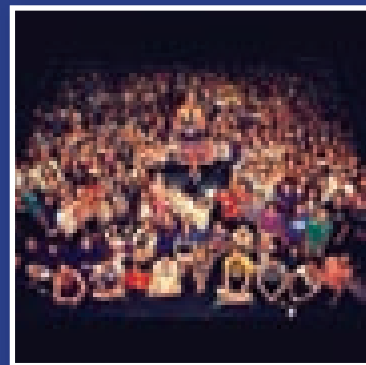
'It was really interesting to hear other people's views on Christianity'
Molly Wright

'Some of the topics discussed encouraged controversial opinions which led to a number of heated debates'
Richard Price, Tamara Lafferty, Chloe Rees, Jess Edwards



West End Stage

This year during the Summer holidays, I attended a week long musical theatre course called West End Stage, which was held in London's Guild Hall School of Music and Drama. There we studied four main aspects in class; singing, drama, dance and stage combat. These were then all included in our



performance of Bombay Dreams which we then performed on Sunday the 26th of August at Her Majesty's Theatre in the West End, where Phantom of the Opera is currently running!

Our teachers were actors who have starred in or are currently appearing in West End shows such as Wicked, 42nd Street, Blood Brothers, Billy Elliot, Ghost and Priscilla Queen of the Desert. We also had three workshops with cast members from Dirty Dancing, Shrek and Matilda. On the Thursday afternoon we took part in a meet and greet session with the cast of Shrek after the show! As well as this, we had the chance to meet Kerry Ellis who performed 'Defying Gravity', and was accompanied by Tim Minchin on the piano.

I really enjoyed my time there as it was an unforgettable experience! Also I have been accepted to go again next year, as I passed the course with distinction.

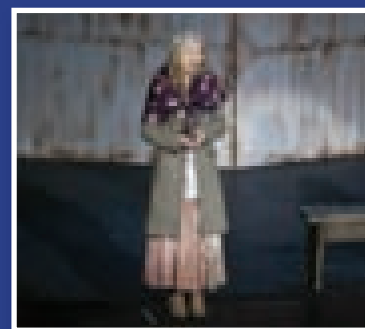
Lois Hadley 11EH

Harmony

This year I've had the fantastic opportunity to study a Musical Theatre course at Guildford School of Acting, one of the most prestigious drama schools in Europe.

I will hopefully go on from here to fulfil my ambition to pursue a career on the West End stage.

With ten hour days, university life is brilliant but HARD WORK! I already miss Porthcawl Comprehensive School, but am looking forward to seeing what the future holds.

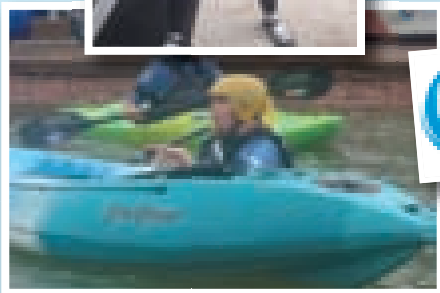


I would really like to thank the Drama and Music Departments for all the help and support they have given me over the last 7 years. I took part in as many extra-curricular activities as I could - some good and some bad - a 'highlight' being

booed offstage in Battle of the Bands!

It will be strange to be in the audience for 'Jesus Christ Superstar' but I can't wait to see it. Good luck everybody!

Harmony Millar



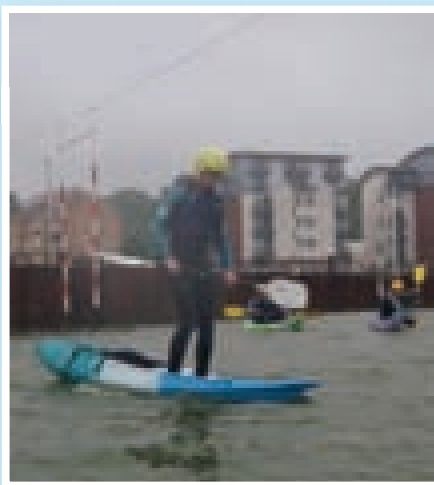
Activities Day Kayaking

On July 18th Mr Pucella and Mr McKenzie took 18 pupils to the 'Cardiff International White Water Centre' to try kayaking. This was the first time we had tried this activity and all pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day.

From the moment we started, we were presented with challenges. We had to clarify a few issues with consent forms as there were a few missing signatures, and one parent had ticked and signed the wrong box and actually declared their son as NOT fit or competent to take part in the activity! (Obviously rushing but still we found it funny!).

We were then given a safety talk and issued with our wetsuits and boots. The next major challenge was in the changing rooms where some boys put their boots on before their wetsuit; some put their wetsuits on inside out and even tried putting their legs where their arms should go! Eventually after much lifting, squeezing and breathing in, (Mr McKenzie), everyone was ready. Or were they?

Next came the 'Locker Challenge'. Everyone had brought a £1 coin as instructed, but it was simply amazing how many boys could not operate the lockers. Some boys were putting clothes into broken lockers with no keys and then asking how to lock it. Some were politely asking where to put the £1 coin even though there was a sign in the locker stating "Insert your £1 coin here".



We were then given helmets and buoyancy aids and taken to the pond and issued with our paddles and kayaks. Following excellent demonstrations by Andrew and Steven we then went on to the pond with our kayaks.

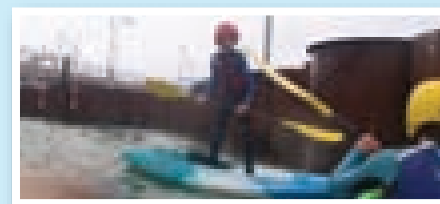
The question on everybody's minds was 'Who would be first to fall off their kayak?' This was answered in the first two minutes as Mr. McKenzie lost his balance and took a dive. Everyone was in hysterics and it was even funnier trying to watch Mr. McKenzie trying to get back on! In fact, Mr. McKenzie fell off 7 times in the first 30 minutes which must be a world record. Of course, Mr. McKenzie blamed his tools and insisted it must be



his kayak. He was then issued with another kayak and after a short but special one-to-one session with the instructor he was allowed to reintegrate back into the beginners group.

The group were taught how to move forwards, backwards, sideways, stop, and spin around. We played touch, joined together as a raft and we had to stand up and try and swap places. Some even had a go on a tandem kayak. We took part in relay races and finished the day with a unique Welsh Water Wave which was great fun.

An excellent day was had by all and I am sure we will return next year.



Maths Transition Week

The week of October 8th, the Mathematics Department made their annual visits out to the main feeder Primary Schools. The Department, once every 3 or 4 years hires boxes of interactive maths puzzles from Techniquest. These puzzles test number skills, visual and spatial skills, logic and reasoning.

A different member of the Maths Department took the kits to each school and spent a lesson with the Year 6 pupils. The kits were then left with the school for the day so other year groups could enjoy them as well. The kits were also available for all pupils including those out of catchment pupils who attended the Thursday Transition Evening.

The picture shows two West Park pupils playing the 3D noughts and crosses puzzle. The boys enjoyed this game because it was a "more complicated, upgraded noughts and crosses, so more fun". The noughts and crosses was also a favourite of Isabel Appleton who said "it's difficult because of the levels and fun because you can challenge someone else".

Olivia Childs of West Park liked the NIM puzzle because it was fun to do. The other picture shows Matthew Pugh of West Park playing with the Pentominoes. This was a favourite of Elodie Guillerm of Newton Primary who said "Rosie my friend and I were the only ones that completed this puzzle".

