



Llais Penglais

Penglais school newsletter

July 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the very last newsletter of the academic year.

We have recently had the letter from Estyn outlining their findings from their visit in May. We were extremely pleased with the comments from Estyn and it is a testament to the staff and pupils of the school. We are to remain in monitoring, however, this is not a decision that Estyn have made with many other schools in Wales and shows their appreciation of the work that has been undertaken recently. The team are very keen to see a set of data from this summer so we await the GCSE and A Level results. The school will write a detailed self-evaluation that will determine, along with the results, if Estyn will return to the school.

On a different note, please can you read the new uniform information extremely carefully. All pupils must be in black school trousers and in black school shoes from this September. We cannot be held responsible if money is spent on the incorrect items. If you are in doubt please contact us at school before the end of the academic year.

And lastly, a huge thank you for all of your support this year. We have been working hard to improve attendance and it has increased by 0.5% across the school. I know that many parents have supported our whole school events and a special thank you to the PTA who have recently donated large sums of money to projects in school.

I would like to wish you all a restful summer holiday and look forward to seeing all of our pupils in September.

Mrs H.G.Griffiths
Acting Headteacher

NOTICES

The wrong trousers.....

As you know we are adopting a new uniform from September. There is a detailed description on the school website and in previous editions of the newsletter.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that we will expect all pupils from September to wear traditional, smart black school trousers or skirts and school shoes. While the jumper, shirt and tie are not expected to be worn by everyone until September 2018, we will be enforcing the school uniform as it is described in the school planner currently.

From September we will not allow pupils to wear jeans, jean-type trousers, leggings or skinny trousers. Neither will we allow canvas shoes, trainers or boots. This applies to ALL pupils from September.

If you have any further queries then please refer to the description on the school website or contact your child's Head of Year.

Dinner money cheques

Please could you put in to remind parents that dinner money cheques are to be made payable to Ceredigion County Council, CCC or Cyngor Sir Ceredigion not Penglais School.

p2 The bees knees
- a buzz around the
classroom!



p6 Check to see if
you've got a 100%
attendance!

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7 girls rounders
Ceredigion champions

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online



Welsh BAC

Welsh Bac join Eco Schools

The bee's knees!

There was a buzz about the classroom when group of year 8s took part in a beekeeping class with Mrs Harper, where they got the opportunity to learn about the importance of honeybees and how they are looked after. Pupils got to look in a virtual hive, handle some frames, try on bee suits, make a bees wax candle and try some delicious local honey.



Thoroughly Modern Millie



Some of our year 7 pupils were involved in the Stage School's production of Thoroughly Modern Millie which was performed at Aberystwyth Arts Centre's theatre in June. I, Miss Blair and Mr Stott put on the show as part of the stage school end of year production. The 2 lead roles were played by Tili Duggan as Millie and Hugo Richardson as Jimmy. The other roles were played by other year 7 pupils which were Tanya Morgan, Edie Williams, Megan Rodgers and Jasmine Strickleton. We are both immensely proud of all the pupils involved as they really did do a superb job and certainly did Penglais school proud.

Social Sciences

Psychology, Sociology and Health and Social Care



It is always great to hear how past students are getting along in their careers and the Social Science Department was delighted to welcome back Hannah Perkins who completed her studies at Penglais in 2015 with the stunning achievement of A* in all three Social Sciences, Psychology, Sociology and Health and Social Care. Midwifery is notoriously difficult to get into at university, but Hannah succeeded

in gaining a place at the top institution for midwifery, York University, where she has just finished her second year. Hannah met with current A level Social Science students at an opportune moment – just before they make their decisions about university and was able to give them some excellent advice, not only about their options, but also about finance and about coping with the challenges she faced when leaving home for university. She shared with us her love of her newly-founded profession, the joy of delivering babies and how she enjoyed the practical elements (her hospital placements) being integrated with theoretical aspects (lectures at the university). She also described the many, rich exciting opportunities which lie ahead when she has qualified (gaining experience in the UK, perhaps working abroad for a while and lecturing).

