

WELCOME TO THE
FIRST EDITION OF THE
PORTHCAWL POST
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR
2019-2020

Porthcawl Post



Porthcawl Comprehensive School Newsletter

PCS Ranked in Top 5% of Welsh Schools!

A very warm welcome to all associated with our school. As we embark upon 2019-20, may I especially welcome all those who are new to our school. I do hope all our new learners have settled in quickly and have started to enjoy the wonderful experience that is Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

As is our custom and practice, I would like to offer a few words to summarise our remarkable examination performance. In broad terms we have had another 'stellar' set of results, especially at Key Stage 4. Examination outcomes for Year 11 have been very volatile across Wales, based largely on the 'first entry counts' policy that was introduced last year. This policy prevented multiple entries of an examination and schools picking the best result. The schools in Wales had to remain with the first sitting result while the learners could resit and keep their best score.

The table illustrates the school's Key Stage 4 performance in the key indicators of Literacy, Numeracy, Science and the Skills Challenge Certificate.

| Provider | Literacy | Numeracy | Science | SSC |
|----------|----------|----------|---------|-----|
| School | 46 | 44 | 45 | 37 |
| LA | 40 | 37 | 36 | N/A |
| Wales | 39 | 37 | 37 | N/A |

As you will note, the school is comfortably ahead of the average scores for the Local Authority and Wales. One very remarkable fact was that 40% of the entry gained at least 5A*/A, this is up 5% on last year, and that was our record year!

The performance at A Level (or Key Stage 5) was equally as resilient, the table below summarises our outcomes.

| Provider | School L3 Threshold | Average Wider Points Score | Achieved 3 or More | Achieved 3 or More A*-C |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| School | 100 | 872 | 12 | 66 |
| LA | 97 | 697 | 11 | 52 |
| Wales | 97 | 734 | 13 | 58 |

End of Year 9 (Key Stage 3) performance remains at similar levels to the last few years. The Welsh Government no longer publish comparative data here so we can't offer a comparison table.

I have repeatedly mentioned how attendance at school is the single most important contributing factor to success. To put it quite simply, how can you learn if you are not in lessons? Given the importance of attendance at school, we are pleased to report an end of year attendance figure of 94.8%. Once again, may I plead with parents/ carers not to succumb to the cheap term time holiday and support our attendance drive.

As you will note from the headline to this article, our school is now ranked in the top 5% of schools in the whole of Wales. In a recent article (Wales Online), our school was ranked 9th out of 200+ schools in Wales. This is a remarkable achievement that reflects the efforts of our learners, their teachers and the support of our parents/ carers. I am especially delighted as we are a truly comprehensive school that is fully inclusive.

On other matters, Mr Tobin (Welsh) and Mrs Withers (English) have settled in to our school and are thoroughly enjoying their first taste of PCS!



Autumn 2019

Headteacher's Address

(continued from previous page)

The emotional wellbeing of our young people has always had a very high priority. Emotional wellbeing was often presented as the wider pastoral care that we offer all our learners. In recent months, we have had several members of staff trained in 'Mental Health First Aid'. We are equally proud of our 'Stonewall' accredited status and we are working towards the Carnegie Mental Health Award. While we strive for the awards, the pupils are working towards the UN Rights Respecting School Award.

Some readers may be aware of the Welsh Government's changes to the curriculum that we teach our learners. The traditional 'National Curriculum' with its 'levels' will be replaced by the 'Curriculum for Wales'. I feel that this is a fantastic opportunity for us to teach Porthcawl children 'What matters to them'. A group of staff have collaborated to write a new curriculum for our Year 7 learners, entitled 'Our World'. This new venture commenced on 4th November and will run until February half term. As our young learners embark upon this curricular adventure, we hope to develop learners who are ambitious, healthy, entrepreneurial and ethical. The 'Our World' project will complement the 'Health and Wellbeing' lessons currently in Years 7-9 which form the basis of our move to the 'Curriculum for Wales'.

I would like to conclude this piece by thanking all those who contributed to and attended our Year 6 Open Evening. Crowds of learners and their families enjoyed a wide range of events and activities. Following on from this, our transition programme has commenced for September 2020. Should anyone require any further information about the school or may be seeking a place, please call Mrs Sloggett (Deputy Headteacher) at school to arrange a visit.

Once again, I look forward to meeting you again over the course of the year.

Andrew Slade
Headteacher

School Uniform List

YEARS 7-11

- White shirt with stiff collar
- School tie (school ties are available to buy from school reception)
- Navy-blue v-neck jumper / sweatshirt with school badge (school badges are available to buy from school reception)
- Navy-blue trousers of traditional style / navy-blue plain or pinstripe knee length skirt (not stretchy or lycra)
- Dark socks / navy tights
- Flat black shoes (no canvas shoes)
- Plain dark overcoat / anorak

YEARS 12 + 13

- Blue shirt with stiff collar
- Sixth form school tie (school ties are available to buy from school reception)
- Black v-neck jumper / sweatshirt with school badge (school badges are available to buy from school reception)
- Black trousers of traditional style / black plain or pinstripe knee length skirt (not stretchy or lycra)
- Dark socks / black tights
- Flat black shoes (no canvas shoes)
- Plain dark overcoat / anorak

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

RUGBY

- Royal-blue and red school rugby jersey
- Plain black shorts
- Royal-blue and red PE socks
- Rugby / soccer boots

SWIMMING

- Swimming trunks / shorts (no $\frac{3}{4}$ board shorts) / costume

OTHER

- Plain black / navy shorts or plain navy skirt
- School PE shirt
- Royal-blue and red PE socks
- Trainers
- Plain black / navy jogging bottoms or leggings
- Plain or badged red or navy hoodie

School Uniform Reminder

Please see the uniform list. May I draw your attention to footwear – black flat leather/ leather look shoes – no canvas shoes or trainers.

Mrs Hunt

Macmillan Cake Week

As part of the national Macmillan Coffee Morning event, the staff at Porthcawl Comprehensive once again baked and ate cakes for a whole week to raise money for Macmillan. There were some regular favourites as well as some new tasty treats (Madame Morgan's French crêpes were a big hit in the staff room, whilst Mrs Morgan in attendance made some delicious orange cupcakes with a hidden Jaffa Cake for the office staff. Thank you to all staff who supported the fundraising event; we raised an incredible £300 for Macmillan.



Race for Life



During July 2019, Year 10 successfully took part in the Cancer Research UK Race for Life event. To complete this challenge, we all had the choice of walking 2km or running 5km around our school field. Everyone donated a minimum of £3 to the charity to take part in the event. Some pupils managed to raise a large sum of money through sponsorship from parents, grandparents and friends. Overall, we raised a total of £825!

Sophie Evans and Lilly Cummings - Year 11



Sixth Form Charity Football League

Season 3 got underway on Friday 18/10/2019. 'Lotties Angels Youth (On tour)' started the opening game firm favourites against 'John is going to decide one'. There were rumours that as John's team were playing a veteran in the Sixth Form league, aka, Tom Francis, that he would prove a threat. However, it was not to be as 'Lotties Angels Youth (On tour)' had a comfortable 7-0 victory. 'Lotties Angels Seniors' (ex students - Wednesday night Bridgend Leisure League), will be proud of their youth team.

Next up it was 'The Fire Breathing Rubber Duckies' V 'Peachy Cheeks'. It was a very close game with numerous chances on both sides and an excellent goal by captain Lucy Evans. It could have gone either way but 'Peachy Cheeks' edged it 4-3. Thank you for the tremendous support from many Sixth Formers during the opening game. Please continue your support throughout the season.

Mr Pucella

| Porthcawl Comprehensive School | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Sixth Form Charity 5 a-side Football League | | | |
| TEAMS & PLAYERS | | | |
| The Fire Breathing Rubber Duckies Candice Willmer © Dominique Willmer Scott Jenkins Daniel Watson Sam Gilbert Anna Henderson Lucy Beale | John is going to decide one Jonathan Jones © Matthew Pugh Ewan Alitchison-Hough Tom Francis Likto Cheng Owen Thomas Felix Parberry | Lotties Angels Youth Ioan Cliff © Jonathar Munro Matt Greenwood Cameron Beale Max Randle Dan Ball Euan Sparrow | Balatelli Tubbies Cameron Trehar © William James Sam Kembury George Kirby William Hapgood |
| Peachy Cheeks Lucy Evans © Molly Corthine Madi Jones Lauren Hancock Euan Coles | Lads on Tour Ioan Williams © Jamie Davies Harrison Lewis Jack Williams Adam Williams | Puyol Pants Down Oliver Jones © Niall Thomas Matt Morgan Jack Kiernan Archie Howlie | thoorting Lison Isaak Cronje Llewellyn Edmonds Owen Hopperton Josh Williams Rohan Johns Nia Clathworthy Dylan Perrin |

PCS Sixth Form Interact Group

Crocus corms

Rotary clubs help to plant millions of purple crocuses every year to raise awareness for efforts to end polio.

The Interact Club in school consists of a number of Sixth Form volunteers who come up with their own ideas/projects to help raise money for local charities and the local community. They also support some of the larger international projects run by the Rotary Club. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14-18. Our Sixth Form Interact club is sponsored and supported by the Rotary club in Porthcawl. Jean Schofield and Carol Llewellyn from Porthcawl Rotary regularly attend our meetings and provide support and guidance.

Being involved in the Sixth Form Interact group is your chance to

- ★ Make new friends
- ★ Improve your community

- ★ Develop leadership skills
- ★ Make a difference in the world

Why not get involved? Join our Sixth Form Interact club and develop leadership skills while helping others. Interact clubs are self-governing and financially independent, making it possible to choose and carry out service projects that you care about. With more than 250,000 Interactors in over 120 countries and geographical areas, Interact is a worldwide phenomenon!

Last year our Interact Club raised funds to help all of our local Life Saving Clubs, supported the Harbourside Project, raised money for Sandville Self Help Centre, Tenovus Cancer Care and the ROHHAD Association.

Interested? Learn more at www.rotary.org or see Mr. Pucella in G5.



World First Aid Day (14 September) – PCS Sixth Form First Aid Awareness Week

Accidents and emergencies can happen anywhere, anytime – in your own home, at school, or to someone sitting next to you at the bus stop. They're unpredictable. That's why this World First Aid Day (14 September), the British Red Cross were calling on the nation to be prepared, because first aid can save lives in everyday emergencies.

Ms Crook received resources from the Red Cross and we thought it would be a good idea to have a first aid focus every morning for a week for our Sixth Form classes with their form tutors.

Each Sixth Form tutor shared first aid scenarios and quizzes with their tutor group. Also we put together a number of our Sixth Formers who are first aid trained (some with Lifeguards, RNLI or St John's) and they volunteered to work with each form class to go through how to do the recovery position, using demonstrations and role play.

Our Sixth Form volunteers were Angharad Jones, Meg McCloy, Hannah Davidson, Ewan Coles, Stella Marks, Adam Bertorelli, Erin Richards, Hannah Strong, Jamie Harrowing and Amber Levey.

The idea being it will give people confidence if faced with an unconscious casualty in the future. If everyone practices the recovery position even once, they are more likely to have a go, rather than just being a bystander.