These kits were a real hit, and we hope all pupils enjoyed them. The Maths Department look forward to meeting Year 6 again next September.



Transition Day 2012

At the end of the Summer term, 80 pupils from feeder Primary Schools came to the Music Department for a fun filled day to help prepare for the transition from Primary to Secondary School. Pupils arrived at 9 o'clock and all enjoyed a session of friendship building, name games and warm up activities. Miss Mayo taught the pupils a dance routine to 'It's oh so quiet' – which they loved! It definitely wasn't quiet in the Drama Studio that session!

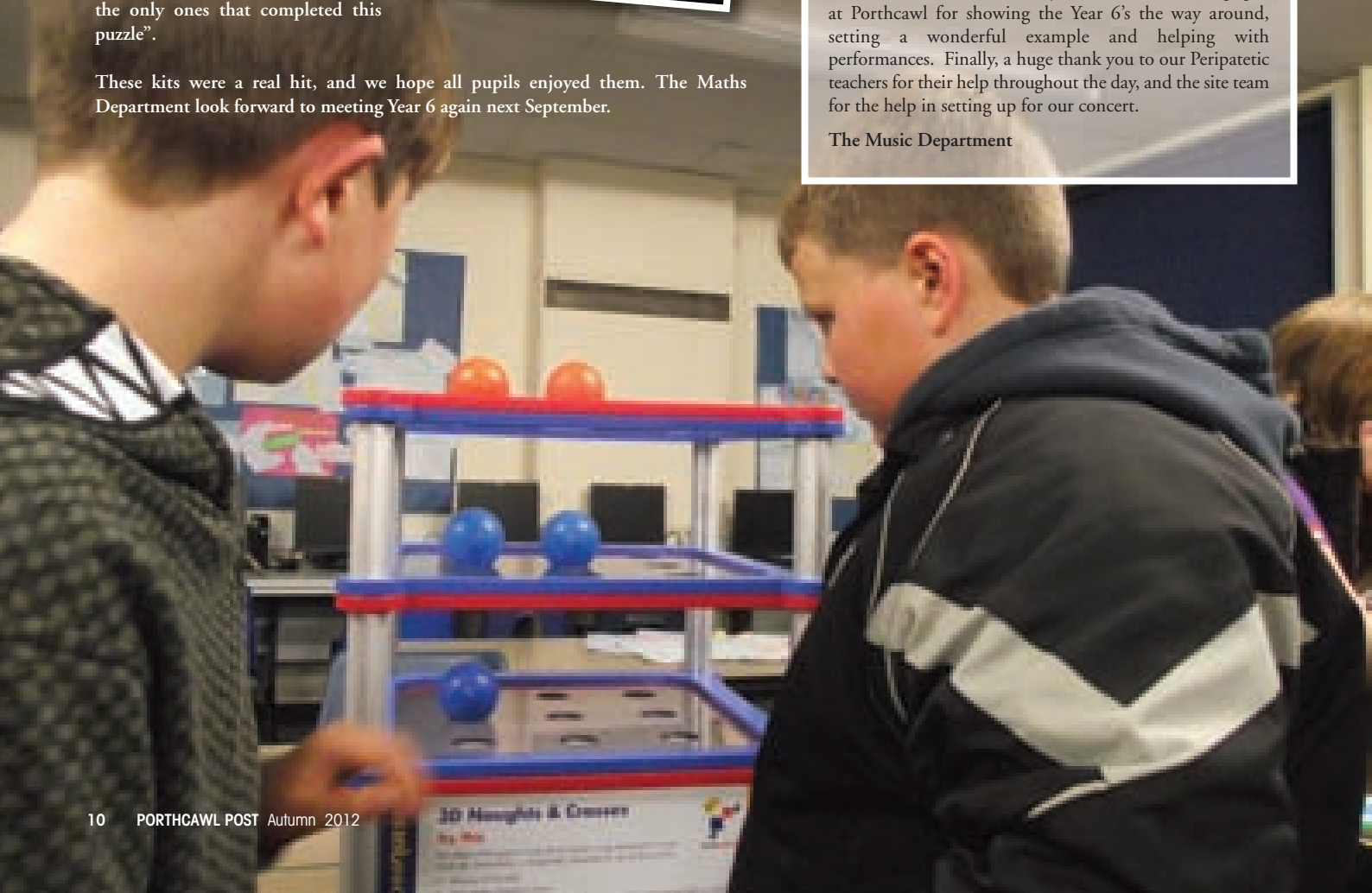
After a short break, pupils separated into different musical groups to prepare for a concert at the end of the school day. There were opportunities for guitarists, singers and orchestral players and with the help of our wonderful Peripatetic teachers, rehearsals were underway.

Mr Jefferies taught 'Chasing Cars' to our budding Brian Mays, whilst Miss Mayo and Mrs Atherton helped pupils learn the fun Matilda song 'When I grow up', and the Queen's Jubilee anthem 'Sing'. Mrs Williams took full control of the orchestra and with the help of Mr Griffiths, they were soon sounding like an orchestra that had been together for a few months, not only a few hours!

At three thirty, The Drama Studio filled with Year 6 parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and many more besides, and at 4 o'clock our Transition Concert got underway. The Year 6 pupils performed with confidence and were a credit to their Primary Schools. The concert was a huge success and there were many tears from the parents, watching in awe as their child performed; especially during 'When I grow up'!

The Music Department would like to thank all those involved in making the day such a fantastic achievement. Thanks to the parents, the Year 6 Pupils and the teachers from our feeder schools. Many thanks to our current pupils at Porthcawl for showing the Year 6's the way around, setting a wonderful example and helping with performances. Finally, a huge thank you to our Peripatetic teachers for their help throughout the day, and the site team for the help in setting up for our concert.

The Music Department



Moving On

Year 7 pupils received certificates this term for their contribution to and completion of the 'moving on' booklet. The pupils were given the booklet during their last term in Year 6, and were asked to complete fun activities with their family members.

The concept behind the booklet was to impart key information in a fun and interesting way. Thanks and congratulations go out to all those pupils who participated.



Year 6 Open Evening

On the evening of Thursday 11th October 2012 approximately 500 parents and Year 6 pupils joined the staff and pupils of Porthcawl Comprehensive for our annual Open Evening.

Despite the torrential rain and flooding people braved the elements to spend an enjoyable evening touring the school and speaking to both staff and current pupils. Visitors were treated to science experiments, drama performances, a basketball game and delicious cakes in the Food Technology Department, not to mention the many fantastic displays in classrooms around the school.

It was an opportunity for Year 6 and their parents to have a good look around the school, and appreciate the many excellent facilities we enjoy, but also allowed them to speak to subject staff.

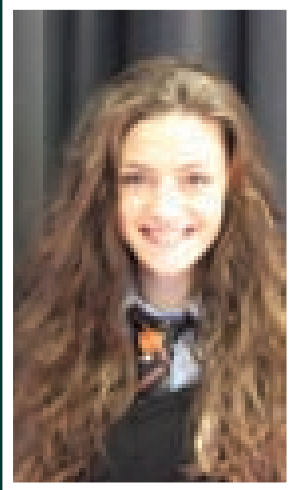
Many thanks to all the pupils and staff who contributed to make it such a successful evening.