HANNAH PERKINS, MIDWIFERY STUDENT, YORK UNIVERSITY. PENGLIAS SCHOOL 2013-15

Pupils found the talk hugely helpful and they were all very grateful to Hannah. Not all had realised that health courses at university involved such a lot of practical experience and are now taken with the idea of following a course which combines practice with theory. Typical feedback from pupils included:

“The talk was a huge help in making me feel more confident about going to uni.”

Kiera Sayer

“Midwifery is defiantly an option I want to look at in the future after this talk, Thank you Hannah!!

Vickie Hucks

“It was nice to hear from someone who has experienced what we are doing now. What she has achieved and what she is doing now is truly motivating.”

Hannah Jones

“Hannah’s talk put a lot of the worries that people had to rest. Her life from school to uni has been an adventure, not all plain sailing, but she has overcome every challenge. It was a really helpful and inspiring talk”

Lisa Davies

Many thanks to Hannah from us all in the Department and we wish you great success in your career

Welsh Baccalaureate at Key Stage 4



You may not want to hear this, but Welsh Bacc is important. Not only does it improve your chances of getting into University, but it also enriches your own personal skills. Skills that are so essential that Welsh Bacc is implemented in your younger years at school and is continued at Sixth Form.

From the past two years of doing Welsh Bacc I have learned plenty. The Individual project provided me with the freedom to choose a question of which I would like to study in more depth. The project taught me independence in a way that none of the other projects did. I was completely reliant on myself, and had to complete all aspects of the task independently.



The Enterprise and Employability Challenge consisted of working in a group. It taught me how successfully a group can be managed by focusing on our individual strengths. By doing this our group could work more efficiently, as we all had our individual roles. It was most important that

everyone in the group had their opinion heard, and that the work was spread out evenly.

The most interesting, was the Global Citizenship Challenge. Here, we learned about global issues and the type of society in which we live. I especially enjoyed the Personal Standpoint, as it gave me the opportunity to put across my views and opinions about such important issues.

None of us may want to admit it, but the Community Challenge was the most beneficial. I truly felt that I was contributing to my community and helping local people. This challenge gave me the opportunity to branch out, as I could learn in an environment out side of school. Welsh Bacc teaches you several skills that are essential for you everyday life. Many of us may not see this, but from experience, I can tell you that it’s true.

Imogen Davies Year 11

Learning Support Centre

The Aberystwyth Art's Centre very kindly offered two pottery sessions for the LSC pupils to coincide with their International Ceramics festival. The pupils involved got to create their pieces (castle towers) in the first session using the theme 'Cantre'r Gwaelod' and then went on to paint and decorate the towers in the second session. We were all invited to the Exhibition held in the Art's Centre to view their work on display at the festival. We are very grateful to the Art's Centre for inviting us to join them with this project.

One of the courses followed by pupils in Key stages 4 and 5 in the Learning Support Centre is an ASDAN nationally accredited course in Personal Development. This can be awarded at bronze, silver or gold level depending on the number of modules which are completed and the amount and complexity of the work produced. One module that has been studied recently is 'The Wider World' and our pupils have looked at aspects of the language and culture in China. To support this work we were delighted to find, in school, Dr. Jennifer Zhou, a teacher of Mandarin from Beijing who very kindly came to speak to the pupils and sample some of the Chinese food that had been prepared. Dr. Zhou also brought some items, including clothing which were very interesting.

Five of our pupils have successfully completed another ASDAN accredited course 'Transitional Challenge' and we would like to congratulate the following whose work has recently been moderated and awarded a pass. Well done to Mathew Jenkins, Jack Marison, Laura Davies, Ellie Gibbs and Lucy O'Connell



Play Unified

On Thursday the 16th of June we went to visit Lampeter Secondary school for another joint PE skills (Play Unified) session. We joined them for the morning and pupils from both of the schools got involved in a variety of games with a little bit of competition thrown in too! It is lovely to be able to have sessions like this with pupils from other schools and the LSC pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



LSC Rotary trip

Once again we are very grateful to the Rotary Club in Aberystwyth who paid for a day out for pupils in the Learning Support Centre and Hearing Resource Centre as part of a national enterprise 'Kids Day Out'. We were joined by pupils from other local schools on the Rheidol Steam railway and a visit to Bwlch Nant yr Arian. The weather was beautiful and the day was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank the Rotary Club for their generosity.