The week went well and raised much awareness. Thanks to everyone who took part.

Mr Pucella

Equality Plan Update



Mrs Anna Morgan, Vice Chair of Governors joined a group of our pupils to discuss equality. From the excellent feedback, we have updated our School Equality Plan.



Finn

Finn and Joanna are out hiking when Finn gets stung by a bee. Finn is allergic to bee stings so they have to act fast.



Severe allergic reaction

How confident do you feel about helping someone who is having a severe allergic reaction?



Child Protection

NSPCC

All schools have a statutory duty to exercise their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of their learners.



At Porthcawl Comprehensive School there is a Designated Safeguarding person (DSP) – Mrs J. Sloggett and two Deputies Ms. R. Gould and Mrs S. Morgan. There is also a nominated Governor Mrs A. Thomas.



Should any pupil have any worries in relation to their own wellbeing or that of others then they should speak to any of the above mentioned staff as soon as possible. Failing this they should speak to their Head of Year or Form Tutor.



Where there is a concern about a child we will, in general, seek to discuss this with the family and where possible, seek their agreement to making a referral to social services.

The school aims to create an atmosphere of openness. We want our pupils to feel secure and feel that their concerns will be listened to. What they say will be taken seriously and every effort will be made to work with parents/carers in a positive and constructive manner in order to support the children.

The school has recently updated its Child Safeguarding Policy. If you would like a copy please ask at reception.

Helplines

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline 0800 800500 or www.nspcc.org.uk

CHILDLINE 0800 1111 or www.childline.org.uk

Children's Commission for Wales 01792 765600 or post@child.comwales.org.uk

Samaritans 01656 662333 or www.samaritans.org

Online Safety Update

July saw the school become the regional consortium's lead practitioner for Online Safety, where other schools came and looked at how the school worked towards the 360 Degree Safe Cymru Award. The school worked with other schools to show and develop ideas and strategies for them to implement back in their setting.

"Screen Time – A new film and guide for families" is now available through the online safety zone in the Hwb Welsh Government platform. This is the first in a new series of 'Start the conversation' films and guides especially for families about important online safety issues. This first release explores the challenges families face in tackling screen time. The idea of the film is that it helps to start a conversation with young people about their screen time use. This series will develop through the year and include titles such as online grooming and bullying as well as other sensitive topics.

<https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/online-safety/news/articles/acd557a7-b84a-400e-8080-8e48e026fa81>

There is a wealth of helpful information and guides on around this ever changing area.

<https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/online-safety/repository/tree?sort=created&language=en>

Safer Internet Day 2020

For Safer Internet Day 2020 the Welsh Government in partnership with UK Safer Internet Centre is running a film competition.

The school will be encouraging pupils to take part in the competition, which looks at the theme "A better internet: How to look after yourself and others". For more details <https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/online-safety/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-film-competition/>

Digital Leaders

The school will be involving our digital leaders in lots of different ways over the next term. Feedback on the use of ICT in the classroom and the digital competence framework which is the first area of the new curriculum. They will be working with the organisation Digital Heroes and the local community to make technology more inclusive <https://www.digitalcommunities.gov.wales/digital-heroes/>

We are always looking for new digital leaders who are interested in having a say in the way technology is developed throughout school and the wider community so listen out in assemblies for more details or follow PCS_IT or @CompPorthcawl



Enrichment days

On July 15th and 16th Years 8 and 9 benefitted from two very busy Enrichment Days. We were supported from a large number of external providers:

- The school nurse
- Hafan Cymru
- RNLI
- Charlie Waller Memorial Trust
- Young Wales
- Sea Quest
- People First
- Hafod Housing
- Fire Service
- St. John's Ambulance
- Alzheimer's Society
- The Vine Church
- Bridgend Inclusion Service
- Careers Wales

Over the 2 days the pupils benefitted from workshops covering a very broad range of subject matter, from Domestic Violence, to Mental Health and Democracy. Many thanks to all those providers who gave of their time and expertise!



Mental Health

The school has taken a number of steps to improve the mental health education we provide:

1. Workshops for Year 9 (July 2019) from the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust.
2. Lessons on positive mental health as an integral part of the Health and Wellbeing/PSE programmes of study for Years 7 through to 11.
3. Assemblies on World Mental Health Day.
4. Newsletter articles.
5. Updates and links on the school Twitter, website and Facebook accounts.
6. Four members of staff have been trained by Action for Children to deliver the Welsh Government funded research project "The Guide". This is a research based programme of 6-8 lessons to be delivered to all Year 9 pupils. The pupils and staff delivering the training have already completed baseline questionnaires and further questionnaires will be completed following the lessons. Data from these will be analysed by Swansea University and we will be given a report showing areas we need to focus on in the future.
7. Five members of staff are now fully qualified Mental Health First Aiders and more staff will be trained in the coming term.
8. Mental Health is a main feature in this year's planned work with primary school colleagues.
9. We are planning to train up a number of pupils as Wellbeing Ambassadors. They will then help plan further and offer peer support both within our school but also our feeder primary schools.
10. We have registered with Leeds Beckett University to partake in the "Carnegie Centre for Excellence for Mental Health in Schools Award".



11. Three members of staff are now trained as Stonewall Ambassadors – concerns around gender identity can have a massive impact upon young people's mental health.

12. We will be working on being re-accredited for a further 3 years for the Online Safety Award, focusing our work specifically on the impact of internet use and social media on mental health.

Pride Cymru 2019

Pride Cymru is a volunteer-led charity, challenging discrimination and Wales' biggest celebration of equality and diversity. This year they celebrated its 20th Anniversary! The Pride event took place over the August bank holiday weekend in Cardiff. Over the three days, Pride Cymru hosted over 50,000 people in the capital to raise awareness and support, to the LGBT+ community.

Porthcawl Comprehensive School was invited to the celebration, to take part in the parade as part of Proud Councils, representing both Bridgend County Borough Council and the school. A number of us went along, on what was a beautiful sunny day, joining councils, staff from schools and other organisations. We were delighted to be able to join 15,000 others in the parade, who were showing their support to the LGBT+ community. The day was a celebration of uniqueness, where everyone was equal. This amazing event allowed parents, family, friends, and colleagues to show their support, as allies, to the LGBT+ community.

Student Support and Mrs Sloggett are members of a focus group, representing the school, to affect change regarding policy and support to pupils who identify as part of the community. Pupils are at the centre of the discussions, that shape the resources they would like to see, both inside and outside of school.

We had the most fantastic day and hope we will be invited back next year!





Restart a Heart for Year 8



Restart a Heart Day started four years ago and is now a worldwide event. It is a yearly designated day of action, with the aim to teach vital life-saving skills to as many people as possible to improve out-of-hospital cardiac survival rates. Last year in the UK alone, more than 238,793 people were taught CPR on and around this day. Currently, less than 1 in 10 people in the UK survive a cardiac arrest that takes place outside of a hospital setting. However, chances of survival can more than double if somebody suffering a cardiac arrest is given early CPR and defibrillation.

On 16th October, Porthcawl Comprehensive School participated in Restart a Heart Day for the fourth year running and once again did brilliantly. This year, the training was led by Mary Emms who is a senior sister in A & E at the Princess of Wales Hospital, and Sixth Formers; Erin Richards, Adam Bertorelli and Ewan Coles amongst others, helped administer the training. Thank you to you all, and the school now has 207 more young life savers in Year 8, to add to the hundreds that were trained in previous years.

Well done, and potentially the skills they picked up will make a difference to someone's life in the future!



Rights Respecting Schools Award

What's it all about?

The school is working towards becoming a Rights Respecting School. The Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award supports schools across the UK to embed children's human rights in their ethos and culture.

The award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. The programme started in a pilot phase in 2006. Schools involved in the Award have reported a positive impact on relationships and well-being, leading to better learning, improved academic achievement and a reduction in bullying. It complements and adds to other school improvement strategies and interventions. It has at its heart the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

How will this benefit us at Porthcawl Comprehensive School?

Much of our best practice is already consistent with a rights-respecting approach but we don't connect it to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) or use the language of rights and respect to underpin what we are doing. It's about preparing our pupils for their place in an ever changing world – both now and as adults.

Rights Respecting Schools links to all other school 'Awards' BUT it is equally about:

- narrowing the attainment gap
- teaching and learning
- restorative practice
- better relationships and engagement
- improved pupil participation



Staff have already received training on this at the start of term and a steering group of some 20 pupils has been set up. Governors have been informed and we have a nominated Governor who is going to work with us. Pupils are receiving a weekly assembly looking at the various rights or articles in the UNCRC and how they link to what we do in school. If you would like to support us in this work and become part of our steering group then we would love to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Sloggett in school.



Unicef works around the world, including right here in the UK, to keep all children healthy, happy and safe.



British Transplant Games – Organ Donation Awareness

The British Transplant Games were held in Newport on 24th–28th July this year. The games have been running for the last 40 years and are a celebration of life, organised on behalf of Transplant Sport whose aim is to raise awareness of the need for organ donation, encourage transplant recipients to lead active lifestyles and show appreciation for, and remember, donors and their families.

Teams from hospitals across the UK come together to compete in a medley of sports, attracting 1000 transplant athletes and more than 1500 supporters over 4 days. Transplant survivors as young as 5 can compete in more than 25 sports, and many athletes also go on to compete at the World Transplant Games.

Together with my wife and daughter, we took part in the donor walk/run, 3–5K event on Saturday 27th July. The event was open to transplant recipients, the families of organ donors and supporters of the games who all came together to walk or run in gratitude of all organ donors and their families.

An exhibition about organ donation in Friars Walk, Newport was held prior to the games and we were asked by the NHS Blood and Transplant team if they could include the personal story of our son Luca.

Luca gave the gift of life to three known people. A lady from Manchester received his kidney and pancreas. A man from Cardiff received his other kidney and a Year 9 girl from London received his liver. All recipients are now leading a positive and healthy life and are truly grateful for the gift they received.

Luca's personal story has been made into a plaque which will be mounted inside the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at the University of Wales Heath Hospital where we spent a significant amount of time as a family. Luca was in intensive care on at least eight occasions.

Whilst giving out some of the gold medals to the children's relay teams, it dawned on me that none of the competitors would be there at all if it wasn't for someone making an organ donation.

Organ donation is not a topic that is openly discussed amongst friends or family but it is very important. Going back a few years ago, my wife and I went to donate blood in Bridgend and Luca and Sofia wanted to come. Sofia watched in amazement and took everything in quietly where as Luca bombarded the nursing staff with so many questions, they even took him on a tour of the vehicles and where the blood is stored. While we were having our well-earned squash and biscuits Luca asked us questions about the leaflets that were on the table. They included information on bone marrow, platelets and organ donation. As we explained what everything meant he responded by saying that it is important to help others and if he could ever help or save someone's life then he would.

When Luca's health deteriorated as a result of his ROHHAD illness we were informed by his doctors that he would not pull through. At that point we informed the doctors of our wish and Luca's wish that he would like to give the gift of life to others. Following the operation and after Luca's passing we left the Heath Hospital at approximately 7am, it was a very cold but

crisp winter's morning. We felt numb, the worst feeling as a parent but at the same time we also felt comfort as we knew that there were three other families in the UK waking up to find their loved ones alive. Their lives changed and it does give us some comfort that Luca lives on in them.