Year 6 will be joining us again for an ICT morning just before half-term. This will be one of many events planned for the coming academic year. We hope they enjoy themselves, and that such events help to alleviate any anxieties they might have about moving to Comprehensive School.

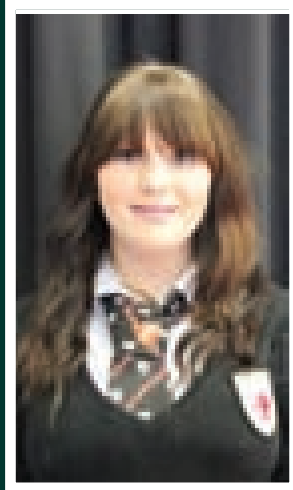




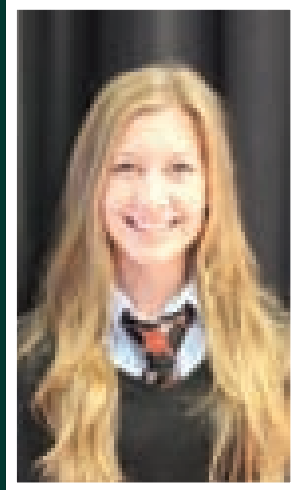
Hi, I'm Leonie McQuaide and I am this year's Head Girl. I am the Year 11 Link. I am studying English, History and Religious Studies at A Level. I hope to study Law at a London university next year and go on to be a solicitor in the future. In my free time I enjoy playing netball and circuit training.



Hello! My name is Tash Bryant and I'm Deputy Head Girl. I'm also one of the Year 7 Links along with Joe, so those of you in Year 7 can come to us at anytime with any questions and problems you may have. I'm studying Drama, English and History and aspire to move away and pursue a career involved with drama in the future!



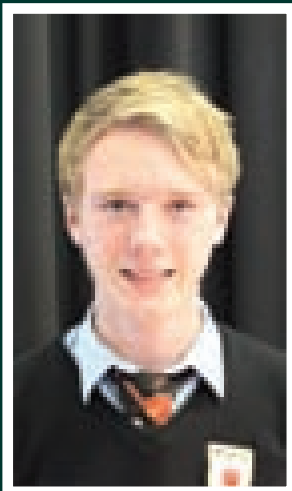
Hi, my name is Heulwen Everfon and I'm Deputy Head Girl, I am also one of the Head Team Links to the 6th Form. I am currently studying A Levels in English, Economics, ICT and Welsh, and I hope to study Law at university.



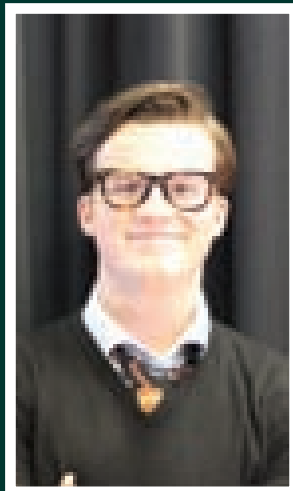
Hi, I'm Sarah Pickett and I am Assistant Head Girl. I'm the Link for Year 10 with Jon, so if you have any concerns talk to us and we'll do our best to help you. This year I am studying English, Art and German. I'm hoping to go to university to study English, and possibly go into journalism or marketing after.



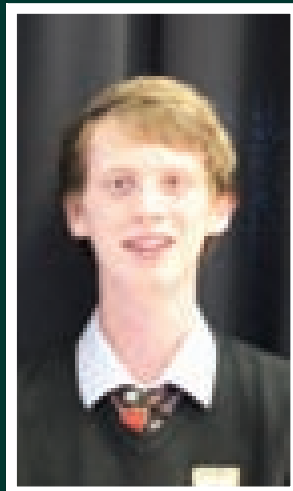
Hi, I'm Adam Mounce and this year's Head Boy at Porthcawl Comprehensive. I will be the Year 11 Link in the Head Team. I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Religious Studies at A Level. I plan to study Medicine at university next year. I enjoy open sea swimming and lifeguard competitions. I also have a passion for rugby.



Hello! My name is Dan Pugh-Bevan and I study Music, English and Religious Studies. I am the 6th Form link and Deputy Head Boy. I have been elected as Organ Scholar to St Peter's College, University of Oxford, to read Music in 2013.

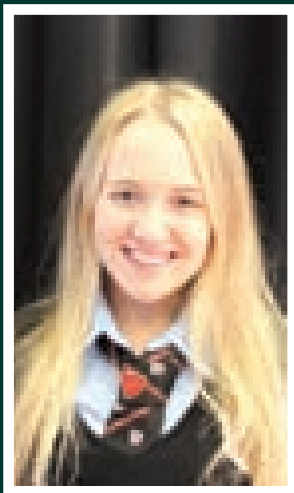


My name is Joe Wiltshire Smith and I am Deputy Head Boy and one of the Year 7 Links. Please let me know if you have any trifles or woes! I am currently studying Drama, English and Music at A Level and I am hoping to study Drama and Theatre Studies. I'm rather excited for this year's challenges and surprises.

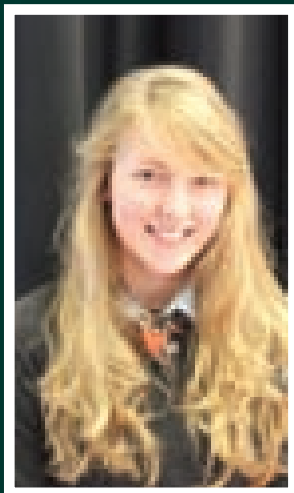


Hi, my name is Jon Berry and I'm the Year 10 Link along with Sarah. I'm studying English, RE and Music. I hope to continue my study of English in university. Perhaps I'll go into journalism or scriptwriting or even be the next George Alagiah.

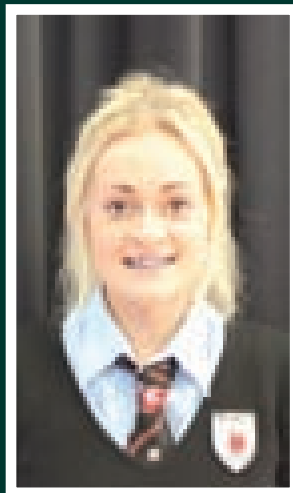
Head Team



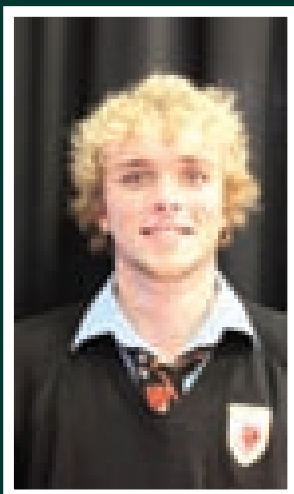
Hi, I'm Jemimah Williams-Rumble and I am Assistant Head Girl. I am the Year 9 Link with Kieran, so look out for us and don't be afraid to talk to us about anything! I'm studying Chemistry, Biology, English and French this year and I'm hoping to study Medicine at university.



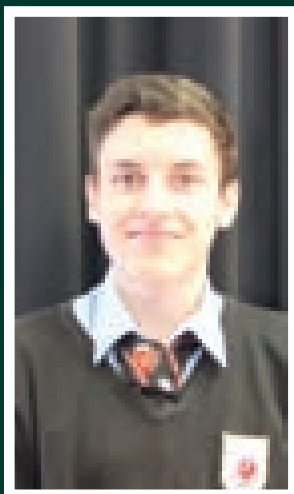
Hi, my name is India Rees and I am Assistant Head Girl. I am one of the Year 8 Links, so look out for me and let me know if you have any worries. I am currently studying Maths, Chemistry and Biology at A Level and am hoping to study Medicine. I am looking forward to this year in the Head Team.