Penglais SENCo Surgery

The Additional Needs Department run a Senco Surgery once a week. The surgery is an opportunity for parents/guardians to bring queries/questions/concerns relating to their child's **additional learning needs or special educational needs** to Mrs Karina Shaw, the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator. Parents are welcome to also simply come and 'talk something through,' seek advice or even make us aware of any problems or issues.

These sessions are very informal. Mrs Shaw makes herself available between the times of **3.30-5.00pm every Wednesday during term time.**

To book an appointment at a SENCo Surgery please contact Mrs Donna Lewis, SEN Administrator on **01970 621126** or email **led@penglais.org.uk**

Family Day for Deaf Children, Newquay



Pupils from HRC joined up with deaf pupils from Carmarthenshire, Powys and Pembrokeshire for a fun day on the beach. Older pupils from HRC organised a day full of activities including skimming stones, cricket and tug-of-war! Children aged from 18 months to 18 years old were able to meet up and forge new friendships and parents had a chance to relax and catch up with members of staff and the NDCS Family Officer, Jill Bartlett.

A great day and so lucky with the weather.



Year 8 pupil Hafwen Clarke had a very successful trip to France with the Penglais Chateau trip in May. The trip visited a boulangerie, a chocolate factory, and a sea life centre before ending with a great day out in Parc Asterix.

100% ATTENDANCE

YEAR 7

Name	Reg	% Attend
Aljahwari, Alharith	JD	100
Benny, Mariya	RH	100
Bradick, Ella	NR	100
Duggan, Tili	SW	100
Evans, Lila	JXK	100
Homer, Christopher	JO	100
Morris, Catrin	JO	100
Nwaefulu, Kachi	JO	100
Perkins Rojas, Constanza	RH	100
Shaju, Aleena	JO	100
Williams, Angharad	JXK	100
Zhou, Rachel	RH	100

YEAR 8

Name	Reg	% Attend
Adetunji, Tt	KSP	100
Bowker, Joshua	DDD	100
Camara, Ismaila	KSP	100
Duggan, Seren	DXJ	100
Ernst, Andrianina	DXJ	100
Gaiger, Lily	(KSP)	100
Griffiths, Peter	DXJ	100
Hathaway, Joshua	RLI	100
Hunt, Dyfan	KSP	100
Jones, Jamie	RLI	100
Jones, Nia	TAL	100
Lloyd, Liam	DXJ	100
Narain, Daniel	RLI	100
Roberts, Stephanie	TAL	100
Williams, Phoebe	KSP	100
Williams, Rebecca	DDD	100
16 pupils		

YEAR 9

Name	Reg	% Attend
Al-Shakarchi, Hajer	TAH	100
Balla, Joshua	CCH	100
Barratt, Libby	BR	100
Brendler-Spaeth, Eileen	SIO	100
Clements, Jack	JPI	100
Cox, Josh	JPI	100
Davies, Lisa	BR	100
Davies, William	JPI	100
Gaul, Lucy	CMT	100
Hill, Chloe	TAH	100
Hore, Millie	CCH	100
Jijo, Jilu	CCH	100
Keay, Dongyen	SIO	100
Nash, Chris	(CMT)	100
Roberts, Joshua	TAH	100
Rose, Christopher	JPI	100
Stevens, Ben	JPI	100
Thomas, Sophie	BR	100
Williams, Rose	SIO	100
Yousaf, Lena	BR	100
21 pupils		