I would encourage everyone to have the conversation with your family and friends and make them aware of your donation beliefs, not to keep the topic of organ donation a taboo subject.

Thank you. Mr Pucella



Welcome to... "Our World"

To celebrate the New Curriculum for Wales, our Year 7 pupils are currently enjoying an exciting new project that encompasses all of the Areas of Learning Experience. Teachers have worked tirelessly to produce a term's worth of stimulating experiences across the curriculum, all centred upon the theme of "Our World".

Pupils are immersed in active learning that embraces the Four Core Purposes that will help shape ambitious, ethically informed, entrepreneurial and community aware students, equipping them to be the best

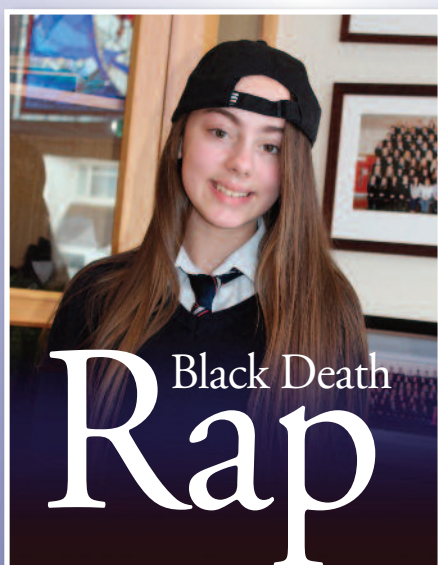
citizens they can be in the future.

They will be exploring their place in their local communities and their place in the world from their own unique perspectives.

A celebration of their achievements will coincide with the Eisteddfod in March.

Our youngsters will have a fantastic time finding out what matters and how important they are in their own world and as part of a wider community. After all, it is all 'Our World' and they are a vital part in its future.

Mr Thomas



Black Death Rap

I have really enjoyed the History project this year. We were set the task of writing a rap about the Black Death. I decided to write the rap and compose my own music to go with it. It has been a really fun experience and I've thoroughly enjoyed performing this in front of my class mates and teachers.

Katie Coombes - Year 7

Creative Writing Club

Creative Writing Club has flown off to an awesome start! We're working on creating our own book full of our writing: poems, stories, speeches and more. Here are some examples of lighthearted synonym poems and blurbs that we have been writing, ready for our own gothic stories.

Evil
Dank, harmful, malicious, cruel.
Look! He's trying to steal that jewel!

Dark
Dark, gloomy, moonless, night.
Wow! That gave me a bit of a fright!

Ffion Adams, Year 8

When the moon is full, terror floods the
causeway that leads to the town.

The wolfman, woken from its chamber, tied to
the cave walls with blood covered chains: every

bone in its body breaks as it transforms into a
giant beastly monster.

Smoke devours the full moon as figures stand
strong in the forest, with an urge to kill anything
in their path. Gunshots are fired as a lonely figure
pounces onto its victims, leaving them to decay
with their heads on the ground. Kill or be killed!

Katie Coombes, Year 8

When the moon is full and the forest is dark, a
legendary creature will come out of the night.
Lock the doors, close the windows and hide
inside your wardrobe. His name, the wolfman,
with claws bigger than your skull, fangs as sharp
as a kitchen knife, furry as the carcass on your
living room floor. Hide your baby in a basket:
one false move, you'll be in a casket.

Eryn Williams, Year 8

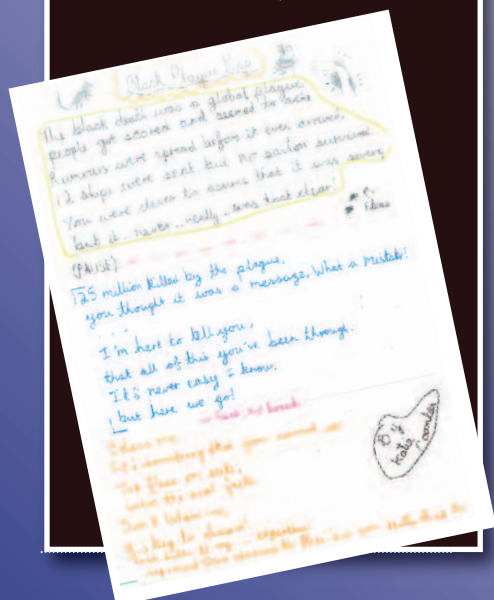
Cyber Security Summer Course

In the Summer, Cyber First held a cyber-security course in Cardiff Metropolitan University to inspire/promote the roles and responsibilities of cyber security specialists. It was a free residential course so no matter who you are, or what level of skills you have, you could apply to attend and learn about data security. We applied on the Cyber First website and out of hundreds of applicants we were lucky enough to have been two of the fifty people that got in. Only four of us were from Wales, the rest being mainly from England and one from Singapore!

We started the course by being given our room key to the dorm which we would be staying in for the week. After unpacking in our rooms, everyone was gathered into the lecture hall to be split into teams of 5, which you would be working in for the rest of the course. The course consisted of various lessons about security basics in the lecture theatre and practical lessons in the labs. The goal by the end of the week was to build and secure our team's network, so that the other teams could not access it.

We had different food every day and in the evenings the supervisors held various events, like quiz night and games night, to help people socialise. Whilst some might have preferred to go back to their rooms to relax, many people enjoyed the activities provided. The course ended with a kahoot quiz testing what we learned throughout the week. From the course we achieved a C grade GCSE equivalent qualification. Overall, the week was very interesting, we learnt the application of hacking in modern society, and had lots of fun. We would highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in a career in cyber security; ask Mrs Christopher about applying.

Ehren Osborne and Gwyn Bell - Year 12



Coding Competition – Be Safe, Be Seen



The Code Club is the place to take that interest in technology, and turn it into a productive skill. Designed for boys and girls who want to try out programming, the Coding Club is a fun way to learn to code in a social, lunch time setting.

Code Club is a voluntary initiative, founded in 2012. The initiative aims to provide opportunities for children aged 9 to 13 to develop coding skills through free school based clubs. As of November 2015, over 3,800 schools and other public venues established a Code Club, regularly attended by an estimated 44,000 young people across the UK. The organisation also expanded internationally, and there are now over 13,000 Code Club operating worldwide. Children create their own computer games, animations and websites, learning how to use technology creatively.

It has Scratch, HTML & CSS, Python and a variety of other coding languages.

You will also get the opportunity to take part in competitions such as the CSC Coding Challenges featured in this magazine.

CODE CLUB takes place every TUESDAY LUNCHTIME in G5 (Mr Pucella's room).



Joel Griffiths 7OT, Joseph Matthews 7RM, Gethin Davies 7RS, Rhys Cryer 8TS and Enzo Lipley 8TS took part in the Coding Challenge 2019 competition on 19th June 2019, held at Brynteg Comprehensive School.

Prior to the event they had to write a program based on the theme: Be Safe, Be Seen.

Child safety around the world is a big problem. We need to be seen to keep us safe and let the other road users know that we are there. Being seen is very important for our safety. Many serious accidents happen because drivers do not see other road users until it is too late.

Pupils were tasked to give a presentation on the day and showcase their program.

During the morning session, pupils had the opportunity to program various robotic kits including Lego Mindstorm robots, BBC Microbits and drones. Pupils particularly enjoyed programming drones and trying to land them on a 'Bullseye' mat.

In the afternoon they had to work together as a team to design and create an innovation using a microbit to help improve safety for children. They had 90 minutes to complete the challenge which had to be presented to the judges and all other groups.

The team from Porthcawl Comprehensive won the competition and went through to the regional finals to be held at Nantgarw College.

Well done to everybody who took part!

CSC Code Challenge – FINAL

Having won the regional competition in Bridgend County our group of coders from Code Club attended the CSC South Wales Code Challenge Final at Nantgarw College on 1st July 2019.

They had done really well for getting this far already. Everyone was excited but a little bit nervous as there was nothing to prepare beforehand, the challenge was going to be set on the day.

Health is a universal right, an essential resource for everyday living, a shared social goal and a political priority for all countries. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) establish a duty to invest in health, ensure universal health coverage and reduce health inequalities for people of all ages. The SDGs also recognise that people's health can no longer be separated from the health of the planet and that environmental sustainability is critical to health improvement. Insufficient physical activity is one of the leading risk factors for various diseases.

Challenge

- Design and create an innovation using a micro: bit to help to improve the health and wellbeing of a child
- You can create anything which will help a child with their health and well-being
- You are free to use the Internet to help with your research and use the materials provided
- You have 90 minutes to complete the challenge

Pupil Review

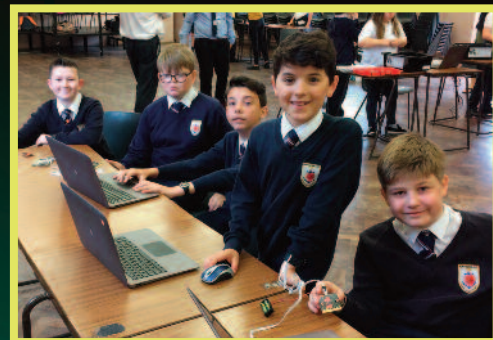
"The day was a fun day and I would recommend anyone to try coding challenges and we are looking forward to next year." Enzo Lipley

As a group we created a fitness product, we coded it to have 3 intensity levels based on beginner, intermediate and advanced fitness levels. The Micro: bit would then display what exercise to do and for how long depending on the level selected. We had to present our innovation to the judges. Overall we came 2nd in the South Wales Finals.

Outcome

As runners up in the competition we were awarded £100 to put towards coding equipment for school. Well done to everyone involved including Joseph Matthews, Joel Griffiths, Gethin Davies, Enzo Lipley and Rhys Cryer.