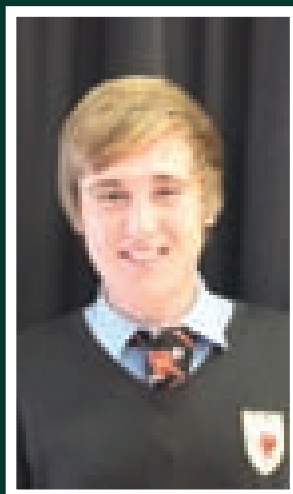
My name is Lora Roberts and I am Assistant Head Girl and this year's 6th Form Link, (so remember my face)! I am studying PE, Chemistry and Biology at A Level which will hopefully allow me to go on to study Biology at Bath University next year, (and maybe further my athletics career.... who knows!).



Hello, my name is Kieran Bluck and I'm one of the Assistant Head Boys. I am one of the Year 9 Links, so if you're in Year 9 you can talk to me about anything. In the Sixth Form I am studying BTEC Performing Arts; it's an amazing course that explores the real world of the performing arts industry. When I leave the school I am going into the army to do logistics as a movement controller. So it's an exciting and new challenge for me.



Hi, I'm Ben Evans. I am an Assistant on the Head Team and am the Year 8 Link in the school. I am studying Biology, Chemistry, Economics and Maths this year at A Level. My ambition is to study Medicine in university and become a military surgeon in the future.



Hi, I'm Dan Evans. I am the 6th Form Link in the school and I'm one of the Assistant Head Boys this year. For A Level I am studying Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Business Studies. My ambition for the future is to study Medicine in university and then hopefully become a Doctor. In my spare time I'm a Crew Member on Porthcawl Lifeboat and I enjoy playing golf.



India 2012

The R.E department set off for India on the 19th of July and returned on the 27th. I've been asked to write an account of this, which is quite daunting, as it's a lot to fit into one article, but I'll try to skim through it.

I was the only boy on this trip, and as we set off on the coach there were several sympathetic fathers, some branded me brave, some called me insane; I agreed with both. The whole experience actually began on the plane, we were flying with Air India

and you could tell; the colours, the smells, Bollywood on demand etc.

Our tour guide was called "PK". This was his second trip with Ms Davies after the trip 7 years ago. He was especially requested to join us as he was raved about, and I see why. There was no way we could have done it without him, even something like exchange of currency, which we couldn't do anywhere, but PK knew a man who could do it from a briefcase . . . I'm not entirely

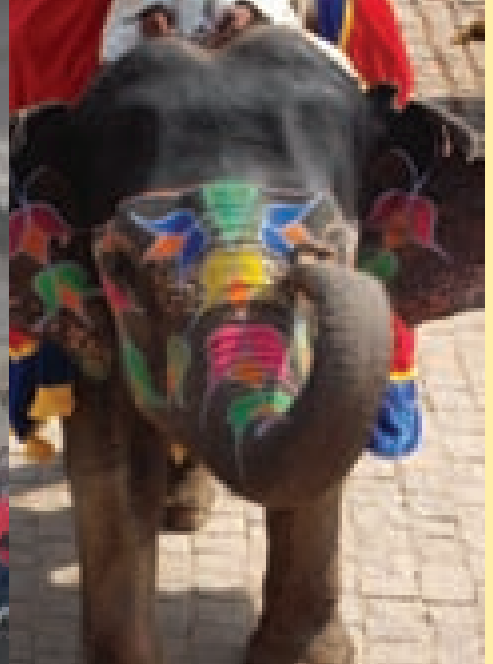
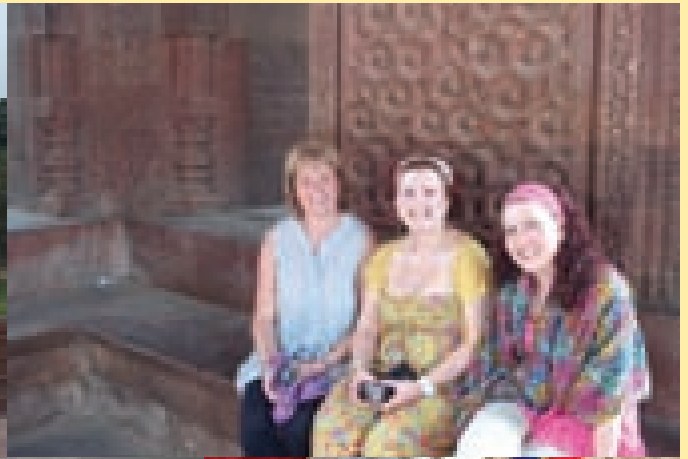
sure of the legality of this, but it was pretty cool. I became friends with him after asking for him to teach me Hindi. He replied "good words or bad?" and needless to say I know both, so you could often find us laughing without anyone understanding why. Our bus driver's name was too long so we referred to him as "Rick", and Hanuman was kind of like his sidekick, who brought us water.

There is far too much to fit into this, but my days mainly consisted of meeting new and exciting people, and seeing amazing monuments. One day we went on an elephant ride, which was incredible. Admittedly the basket nearly fell off mine as my crazy elephant rider "Raoul" went far too quickly. This was one of my many near death experiences. I had a total of 4, including an incident with a very enraged and confused monkey. This was one of the many animals that wandered the streets freely, such as dogs, (whom PK found hilarious to pour water on), cows and some sort of chipmunks. When PK was asked what they were he replied "We call them, the stripey ones."

We went to see the Taj Mahal, which is not at all overhyped, The Red Fort, which was known as the "Virgin Fortress" as no one had ever managed to conquer it. Outside I had a discussion with a man who owned a cow. He caught me in admiration of it, and we had a long discussion about the unique differences between our nations, (he forgave us for



'I've made so many friends, met so many different people'



our wrong doings in the past, by us I mean the British, he may have thought I was a diplomat), until we were rudely interrupted by a random man asking me if I wanted a tour. I declined.

My favourite of all the places we saw was the Golden Temple; it had a book in it, the Guru Granth Sahib, which the Sikh people believe to have the same value of life, and it had an old bearded man fanning it, a luxury I would have appreciated in the extreme heat. What I loved about the place was that it was entirely run on donations and anyone could receive a free and delicious meal there, no matter of race, religion or amount of money, everyone was equal. We couldn't eat the food there as PK warned us it was cooked with tap water, however when I asked PK how it tasted he dunked a piece of naan bread in some daal then shovelled it in my mouth. It was amazing.

Every day was an adventure, and I'm so happy to have embarked upon it. That being said, we did see our fair share of poverty. There were many slums, shanti towns and beggars. Nothing you've seen on TV can even prepare you for the reality.

India may not be the land of opportunity, but it is the only place I've ever heard of that if you own a pair of scissors, you may be a hairdresser. I frequently saw people getting their hair cut on a bench.

One sobering experience for me was when we visited the school. There were flies everywhere and it stunk. The children had nothing yet were so happy just to get to go to school, and not be trying to earn money on the street. To put this into context, to try and encourage people to go to school, the government had launched school lunches, a year ago. It really made me value what we have at home.