YEAR 10

Name	Reg	% Attend
Aljahwari, Alya	MJW	100
Baggott, Oliver	ALP	100
Donnelly, Elain	CAD	100
Elabbadi, Dalia	SSW	100
Ellis, Kiera	MJW	100
Herbert, Lee	SSW	100
Kunz, Kamil	SCG	100
Lole Durbin, Orin	MJW	100
Morris, Bryn	ALP	100
Newton, Jonathan	SCG	100
O'Regan, Conor	MJW	100
Richards, Hayley	ALP	100
Shaji, Tincemon	MJW	100
Zhou, Sarah	SSW	100

YEAR 11

Name	Reg	% Attend
Christopher, Jerome	RXW	100
Collins, Keelie	ALT	100
Collins, Leah	HJL	100
Cruse, Saffron	ALT	100
Kingston, Elin	ALT	100
Lloyd-Lewis, Nathan	HJL	100
Mangwiro, Deon	OWB	100
Mayes, Nathan	HJL	100
Pitcher, Lily	NGW	100

**Congratulations
to all of you**

Penglais School and PTA

Showcasing Talent and Developing Key Skills

Penglais PTA raises money for the school through a number of different initiatives including Christmas Fairs, Own Clothes Days and Curry & Quiz nights. Yesterday, the PTA awarded £2,961.00 to the school in order to fund four projects that had been successful in their applications.

Catherine Brown, Head of the Sixth Form, said that the £152.00 awarded for display boards will help to promote the Centre as an interesting and attractive environment. 'Through showcasing the achievements of pupils this will help to promote an ethos of community and aspiration.'



Emily Evans, Head of Faculty, secured £350 for an educational day trip to Warhammer World where pupils will have gaming sessions on terrain tables, project space for building and an opportunity to paint figures. 'Warhammer is similar to Dungeons and Dragons and enables pupils to develop strategic skills in numeracy, critical thinking, art and design. It also gives pupils an opportunity to make new friends from Year 7 to 13.'

Karen Reyers, Leader of Chemistry secured £459.00 for analogue melting point apparatus that is used in order to determine purity. 'This equipment will enable pupils to develop practical skills and will prepare them for studying Chemistry at University.'

Jonathan Evans, Head of Creative & PE Faculty, who teaches Design and Technology explained that the £2,000 awarded to his department is a significant contribution towards the overall cost of buying a new laser cutter and 3D printer. 'This equipment is used in all key stages and provides pupils with design and engineering skills needed in the modern world of technology and manufacturing.'

An example of the design work that the laser cutter facilitates is displayed throughout the school in signage, awards and now on the new aprons that have been purchased for the PTA. The idea of decorating the aprons was the brainchild of Julie Davies, as she said that this would highlight the important work of the PTA and help identify volunteers, at such events as the 'Strawberries and Cream Tea' earlier this week, when the school welcomed Year 6 pupils who will be starting in September.

The PTA is always looking for more volunteers and needs a new committee member to start in September. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch through contacting the school (xxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx) or our Facebook page facebook.com/PenglaisPTA.





Ceredigion Athletics

The school is very proud of the many pupils from Penglais who represented the school and were selected to take part at the Dyfed Championships on Saturday June 10th at Johnstown athletic track in Carmarthen. The pupils were selected having come within the first three places in their individual events.

Congratulations to:

Year 7

Yoyo Barron – 100m 1st
Ola O'Regan – 800m 1st
Kitty Heidt -1500m 1st
Freya Young – Hurdles – 2nd
Relay – 1st

Siwan Richards – Hurdles 2nd
Emma Bucknor – Javelin 2nd
George Thurston – Long jump 2nd
Kuba Borzyn – High Jump 1st
Alfi Hughes – 300m 3rd

Year 8

Harbi Cooper - 1500m 2nd
Katelyn Carton - Hurdles 3rd
Wiktora Cieluch – Long jump – 1st
Josh Hathaway - 100m 1st
Alastair Donnison - 300m – 1st; 1500m 3rd

Year 10

Sonnie Paluch-Ward – 100m 1st; 200m 2nd
Ryan Gilmore – Shot 3rd; Javelin 3rd
Aaron Worrall – Discus 2nd

Year 9

Ffion Duckett – 100m 2nd
Ceris Richards – 200m 2nd
Lauren Dunn – 800m 2nd
Lucy Gaul – 1500m 1st

Dyfed Schools Representatives:

Kuba Borzyn – High jump 1st
Megan Rowe – 400m
Megan and Kuba will represent Dyfed at the Welsh Championships on Saturday July 1st in Cardiff.