Mr Pucella

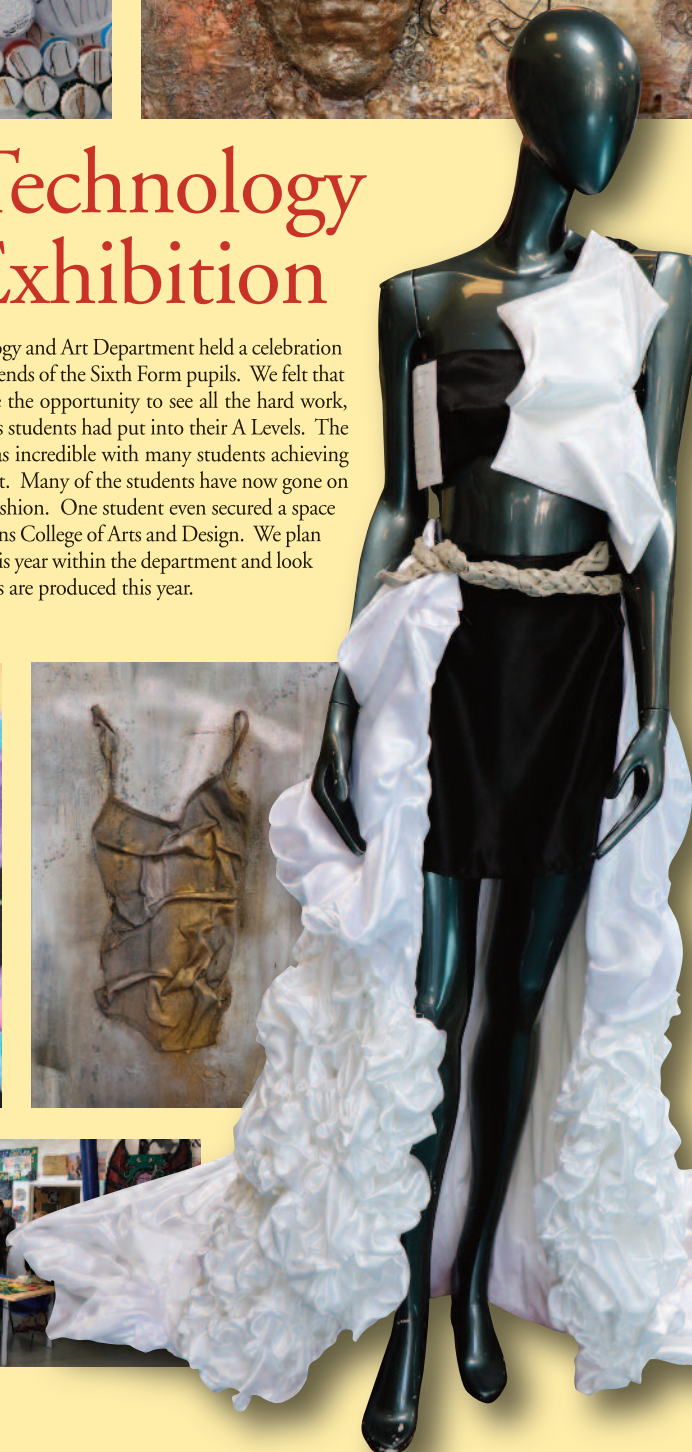




Art and Technology A Level Exhibition

On Wednesday 26th June, the Technology and Art Department held a celebration exhibition evening for the family and friends of the Sixth Form pupils. We felt that the parents of the students should have the opportunity to see all the hard work, effort, creativity and time these fabulous students had put into their A Levels. The standard of work produced this year was incredible with many students achieving A and A* grades in both Textiles and Art. Many of the students have now gone on to university to study Art, Textiles or Fashion. One student even secured a space at London's famous Central Saint Martins College of Arts and Design. We plan to continue to build on the success of this year within the department and look forward to see what innovative creations are produced this year.

Miss Lambert





Year 8 and 9 pupils turned out to support Porthcawl Comprehensive's Cluster of Primary Schools at a council-organised Festival of Learning in Bridgend.

The students joined pupils from Newton, Nottage, West Park and Porthcawl Primaries to showcase the exciting projects that they have worked on this year.

Pupils were able to explain their projects to teachers and pupils from other schools across the county. They then visited other stands to learn about the projects being run by other schools.

Thank you to Rhys Cryer, Elliot Leach, Lily Llewellyn, Hannah Dickson-Jardine, Alina Biju, Samuel Weaver and Joel Griffiths.

Maths Challenge INTERMEDIATE CHALLENGE

Over 250,000 students from more than 3,000 schools and colleges across the UK participated in the Intermediate Maths Challenge on the 7th February. Students had 60 minutes to answer 25 varied multiple choice Maths problems. High scores are awarded certificates to recognise their success in Mathematics.

The UK Mathematics Trust is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of young people in Mathematics. It organises national Mathematics competitions and other Mathematical enrichment activities for UK secondary school pupils. Further information about the trust and its activities is available from www.ukmt.org.uk.

Could you do one of the questions?

There are 120 000 red squirrels living in Scotland. This represents 75% of their total UK population. How many more red squirrels live in Scotland than the rest of the UK?

A 30 000 B 40 000 C 60 000 D 80 000 E 90 000

Those that did well and answered such questions were:

Year 9

Silver Certificate

Dylan Carless - Best in Year

Bronze Certificates

Lewis Price

Trent Francis

Bronze Certificates

Connor Kedward
Joseph Dingle
Oliver Ridd
Rhys Tunnadine
Oliver Burke

Year 11

Silver Certificates

Serenbo Brown - Best in School
and Best in Year
Isaak Cronje

Bronze Certificate

Orla Danahar
Dylan Perrin
Jack Bartlett

Year 10

Silver Certificate

Matthew Sleep - Best in Year

JUNIOR CHALLENGE

In May it was the turn of our Year 7 and 8's to have a go at the Junior Mathematics Challenge. There were 44 pupils who tried the multiple choice problems and for Year 7 it was the first time to sit the Maths Challenge. Over 270,000 pupils sat this challenge with the top 6% receiving Gold, 13% Silver and 21% Bronze.

All did well and the following pupils received a certificate:

YEAR 8

Gold Certificate

Poppy Shingler - Best in Year
and Best in School
Well done Poppy!

Silver Certificate

Benjamin Rounce

Bronze Certificates

Grace Clear
Seren Cole
Scarlett Osborne

YEAR 7

Silver Certificates

Ruby Richards - Best in Year
Joel Griffiths

Bronze Certificate

Adam Matthews
Saoirse Moulton
Jac Pritlove

So how would you get on with a Junior Maths Challenge question?

On Aoife's 16th Birthday, Buster was three times her age. On Aoife's 21st Birthday, how old was Buster?

A 32 B 48 C 53 D 63 E 64

School Council

We are very proud to represent our year groups as part of the School Council. This year we will be working on Children's Rights, as well as working closely with Bridgend Council to promote and support our school in the wider community.

We meet once a month to discuss any issues or ideas for improvement and we pass all of your messages on to the Senior Leadership Team here in Porthcawl.

Last year we were asked to be involved in the following:

- BCBC Sixth Form Consultation
- Improving PCS Merits System
- PCS Self Evaluation Survey
- Children's Rights Ambassadors' Training
- BCBC Porthcawl Regeneration Workshop
- PCS proposed changes for the timings of the school day
- Governor Visit- Eco focus
- School Council Primary Cluster meetings

We're looking forward to a very productive year again this year!



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

We are your Anti- Bullying Ambassadors!

This year we will be coming into assemblies and working with staff and pupils to help promote positivity and a feeling of community here at PCS. We have created a new Anti- Bullying Policy which will be displayed in classrooms and we'll be working with the Diana Award to help support any pupils who feel they need someone to talk to or who would like someone to listen.

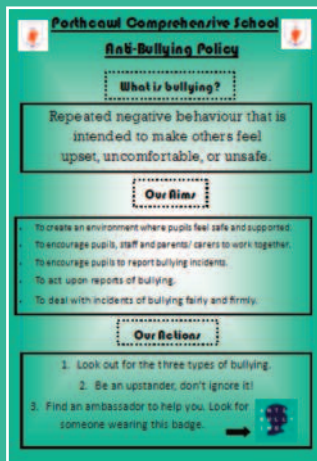
WHAT IS BULLYING?

The Diana Award asked dictionary publishers to change their definition of bullying to the following:

"REPEATED NEGATIVE BEHAVIOUR THAT IS INTENDED TO MAKE OTHERS FEEL UPSET, UNCOMFORTABLE OR UNSAFE."

The Diana Award definition

The Diana Award wanted to take the focus away from bullies being 'strong' and victims being 'weak'.



Year 7 'Cookalong'



At the end of the Summer term, some pupils from Year 7 were kindly invited by Mrs Cook to take part in a 'Cookalong'. This was a national project, when schools all over the country followed a video presentation of a cooking demonstration, on how to make Mexican Pockets. The aim is to teach young people new cooking skills, do lots of cooking and prepare plenty of tasty dishes that the pupils could taste and hopefully make again.

We worked in pairs to measure out the ingredients and prepare the vegetables, ready for the pockets! We put all the ingredients in a large mixing bowl, added some spices, before putting the filling into the pockets. The pockets were made out of wraps that we were placed into a cone shape, stuck together with beaten egg. Once the cones were stuffed, we then sealed them before putting them in the oven for ten minutes. Whilst they were cooking, we did some clearing up in our pairs. The pockets were soon ready to come out of the oven and once they had cooled down, we ate them; they were delicious!! We all worked well together and really enjoyed our time making the Mexican Pockets.

Olivia Foreman - Year 8



Cardiff International White Water - Activities Day

We enjoyed activities day and found it great fun and it was a new experience. The high ropes were scary at parts but the zip wires were so cool and fast. We enjoyed being adventurous and courageous on the air trail. The water activities were our favourite part because we got to learn how to kayak and paddleboard whilst completing challenges which were really fun. We learnt how to hold the paddles properly and how to use the boats and boards properly. It was a really cool experience with our friends and we would love to do this again.

Ava Davies & Megan Tinning

The trip to Cardiff Bay with Mr Pucella was worthwhile! The teachers included everything we needed in the letter for the trip, this made the day much easier. I liked the fact that there were multiple water-based activities to keep us busy. I also liked that the trip didn't end in the late evening. The instructors made sure that we were prepared to go in the water, by providing us with wet-suits. If you had signed up for something and realised when you got there that you were too scared to do it, the teachers would let you sit it out and watch from the café and buy snacks if you had been provided with money by your parents. This was one of my favourite trips I've been on so far. Please do something similar in Year 8 for us too!

Morgan George & Holly Griffiths

The trip was amazing and I really enjoyed it. First we did the high ropes and I loved it, they had a huge variety of different things to do in the air and after that we went on the climbing wall and tried to climb around it. We went for lunch on the veranda and sat in the sunshine. After lunch we got into our wetsuits and went to do stand-up paddle boarding and kayaking. Overall I think it was the best activity I could have chosen and I rate it a 9.7/10 and it was nice to have a day off school and to enjoy the fresh air. I am looking forward to Activities Day next year already.

Finlay Cannon

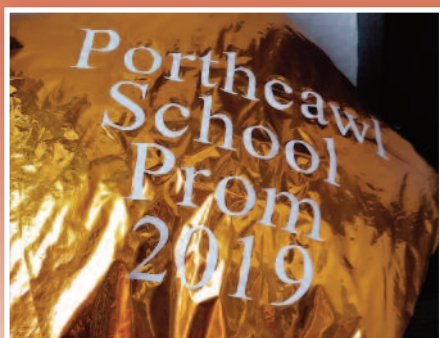
A very successful trip with pupils involved in many activities including the new Air Trail High Ropes course, paddle boarding and kayaking and finally some pupils trying the white water rafting course. We were fortunate with the weather and everyone had great fun. One would think that after several years helping out on this trip Mr. McKenzie would be a master of a kayak but he still managed to sink one.

Mr Pucella





Goodbye to Year 13!



On 10 May, we held a special assembly to say goodbye to our Year 13 leavers who were about to embark on study leave and A Levels. All the form teachers, and as many other staff as were able, gathered together in the Sixth Form Hall to wish them well. Pupils were given good luck cards and leavers' mugs by their form teachers and listened to words of wisdom from Mrs O'Brien, Ms Crook and Mrs Williams. Many other teachers had also sent good luck messages and favourite anecdotes to be read to the pupils, much to their enjoyment!