I've made so many friends, met so many different people and have a head full of memories which make me sound like a traveller of the world by starting a sentence "when I was in India. . ." It was such an amazing experience, I was very sad to have had to leave. (I almost didn't as I lost my boarding pass, but that's a story for another time.) I honestly cannot wait to return.

Namaste, Jack.



Skills Day



On Friday the 21st September, Year 7 had a Skills Day which consisted of 6 lessons designed to boost their skills and help them get organised. Those 6 lessons were ICT, library, numeracy, literacy, getting organised and a 'making choices' lesson. This was an event for all Year 7 pupils to help them develop key skills that will be useful throughout school and life. Here are some of their observations:

"My favourite lesson was the numeracy lesson because we looked at different units and measured different things. For most of the lessons we had to work in groups, which considerably boosted our communication skills, and we were put with people we didn't know as well, which helped us make new friends."

Rhys Leary

"The day started with a form discussion on items that we should carry in our schoolbags, and also the best way of organizing homework, e.g. make a

weekly planner. We then looked at literacy and the skills needed to write a letter correctly. Next was numeracy, which involved weighing food, measuring the volume of water and timing how long it took to breathe in and out 20 times. This was hard without giggling! We also looked at temperature and measuring distance with rulers, tape measures and trundle wheels.

We then visited the library and researched books and authors using different methods; e.g. the internet and reference books. This showed us that there are different ways to find out information. We then used the computers to look at different search engines on the internet, e.g. Bing, Google, Ask Jeeves and Yahoo. We used these search engines to look for information and images.

Skills Day was a very interesting and enjoyable event and the things I learned will help me in my studies and everyday tasks."

Grace Meredith

No "Ordinary Life" for Julie

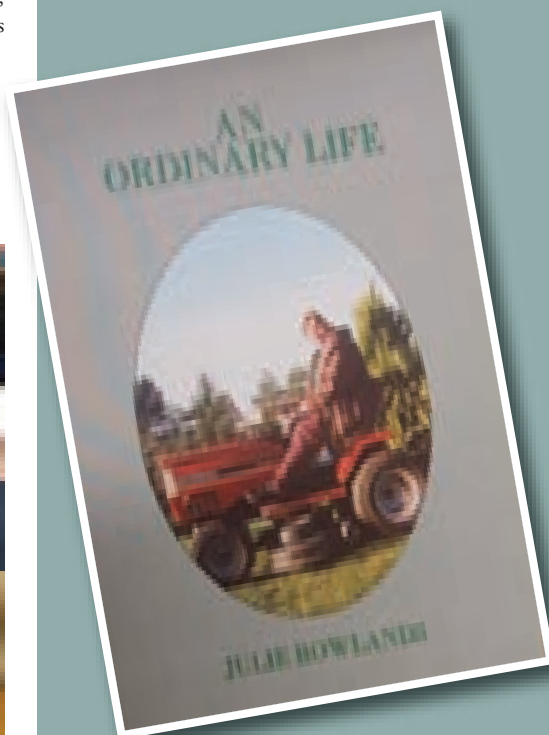
PCS has gratefully received a copy of "An Ordinary Life", presented by its author Julie Rowlands. Julie is a regular visitor to the school, taking part in our Year 9 Diversity Days. She is a member of "People First", a charity based in Bridgend that supports people with a range of disabilities. Their work in school involves challenging stereotypes, sharing their experiences of abuse and bullying and encouraging the pupils to develop positive ideas and attitudes towards disability.

Julie says in her book, "I've proved that I'm strong and capable, not weak and useless. Everyone should be seen as individuals, not labelled like jars and be called names or stared at like we've got two heads or something.

No one's perfect. We all have our weaknesses.

If only people would realize that and change their attitudes towards disabled people, the world would be a much more peaceful place to live in."

We look forward to welcoming Julie back again in the new year. In the meantime, if you would like to read her story, then her book "An Ordinary Life" is available in the library.



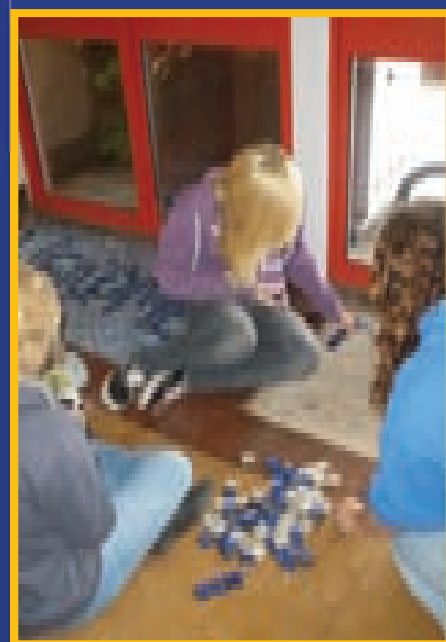
Year 12 Artists in Residence 2012



Last year, as part of our community Art project, Rhian Hopkins, Christina Saines, Rhianne Nelson, Tom Ward and I went to Porthcawl Primary School for a week. We were given the task of brightening up the corridors with well known book characters, in preparation for their new library. We had lots of fun and are very grateful to Mr Wood for giving us free school dinners during the week! Although we had several setbacks (Rhianne and her purple leaf!) we are extremely pleased with the outcome, and hope that the children enjoy their new library.
Sarah Pickett, 6NS

A group of three Year 12 Art students, Rebekah Bradford, Laura Delgado-Iglesias and Brooke Parr-Jones, went to Newton Primary School, to take part in a transition project. They were working with Year 6 pupils to produce a textile piece, celebrating the London Olympics. Pupils painted and embellished fabric 'patches' which were then constructed to make a wall hanging. The students enjoyed the project, despite succumbing to the younger children's germs and catching colds!
Mrs J Willcox, Art Department

Over a three day period, Kayleigh Gwynne-Coller, Kim Davies and I participated in a community Art project at Nottage Primary School. We were given the task of creating two mosaic pieces to brighten up the school's foyer area. The mosaics spelt out the words 'Welcome' and 'Croeso' in small bright blue tiles and we filled the surrounding space with bits of smashed up tiles of assorted shapes and sizes. Even though it was hard work, we really enjoyed the experience and were glad to be given the opportunity to take part in the project.
Emma Phillips, 6LB





Technology

Continued success for Porthcawl students

Over the past three years we have had pupils selected for the Wales Student Innovation Awards, a national award undertaken by the WJEC Examination Board. This year, Dylan Squires has produced a very innovative project, which was selected for display from all of last year GCSE entries. The top 15 projects were on show in Cardiff and North Wales. Dylan's project consisted of a flood defence system, to stop flood water from entering a doorway, instead of using traditional sand bags. It featured a strobe light to show the water level.

Patent office professionals have expressed an interest in this project.

Technocamps Visit ICT Dept

On the 12th-14th June 2012 the ICT Department ran a free trip to Technocamps at the University of Glamorgan for Year 8. The £6 million Technocamps project – led by Swansea University, in partnership with the Universities of Aberystwyth, Bangor and Glamorgan – has been created to develop those skills which will have a positive impact on a pupil's ability to better understand a wide range of topics within Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, (the so-called STEM subjects). Pupils took part in workshops and had the opportunity to gain a real insight into computational thinking, applied in a practical and fun way. They used programming software called 'Scratch' to create animations and solutions to real problems. The work of Technocamps supports and enhances the ICT and Computing curricula taught in schools and colleges. All pupils enjoyed the day and said they would like to go back again next year.