GOOD NEWS!

Penglais Year 7 girls rounders team became Ceredigion champions last Wednesday after competing in a tournament in Tregaron. The trophy hasn't been won by Penglais since 1999!

The girls were not only praised for their sportsmanship but also for their excellent decision making and team work.

Please congratulate them!

EAL ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

EAL pupils are taking part in a pilot project on John Taylor, the Water Poet (1578-1653), led by Dr Johann Gregory, Cardiff University. The project focuses on the travel writer's journey around Wales in 1652. A modern spelling edition of his journey will be published online and his account will be tweeted in real time over the summer (he set off in the middle of July). EAL pupils have used the edition to create maps of the Aberystwyth leg of the journey, and have compared what Taylor reported with what the town is like now johnaylorwaterpoet.wixsite.com/home



John Taylor was a water man and a poet. He lived at the same time as Shakespeare. He earned his living by ferrying people across the river Thames in London because in the 16th century there weren't so many bridges over the river. He was also a travel writer and in 1652, shortly after the English Civil War, he travelled from London around Wales and back. He travelled on horseback, walking and crawling!! On August the 9th he arrived at Aberystwyth. He described how the castle and town had been partly destroyed in the Civil War and he mentioned the Silver Mines.

By Hamzah Al-Shakarchi (year7)

Cambridge chemistry Challenge 2017

Four students studying AS chemistry this year successfully sat the Cambridge challenge this term.

This competition aims to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry, and provides an excellent experience for anyone considering taking their studies further. Set by an experienced team of teachers and university chemists, it is designed to be accessible to Year 12 students but will take them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourage them to think about science in the way they would at university.

This competition is open to students studying in the UK in Year 12 (Lower 6th) or below. It takes the form of a 90 minute written paper which students sit, under exam conditions, at school. Students who do well in the competition are sent certificates of achievement, and those who perform best win an invitation to a residential camp at the University of Cambridge at the end of August.

We are delighted to announce that Cai Langstaff achieved the highest award, the Roentgenium, which places him in the top 0.78% of the more than 7000 students who entered the competition this year!

To recognise this outstanding achievement Cai has been invited to attend a residential Chemistry camp at the University of Cambridge. This will take place during the summer break, just before the start of the new school term. The course will be based at the University Chemical Laboratory, St Catharine's College and Corpus Christi College. It will be a tremendous opportunity to meet other first-rate students and to hone his chemistry skills.

In addition, other successes are Jonathon Davies who won a Gold award, Ferdia Mckeogh who won a silver award and Lauren Gwynne-Hughes who won a copper award.

Well done and congratulations to all!

NEWS from

We are very sad to have bid a final farewell to our lovely year 13 of 2016-17 but are excited for them as they embark upon a new stage in their lives. We said goodbye to them for the last time at a leavers' event at Llety Parc on Saturday 1st July. It was a wonderful evening with a lot of laughter - especially when the awards were given out! We would like to thank Vince and Alison at Llety Parc for hosting the event and also the Prefect Team for their organisation of it. Thanks also to Donna Owen our lovely Manager for her support in preparing the evening. **Good bye year 13 and we will miss you!!!**

Oxford University Open Day



Many thanks to the wonderful Clare Donnison for taking a group of 10 of our year 12 students to Oxford for an open day and visit at the end of June.

They were lucky enough to stay in Christ Church College (the one with the Harry Potter stairs) and enjoyed eating in the Hall and staying in beautiful rooms overlooking one of the quads. They were able to attend talks and visit Departments and Colleges all over the University.