Our prom this year was held on 28th June at Miskin Manor. As has become a tradition in recent years, pupils gathered at the Fairways Hotel beforehand and posed for photographs with their school friends for the last time. It was a lovely sunny evening for photos, if a bit windy for some of the elaborate hair styles! So windy in fact that three party balloons amazingly were carried all the way to Prees, Shropshire where they were found by a local farmer who sent a photograph to school!

From this beautiful location, pupils boarded a bus and headed for Miskin Manor where they had a fantastic evening. Here they were joined by many members of staff and enjoyed dinner and dancing. We wish our Year 13 leavers the very best of luck in their future endeavours and hope that they keep in touch!





Porthcawl Comprehensive School

Head Team 2019-20



Hi, I'm Sarah and I am Deputy Head Girl. I am studying Chemistry, French and Maths at the moment and am hoping to study French and Politics at university. I am also a year rep for Year 11.



Hi, I'm Jess and I'm Deputy Head Girl. I am studying Law, Sociology and PE, with the hope of doing a Law degree in university. I am also a year rep for Year 10.



Hi, I'm Max and I'm Deputy Head Boy and a Year 10 rep. I'm currently studying Maths, Physics, Chemistry, and Drama (Technical), and am looking to do a Physics degree at university.



I'm Dan and I'm Deputy Head Boy and also the year rep for the Sixth Form. I am studying Business, Media and Tourism. I aim to take Business Management in university.



Hi! I'm Georgina and I'm Assistant Head Girl and a year rep for Year 10. I'm taking Biology, Chemistry, and German and hope to study Medicine at university.



Hi, I'm Isabel and I am Assistant Head Girl and a year rep for Year 7. I am studying Geography, Biology and Maths, and I am hoping to study Geography at university.



Head Girl

Hello! I'm Carys and I'm Head Girl. I'm also a year representative for Year 8. I'm currently studying English Literature, Drama and History. Any questions, queries or concerns, I'm always happy to help!



Head Boy

Hi, I'm Sam and I am Head Boy and also a Year 7 rep. I am currently studying PE, Biology, and Chemistry, and hope to study Sport and Exercise Sciences at university.



Hi! I'm Cherisse and I'm Assistant Head Girl and a Year 7 rep. I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry, Maths and PE I hope to do a Biomedical degree at university. I'm always happy to help!



I'm Lucy, and I'm Assistant Head Girl and a Year 11 representative. I am studying Maths, Chemistry and Physics, I'm hoping to study Biomedical Engineering in university next year.



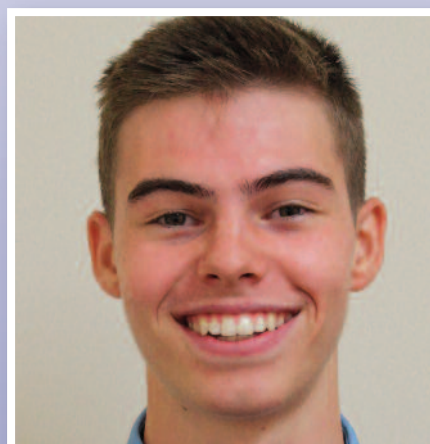
Hi, I'm Jamie and I am one of the Assistant Head Boys and a Year 8 rep. I'm currently studying Chemistry, Biology and Maths and I hope to study Chemistry in university next year.



I'm Ben and I'm Assistant Head Boy, and Year 9 rep. I am studying Geography, History and Physics and want to study History and Politics in university.



I'm Jamie, and I'm Assistant Head Boy and Sixth Form year rep. I'm currently studying Business, History and Philosophy & Ethics and I'm looking to study Business in university next year.



Hi, I'm Adam and I'm Assistant Head Boy and a Year 9 rep. I'm currently studying Physics, Business and History. I hope to do a Business degree at university. Always here to help with any problems.

Visit from Professor Johnes

On Tuesday 18th June 2019, the History Department welcomed Professor Martin Johnes from Swansea University to address our Year 12 students about the benefits of studying History and Humanities based degrees at university. Professor Johnes is a leading Welsh History expert and has recently written and presented on the BBC. His most recent work, "Wales: England's Colony?" has challenged some of the most fundamental ideas about Wales' historical relationship with England and its place in the world. Further to this, Professor Johnes has completed publications surrounding the History of Christmas, Sport and Society and is currently researching how men tackled the issue of baldness in Victorian Britain! His talk provided our prospective university applicants with a unique opportunity to learn about the main differences and challenges studying at degree level presents in comparison to A Levels. What's more, he placed great emphasis on the valuable transferable skills gained through university study, the opportunities available to enhance student CV's and how to choose the right course. We thank Professor Johnes for taking the time to speak with our A Level Historians and look forward to a continued partnership between Swansea University and Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

Mr Short – History Department



Porthcawl U3A Interview Year 12



We were once again extremely lucky in school to be visited towards the end of the Summer term by U3A; this is what they had to say about it...

Twenty-four members of Porthcawl U3A went back to school recently ...to help the Sixth Formers at Porthcawl Comprehensive prepare for employment or university interviews.

Each of the 142 students was given a 10-15 minute interview to answer questions such as "What have you achieved in school so far?" and "What are your plans for the future?".

The benefit for the students was that the

interviewers were not their teachers but people from the outside world. At the end of each interview, the students were given positive feedback, which will be of great value when they have to face real interviews.

The U3A volunteers were highly impressed by the calibre of the students, who had obviously been well prepared by their teachers.

Head of Sixth Form Clare Crook said "We are enormously grateful to the U3A members for giving up their time to do these interviews. They are of a huge benefit to our students."



MFL Transition



Around 150 pupils from our feeder primary schools visited us on September 27th, to celebrate the European Day of Languages 2019. They were divided into 3 teams and took part in our annual 'Eurosition Contest'! Each team spent the morning learning a song in either German, French or Welsh and then we all came together for the final performances and competition!

This year, the German team sang 'Baby Hai', and produced an excellent rendition, using props and some killer dance moves! The French team wowed once again with the very catchy and popular 'Chez Mama' and the Welsh team transported us to the Alps with their version of 'Franz o wlad Awstria'. One pupil even donned the Lederhosen and fully transformed into Franz!

After watching each brilliant performance, and after much deliberation, our judge, Mrs Sloggett, declared the German team the winners! She was impressed with the dance routines, the use of props and the pupils' understanding of the German in the song.

We would like to thank all of the pupils and teachers who came and took part in our 'Eurosition Contest' and we look forward to seeing you all again in Year 7!

Team MFL



MFL Bake Off competition

We had some fantastic entries this year for the Bake off. Thank you to all of those who took part. It was a difficult decision as all the cakes were beautiful and so tasty! The winners were: 1st place: Holly Wiseman and Shannon Jones (Year 7), 2nd place: Ronan Adams and Ellis Lambert (Year 7), 3rd joint place: Noah Williams (Year 7) and Enzo Liptey (Year 9) Well done!!



European Day of Languages



Once again, like every year for European Day of Languages on 26th of September, the Language Ambassadors, (Bethan Owen, Ruby Griffiths and Natalia Furness from Year 10), with the help of Year 8 girls, (Ffion Thomas, Grace Owen and Angelica Griffiths), have presented a fantastic assembly to our Year 7 about the importance of learning different languages. They all sang along to the French song 'Bonjour, Salut' and learnt a few greetings in various languages. Well done all!

Clocsio a Mr Phormula

In June, the Welsh Department welcomed two extremely talented and entertaining visitors – Tudur Phillips and Mr Phormula himself, Ed Holden. Their demonstrations to Year 7 and Year 9 embodied Welsh culture in both its traditional and modern forms with Tudur showcasing the art of clog dancing, 'clocsio', and Mr Phormula (Ed Holden) explaining how the Welsh language has played such an important role in his speciality of Beatboxing.

After watching Tudur give a very impressive demonstration of his clocsio skills, (easy to see how he's a champion) it was Year 7's turn to don a pair of clogs and follow Tudur in a routine. They soon realised that it's not as easy as it looks, and that clocsio is very physical and an excellent and enjoyable way to keep fit! By the end of the session, every pupil had done a very good workout. 'It was awesome', 'It was so much fun but really difficult', 'I'd love to do that again' – just some of the comments from pupils who, certainly, are now seeing this traditional form of dance in a new light. Indeed, several pupils showed great skill and promise – future Eisteddfod champions perhaps? Special congratulations go to Olivia Purchase in 7RS for 'jumping over the handkerchief' or 'neidio'r macyn' 16 times! Pencampwr neidio'r macyn!

Year 9 were absolutely captivated and stunned by the amazing skills of Mr Phormula and his ability to recreate sounds ranging from helicopters to police cars to burglar alarms just using his voice. He is renowned in Wales and beyond and he explained how his ability to speak Welsh and, consequently, his ability to 'rap' in different languages has contributed massively to his success. Indeed, he was able to compose a spontaneous rap from a series of random Welsh words suggested by the pupils. It was brilliant to see how the oldest living language in Europe can translate, embrace and succeed in today's popular, contemporary culture.

'Roedd Mr Phormula yn anhygoel' 'Roedd e'n fendigedig' - comments by just a couple of new Youtube followers.

You can follow both Tudur and Ed on Youtube – well worth a look!!

We certainly look forward to a return visit from two of Wales' most talented performers in the near future.



Pontio / Transition

In June we welcomed Year 6 pupils from our feeder primary schools as well as many out of catchment children who have chosen to attend PCS.

The pupils ended their packed day with a visit to the Welsh Department. Although the time was limited, everyone enjoyed a series of games, quizzes and, for some, an opportunity to try 'clocsio' (clog dancing).

The Welsh Department staff was very impressed with everyone's knowledge of the Welsh language and Wales itself as the pupils were able to answer fun facts, translate phrases and even work out Maths problems yn y Gymraeg!

For others, it was an energetic workout with Tudur Phillips, our visiting 'Pencampwr Clocsio' (Clog dancing Champion). Everyone was really enthusiastic and did 'eu gorau glas' (their very best) to follow Tudur's routine. 'It was so much fun', 'It's hard work', 'That was the best,' just a few of the comments at the end of the session which showed how this popular Welsh tradition is alive and kicking. (literally!!)

Ghost

"It was fun to play a Latino character" – Keighan Dyer

"I feel that I have flourished and blossomed as both an actor and a human being through performing in Ghost" – Jack Williams

"It was stretching playing a comedic character" – Eddyia Osborne

"It is now my favourite musical and the cast were so welcoming! I loved it! It has now inspired me to take Performing Arts in Sixth Form" – Isabella Thomas



Ghost is an American Musical in two acts, conceived by Dave Stuart and Glen Ballard. It was performed by the BTEC Performing Arts pupils in The Jubilee Theatre from the 3rd-5th July 2019.

Sam Wheat (Jack Williams) is a banker, Molly Jensen (Meg Morris) is an artist, and the two are madly in love. However, when Sam is murdered by friend and corrupt business partner Carl Bruner (Patrick O'Neil) over a shady business deal, he is left to roam the earth as a powerless spirit. When he learns of Carl's betrayal, Sam must seek the help of psychic Oda Mae Brown (Eddy Osborne) to set things right and protect Molly from Carl and his goons.