"It was fun and I found the gaming software, animation and programming very interesting".
Joseph Williams Year 8

There will be opportunities for pupils to visit Technocamps again in the future to further improve their skills.
Mr. Pucella, ICT Dept





One of the best ways of improving attainment in school across all subjects is to get them reading!

BUT - One of the most common concerns from parents is that they cannot get their teenager to read!

Improving literacy

- advice to parents/carers

One of the best ways of improving attainment in school across all subjects is to get them reading! BUT—One of the most common concerns from parents is that they cannot get their teenager to read!

So as a parent/carer what could you try?

- Set a good example - reading yourself and talking about reading at home. Let your child

know books and reading are an important part of your life.

- Make sure they know it's not just about books. Encourage your child to read magazines, blogs, newspapers.
- Join the library and take the family along—it's free!
- Don't stop reading to your child too soon. Some children enjoy being read to long after they become fluent readers.
- Buy them magazines linked with a hobby.
- Get your child to read to and with younger children—feeling like “experts” at something encourages them to do it all the more.
- Keep in touch with school. Find out which books your child is reading and read them as well. Then you can talk about them together.
- Computer-mad teenagers can be encouraged to join internet book discussion forums such as “bookgrouponline”.
- Suggest they try reading before going to bed and make sure the TV or computer is switched off.
- Talk about books. Books you have read, books you haven't read, books you want to read, books you have enjoyed, books you hated, books you started and never finished, books that have been made into films, books that should be made into films, books that should never be made into films
- Take them to the local bookshop and give them a chance to choose and buy their own books. Make it an event.
- Buy them book vouchers or books instead of yet another computer game.
- Listen to a book on CD or MP3 in the car.
- Remind your child that good readers make money. Studies show that good readers make an average of £80,000 more in their lifetimes than non readers.
- Put books/magazines/comics in the car, bathroom, on the microwave, beside their beds, on top of the computer keyboard

Year 12 Welsh Bacallaureate are organising the Christmas Fayre on December 5th at 4pm to raise money for charities such as Help for Heroes and Dylan's Dreams. We wish to have stalls from outside businesses, and would like any help from Years 7, 8 and 9. If you have any ideas for your own stalls, please email us at christmasfayre@porthcawlschool.co.uk. The cost is £5 for a stall, with all money going to charity, and food and drinks will be available.

Please come and join the fun and games for our chosen charities.
Bethan Brooks, Year 12 Welsh Bacallaureate



SPORTS DAY 2012

This summer has seen some of the worst weather ever reported BUT Sports Day 2012 will be remembered by all those who took part as a truly inspirational experience, and the sun shone all day! The day began with the much heralded Olympic Torch Relay around the track at Swansea University. The lucky recipients of this honour were Lauren Thomas (Year 7), Cameron Rees (Year 8), Georgina Jones (Year 9) and Ellie Henderson (Year 10). They were encouraged and spurred on by their class mates and friends who formed a guard of honour around the track.

The Olympic spirit was embodied by all four torch bearers throughout the day, and they set the example for what was to follow. The best Sports Day this century!

The track was set alight by some truly memorable performances with each race contested very keenly, keeping our track judges very much on their toes. Three year records were sent tumbling on the track with new bests set by the 'flying' Liam Evans in the Year 9 Boys' 100m in a new personal best of 11.68 seconds. Next up was Olivia Norris who stormed to victory in the Year 10 Girls' 1500m, beating the rest of the field by almost 20 seconds in a new personal best of 5 minutes, 48 seconds. A new year record was also set by Emily Stradling (Year 7) in the 300m, eclipsing the old mark by over 2 seconds, in a time of 51.3 seconds.

Records were more difficult to come by in the field events; many tried but only one athlete was successful! The outstanding Angharad John now holds the year record for the Javelin in Years 7, 8 & 9; an achievement unrivalled in Sports Day history. For the record, the new Year 9 Girls' Javelin record now stands at 27.36 meters.

This year the competition for the accolade of Victix and Victor Ludorum (the female and male athlete who amass the greatest number of points for their house), was very hotly contested.

In contention for the Victrix Ludorum this year were Chloe Dowling Year 7, (winner of the Javelin and Shot), Ellie Henderson Year 10, (winner of the Discus and Shot), Felicity Williamson-Sarll Year 9, (winner of the 800m and Long Jump), Megan Fish Year 9, (winner of the 100m and 200m), Megan Hopkin Year 8, (winner of the Long Jump and High Jump), Nia Harman Year 8 (winner of the Discus and Javelin) and Emily Stradling Year 7 (winner of the 300m and Discus).

With so many in contention, it was going to take a special all round sportswoman to lift the title of

Victrix Ludorum 2012. With wins in the Year 10 Girls' 800m, High Jump and 1500m, setting a new year record . . . this year's Victrix Ludorum is OLIVIA NORRIS!

Contenders for the Victor Ludorum were Adam Jenkins Year 9, (winner of the Long Jump and Triple Jump), Ben Asprea, Year 8, (winner of the 400m and Long Jump), Corey Dyer Year 8, (winner of the Discus and Shot), Cory Gardner Year 10, (winner of the 100m and 200m), Kyle Lawrence Year 9, (winner of the Javelin and High Jump), Laurence Hunt Year 7, (winner of the 400m and 1500m), and Liam Evans Year 9, (winner of the 100m and 200m).

Last year's winner Aron Woolcock, Year 8 put himself firmly in contention to retain his title this year with outstanding victories in the 100m, 200m and High Jump . . . BUT this feat was matched by the 'new kid on the block', Mit Russell in Year 7 who won the High Jump, 100m and Javelin (with a throw which could have won the Year 10 title!!!) So this year the title of Victor Ludorum is shared between Mit Russell, Year 7 and Aron Woolcock, Year 8.

With so many competitors amassing house points, the competition for overall Sports Day House Winner was particularly fierce this year. Mr Stradling was especially encouraged to hear that POWYS was leading at the half way point . . . could they sustain this level of performance?

At the end of Sports Day 2012, the final standings were as follows:

- 4th with 680 points Morgannwg
- Joint 2nd with 787 points Powys
 Gwynedd
- 1ST WITH 806 POINTS DYFED

The PE department would like to extend their gratitude to:

- All members of staff (in School and at Sports Day) who helped make such a memorable experience possible for our pupils.
- The kitchen staff, Mrs Shell in particular for her forbearance and feeding us!!
- Mrs Kay Richmond & LATCH for allowing us to borrow the Olympic Torch.
- Mr Dykes for his continued support of Sports Day and the PE Department.