Lunch was offered free of charge at Lady Margaret Hall where ex Penglais pupil Tess Dupont (pictured) was proud to show the group round her College. Some of the group are shown in front of the wild flower meadow with Tess, who has just finished the second year of her Classics degree.

As we approach the new UCAS season we urge our students to research where they would like to do on completion of their A levels. If University is not for them then there are many other opportunities available to them. Please feel free to contact the Sixth Form Office should you wish to discuss the support available for university applications or the alternatives.

The Scholars Programme

We are very excited to be involved in the Scholars Programme, as part of The Brilliant Club being run by Cardiff University. The Brilliant Club recruits, trains and places PhD researchers to work in state schools. They run two core programmes: The Scholars Programme and Researchers in Schools.

The Scholars Programme employs doctoral and post-doctoral researchers on a part-time basis to deliver programmes of academic enrichment to small groups of pupils. Through a combination of university trips, in-school tutorials and online resources, they support pupils aged 10-18 to develop the knowledge, skills and ambition needed to progress to highly-selective universities. The Researchers in Schools Programme offers a bespoke route for PhD graduates to enter the teaching profession as full-time classroom teachers. Working in partnership with other providers, they offer a programme of initial teacher training and on-going professional development that equips participants to utilise their academic expertise to the benefit of pupils, schools and universities.

We have 8 students taking part in the Scholars Programme this year and they will be working with a PhD student to produce a mini thesis before the end of the summer term. They attended the launch event in Cardiff on the 15th June where they met the other groups of students involved and were given tutorials and sessions on research and study skills. We are proud to be taking part and many thanks to Donna Owen our amazing Sixth Form Manager for taking the group down to Cardiff.

the 6th form

Spelling Bee Finals

I took 10 of our 6th form down to the university today to help out at Routes into Languages Cymru Spelling Bee Finals. All who met them, especially the organisers and other judges wanted me to pass on their appreciation. They were amazing and worked very hard all day, working the software, acting as runners for the admin people and organising the distribution of the packed meals. Photos on twitter using #Spellingbeefinal
An excellent example of Penglais pupils in the community! Jessie Newbold

List of pupils is as follows:

Iestyn Richards,	Alison Keegan,
Ana Barriga,	Fran Chism,
Phoebe Peake,	Isobel Garson,
Hannah Roberts,	Reshma Sojan,
Kira Owen,	Teresa Phelps