The production also involved a number of Year 10 pupils who formed part of the chorus. Their commitment and support was greatly appreciated.

Rehearsals began with singing through chorus numbers and then choreographed. We also had to design and build the set. There were challenges with this project, as there were lots of special effects and scenes, which involved magic, which were fun to do!

The show week was a great success. Despite the hard work and intense rehearsals, the cast had a fantastic time and were pleased to see that the show was well received.

A massive thank you to the Performing Arts staff for their time and commitment with this project. Mr Smith was integral in the success of this production and we cannot thank him enough!

Porthcawl Girls Dance Maniax



During October, several girls from a local dance club, (Dance Maniax), competed in the British Dance Organisation Competition in Chippenham, in both the U12 and U16 age groups. Representatives from Porthcawl Comprehensive in the U12 group were Aleena Joshy, Grace Edwards and Ruby Richards. The team were placed second in their category and we are very proud of their achievements. Grace Beddoe, Elisha Martin, Katie Jones and Louise Williams competing in the older age group were absolutely delighted to win their category. Many congratulations to you all!

Ella Dances on



Ella Matthews has continued to dance her way to some excellent results recently. She placed third in the U16s Medial Cha Cha and Jive in the UK Latin Solo Championships in Bournemouth, was runner up in the Welsh Open Championships U14 Cha Cha, and made the final for the Rhumba. She dedicates a huge amount of her spare time to train several times a week in Newbridge and is also a member of two formation Latin teams, sometimes not getting home until very late. Despite this, she continues to put 100% effort into her school work and studies.

Music and Drama London Trip



This year a number of pupils went on a fantastic school trip with the Music and Drama Departments to London. The day was spent visiting the London Dungeons and then watching 'School of Rock' in the evening. It was a very entertaining and educational experience.

Once we arrived in London we were welcomed to the London Dungeons by a Jester who informed us about life in the medieval period. Then, we took our tour through the various ages and famous events that occurred in the past, including Jack the Ripper, The Great Fire of London and The Black Death. This part of the trip was educational and very intriguing as it taught us of the historic events.

At 7.00pm we watched the musical 'School of Rock'. We were overwhelmed by the talent portrayed by the young actors and actresses! It was an inspiring performance with spectacular lights and advanced special effects. Additionally, there was a circular moving platform which certainly benefited the scene changes. Moreover, as well as a live band, the young actors and actresses played their instruments live on stage! It was amazing to watch and a totally memorable performance. It was a fantastic trip and a massive thank you to Miss Thomas and Mr Smith for organising the trip!

Rhiannon Watkins and Scarlett Osborne - Year 9

Dilwyn Evans Music Award

We are very fortunate to have a great partnership with the Porthcawl Male Voice Choir. Every year the choir award a Music prize to one of our Year 13 A Level Music students to support them as they embark on a future career in the Arts. This year the prize was awarded to Rebecca Coleman to support her further study of Music at University. Rebecca has left us now and has started studying a BA in Music at Bristol University, and will be continuing to develop her clarinet playing, currently at Grade 7 level. She will also be undertaking singing lessons, a brand new venture for Rebecca! We are sure that her experience from participating in the School Productions and Senior Choir will provide her with confidence as she develops this skill.

The Performing Arts Department wish Rebecca all the best in her future career!

Mrs Giles - Music Department

Summer Concert

This year's Summer Concert was a massive success. It is always a great opportunity to showcase the talent of the young people in the school. We saw performances of all musical calibre from Key Stage 3 all the way up to our Sixth Form. Miss Thomas put together a fantastic programme of work to be viewed by the parents in a short space of time.

The night was compared by Year 12 Performing Arts students Patrick O'Neill and Jack Williams. It was kicked off by the amazing guitar ensemble who performed the famous piece "Parisiene Walkways" that consisted of an exciting solo by guitarist James Powell. It was James' final performance after many years performing in school concerts, as he leaves us to start

university. The String Group then ignited the audience with an invigorating performance. Porthcawl Concert Orchestra, performed the GCSE set piece "Rondeau" by Purcell to the wonderful top quality standard we've all witnessed before and they didn't fail to impress. Junior Choir gave a heartfelt, relevant performance of the Disney classic "Colours of the Wind" from Pocahontas. Porthcawl Orchestra formerly known as Junior Orchestra ended the night with an exciting arrangement led by Miss Bryant.

We were then greeted by wonderful solo singing performances from some of the nuns of this year's school show "Sister Act". Elys Davies who is playing the oh so holy head nun 'Mother Superior' gave us a

brilliant rendition of "Lay Me Down". She was then joined by our very own Whoopi Goldberg, Eddylia Osbourne where they covered the beautiful heartfelt song "In His Eyes" from Jekyll and Hyde. The year ten girls Isabella-Riley Thomas, Samantha Wensley and Kara Morgan Rees, all gave us top class performances of songs such as "I Didn't Plan It", "Somewhere That's Green" and "Spotlight" from our favourite West End shows. Carys Morgan then performed with her rendition of "Flowers" from the brand new contemporary musical Hadestown. Catch all these wonderful ladies in the school show "Sister Act" this January!

By Jack Williams



Celebrating Pupils' Successes



She's Okay

During the Summer I was offered the chance to audition for a part in an 'It's My Shout' film. I was really pleased to be chosen for the lead in one of the eight films to be filmed during Summer 2019.

I played the lead role of Zack in a film called "She's Okay". It is a story of a young lad played by myself, who does what he needs to do, to take care of his mother. Taken under the wing of Tony, (Nathan Sussex from Hollyoaks), a local greengrocer, Zack is given the chance that he desperately needs to survive under difficult circumstances.

The filming took place over three days at the end of Year 9, and included acting alongside actors from Hollyoaks and Casualty. The locations included Wildmill and Bridgend Town Centre with focus on the market, where the filming of Tony's greengrocers' stall took place.

The film was then edited and prepared for the Premiere at St David's Hall on Sunday 8th September. This was a prestigious black tie event with a number of celebrities invited to watch all 8 films. The week before the premiere, I was notified I had been nominated for the award of best actor.

On the night all eight films were watched and then the awards were presented. I was surprised and chuffed when my name was called out!

I was privileged at 14 to get such a good part, and grateful for Roger Burnell and 'It's My Shout' productions for constantly providing Porthcawl which such great opportunities.

The film was aired on BBC2 on Tuesday 10th September and is also available on I-Player.

Edward Neeson - Year 10

National Theatre of Wales – Jack M Williams

Year 13 pupil Jack M Williams took part in the renowned National Youth Theatre Wales course during the Summer in one of only two producing houses, Theatre Clwyd in Mold. The week long course consisted of different workshops surrounding the industry, opening doors for many of the participants, Jack included. Jack is one of a long list of Porthcawl Comprehensive pupils to have benefited from the course. More recently James Evans-Jones took part a year prior to Jack, but famous alumni also include our very own Rob Brydon, Joe Wiltshire Smith and Ruth Jones. Other famous Welsh performers such as Michael Sheen and Anthony Hopkins are also alumni's of the famous course. Jack thoroughly enjoyed, and would advise any budding actors that it is something to definitely consider doing during the Summer!



Year 7 Drama Club



Year 7 Drama Club are currently preparing for a production of 'Hairspray' which will be performed in March 2020 in the Jubilee Theatre. Year 9 Drama pupils are directing the piece – Alice Beesley, Grace Clear, Isabella Hemington-Gorse, Finty Kehoe, Efa Morris and Wil Morgans in Year 8.

Auditions are now over and rehearsals have begun. Everyone is very excited about the production. More information to follow regarding dates and times!

Year 8 Drama Club

Year 8 Drama Club will be performing a production of 'Peter Pan' in early April. The production is being directed by Carys Rosser-Stanford (Head Girl), Ellie Jones (Year 12), Beci Senior (Year 12) and Annalise Traylor (Year 12). Auditions took place before half term and pupils are full of enthusiasm for the project!

More information to follow regarding dates and times!



Year 9 Drama Club



The Drama Department is delighted that Mrs Withers is running Year 9 Drama Club this year. Year 9 will be performing abridged versions of 'Macbeth' and 'Romeo and Juliet' in April 2020. It's going to be a great experience and performing Shakespeare will definitely challenge our pupils!

Young Playwrights' Festival 2019



The annual Young Playwrights' Festival was held in the Jubilee Theatre on the 11th and 12th July. The festival has been running for eleven years and is one of the highlights on the Drama calendar. The spirit of the project is to encourage new writing and to enable as many pupils to perform and showcase their talents as possible. The project also provides Year 10 GCSE Drama pupils the opportunity to develop their directing skills, technical skills and organisational skills as they are responsible for the whole project. It's a great opportunity for all pupils involved! Every year we have a guest speaker who makes a few brief points about each play on the final night. This year, Rhys Owen, a former PCS pupil was invited to be our guest speaker for the evening. Rhys left us in the Summer of 2016 to study English Literature and Drama at Bath Spa University. Rhys was very impressed with the quality of writing and found the evening thoroughly entertaining!

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' FESTIVAL 2019

Playwright Winners

Year 7

The Waiting Room
Ben Pownall – Year 9

Dwight

Will Morgans, Romy Francombe, Poppy Shears – Year 7

Year 8

Game of Cards
Poppy Shingler – Year 8

Mirror Mirror

Scarlett Osborne and Seren Protheroe – Year 8

Year 9

PTA

Quinn Stables, Aled Davies, Ed Neeson, Frankie Ezard, Ellison Roberts – Year 9

510 Horses

Jorja Jenkins, Maisy Corthine, Carys Richards, Daisy Richards – Year 9



SISTER ACT

We are pleased to announce this year's school show will be Sister Act, which will be performed at the Grand Pavilion Porthcawl, from Wednesday 22nd — Saturday 25th January 2020!

Tickets will be available from the Grand Pavilion Box Office 01656 815995

Sports Day 2019



Once again, over 350 pupils deserted their classrooms and made their way on board seven coaches travelling down the M4 motorway to Swansea University Athletics Stadium.

All who were fortunate enough to attend Porthcawl Comprehensive School Sports Day 2019 bathed in the warm summer sun and were treated to some exceptional performances. Our athletes ran, jumped and threw in athletic events ranging from the 100m to the 1500m, the long jump to the shot put. The standard of competition was unparalleled this year as was the enthusiasm and endeavour on display in often searing temperatures.

This year we witnessed outstanding performances and commitment to the house system across all the year groups. Year 7 have their outstanding performer in Anna-Rose Merchant who showed tremendous versatility as a track and field athlete winning the 200m, 1500m and high jump. Also in Year 7 Lewys Benjamin showed that he is a star of the future taking two stunning victories in the 800m and high jump.

Our Year 8 pupils picked up where they left off last season as the best represented year group and as a result produced some startling individual performances. Max Brace demonstrated what a fine sportsman he is by taking resounding victories in the 400m, 800m and the long jump. Meanwhile elsewhere in Year 8 Ellie Lau (800m & Javelin), Isobel Evans (100m & 200m), Elliot Evans (100m & 200m) and Eve Hickman (1500m & 300m) each recorded a brace of victories in very keenly contested competitions and Eve broke a long standing record in the 1500m.