Sports Day Winners: Dyfed

1.	DYFED	(806 PTS)
=2.	GWYNEDD	(787 PTS)
=2.	POWYS	(787 PTS)
4.	MORGANNWG	(680 PTS)

VICTOR LUDORUM: MIT RUSSELL (P), ARON WOOLCOCK (G)

VICTRIX LUDORUM: OLIVIA NORRIS (P)

YEAR 7 BOYS

100m	Mit Russell (P)
200m	Joe Stradling (M)
400m	Laurence Hunt (P)
800m	Louis Protheroe (M)
1500m	Laurence Hunt (P)
Relay	Morgannwg
Shot	Ben Roach (P)
Discus	Nathan Jones (P)
Javelin	Mit Russell (P)
Long Jump	Stephen Davies (M)
High Jump	Brandon Cooper (G)
Triple Jump	Mit Russell (P)

YEAR 7 GIRLS

100m	Eleanor Page-Longman (M)
200m	Neve Thomas (D)
300m	Emily Stradling (G) Rec
800m	Kirsty Watson (M)
1500m	Nia Bowen (G)
Relay	Morgannwg
Shot	Chloe Dowling (G)
Discus	Emily Stradling (G)
Javelin	Chloe Dowling (G)
Long Jump	Olivia Brown (D)
High Jump	Jaycie Dyer (P)

YEAR 8 BOYS

100m	Aron Woolcock (G)
200m	Aron Woolcock (G)
400m	Ben Asprea (G)
800m	Oliver Woodall (P)
1500m	Cameron Rees (D)
Relay	Gwynedd
Shot	Corey Dyer (G)
Discus	Corey Dyer (G)
Javelin	Charlie Bevan (D)
Long Jump	Ben Asprea (G)
High Jump	Aron Woolcock (G)
Triple Jump	Kyle Thomas (M)

YEAR 8 GIRLS

100m	Masie Dawe (M)
200m	Ashleigh Phillips (M)
300m	Alex Hunt (G)
800m	Keira O'Sullivan (P)
1500m	Katie Williams (D)
Relay	Gwynedd
Shot	Alecia Wilson-Morgan (P)
Discus	Nia Harman (G)
Javelin	Nia Harman (G)
Long Jump	Megan Hopkin (M)
High Jump	Megan Hopkin (M)

YEAR 9 BOYS

100m	Liam Evans (D) Rec
200m	Liam Evans (D)
400m	Scott Hodgson (M)
800m	Callum Jones (G)
1500m	Sam Comley (P)
Relay	Morgannwg
Shot	Luke Hamilton (M)
Discus	Deri Edwards (D)
Javelin	Kyle Lawrence (P)
Long Jump	Adam Jenkins (M)
High Jump	Kyle Lawrence (P)
Triple Jump	Adam Jenkins (M)

YEAR 9 GIRLS

100m	Megan Fish (M)
200m	Megan Fish (M)
300m	Chloe Stringer (D)
800m	Felicity Williamson-Sarll (G)
1500m	Ellie Merchant (P)
Relay	Gwynedd
Shot	Rhiannon Griffiths (G)
Discus	Shaye Wiltshire (D)
Javelin	Angharad John (G) Rec
Long Jump	Felicity Williamson-Sarll (G)
High Jump	Leah Thomas (G)

YEAR 10 BOYS

100m	Cory Gardner (M)
200m	Cory Gardner (M)
400m	Jordan Norris (P)
800m	Callum Chilcott (M)
1500m	Ethan Newbery (D)
Relay	Morgannwg
Shot	Christian Long (D)
Discus	Gareth Evans-Rees (P)
Javelin	Elliott Williams (P)
Long Jump	Jack Bevan (D)
High Jump	Jordan Fox (G)
Triple Jump	Joseph Jones (M)

YEAR 10 GIRLS

100m	Bethan Eales (D)
200m	Allie Young (G)
300m	Megan Jones (P)
800m	Olivia Norris (P)
1500m	Olivia Norris (P)
Relay	Dyfed
Shot	Ellie Henderson (D)
Discus	Ellie Henderson (D)
Javelin	Jessica Ivey (D)
Long Jump	Lauren Best (G)
High Jump	Olivia Norris (P)



TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2012

MONDAY 9TH JULY – WEDNESDAY 11TH JULY

The sixth annual Porthcawl Comprehensive School Tennis Tournament was a huge success again this year, attracting over 200 entries both male and female from Years 7 to 10. With two sunny days out of three, the games went on in good conditions. The matches towards the end of the tournament were played at a high level of tennis, with some very close games. At court side, Year 10 BTEC pupils helped the PE staff in

planning fixtures and recording results. The winner of each event was awarded with an engraved 5x60 Slate trophy to remind them of their achievement.

RESULTS - BOYS' TOURNAMENT

In the Senior Boys Final, Josh Bell continued to show the great form that he had been showing throughout the competition. The defiant Joe Jones started strongly however, and he took an early lead.

Josh's endurance and stamina came through in the middle to later stages though, as he forced his way back into the game, taking it to a tie break. Both players had chances to win the match, but it was Josh who was eventually victorious.

A summary of the Boys' Singles is given below (top left).

The Year 7 Boys' Winner was Brandon Cooper who beat Meuryn Nelson 6 – 4.

RESULTS - GIRLS' TOURNAMENT

Olivia Norris proved too strong for all the opposition she faced and went on to win the final 6 – 3.

A summary of the Girls' Singles is given below (bottom left):

The Year 7 Girls' Winner was Emily Stradling who beat Isobel Humphries 6 – 0.

DOUBLES RESULTS

The Mixed Doubles final was the game of the tournament. The girls played an equal part in all aspects of the match, and the boys' etiquette was exemplary. The game was played with fierce competition but sadly the match didn't last long as Allie Young and Brad Griffiths ran away with the title, beating Katie Roberts and Nathan Jones 6-0. In Year 7, Jamie Ferrier and Emily Stradling overwhelmed Harry Nicholls and Alice Webber in their Mixed Doubles Final.

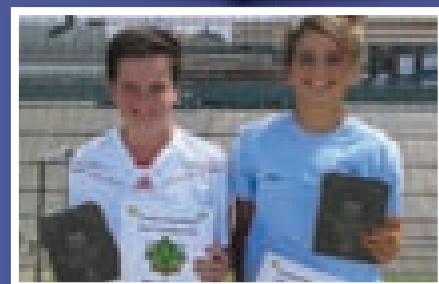
Sonny Thornhill and Ethan Newbery – BTEC Sport

1/4 FINAL	SEMI FINAL	FINAL	WINNER
Josh Bell 6 Jack Palmer 5	Josh Bell 6 Jack Palmer 1	Josh Bell 7 Ollie Martin 3	Josh Bell Connor Jones
Connor Tantum 3 Keland Phinniemoore 3	Jak Robbins 4 Oli Martin 5	Joe Jones 6 Connor Jones 5	
Jak Robbins 6 Oli Martin 5	Joe Jones 6 Connor Jones 5	Joe Jones 6 Connor Jones 6	
Jake Furness 2 Luke Atherton 4	Nathan Jones 3 Luke Morgan 4		
Dan Gould 5 Connor Jones 4			
Joe Jones 6 James Young 1			
Bradley Griffiths 2 Luke Morgan 4			
Nathan Jones 6 Rhys Cobley 3			

Plate Competition in yellow type

1/4 FINAL	SEMI FINAL	FINAL	WINNER
Olivia Norris 5 Alecia Wilson-Morgan 3	Olivia Norris 6 Alecia Wilson-Morgan 4	Olivia Norris 6 Alecia Wilson-Morgan 6	Olivia Norris Alecia Wilson-Morgan
Katie Roberts 0 Lucie Peckham 1	Chloe Evans 1 Shona Davies 2		
Imogen Kent 0 Chloe Stringer 1	Demi Grant 3 Emily Stradling 4	Abi Gallafant 3 Emily Stradling 4	
Chloe Evans 5 Shona Davies 3	Abi Gallafant 6 Sara Bevan 1		
Angharad John 4 Sarah Williams 1			
Demi Grant 5 Emily Stradling 3			
Abi Gallafant 5 Sara Bevan 3			
Allie Young 3 Ffion Wilkins 1			

Plate Competition in yellow type



TENNIS NEWS

Congratulations to the U13 Boys' and U15 Girls' Tennis Teams who were successful in becoming County Champions in the Summer term. Both teams went on to represent the county in the South Wales Regional Finals at the David Lloyd centre in Cardiff. Representing the Boys' U13 team were George Hurry, Joe Williams, Nathan Jones and Bradley Griffiths. The Girls' U15 team consisted of Olivia Norris, Harriet Maine, Becky Wardman and Chloe Evans.