Penglais Prefects 2017-18

Head Boy - Karl Piotrowicz

Head Girl - Emily Morgan

Deputy Head Boys

Tomos Williams
Iestyn Richards
Joshua Reynolds

Deputy Head Girls

Angharad Evans
Isobel Garson
Erin Hassan

Senior Prefects

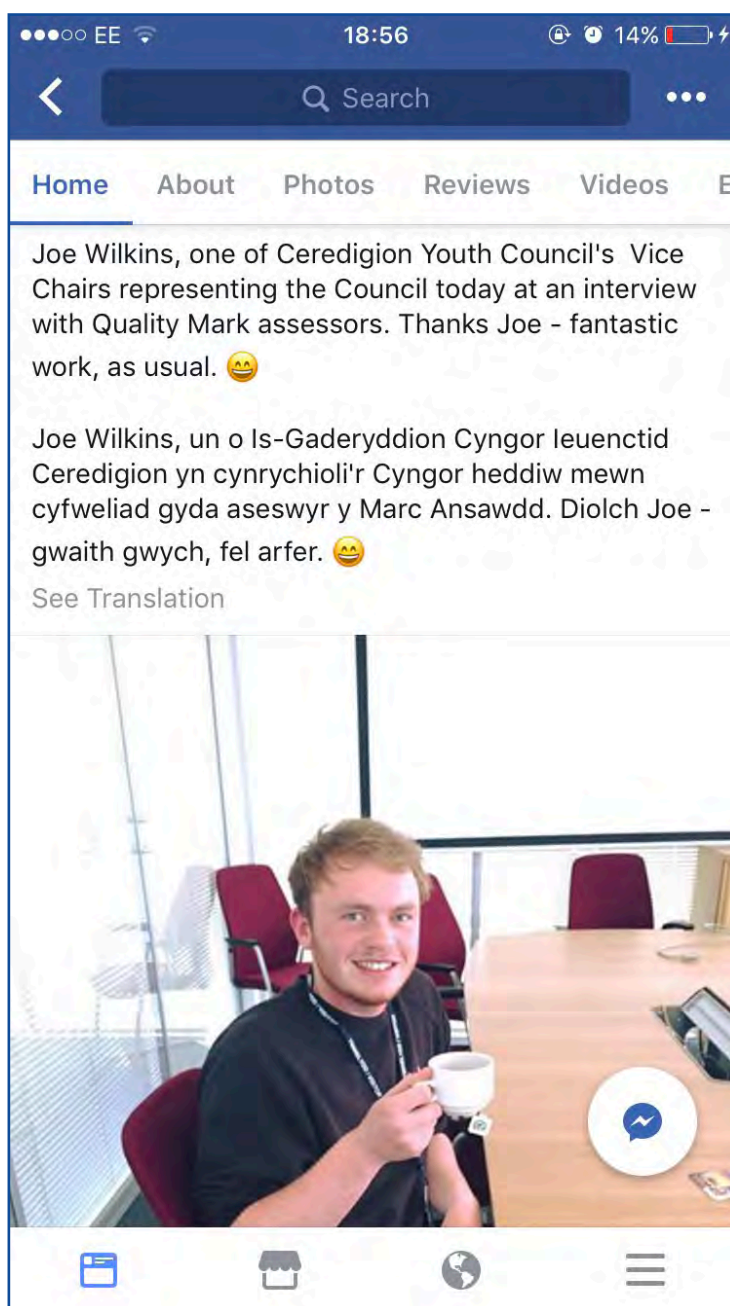
Amy Evans
Josh Ireland
Jo Jones

Cai Langstaff
Helen Yates

Prefects

Antonio Barriga
Ana Barriga
Irene Barriga
Francesca Chism
Hermione Cox Denning
Hannah Davies
Jonathan Davies
Trystan Griffiths
Katie Gwynne-Hughes
Lauren Gwynne-Hughes
Harri Horwood
Alison Keegan
Corhys King

Angel Kuriakose
Carwyn Lloyd-Jones
Megan Mason
Teresa Phelps
Morgan Revell
Hannah Roberts
Gemma Romney
Shannon Sayer
Kira Sayer
Rachael Smith
Seren Taylor
Dafydd Thomas
Ella Thomas



As you know we take online safety very seriously and regularly discuss this with pupils. We know that parents also talk to their pupils and many check their devices regularly.

But there are so many sites and apps it's difficult to keep track of what's what online.

The **NSPCC** and **O2** have developed an app and a website with lots of information about sites that are popular with young people. The app is called **netaware** and website can be accessed at **net-aware.org uk**.

There are also links to other e-safety websites on the school site.

HOW TO KEEP SAFE ONLINE

NEW UNIFORM

Please make sure you NAME your child's new uniform. This means there is a good chance it can be returned if found.

Efforts to return Lost Property will be made before the end of term. After this time, some items that have not been claimed will be disposed of.

There are a number of black coats (washed) from Lost Property which are for sale for £2. These items have been in the cupboard for over a year. If you name the coat on purchase (permanent pen supplied) the cost is £1!

The office is open on Thursdays 12.30 to 1.

TESCO



Bags of help

If you shop in Tesco please remember to vote for us so we can win funding for the school.

PENGLAIS SCHOOL calls out for votes to bag a share of bag charge fund

PENGLAIS SCHOOL are bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

Tesco have teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – being awarded to local community projects.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant.

PENGLAIS SCHOOL is one of the groups on the shortlist and voting is open throughout July and August.

Customers will cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

Tesco's Bags of Help project has already delivered over £30 million to more than 4,600 projects up and down the UK. Tesco customers get the chance to vote for three different groups every time they shop. Every other month, when votes are collected, three groups in each of Tesco's regions will be awarded funding.