

Newsletter / Cylchlythyr

King Henry VIII 3-19 School
February 2025 / Chwefror 2025



District Rotary Young Musician



We were exceptionally proud that Senior Phase pupils Monty and Ethan were selected to go through and represent the school at the Regional final of 'Young Musician of the Year' in Porthcawl. At the competition, the standard of musicianship was incredible, and both Ethan and Monty offered the highest professionalism in their performances. Both were recognised for their outstanding and varied programmes, and Monty was awarded 'runner-up' in the instrumental category. This is the furthest anyone from our school has gone in the competition for 25 years and we thank Abergavenny Rotary for their continued support in this competition.

Key dates next month:-

- 3rd-6th: Eisteddfod Activities
- 4th: Year 13 Pupil Finance Meeting 6pm
- 6th: World Book Day
- 7th: Training Day (School Closed to pupils)
- 13th: Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 14th: Comic Relief - Non Uniform Day
- 17th: Oxford College performance of "Romeo and Juliet"
- 20th: Primary Phase Parents' Evening
- 22-23rd: D of E Bronze Expedition
- 27th: Primary Phase Parents' Evening
- 27th: Year 8 Parents' Evening



Value of the Month Curiosity / Chwilfrydedd

Having a strong desire to know or learn something.

Tate Modern Art Trip



Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to visit Tate London, where they experienced first hand the art they have been studying in class.

Alongside exploring the embankment area, pupils enjoyed the chance to engage with the artworks in person, making for an unforgettable and enriching experience.

Accelerated Readers:

Pupils have read a total of
556,216 words

For 35 minutes per day (pupil average)
in February

Sparx Maths:

326,553 questions answered correctly
with 6383 hours of personalised
learning completed.

Merits awarded:

11,871

Plastics Lab:

182 Kg of plastics recycled

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Careers Fair



We held our annual Careers Fair which was open to pupils in Years 9 – 13, giving them an opportunity to speak to individuals from a variety of careers such as Politics, Medicine, Leisure, Catering and Construction. Following its success last year, we included a quiet half hour for a selection of pupils at the start of the event. A fantastic number of pupils and their families supported the event and we are hugely grateful to all the exhibitors who attended, giving up their time to talk to our pupils. It was one of the most successful Careers Fairs so far, and we are already looking forward to hosting the event next year in our fabulous new buildings.

Coleg Gwent



This month our annual trip to Coleg Gwent in Ebbw Vale took place. As part of our Year 11 transition programme, we took 46 pupils to look at potential courses they might like to join. A day of fun was had with quizzes, a treasure-hunt around the college, and visits to the varying departments to see where they could be potentially learning in the future. The pupils left with plenty of ideas for the next step in their education journey.

Budget Engagement Session



Thank you to Councillor Callard and Monmouthshire County Council for a very interesting budget engagement session. Our pupils asked fantastic questions and the discussions were of a very high-quality.

Year 12 Workshops

Year 12 took part in New Pathways workshops designed to help them understand and recognise the diversity of sexual violence issues, and sexual harassment/inappropriate sexual behaviour. These sessions also aimed to allow pupils to develop the skills to protect other victims and become an upstander in safe and achievable ways. Pupils were also given the resources to find further support.



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Stay and Play



Thank you to our Reception families who joined us for our Stay and Play session. It was lovely! The parents sang with the pupils and watched a phonics session, then went into provision with their children. They had a chance to look at their books and then come back to the carpet to vote for a story to read together.



A visit from Author Tim Percival



Lower phase pupils enjoyed a visit from author Tom Percival. The children really enjoyed the interactive session playing games, learning about why he became an author, and being introduced to his new book *Squirrel and Duck: Mission Improbable*. Some of our children enjoyed speaking to Tom after the visit and purchasing a signed copy of his book.

Primary School Scholastic Book Fair

The popular Scholastic Book Fair arrived on the Primary Site with a wide range of books - always a buzz of excitement!



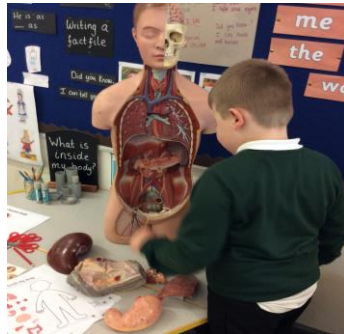
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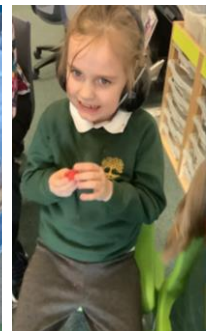
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People who help us

As part of our topic 'People who help us', Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a visit from local paramedics. The children really enjoyed learning about what a paramedic does and looking at different equipment they used. A huge highlight for many pupils was walking inside the ambulance. Diolch yn fawr!



Dosbarth Starfish have been busy exploring the topic of Space through all their senses. They climbed on board their own spaceship and saw the moon, stars and planets! They also loved trying space strawberries and apples in class.



Dosbarth Llew have enjoyed learning about Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale, making our own remedies to help people, and playing the role of a Nurse in our Teddy Bear Hospital. Pupils then enjoyed learning the phrase 'Beth sy'n bod?' (What is the matter?) to use in our play. Ffantastig!



Reception have been busy learning how to represent numbers 6, 7 & 8! Well done all.



Dosbarth Penguin took up the challenge to build a farm with wonderful results. They showed amazing team work in the block play. How great does this farm look!

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Italy trip

Pupils had an amazing time during half term visiting Rome, where they explored the attractions including the Pantheon, Trevi Fountain, Vatican City, Sistine Chapel, St Peters Square, Spanish Steps, Colosseum, Palatine Hill, and Roman Forum. They then travelled to Naples to carry on their adventure.



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Sporting Successes

- The Years 3 and 4 Football team were excellent in the cluster primary schools' tournament. The team demonstrated excellent team work, skill, and positivity.
- The Year 10 Rugby team are progressing well the Newport cup, beating Chepstow in the latest game.
- The under 15 Girls Cricket team came runners up in the South Wales indoor area cricket tournament.
- The Year 8 Netball Team won their league and will now go through to the next round of the South East Wales League finals.
- The under 15 Girls Rugby Team competed in the inter-schools Girls Rugby festival, making progress in each game, and making us all proud.