Not to be outdone our Year 9 pupils rose to the occasion and in Abigail Davies (800m & 1500m) and Eleni Jones (100m & 200m) we have two of the greatest female athletes ever to have graced Porthcawl Comprehensive School Sports Day. Abi underlined her credentials as a top athlete of her generation with a resounding new 1500m year record. Eleni ranked as one of the top female sprinters in Wales proved her standing as a hot prospect by obliterating the 100m female school record and then went on to break the 200m year record. On the boys' side Connor Whitney-



Embleton galloped his way to comfortable victories in the sprint double demonstrating what a capable all round sportsman he is.

The Year 10's in their last ever Sports Day provided some memorable moments themselves as Lewys Audsley (high jump & triple jump), Lowri Powis (long jump & javelin) and Welsh International Athlete Evan Jones (100m & 200m) all secured a brace of wins and valuable points for their houses with Evan also running a stunning year record in the 200m and a yet to be ratified school record in the 100m. Carmen Lynch proved to be a very tough competitor winning both the 100m and 200m on the track and also a well-deserved victory in the high jump.

Each of these pupils were in contention for the much coveted Victrix and Victor Ludorum (the awards given to the female and male athletes respectively who accumulate the most points for their house on Sports Day). However once the final scores had been scrutinised very closely there were two very clear winners of the top awards.

The Victrix Ludorum award for top female athlete this year goes to Anna-Rose Merchant who amassed 25 points for her house with 3 firsts and a year record in the high jump.

The Victor Ludorum award for the top male athlete this year goes to Max Brace who completed the very difficult double win in the 400m and 800m and was also victorious in the long jump, amassing 24 points for his house.

All day long we were treated to some of the best school's athletics seen at sports day for many years. However, more importantly the endeavour and positive attitudes on display were even more pleasing. We hope everyone enjoyed the experience and will be ready and willing to step up to the plate again next year to represent their house. Everyone concerned was a credit to the school.

In the final shake up for the Sports day house competition the results are as follows..... In reverse order



| | | |
|-----|-----------|---------|
| 4th | Dyfed | 557 pts |
| 3rd | Powys | 713 pts |
| 2nd | Morgannwg | 798 pts |
| 1st | Gwynedd | 835 pts |

Points breakdown by year groups

| | D | G | M | P |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Year 7 | 189 | 203 | 211 | 172 |
| Year 8 | 161 | 175 | 216 | 193 |
| Year 9 | 103 | 244 | 190 | 183 |
| Year 10 | 104 | 213 | 181 | 165 |
| Overall | 557 | 835 | 798 | 713 |





TENNIS TOURNAMENT 2019

Monday 15th July – Wednesday 17th July 2019

Since the inaugural year, 2007, the PCS Tennis Tournament has been a prevalent event in the school calendar. This year again saw the event attract over 200 entries both male and female from Years 7 to 10; it is as popular as ever.

At court side, Year 10 Welsh Bacc. pupils were responsible for planning fixtures, officiating, recording results and coaching

pupils. The response to tennis, as always, was magnificent, culminating in a well organised and supported event, with pupils producing an excellent standard of play on the courts. More importantly, players of all abilities had the opportunity to participate, have fun and improve their tennis skills.

| 1/4 FINAL | SEMI FINAL | FINAL | WINNER |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lewys Audsley 6 Oliver Sadd 0 | Lewys Audsley 6 Trystan James 2 | Lewys Audsley 6 Lucas Wiseman 6 | Lewys Audsley Lucas Wiseman |
| Ben H-Jones 0 Trystan James 5 | Spencer Morgan 1 Lucas Wiseman 5 | | |
| Drew Howells 4 Rhys Tunnedine 2 | Oliver Rhys 5 Connor Whitney-Embleton 0 | | |
| Spencer Morgan 6 Lucas Wiseman 5 | Rhys Watkins 7 Matt Neeson 5 | Rhys Watkins 1 Matt Neeson 4 | |
| Noah Eastment 0 Connor Whitney-Embleton 5 | | | |
| Oliver Rhys 6 Evan Carless 2 | | | |
| Ben Pownall 4 Matt Neeson 5 | | | |
| Rhys Watkins 6 Tom Hapgood 0 | | | Plate Competition |

In the Senior Boys' final, seeds 1 and 2 met as expected. Lewys had a fairly easy route to the final but Rhys had to fight his way through some tough games from the second round. Lewys' form continued in the final and he was a deserved winner, beating Rhys 6-1.

Lucas Wiseman, after his first round defeat to Christian Barrett,

went on an unbeaten run to win this year's plate competition in the Boys' tournament, beating Year 7 star Matt Neeson in a good final match.

The final of the Year 7 competition was a tight game and could have been won by any of the finalists, but Finlay Cannon earned his way to victory with a 6-4 win against Matt Neeson.

| 1/4 FINAL | SEMI FINAL | FINAL | WINNER |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Elli Martin 5 Nell Howells 4 | Elli Martin 6 Nell Howells 3 | Elli Martin 6 Emily Cox 6 | Elli Martin Emily Cox |
| Abi Davies 2 Kate Evans 0 | Ellie Lau 2 Emily Cox 4 | | |
| Lucy Griffiths 1 Caitlin Probert 1 | Isobel Evans 6 Libby Geddes 1 | | |
| Ellie Lau 5 Emily Cox 4 | | | |
| Isobel Evans 5 Lucy Beal 0 | | | |
| Heather Coles 1 Libby Geddes 3 | | | |
| Eve Hickman 1 Mollie Prance 1 | Liv Geddes 4 Eleri Williams 4 | Isobel Evans 0 Eleri Williams 4 | |
| Liv Geddes 4 Eleri Williams 4 | | | Plate Competition |

In the Senior Girls' final, Ellie Martin fought through the pressure of being number 1 seed, sister of a former winner, and last year's runner up, to claim a 6-0 win. Isobel, younger by 2 years gave her a good game but just couldn't find the form that got her to the final. In the Girls' Plate Final, Emily Cox overcame the challenge of Eleri Williams to take the title.

The Year 7 Girl's winner was Caitlin Probert who beat Ava Davies in a final that was played at a really good standard for Year 7 and they will definitely be two players to watch out for in the future.

Doubles Results

In the Mixed Doubles final, Lewys Audsley and Caitlin Probert beat Spencer Morgan and Ellie Lau 6-4 in an entertaining game, played in excellent spirit as mixed doubles usually is.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT HALL OF FAME

| | BOYS WINNERS | GIRLS WINNERS |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2007 | Richard Tuck | Sidney Rogers |
| 2008 | Lee Arrowsmith | Bethan Price |
| 2009 | Hayden Lau | Bethan Price |
| 2010 | Jacob Prosser | Robyn Wilkins |
| 2011 | Matthew Johns | Laura Mackey |
| 2012 | Josh Bell | Olivia Norris |
| 2013 | Jak Robbins | Demi Grant |
| 2014 | Harley Stephens | Emily Stradling |
| 2015 | Harley Stephens | Elise Thomas |
| 2016 | Harley Stephens | Ffion Masters |
| 2017 | Harley Stephens | Anni Martin |
| 2018 | Matt Greenwood | Annie Williams |
| 2019 | Lewys Audsley | Elli Martin |

Year 7 Winners

| | | |
|------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2007 | Joe McCarthy | Robyn Wilkins |
| 2008 | Matthew Johns | Laura Mackey |
| 2009 | Liam Webb | Allie Young |
| 2010 | Jak Robbins | Amy Williams |
| 2011 | Nathan Jones | Courtney Lewis |
| 2012 | Brandon Cooper | Emily Stradling |
| 2013 | George Rossini | Kit Cronin |
| 2014 | Harley Stephens | Cherrise Lau |
| 2015 | Lucas Hoven | Ffion Masters |
| 2016 | Alex Williams | Bethan Wilson |
| 2017 | Christian Barrett | Polly James |
| 2018 | Trystan James | Rozee Lewis |
| 2019 | Finley Cannon | Caitlin Probert |



Welsh Triathlon



Luke Wyatt of Year 10 was selected to be part of the T3 Tristars team which represented Wales in Triathlon, at the Inter Regional Championships. This event took place on 7th and 8th September 2019, at Mallory Park, Leicester. He (along with his team) raced against the rest of Britain in both an individual race and a relay race, over the two days of competition.



Wales Surf Lifesaving

Several Porthcawl Comprehensive students were selected to compete in a team representing Wales as part of the Surf Lifesaving Sport Wales. They competed against England at Carbis Bay in Cornwall in August.

Congratulations to Tom Horn and Will James, (Year 13), Leonora Breheny, Meg McCloy and Hannah Davidson, (Year 12), and Emily Cox (Year 11) who are pictured as members of the Welsh Team.

Wellbeing - Staff Football Team

Bridgend 5 a-side Leisure League

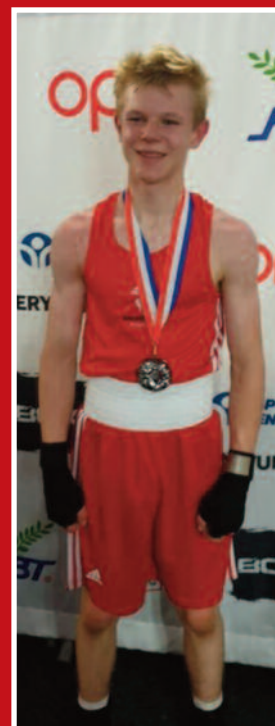
A group of staff with a few friends decided to enter a team into the Bridgend Leisure League. Our captain, Mr Thomas requested that we enter the lowest division possible as we just wanted the opportunity to meet up, have a laugh, a kick about and keep our fitness up - nothing too serious!

When we turned up in the cold and wet, we thought the match that was already playing was of a very high standard. We then learnt that the team had withdrawn from the league to make a vacancy for us and it was actually from the Premier Division!

Although we deliver lessons every day, we really did think we would be given a lesson on how to play football by our opponents! To our surprise we held our own and drew our first match. For the rest of the season we managed to compete with other teams and did not get relegated as expected.

Last season we surprised everyone by coming runners up in the league and receiving our runners up medals. I must admit we are struggling this season, but have lost our keeper, had several injuries and the standard this year is very high. Nevertheless, we don't take things too seriously and enjoy the get together. When our team's average age is 15-20 years older than our opposition then we are doing pretty well considering!

Mr Pucella



Congratulations to Cole Rees who won a silver medal at the Schools' Three Nations Championships.

Ayla Tumbles to the Top!

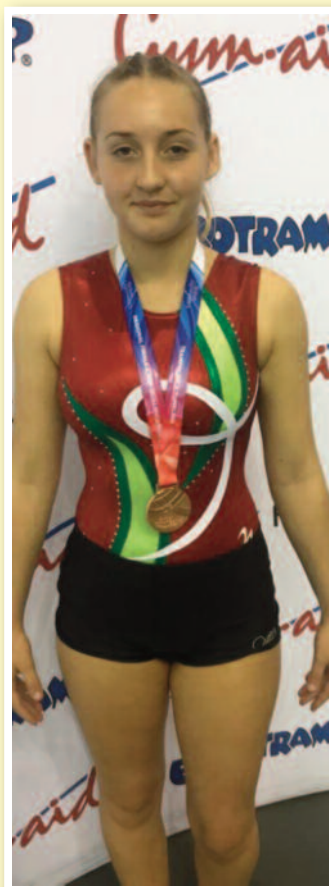
Ayla Farnworth's tumbling has exceeded everyone's expectations so far this year with some outstanding achievements.