Well done to both teams!



Twitter

New to the PE Department is our Twitter page - @porthcawlpe - where pupils past and present can follow us and find out what is going on in the PE Department.

Athletics

The middle of June saw four athletics teams set off to Aberdare Stadium for the annual NAS/UWT District athletics round. The pupils were all a credit to the school and performed to the best of their ability. The final results of the day were:

- MIDDLE GIRLS - 1ST
- JUNIOR BOYS - 1ST
- MIDDLE BOYS - 2nd
- JUNIOR GIRLS - 3RD

The Middle Girls and Junior Boys then went on to the County round where they represented Bridgend. The standard at this round was considerably higher, again both teams gave their all, and despite not being able to reproduce 1st position again, they both managed to place a respectable 3rd.

Congratulations to all those pupils involved in both rounds of the competition. A particular mention must go to Angharad John (Year 9) who threw a

personal best of over 29m to convincingly win the Middle Girls Javelin competition.

COLTS ATHLETICS

Well done to all those Year 7 pupils who, for the most part, experienced their first ever athletics championships at Aberdare Stadium at the end of June. They came up against some stiff competition but nonetheless did themselves proud.

Some performances worthy of note were as follows:

- Louis Protheroe - 1st 800m
- Boys Relay Team - 1st (Joe Stradling, Mit Russell, Louis Protheroe, Brandon Cooper)
- Brandon Cooper - 2nd High Jump
- Chloe Dowling - 2nd Shot
- Mit Russell - 3rd 200m
- Olivia Brown - 3rd Long Jump
- Emily Stradling - 3rd High Jump

H Davies

X Country

Glamorgan Valleys X Country Championships
- October 2012

Almost 60 Porthcawl pupils from Years 7-13 took part in the annual Glamorgan Valleys X Country Championships at Newbridge Fields. Despite it being a beautiful day, the race, in parts looked more like a "Bog Snorkelling" competition, due to the huge rainfall of previous days! Despite this, the pupils seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. (I doubt the parents were quite so enthusiastic when they saw the state of their kit!) Their efforts in such difficult conditions could not be faulted.

There were many impressive performances, notably the Year 7 Girls.

Lucy Dennis put all the other competitors safely in her shadow as she made the 2,200m run look like a breeze in the park; barely out of breath at the end, coming 1st by a considerable distance. (Definitely a name to look out for in the future.)

- Rebecca Sutton - 20th
- Elen McCloy - 31st
- Jamimah Cook - 32nd
- Megan Morris - 34th (Megan lost one of her trainers in a large puddle near the start of the race but continued to complete the course in one sock and one trainer!)

Considering there were well over 100 competitors, these girls did exceptionally well.

The Year 7 Boys also put in some outstanding performances:

- James Lampard - 3rd
- Robin Edwards - 31st
- Ieuan Walmsley-Williams - 33rd
- Thomas Wright - 36th
- Callum Jones - 45th

The Junior Girls and Boys, (Years 8 & 9) also ran well, with results ranging from 38th - 73rd.

The Middle Girls and Boys, (Years 10 & 11) also helped put Porthcawl on the map:

- Felicity Williamson-Sarll - 7th
- Leah Thomas - 12th
- Jessica Sutton - 16th
- Katie Roberts - 19th
- Laura Ashton - 24th
- Owen Leary - 13th
- Ethan Newbery - 19th
- Rob Davis - 27th
- Thomas Rees - 30th
- Sam Comley - 36th
- Connor Tantom - 40th

And finally, our only Senior competitor, Stephanie Kelly (Year 12), who ran a superb race to finish in 3rd place.

Well done to all those who competed and got down and dirty!

H Davies

Pupil Achievements

Many congratulations go to the following:-

Emily Stradling

Basketball Camp – Dublin July 2012
U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner – Football
Selection for U14 County Hockey Squad

Ellie Merchant

Basketball Camp – Dublin July 2012

Gabrielle Williams-Rumble

Basketball Camp – Dublin July 2012

Ben Merchant

Basketball Camp – Dublin July 2012
Selected for Wales U14 Basketball Squad

Matthew Roberts

Selected for Wales U14 Basketball Squad

Keland Phinnemore

Selected for Welsh Surf Life Saving Team
2012

Bethan Brooks

Gained Bronze Flying Wings – RAF

Ross Waters

Selected to attend Royal International Air
Tattoo

Mark Pugh-Bevan

Selected to attend Farnborough Air Show -
RAF

Lucy Peckham

Selected to attend Farnborough Air Show -
RAF

Lydia Sheppard

1st Place in Team Show Jumping at Barbury
Three Day Event

Sara Cobley

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Chantelle Jones

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Emily Pearson

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Lilli Furness

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Ffion Jones

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Isabella Crofts

U12 South Wales Girls League
Championship Winner - Football

Jessica Sutton

Member of Bridgend County Swimming
Squad

Nia Eales

Gymnastics – Welsh Individual All Round
Champion 2012
Welsh Beam Champion 2012
Welsh Floor Champion 2012

Angharad John

Represented Wales at European Surfing
Championships in France

Joe Williams

Rugby - Selection for Bridgend Schools
Dewar Shield Squad U15 (a year early)

Harry Evans

Selected for Glamorgan County U14 Golf
Team – unbeaten all season at singles

Matthew Taylor

Completed PADI Open Water Diving Course
Summer 2012

Emily James

Performed with WNO in their touring
production of La Boheme

Sarah Pickett

Gained Grade 8 Piano

Lydia Pickett

Achieved Grade 5 Cello with distinction

Jordan Williams

Represented Wales at Kick Boxing

Bethan Cliff

Selection for U14 County Hockey Squad

Alex Hunt

Selection for U14 County Hockey Squad

Harriet Maine

Selection for U16 County Hockey Squad

Katie Roberts

Selection for U16 County Hockey Squad

Allie Young

Selection for U16 County Hockey Squad

Robyn Wilkins

Selection for U18 County Netball Squad

Hayden Lau

Rhiannon Flye
Huw Owen

Recent PCS leavers - visited Australia over
the Summer of 2012 assisting in
conservation projects and raising money on
behalf of the Joshua Foundation

HEAD TEAM

Adam Mounce

Head Boy

Leonie McQuaide

Head Girl

Dan Pugh-Bevan

Deputy Head Boy

Joe Wiltshire Smith

Deputy Head Boy

Natasja Bryant

Deputy Head Girl

Heulwen Everton

Deputy Head Girl

Jonathan Berry

Assistant Head Boy

Kieran Bluck

Assistant Head Boy

Ben Evans

Assistant Head Boy

Daniel Evans

Assistant Head Boy

Sarah Pickett

Assistant Head Girl

India Rees

Assistant Head Girl

Lora Roberts

Assistant Head Girl

Jemimah Williams-Rumble

Assistant Head Girl

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Has your child achieved success
or recognition relating to an extra-
curricular activity?

If so, please contact Mrs Wardman at
school (Tel:774193) to let her know.