Back in February Ayla travelled up to Deeside, North Wales, where she competed at the highest of 6 National levels, taking the top spot. Due to her first place win and achieving a qualification score, she was then asked to be part of Team Wales and in June she travelled to Birmingham to compete at the British Regional Team Finals in the Barclaycard Arena. Here she performed amazingly well and was the only Welsh female tumbler with a podium position, taking the Bronze medal!

Due to this and a qualifying score, she gained a place to compete at the British Finals in Coventry. So, 4 weeks later in July, Ayla travelled to compete at the Echo Arena in Coventry where she pushed her routines and moved up a podium position to be placed as the second best in Britain!

Ayla's success hasn't stopped here, she was asked to attend the 'Carmarthen Town Sports Personality of the Year' and the 'West Wales Awards Evening' where she was awarded 'Tumbler of the Year.' Most recently, Ayla was selected to travel to Birmingham to trial for the Welsh Tumbling Squad - she has now been offered a place and will regularly travel to Birmingham to be trained by some of the best coaches in the country.

Well done Ayla, wishing you all the best for the future.



Transition 2019



We ran a very successful Transition Day back in June for all our then Year 6 pupils. They enjoyed a full day with us, expertly guided by our Sixth Form volunteers. Year 6 pupils followed a full timetable of lessons for the day and also got to experience lunch in the school canteen.

These pupils are now of course with us fulltime in Year 7 and have settled well. Any fears about getting lost or being late for lessons seem a dim and distant memory as they fully embrace life at comprehensive school and all the opportunities that are ahead of them.

Just as Year 7 leave behind their primary schools we now begin the Transition process once again with this year's Year 6. On Wednesday October 2nd the school was delighted to welcome nearly 200 Year 6 pupils and their parents/carers. Children and parents were able to explore the school, meet all our staff and speak to the many current pupils who had volunteered to help out on the evening. Year 12 and 13 did a fantastic job once again as tour guides and were able to share their experiences and knowledge with our visitors.

Year 6 pupils have already enjoyed celebrating European Day of Languages with us as well as the excitement of a science investigation morning. Further events planned for before Christmas include an ICT morning and drama workshops. Then in the New Year we will be running a technology morning, inviting pupils to the school show, a humanities morning, music workshops and a full Transition Day in June. On top of this we are hoping to repeat the very successful sports sessions we ran last year and continue to deliver maths and English lessons in the local primary schools. For those pupils who are a little more anxious about the move we will also be offering our Helping Hands sessions later in the year.

If you have any questions or concerns about Transition then please contact Mrs Sloggett in school on 774100.



Blake's Surfing Success

On 16th September I competed in the Saunton Longboard Classic 2019 surfing competition in Saunton Sands, near Croyde in Devon. I came 3rd in Britain in the U16 and U18 competitions.

Earlier this year, I also won the Welsh Nationals for U18 Longboard. I have also recently been selected for Team Wales to go to the ISA World Championships in Huntington Bay, California in late October.

Blake Jones - Year 10



Newton Primary

It has been a very exciting time in Newton Primary School for the pupils in Year 6. As part of our Cornerstones topic 'Flow', we began with water based games on the beach and then we visited six different locations along the River Ogmore in a 'Source to Mouth' trip, to collect different data and record observations using the Seesaw app. We also continued to lead our own learning as pupils chose to conduct a science experiment at Wilderness Lake to investigate which type of stone skims the best!

At the end of the Autumn Term topic, all three classes created an artistic interpretation of a river's journey through the mediums of dance and music. We used the backing track to Lewis Capaldi's 'Someone you loved' to create our own lyrics to complement the dance and showcased them to the younger pupils in the school. We also included percussion and instruments to add texture and dynamics to the performance. The final piece was fantastic and we have shared our work with our parents on Class Dojo.

This is the time of the year that our pupil leadership team were selected. After all the applications were submitted, the school council chose the following year 6 pupils:

Head Boy – Joe Hall

Head Girl – Seren Salberg

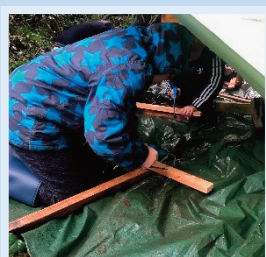
Deputy Head Boy – Nate Conniff-Jenkins

Deputy Head Girl – Eden Roberts

Head Prefects – Alex Evans and Honor Pritchard

We also look forward to our Spring Term topic, 'Blitz', which is based around the life and times of World War 2. We will begin the topic with a mystery trip to a top secret location!

Henley Jenkins ~ Teacher



Nottage Primary

As part of our work towards the new Curriculum for Wales at Nottage Primary, from September 2019 we have been delighted to be building upon our excellent Forest Schools in the Foundation Phase, to develop outdoor learning in Years 3 to 6 and utilise our fantastic grounds.

Mr O'Neill, our STEM leader, is leading our outdoor learning lessons which have already involved: edible and deadible lessons, blackberry picking, crumble making, shelter making and much more. We have also included outdoor survival in our 'Enrichment Afternoon', where children of mixed ages have been enjoying fire building and tasting marshmallows on the small camp fire. The children have been thoroughly engaged in the lessons with exemplary behaviour, whilst developing life skills.

Porthcawl Primary

At Porthcawl Primary School, we want our children to be captivated and inspired by their learning experiences. Recent pupil and parent questionnaires revealed that our older children wanted more trips to extend their learning. This month our Year 6 pupils had an amazing two-day trip to the Sony factory in Pencoed.

Day one involved working with the 'It's my Shout' team to produce a short film. Our pupils wrote the script and acted but also got to produce, film, edit and be part of the sound and wardrobe department. It was fascinating to learn all about what goes on behind the camera. Our film involved space travellers visiting different planets including Planet Porthcawl who had Elvis as one of its residents!

On day two we got to go on a factory tour and then spent the day coding. We used Raspberry Pi's to make traffic lights flash and write our own music. It was an incredible experience and we all came back to school as computer experts!

The children had a brilliant time and learnt so much - Sony is definitely worth a visit!



West Park Primary

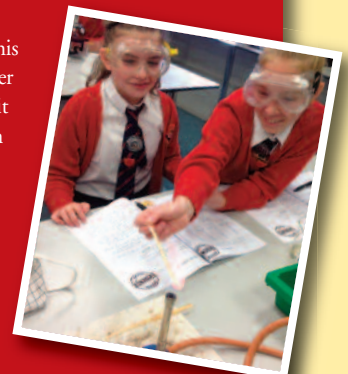
What a busy start to our last Autumn term at West Park Primary! Our theme this term is 'Everyone Counts' and we began our topic by having an exciting immersion day where we researched the Rights of the Child and the work that the United Nations do. We all really enjoyed the experience and developed our speaking and listening skills as well as working in teams. We also dressed up as different countries and worked with other classes to share our ideas.

Our transition to the comprehensive school has already started for us in West Park. We met Mrs Sloggett right at the beginning of term and she gave homework diaries to us all. These have been a great help to make sure we are going to be organised in Year 6. We have also been to the comprehensive for our MFL transition, and this was an amazing experience. We learnt a song in French, German or Welsh and preformed it to each other. What a great experience. We have also attended the Science transition morning and learnt so many new skills and vocabulary.

This term, we have started to have transition lessons every week from the English and Maths departments from the comprehensive, so moving up next year should be a breeze for us!!

We have all been made prefects in Year 6 this year. This has given us all extra responsibilities such as looking after certain areas and pupils in the school, selling fresh fruit and being a 'buddy' on the Nursery and Reception playground. We have all been given 'prefect' badges and are extremely proud to wear them.

Each week, we write our own 'blogs' and post this work on our school website. This really helps with our ICT skills as well as learning to communicate in a safe way. We use Office 365 and work collaboratively to create the blogs.



Pupil Achievements

Many congratulations go to the following:-

Cole Rees Year 9
Boxing – Schools Three Nations Championships – Silver Medal

Evan Jones Year 11
Represented Wales against England, Scotland and Ireland in Swansea 20th July – Welsh Schools Athletic Association

Ayla Farnworth Year 10
Welsh NDP FIG Development Age 13-14 Champion

British Team Finals NDP FIG Development Age 13-14 Bronze Medal

British Finals NDP FIG Development Age 13-14 Silver Medal
NDP Tumbler of the Year 2018 at West Wales Regional Awards

Luke Wyatt Year 10
Represented Wales in the T3 Tristars team at Triathlon

Grace Owen Year 8
Black Belt - Dan Grading in Shotokan Karate

Isobel Evans & Jessica Orum Year 9
Selected for U14 Girls' County Netball Squad

Carmen Lynch Year 11
Selected for the U16 Girls' County Netball Squad

Leonora Breheny Year 12
Bronze medal for Individual Surf Swim at GB Surf Lifesaving Championships, Branksome Chime, Dorset August 2019

Emily Cox Year 11

Leonora Breheny, Meg McCloy & Hannah Davidson Year 12

Tom Horn & William James Year 13

Selected to represent Wales in 2019 Sport Wales Team – August 2019 – competed against England at Carbis Bay, Cornwall

Ewan Hall & Connor Whitney-Embleton Year 10
Selected for Wales U15 Boys' Basketball Squad

Jacob Richards Year 9
Selected for Wales U14 Boys' Basketball Development Squad

Max Hall Year 8
Selected for Wales U14 Boys' Basketball Development Squad

Ethan Evans Year 7
Selected for Wales U12 Boys' Basketball Squad

Mia Whitney-Embleton Year 7
Selected for Wales U12 Girls' Basketball Squad

Ed Neeson Year 10
Best Actor Award in a locally made film in a ceremony at St David's Hall, Cardiff

Music exams

Huge congratulations to all our musicians at Porthcawl Comprehensive School that have sat Music exams over the past term! Well done for showing excellent dedication to practising and preparing for these examinations on top of your normal lessons and extracurricular activities. Remember to update your music teacher on any success that you achieve or see Mrs Giles so that she can update her records and publish your achievement in the next Porthcawl Post! Diolch, Mrs Giles.

| Name | Year | Instrument | Grade |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|---------------------|
| Asher Williams | Year 11 | Bass Guitar | Grade 5 Distinction |
| Ethan Kenifick | Year 9 | Piano | Grade 4 Merit |
| Jamie Harrowing | Year 13 | Piano | Grade 7 Distinction |
| William Bloomfield | Year 8 | Violin | Grade 4 Merit |
| | | Piano | Grade 1 Distinction |

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

We rely on you for our information! Has your child achieved success or recognition relating to an extra-curricular activity? If so, please email pressbox@porthcawlschool.co.uk

Design : adam@hahagraphics.co.uk

Answers from the Maths Challenge: Intermediate Question 5, Junior Question 2



Porthcawl
Post

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